

Jori Bernat-Lipka Smith, CSI, CDT Candidate – Institute Director from the Southwest Region



Year Joined CSI: 2006

Home Chapter: Albuquerque

Firm: Bradbury Stamm Construction

Occupation/Position Senior Project Manager

Email: jsmith@bradburystamm.com

Education: Bachelor of Architecture, University of Miami, 1987

Professional Registrations, Licenses

and Certifications:

Construction Documents Technologist

CSI Awards: Institute Electronic Publication Commendation 2010

SW Region Service Award of Merit 2016; SW Region Distinguished Service Award 2014; SW Region Certificate of Merit and Appreciation 2013; SW Region Electronic Communications Award 2012; SW Region

Website Award 2010.

Albuquerque Chapter Distinguished Service Award 2016;

Albuquerque Chapter Certificate of Appreciation 2007, 2008, 2009,

2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015; Albuquerque Chapter

Outstanding Industry Member Award 2010; Albuquerque Chapter

Outstanding Board Member Award 2009.

Other Professional/Civic Extraordinary Volunteer Award, AGC Albuquerque, 2006

Organizations and Awards: ASA-New Mexico Project Manager of the Year Nominee, 2009 and

2012

Current/Previous Experience as a Board Member for Organization(s) other than CSI:

AGC-New Mexico, Young Constructor's Forum, Steering Committee

Treasurer, VP and President, Albuquerque Concert Band

Candidate Statement:

As a general contractor, I bring to the table my previous professional experiences as an intern architect, subcontractor, and product representative. As a CSI member, my experiences in these varied roles is just as

beneficial, as it allows me to hear and understand member concerns comprehensively. I believe that the opportunity to listen to each other is the single greatest benefit that CSI brings to our industry. In all my various CSI leader roles over the last ten years, including President of the Albuquerque Chapter and of the SW Region, programs committee chair, website manager, and Education Task Team member, I've continually focused on communicating this benefit to our members and leaders. Communication among the diversity of our membership is more important than ever before.

CSI has a vital role to play in the future of our changing industry. BIM and evolving project delivery methods are quickly altering the landscape of construction projects, and the relationship of the team members. Through newsletters articles and educational programs, I've urged that CSI work quickly to evolve along with the industry, to help building professionals do their jobs better within these new documentation and contractual formats. CSI must keep up with the fast-moving evolution of project delivery in order to remain an influential voice.

As a CSI leader, I've continuously advocated for increasing contractor membership to a level that better reflects that industry's size and role within the project team. I am committed to ensuring that CSI's publications appropriately reflect our diversity, to helping our members continue to steer their efforts toward effective education that relates to all members and generations of the project team, and to attracting those who haven't yet realized the benefit CSI brings to their careers and our industry. As a CSI Director for the Southwest Region, I will work to make sure that the Institute supports each of these ideas, and provides the critical tools and resources our members need to make all of their efforts more successful.

What leadership skills do you possess that you could apply as a member of CSI's Board?

As a construction project manager, I've developed negotiation, conflict mediation, budget analysis, task scheduling and management skills that are helpful in any arena. As a CSI volunteer, I've taken advantage of the opportunities CSI offers to develop skills in the realm of leadership, association administration, education development, volunteer recruiting and management, and various media of communication. I believe in honest communication, and diligent efforts to complete tough undertakings, and am prepared to tackle the challenges leadership brings.

What skills and experience make you uniquely qualified for the position for which you are a candidate?

As a construction professional in the southwest U.S. for the last twenty years, as well as having served in CSI leadership positions since 2006, including chapter and region president, I am well acquainted with the issues facing both the industry and our association, and have demonstrated my commitment to doing my part to serve our membership and the improvement of the building industry.

What do you think should be changed about CSI or what changes would you make? What shouldn't change about CSI?

Emerging from a transformative period, CSI now has critical personnel and tools in place to support our mission, and communicate it to the building industry. Recent governance changes have given staff the flexibility they require to respond quickly to challenges and opportunities. Now, CSI should further sharpen our focus on helping the industry reinvent itself in a digital world. We have to continue to reevaluate our publications, standards, formats, and educational initiatives to ensure that they reflect the professional complexion of our membership. Additionally, we need to help our chapters find and retain more members with marketing to raise brand awareness, and promoting the benefits of our unique certification opportunities. We have to accomplish all this, and more, while giving chapters the support they need in order to increase the value of membership.

What do you see as critical to CSI's future success?

Three-dimensional design communication and printing are poised to make changes to the building industry more far-reaching than ever seen before. To remain vital, CSI must constantly update our products, and focus more on what the future will bring. We must find the experts among us, and set the stage for them to work together on the challenging task of determining how construction information will be communicated both in the very near future, and in the decades to come. As more and more of the design industry converts to three-dimensional methods, we must speak their language, and help them understand how to implement the critical concepts of communication into their work product. The evolving communication tools will impact everything CSI does in the coming years – not just standards and formats, but also the way that we teach our certification and education programs, the content of our publications, and the people we reach out to as we build our networks. CSI's ability to adapt our focal point and look forward will enable us to flourish during the enormous changes that are imminent.