

Key Note Speaker: Thursday September 24 at 5 PM
Lee Harriss Roberts – State Budget Director



Lee Harriss Roberts became State Budget Director in September 2014 on the appointment of Governor Pat McCrory. His Key Note Address will be focused on discussing investment in North Carolina infrastructure. This includes presentation of Governor Pat McCrory's Connect NC bond proposal <http://www.connect.nc.gov/> and discussion of budgeting to meet the future needs of North Carolina.

Mr. Roberts has spent most of his career in banking and finance, most recently as managing director of Piedmont Community Bank Holdings and as chief operating officer of Piedmont's principal subsidiary, VantageSouth Bancshares, based in Raleigh. He was previously a partner at Cherokee Investment Partners, a Raleigh-based real estate private equity fund. Prior to joining Cherokee, he spent nine years with Morgan Stanley & Co. in London and New York, focused on real estate investment banking. He began his career practicing law in Washington, D.C.

Roberts serves or has served on the boards of a number of civic and charitable organizations, including the North Carolina Banking Commission, the Community Investment Corporation of the Carolinas, the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University, the Duke Alumni Association, and Ravenscroft School in Raleigh. He is an elder at White Memorial Presbyterian Church in Raleigh and a member of the Young Presidents' Organization. He earned a B.A. from Duke University and a J.D. from Georgetown University.

Awards Lunch Speaker:
Anthony Puntin – Executive Director, Boston ASCE



Tony will be discussing Raise the Bar, an on-going initiative to increase the formal education requirements for professional engineers. The complex challenges facing 21st-century society will require professional engineers (PEs) to advance their technical excellence and professional leadership. The engineering education of the present – a four-year undergraduate degree – will not be sufficient to prepare the licensed professional engineers of the future. Today's PE needs a greater breadth and depth of knowledge, leadership, and vision to address the increasingly complex challenges facing society.

Tony is the Executive Director of the Boston Society of Civil Engineers (BSCES). In this role, he is responsible for the overall leadership and management of the organization. With over 4000 members and 8 technical groups, BSCES conducts over 50 events, seminars, and workshops each year. Tony is also an Associate with the BETA Group, Inc. responsible for the management and oversight of BETA's northern New England office. He served as an adjunct professor at Merrimack College in the spring of 2015 teaching a course on Professional Development and Ethics. Tony has 22 years of experience in the civil engineering industry with a focus on transportation projects and project management. A 1992 graduate of the University of Massachusetts – Amherst, Tony has served on their Civil and Environmental Advisory Council since 2010. He and his wife Beverly live in Concord, New Hampshire with their two daughters Alexandra and Haley.