



Marvin Kemp, FCSI, CDT
Candidate – Institute Chair-Elect



Year Joined CSI:	2000
Home Chapter:	Baltimore, MD
Firm:	Design Collective, Inc.
Occupation/Position	Principal
Email:	Mkemp@designcollective.com
Education:	Bachelor of Architecture, Mississippi State University, 1994
Professional Registrations, Licenses and Certifications:	Registered Architect in Maryland and Mississippi Construction Document Technologist
CSI Awards:	<p>2006 Special Award from the President and the Board, “in recognition of your continuing contribution to the Chapter, for taking the position of Vice President and President-Elect and for your involvement in critical aspects of the Chapter’s daily presence, and for being an outspoken leader for the good of the Chapter.”</p> <p>2006 Middle Atlantic Region Director’s Special Award, “for your dedication in promoting the principles and importance of CSI and for your vision, hard work and leadership in rejuvenating the Baltimore Chapter CSI in time of need.” 2007 Institute Certificate of Merit and Appreciation, “For your devoted and selfless personal contributions to the Institute and your Chapter while serving as President...” 2008 Institute Certificate of Merit and Appreciation, “for your devoted and selfless contributions to the Institute and your Chapter while serving as President of the Baltimore Chapter, 2007-2008.” 2008 Framed copy of Baltimore Chapter Charter, “in recognition of your service as president of the Construction Specifications Institute, Baltimore Chapter.” 2009 President’s Special Award, “for your exemplary leadership and unending mentoring efforts to aid the President...”</p>

2010

The Compass Award, "for continuing to guide the Chapter to reach its milestones and for your unofficial role of being the Chapter's voice at the Regional and Institute levels..."

2011

Baltimore Chapter's Kelsey Y. Saint Award, "for Outstanding Distinguished Service." The Kelsey Y. Saint Award is the highest honor given by the Baltimore Chapter CSI to a Chapter member for outstanding distinguished service to the Chapter, and it is a seldom presented and cherished award.

2012

President's Special Award, "for your enduring leadership, your contribution serving as the Chapter Secretary, your service to the Institute, your historical record keeping, and your advice, time and friendship to the Chapter President,...."

2014

President's CSI Kraken Award, "for your commitment to moving our chapter forward through positive change. For being a positive voice for our chapter and the desire to reach new heights and make incredible things happen,..."

2016

President's Special Teams Award, "for your leadership and endless dedication to the success of the 2016 Middle Atlantic Region Conference,..."

2017

Elevated to Fellowship in CSI

Other Professional/Civic Organizations and Awards:

2004

Certificate of Appreciation from Rebuilding Together, Baltimore, "in appreciation for your generous support of Rebuilding Together..."

2014

For God and Youth Award, given by the Archdiocese of Baltimore for "three or more years of outstanding service to the youth in any of the following ministries: Scouts, Athletics, Catholic high school, religious education teachers, youth mass and parish youth ministry."

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

Member, St. Pius X Mission and Planning Council, 2013-2015 Chair, St. Pius X Mission and Planning Council, 2014 Committee Member, Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Pack 787, 2006-2007 Cubmaster, Boy Scouts of America Cub Scout Pack 787, 2008-2010 Committee Member, Boy Scouts of America Troop 701, 2011-2013 Committee

Candidate Statement:

I care passionately about CSI. I am constantly listening, learning and striving to make CSI a better association. I have served CSI at many levels of leadership, starting with serving on the Baltimore Chapter's Board of Director's and then as Vice-President, President and Secretary. I served on committees and task teams at both the Region and Institute Levels. I served on the 2009 Institute Strategic Planning Task Team, three years as Chair of the Institute Awards Committee and the past three years as Institute Director from the Middle Atlantic Region. For all of that service and for my work in educating others in the construction industry, I was elevated to Fellow in CSI in October 2017. Serving in CSI leadership has taught me that organizations need to respect the ways and traditions of the past, but also need strong leaders who listen, think strategically and implement their ideas. CSI and the construction industry today require leaders of vision and hard work, who look outside the box to move the organization forward beyond what we think may be possible. We need new ways of thinking, new technologies and new ways of acting. Our industry and our organization are changing and must change in order to be sustainable long into the future. We need leaders who are capable of moving CSI ahead and I am that leader. Though CSI has made great progress recently, this group continues to face a constantly changing construction landscape. We are the thought leaders who can move our industry into the 21st Century. I can lead us to embrace that leadership role and make CSI the go-to association in the construction industry.

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

The strongest skill I have is my ability to communicate my thoughts and ideas clearly and concisely. In my time as Institute Director from the Middle Atlantic Region, I have increased communication between myself and our region's leaders. Through our monthly teleconferences and publishing my monthly newsletter "From My Desk" our region leaders are better informed. I encourage them to reach out to me with any issues or concerns, and many have done so and in most cases with positive results.

During the Institute board meetings, I am continually listening, thinking and verbally communicating my thoughts and asking pertinent questions. I have asked our CEO the tough questions that need to be answered and bring a sense of accountability to the reporting. I continually affirm the shared values of the board while being willing to risk suggesting new ideas. I have the ability to foster collaboration between opposing view points by appealing to shared aspirations.

As an architect working primarily in higher education, I am adept at working with large teams of people, with differing backgrounds and ideas and helping build consensus. I frequently engage in facility programming activities with our clients which is all about aligning goals to reach compromise. The client's initial collective wish list for the project is usually two or three times larger than the project budget, so hard conversations, negotiation and compromise must be gained. I can tactfully and efficiently hold those conversations.

I am also attentive and realistic about the challenges CSI and the construction industry face. I am detailed, organized and can execute tasks, either assigned or created. I work hard to build trust and facilitate relationships among leaders and to create victories by fostering a sense of community which I believe are hallmarks of a strong leader.

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

Change is a strong word and one that can have negative connotations to many. Past leaders have seen their terms of office as opportunities to enact change only to find one or two years is not enough time to fully implement their ideas. A better course of action is for the board to work as a whole, collectively and collaboratively, to set the course for the entire organization. During our policy governance deliberations, early in my term as Institute Director, I realized collective collaboration is the exact course of action portrayed in our new governance model. If each board works diligently to build on the work done by previous boards and not setting in motion an entirely new agenda, time in office can be spent moving the whole organization forward. I mentioned communication earlier. One area of change needed is frequency and quality of communication from staff to board and to membership. We have made great strides in the past year but there is more work to do. We have an organizational structure that lends itself to both electronic and face-to-face communication. Both have their place and are critically important. We need to build on recent gains and excel in communication inside our organization to better show we are the leaders in communicating building information to our construction teams.

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

The future success of CSI relies on engagement by our great members and recognition of those outside of our membership but that work in our industry. Yes, we need to try to grow our membership, but it is more important to raise our profile in the construction industry. We need to bring more people into our community, whether they choose to join or not. We can be a successful organization without returning to the days of having 18,000 members. By enhancing our great certifications and our standards, we can make them the gold standard for our industry. That will drive construction professionals to our organization. At a local level, we can help our chapters and regions make a difference in their communities through education, networking and other assistance. We can leverage our collective insights and thought leadership, prepare materials for use at the local level, and thereby enhance our standing and visibility throughout our regions. In essence, visibility, capitalizing on our thought leadership and improving the quality of our programs are the keys to enhancing CSI's standing in our industry and ensuring the sustainability of our success.