



## SPECTRUM

Newsletter of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI

### President's Message

*Kevin Vaughn*

We had a fabulous wrap up to a great year during our 2018 Awards Dinner. Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to put together this successful event and to Bob for his great job as the Master of Ceremonies.



In addition to the informal awards we've been giving out over the past few years, it was great to see so many of our members honored with official CSI awards, as well as the scholarships for local students.

Great job everyone!

During the past few weeks, I've had the opportunity to sit down for lunch with several prominent specification writers to discuss what they feel CSI needs to offer locally to be successful as an organization.

Although our conversations have been wide-ranging, we've focused much of our conversation on the need for CSI to continue providing quality education and networking opportunities for our members. In each of these conversations, we had the chance to brainstorm ideas that will bring more value to our membership and potentially add new members as well.

A couple of these exciting new ideas include:

1) **CSI Technical Design Awards:** To be held annually, the Technical Design Awards or "Specy's" as I'm referring to them, will recognize the contributions to the success of major Puget Sound-area projects by technical teams headed by their specification writers. The idea is for a jury of retired PSCCSI spec writers to nominate specifiers and their technical teams and present them with technical excellence awards

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for various project types, e.g. healthcare, educational, commercial, multi-family, retail, etc.

At the conclusion of the event, one specification writer and their team will have the honor of receiving the Puget Sound CSI "Specy" Award for the year.

2) **CSI Speed Dating:** Who would have thought the words CSI and "Speed Dating" aka networking would have ever been in the same sentence? Well, you can thank one of our insightful and forward thinking local spec writers for coming up with this idea!

The concept is pretty straightforward. As an example, CSI will partner with a local association or two representing a specific group within the construction industry, such as RCI and/or SeaBEC, for an event focused on the topic of "building envelope".

Manufacturers and consultants wishing to reach this audience will reserve a table and be seated with their literature and information ready. Teams of 3-4 local specification writers, contractors and building envelope consultants will each take a seat in front of one of the many tables and proceed to move through the room at pre-defined intervals of 5-10 minutes, depending on the number of registered vendors.

Here's a great example of this type of an event from one held in the UK: [https://youtu.be/jrK-j\\_XWMbY](https://youtu.be/jrK-j_XWMbY)

After all of the fun, we will all head upstairs for a networking event, where there will be delicious hot appetizers and refreshments for all participants to enjoy. In addition, during this networking time, there will be follow-up discussions relating to the earlier conversations for those who "swiped right". For those of you unfamiliar with the term, it means simply that they liked what they heard.

3) **CSI Hands On:** Based on the principle that there's no better way to learn than by doing, CSI Hands On is an idea brought up by several specification writers as something that would be very exciting and educational for our professional members. The concept involves multiple hands on learning events throughout the year, organized for CSI by local contractors and trade associations.

We'd meet in a local facility that would allow our professional participants to work with the material and get their "hands dirty", while learning the details of the application or installation process.

4) **CSI Field Trips:** Similar to the "Hands On" concept, we discussed the fact that the NW is blessed with so many different local construction product manufacturers, each with a great story to tell.

What better way to learn about these companies than to visit their factories and to learn about their products and processes first hand?

The idea here is that we would meet at a pre-determined location and take a group shuttle to the manufacturing point. Afterwards, we would visit a local brew pub for appetizers and networking, before heading back.

Someone recently said to me, "Kevin, these are all great ideas, but how do YOU plan to do all these things?!?"

**Well, the simple answer is that "I" don't.**

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*Spectrum* is published monthly as a benefit for members of the Puget Sound Chapter CSI.

Articles must be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month's edition. Email submissions to [office@pscsci.org](mailto:office@pscsci.org).

Visit [www.pscsci.org](http://www.pscsci.org) to subscribe or to view current and back issues.

## **LINKS**

[Northwest Region CSI](#)

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We are a volunteer organization and in order to get these great ideas rolling--even the most mundane tasks--WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!

Moving forward, my most important job as President is going to be getting our members involved. There's more excitement to be had than simply sending in one's dues and adding CSI to our business cards.

We're looking for our members to step up and become committee *leaders* and people to assist as committee *doers*. It's what makes a volunteer organization like the Puget Sound Chapter of CSI successful....or not.

The ProSpec Committee is a perfect example of what works. Each year they organize a phenomenal event that gets rave reviews from all in attendance! The enormous success it brings to the chapter, both financially and otherwise, is literally what's been sustaining us for several years now.

Friends, we can't sit back and let one committee and one single event be what makes or breaks our organization when there is so much opportunity to put in place more of the content we are all craving. It would be tantamount to sitting on a one-legged chair. It doesn't work....many have tried!

What's important to recognize is that each of the aforementioned events have the potential to be equally successful, particularly with regards to revenue and exposure for the chapter. All we need, in order to move forward with any of these ideas, are for the *leaders* and *doers* in our chapter to step up and take ownership of PSCCSI's future.

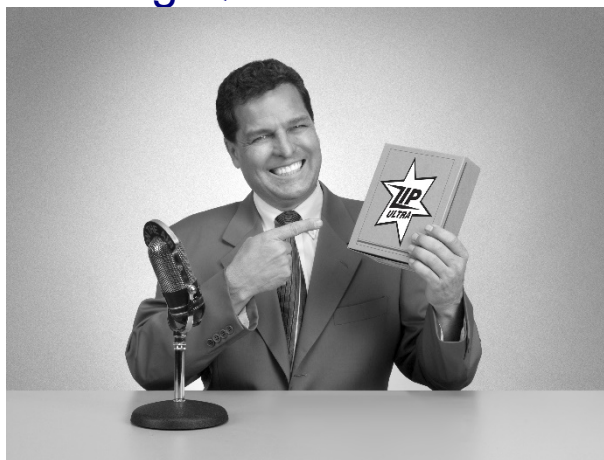
Our professional and industry members use their amazing talents to make things happen each day in our region's construction industry. Let's harness that same energy and our individual talents for the benefit of PSCCSI. Once that happens, will see our organization grow in ways we can only yet imagine.

Contact me via email with ideas and to discuss further!

*Kevin*

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## Chapter Meeting Quick Pitches



We currently have Quick Pitch openings for the September and November Chapter meetings, in the fall. The Chapter charges \$150 for 10 minutes of

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time to present to those in attendance. A table to display your products during the social hour will be provided. Contact [Dick Owen](#) to reserve your date.

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## Sponsorship Opportunities

Don't miss the opportunity to get an edge up over the competition by sponsoring PSC CSI! Sponsorship at any level provides many perks, including exposure for your company and products. By signing up to sponsor the association early in 2018, you will extend your reach to key contacts within in the construction specifications industry. Check out the great list of sponsorship opportunities the chapter has to offer below:

- Spectrum Newsletter Advertising
- Website Advertising
- Quick Pitches
- Tech Talks and Tech Walks
- ProSpec
- Annual Awards Dinner

If you are interested in sponsoring the chapter, view our [sponsorship page](#) for more information and pricing details.

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In 2007, the Puget Sound Chapter CSI established the Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation, a separate organization providing scholarships, fellowships, and grants to promote educational programs serving the construction industry and related endeavors which support the interests and objectives of the Puget Sound Chapter. The Foundation is administered by a board of volunteers, composed of willing past presidents of the Puget Sound Chapter. Any individual or organization can contribute tax deductible donations to the Foundation. You can donate to the Foundation via our [PayPal account](#), or by mailing a check made out to Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation to:

Puget Sound CSI Memorial Foundation, Inc.  
PO Box 82062  
Kenmore, WA 98028-0062

Past donations have been used to award scholarships to candidates selected on the basis of recommendations by the Foundation Board and by Chapter members. The Foundation is always interested in your fund-raising ideas and financial support to promote the Foundation's objectives.



## About CSI

CSI is a national association of specifiers, architects, engineers, contractors, facility managers, product representatives, manufacturers, owners and others who are experts in building construction and the materials used therein. They are dedicated to improving the communication of construction information through:

- A diversified membership base of allied professionals involved in the creation and management of the built environment. Join us.
- Continuous development and transformation of standards and formats.
- Education and certification of professionals to improve project delivery processes.
- Creation of practice tools to assist users throughout the facility life-cycle. Join a CSI Practice Group.

CSI is governed by a Board of Directors, a nationally elected body that provides long-range strategic leadership. The Board is composed of nationally elected CSI officers, including the board chair, president-elect, two vice presidents, the secretary, and the treasurer; elected representatives (directors) from each of CSI's 10 regions; and a director at large. CSI's CEO is a corporate officer.

For more information about or to join CSI, visit [www.csinet.org/joincsi](http://www.csinet.org/joincsi), or call 800-689-2900.

## Puget Sound Chapter CSI

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