Louis F. Geschwindner, Jr., P.E., Ph.D., a professor of architectural engineering at Penn State University, has been named AISC’s vice president of engineering and research.

“AISC will benefit from Lou’s technical expertise, vision, and ability to facilitate activities between the wide range of groups within the design community and construction industry,” AISC president H. Louis Gurthet said.

Geschwindner, who will remain at Penn State, will be responsible for establishing AISC’s technical long-range objectives and initiatives. He will also coordinate technical activities between AISC and outside groups.

“AISC chief structural engineer Charles J. Carter will still run day-to-day operations of the department.

“This appointment provides me a great opportunity to expand my involvement with AISC into new and important areas,” Geschwindner said.

Geschwindner was the 2000 recipient of the T.R. Higgins Lectureship Award for his paper, “A Practical Look at Frame Analysis, Stability, and Leaning Columns.” He is a member of both the AISC Committee on Specifications and the AISC Technical Activities Committee, and he chairs the ASCE/SEI Committee on Design of Steel Building Structures. He has authored numerous papers and contributed to such books as: Fundamentals of Structural Analysis, Structural Steel Designer’s Handbook, Steel Design Handbook, Load and Resistance Factor Design of Steel Structures, and Guidelines for Design of Low-Rise Buildings Subjected to Lateral Forces.

More Than 100 Campuses Now Have Steel Teaching Sculptures

Artful and educational, the steel teaching sculpture debuted at the University of Florida-Gainesville in 1986 as a 3-D way for students to learn about steel framing and connections. Since then, 102 colleges have followed suit. The sculpture is a hands-on application of engineering material normally only found in textbooks. Engineering schools as far away as Mexico, Canada and Puerto Rico have also built the sculptures on their campuses.

The sculptures display more than 20 different connections used in structural steel construction. A steel teaching sculpture with seismic details was recently installed at California State University-Chico. Plans are in the works for sculptures to be installed at seven more U.S. colleges.

To find out how to get a steel sculpture on your campus, please contact Fromy Rosenberg, AISC’s Director of University Relations, via e-mail at rosenberg@aisc.org. Fabricators interested in building and donating a steel sculpture to a university should also contact Rosenberg.

2nd Edition Architects’ Design Guide Now Available

Designing with Structural Steel—A Guide for Architects is now available in its 2nd edition from the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc. The guide, created in response to research by AISC’s regional engineering staff, provides an understanding of the structural systems, material properties and design details for structural steel. The new edition includes changes in available shapes, the new Code of Standard Practice, modifications and updates in interface details, and new recommendations for specifying architecturally exposed structural steel.

The main purpose of the design guide is to supply information for architects so they can create interesting and cost-effective projects in steel.

“The design guide makes an architect’s job easier,” said Andy Johnson, Vice President of Marketing for AISC. “Everyday information that architects usually have to retrieve from several different sources is now found in one book.”

The guide is meant to be a teaching tool as well as a desk reference on structural steel.

For information on ordering Designing with Structural Steel—A Guide for Architects, please visit AISC’s bookstore at www.aisc.org/bookstore.html. The design guide costs $60 ($40 for AISC members).

Send press releases and other information for the Steel News and Events section to Keith Grubb via e-mail at grubb@modernsteel.com.
Barsom and Rolfe Honored

John M. Barsom and Stanley T. Rolfe are the 2002 recipients of the Fracture Mechanics Medal from ASTM Committee E08 on Fatigue and Fracture. Barsom and Rolfe have had a long-standing collaborative relationship and have written a fracture and fatigue textbook together. They received the ASTM medal for having exerted a profound, positive effect on the development of the scientific discipline of fracture mechanics and “in recognition of [their] outstanding contributions to applications of fracture mechanics and its usefulness to the practicing engineer.”

John Barsom, president of Barsom Consulting, Ltd., Pittsburgh, PA, where he also resides, has been an ASTM member since 1969. He serves on Committees A01 on Steel, Stainless Steel, and Related Alloys, E08 on Fatigue and Fracture, and F07 on Aerospace and Aircraft. He is a fellow of ASTM, and of the American Society for Mechanical Engineers, the American Society of Metals, and the American Welding Society. He is also the recipient of a Lifelong Achievement Award from the American Institute of Steel Construction. Barsom has published extensively on fracture, fatigue, metallurgy of steels and welds and metallographic and fractographic failure analysis of structural components.

Stanley Rolfe, the Albert P. Learned Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, where he also resides, has been a member of ASTM since 1962, serving on Committee E08 on Fatigue and Fracture the entire time. He is also a Fellow, honorary member, and recipient of the Ernst E. Howard Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers, where he has been chairman of the Technical Committee on Fracture and Structural Fatigue. Further, he is a member of the National Research Council Project Advisory Board, and has been chairman of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials’ weathering steel study group.

Supplement No. 1 to ANSI/AISC N690-1994 Now Available

Supplement No. 1 to the Specification for the Design, Fabrication, and Erection of Steel Safety-Related Structures for Nuclear Facilities (ANSI/AISC N690-1994) is now available from AISC. This 24-page document updates the allowable stress design version of the ANSI-approved specification intended for use with steel safety-related structures and structural elements for nuclear facilities.

The Supplement, dated April 15, 2002 includes updated standards references; alternate load combination for abnormal loading when global sustained effects of temperature are considered; clarification of when pre-tensioned bolts are required; new weld metal toughness requirements in certain complete-joint-penetration groove welded joints; additional interconnector spacing rules for tension members; when to permit ¼-in. finger shims in slip-critical connections; provisions for punched holes and other methods of hole making; an expanded section on shop painting, and a new section on quality control.

To order this publication, call 800.644.2400 or go to the AISC web site at www.aisc.org, and refer to Publication ANSI/AISC N690-1994s1.

SSTC Offers Bolting Courses

The Steel Structures Technology Center has made available seven correspondence courses related to the high-strength bolting of steel structures. The seven courses are:

1. Bolted Joints
2. Bolting Materials and Usage
3. Turn-of-Nut Installation
4. Twist-Off-Type Tension-Control Bolt Installation
5. Direct Tension Indicator Installation
6. Calibrated Wrench Installation
7. Inspection

All courses are based upon the Research Council on Structural Connections’ Specification for Structural Joints Using ASTM A325 or A490 Bolts, June 2000 edition, and AISC specifications. Participants are provided written study materials and assigned additional reading tasks. They take a ten examination to confirm understanding of the material. A 70% success rate is necessary for passing each exam.

The courses are offered to those involved in steel structures design or steel construction. Engineers will gain knowledge of critical design, installation and inspection practices. Steel fabrication and erection personnel will be able to demonstrate their knowledge of the applicable codes and standards and the proper methods for installation and quality control. Inspectors will be able to demonstrate their overall knowledge of the bolting codes, standards and practices necessary for proper inspection and quality assurance.

The seven courses can be taken as a complete package. Successful completion of all seven courses will earn a Certificate of Completion from the SSTC. An average exam pass rate of 80% is required to earn this certificate, with no individual section below 70%.

Courses may be taken for general educational needs or for formal continuing education credit, earning 0.1 Continuing Education Units or 1 Professional Development Hour per course. Courses are offered at $30.00 each, which includes the written course materials, examination, examination grading, and a confirmation letter upon successful completion. For the seven-course package, the total fee is $150.00. All course materials and examinations are distributed by e-mail, but may be mailed by special request.

For further information on the high-strength bolting courses or examinations, contact the Steel Structures Technology Center at 248.893.0132, or visit their web site at: www.steelstructures.com

Corrections

In the September 2002 issue of Modern Steel Construction, the byline for “HPS Success” was omitted from the the article. The author is Kristi Van Ooyen, E.I.T.

Due to a printing error, several pages of the September 2002 issue of Modern Steel Construction were printed without various punctuation marks. Please visit our web site, www.modernsteel.com, for the correct versions of those articles.
FHWA Steel Bridge Conference for the Western United States
Salt Lake City, UT
December 12-13, 2002

Sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration, this two-day-long conference will focus on presenting the latest technologies and developments in steel bridge design and construction to design professionals in the western states. The conference will include a panel discussion with state bridge engineers from 12 western states, Tennessee and Illinois, and representatives from industry, academia, and federal and local governments. The day before the conference starts (December 11), a short course will be conducted to teach design of steel bridges using AASHSTOLRFD Bridge Design Specification. Participants will receive a certificate that can be used toward continuing educational credit. If you are interested in receiving more information about this conference, e-mail: nabro@unlnotes.unl.edu

ICC Brings Building Codes to Internet

The International Code Council (ICC) recently launched its eCodes® Online Subscription Service. Subscribers to the new service can download an array of building and safety codes in Adobe eBook Reader format. After downloading, they can search through the complete code, highlight passages, make annotations, create bookmarks, or read the text aloud. Subscriptions vary in duration and price. They provide users with access to the International Building Code, Residential Code, Fire Code, Plumbing Code, Mechanical Code, Fuel Gas Code, Energy Conservation Code, Private Sewage Code, Property Maintenance Code and Zoning Code. Users can also access the New York State Codes, and the Florida and North Carolina Building Codes.

ICC says it plans to release more eCodes shortly. For complete subscription information, updates on the latest code additions, and free downloads, visit www.ecodes.biz.

LRFD Joist Guide Available

To aid in the specification of steel joists and steel joist girders for structures designed using Load and Resistance Factor Design (LRFD), the Steel Joist Institute (SJI) has created the pamphlet Guide for Specifying Steel Joists with LRFD. The Guide contains SJI load tables converted to total factored load capacities. All current joist series can be used in conjunction with LRFD design using the factored load capacities. Examples for selecting joists and joist girders for LRFD design are also included.

This guide should be considered a supplement to (and not a complete alternative for) the current Allowable Stress Design (ASD) Steel Joist Institute Specification and Weight Tables. The LRFD guide is intended to be an interim aid for the specifying professional until complete SJI LRFD specifications are published.

For more information, contact SJI at 843.626.1995 or visit their web site at www.steeljoist.org.

73rd Annual Shock and Vibration Symposium

The annual Shock and Vibration Symposium is the leading forum for the structural dynamics and vibration community to present and discuss new developments and on-going research. The Symposium includes both classified and unclassified sessions. The classified sessions allow critical technology and some classified research to be presented in closed forums of cleared U.S. Government and government-contractor researchers.

Topics covered at the symposium include shock-ship testing, water shock, weapons effects, shock physics, earthquake engineering, structural dynamics, and shock and vibration instrumentation and experiment techniques. Panel discussions address topics such as new software developments or accelerometer isolation problems. Tutorials provide up-to-date technology overviews by leading specialists.

The symposium is scheduled for the week of November 18-22, 2002 at The Viking Hotel in Newport, RI. The featured government agency is the Naval Sea Systems Command Underwater Warfare Center (NUWC). General Dynamics Electric Boat Corporation (EB) is the featured company. For more information, visit www.saviac.org/upcoming_events.htm.

Call for Papers

SEI/SFPE Specialty Conference on Designing Structures for Fire
Baltimore, Maryland
September 30 – October 2, 2003

New approaches to evaluating fire resistance have been developed for structural steel, concrete, masonry and timber; however, because of their complexity, the knowledge has been limited to true “fire specialists.”

The aim of this 2½ day conference is to share recent advancements with researchers, practicing engineers in fire protection, structures, and materials, architects, and regulators. By reaching a broad audience, the conference will facilitate coordination and understanding between the groups and drive practical applications of cutting edge research.

The deadline for submitting abstracts for consideration is November 25, 2002. Complete submittal requirements are available at: www.seinstitute.org/announcements.html
SC&RA to Host Safety and Management Forum

The Specialized Carriers and Rigging Association (SC&RA) will host its annual Safety and Management Forum, October 17-19 at the Atlanta Airport Marriott in Atlanta, GA. Since the September 11th attacks, safety and security concerns have reached new heights for those involved in crane and rigging operations and oversize/overweight transportation. This year’s Forum will address many of those concerns, and will feature discussions of various safety issues affecting both groups.

Jeffrey K. Beatty, Security and Anti-Terrorism Consultant to the trucking industry, will give a special presentation on the American Trucking Association’s (ATA) Anti-Terrorism Action Plan (ATAP). ATAP is a set of security blueprints and recommendations for a joint industry-government effort to evaluate and avoid future security risks. Discussion will also highlight how truck drivers, crane operators and other industrial contractors can help identify and report threats of terrorism.

“Ensuring the safety and security of employees and equipment has taken on new meaning since September 11,” said Joel Dandrea, Executive Vice President of SC&RA. “The Safety and Management Forum will give members of our industry an excellent opportunity to meet with safety experts, hear about the latest safety regulations and participate in lively discussions, while exchanging ideas with their peers. We encourage all SC&RA members and non-members to attend.”

For registration information, please visit the SC&RA website at www.scranet.org or call the Association office at 703.698.0291 with questions.

SC&RA is a trade association with more than 1,000 member companies in 41 nations. Members are engaged in specialized transportation, machinery moving and erecting, industrial maintenance and crane manufacturing and rental.

AISC Offers Online Q&A Program

The American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc. (AISC) is offering a new series of on-line chats to help answer designers’ and contractors’ questions about steel design and construction. The chats are held each Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. central time. The second Tuesday of each month features well-known experts on a specific topic, while the chats during the remainder of the month feature representatives from AISC’s Steel Solutions Center who will be available to answer questions on any subject of interest. Upcoming AISC online chats are as follows:

**November 12: Steel Plate Shear Walls.** One of the newest techniques for improving the seismic response of steel high-rise buildings is the use of steel plate shear walls. In addition, SPSW has the potential for use in blast resistance. This month’s e-panel includes Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, professor of civil and environmental engineering at the University of California-Berkeley, Peter Timler, a Canadian consultant on several steel plate shear wall projects, and a lead engineer from Skilling Ward Magnusson Barkshire.

**December 10: FEMA 350/AISC Seismic Provisions.** The updated AISC Seismic Provisions incorporates a number of the recommendations that were generated by the SAC Steel Project.

To participate in the chats, please visit www.aisc.org/chat.html.

Meet the Experts at MSC’s Online Chats

Call For Papers on Cost-Effective Steel Bridges

The American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) announces a call for papers that demonstrate cost-effective design of short-span and medium-span bridges using high-performance steel (HPS) and weathering steel. The emphasis should be on design and details that result in a cost-effective steel bridge.

The call for papers is being organized to demonstrate important contributions to the civil engineering profession. Participants are invited to submit an abstract of no more than two pages describing the project, location, owner, cost advantages and project challenges. The abstract form can be downloaded at www.steel.org/infrastructure/pdfs/callforpapers.pdf. If selected, participants will be invited to submit a “white paper.” Abstracts are due to AISI by December 3, 2002.