

American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee
Tennessee Engineering Center · 800 Fort Negley Boulevard · Nashville, TN 37203

For Release: February 14, 2011

Contact: Candy Toler 615.242.2486
Executive Director, ACEC of Tennessee

**Students at University of Memphis and Tennessee Tech Awarded Scholarships
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by the American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee**

Nashville, TN – Engineering students **Carolyn Mariano**, a junior at the University of Memphis, and **Rebekah Kerley**, a senior at Tennessee Technological University, have each received a \$1,000 scholarship from the American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee (ACEC of Tennessee). **Mariano**, who is studying Civil Engineering, will compete for national ACEC scholarships to be awarded in October. **Kerley**, who will receive a BS in Civil Engineering with a concentration in structures this May and plans to do graduate study in Structural Engineering next year, will compete on the national level for a scholarship from the Council of American Structural Engineers (CASE).

This is the tenth year that ACEC of Tennessee has awarded scholarships to Tennessee engineering students. Past winners were students at Vanderbilt, UT-Chattanooga, UT-Knoxville and Tennessee Tech. In 2009, the winner of the Tennessee scholarship also won the national competition and received an additional \$10,000 scholarship.

“Our scholarship program is another example of how ACEC of Tennessee is committed to the future of our profession. I am pleased that interest in the scholarship program is increasing,” said Everett Cowan, PE, CEO of AE Guidance, LLC, Nashville, the chairman of the 2011 Scholarship Committee.

Mariano is a University of Memphis Engineering Student Ambassador who recruits high school students to the university’s engineering program. She is enrolled in the University of Memphis honors program and also plays intramural soccer. She tutors high school students in Math and English through Peer Power Foundation, a Memphis organization focused on helping youth who are struggling academically. Mariano is very involved in several organizations including Engineers without Borders, the Institute of Transportation Engineers, and the American Society of Civil Engineers. In summer 2009, she worked in the Memphis office of Allen & Hoshall, an engineering, architecture, planning and consulting firm.

“Ms. Mariano serves as an ambassador of the Herff College of Engineering and is outstanding with recruiting students and sharing her experiences,” said Stephanie S. Ivey, the Askew Hargraves Harcourt (A2H) Fellow and Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Memphis.

Kerley launched a business, Kerley’s Greenhouses in Crossville, while a college student. In 2009, she was a summer intern with Babcock and Wilcox Company’s Y-12 (B&W Y-12) operation in Oak Ridge. At Tennessee Tech, she is a member of Chi Epsilon. She is also a member of the American Society of Civil

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Engineers. Prior to attending Tennessee Tech, she was a student at Roane State Community college and served on the Campus Activity Board.

“Rebekah has worked for me on numerous projects. She is an excellent problem solver and a very hard worker,” said R. Craig Henderson, PE, her advisor at Tennessee Tech. “She requires little direction, but consistently seeks to understand the problem or question and then forms a strategy for its solution.”

Joe Hunt, PE, Chief Structural Engineer with B&W Y12 said, “Rebekah did an outstanding job for us when she worked with us. She demonstrated a high level of maturity.”

Founded in 1968, the American Council of Engineering Companies of Tennessee (ACEC of Tennessee) is a statewide organization of more than 100 engineering firms. ACEC of Tennessee has chapters in Nashville, East Tennessee, Southeast Tennessee, and Memphis. The organization works to improve business practices of engineering firms and to enhance public awareness and understanding of the value of engineering services.

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For additional information: Peggy Hickman 615.367.5200, ext. 13 or hickman@varallopr.com
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