



## Donald Van Norman Roberts Global Sustainability Award

**Background:** Don Roberts graduated from the Department of Civil Engineering at Stanford University and obtained a master's degree in the emerging field of soils mechanics and foundation engineering at the Imperial College of the University of London in 1951. After completing his master's degree, Don pursued a career as a professional engineer, first at Dames and Moore where he was Senior Partner, and subsequently at CH2M Hill where he was Senior Vice President.

During his practice as a professional engineer, his interests evolved from soil mechanics and foundation engineering to consulting engineering management, leadership, and strategic planning. This trajectory brought the concept of environmental sustainability to his attention. Don served as an inspirational leader in many professional organizations including the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), where he reached the highest accolade of Distinguished Membership, ASFE (now the Geoprofessional Business Association); Engineers Without Borders USA; International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC); World Engineering Partnership for Sustainable Development; and World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO). Don's leadership at ASCE was instrumental in the Society's decision to include the principles of sustainable development in its Code of Ethics.

**Award:** ASCE is establishing the Donald Van Norman Roberts Global Sustainability Award to honor Don Roberts for his significant contributions to the profession and his leadership in sustainability. Once established, the award will consist of a cash prize awarded annually to engineering professionals or to engineering students for papers on sustainability or climate change that are published in a peer-reviewed ASCE journal.

**Funding:** The Don Roberts Family friends and colleagues have made contributions in Don's memory totaling \$39,850 to the award fund. An additional \$6,150 in contributions is needed to permanently endow the Don Roberts Award. Contributions to the Don Roberts Award fund may be sent to the ASCE Foundation, 1801 Alexander Bell Drive, Suite 100, Reston, VA 20191.

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