

2020 Vernon B. Spalding Leadership Award

Jay B. Shah, PE

President, Jay Shah Associates, LLC



Jay Shah is President of Jay Shah Associates, a management consulting firm founded in 2006. JSA provides succession planning, strategic direction and M&A consulting to A/E businesses. He has peer reviewed in excess of 16 ACEC firms nationwide, providing him the experience in mentoring the firms' leadership and key employees.

Shah has played leadership roles in ACEC member firms Somat Engineering of Detroit and Spalding DeDecker Associates of Rochester Hills. He helped Somat Engineering to grow regionally and to diversify its practice as Vice President. He was Chairman and President of Spalding DeDecker where he helped the firm grow fivefold in stock value and to 156 employees.

Shah served as the President of ACEC Michigan in 2000 when the Board first established the Vernon B. Spalding and Felix A. Anderson awards. During the same period the Board, under his leadership, was credited with passing of QBS legislation into the State law as well. From 2000-03, Shah served as a National Director representing Michigan at ACEC. Among many of his duties, one of the notable ones was to nominate the ACEC Chairman. Shah chaired the ACEC Professional Education Committee and was a member of the Transportation and Peer Review committees. Shah often conducted CEO Roundtables and presented at various ACEC National conferences.

Shah was appointed to the Oakland University Board of Trustees by the Governor in 2010. He also served on the \$2 Billion Michigan Strategic Fund Board and Michigan Hospital Finance Authority. At the local level, he served on the Oakland County Economic Development Corporation and chaired the Building Authority. He received an M.B.A. from the University of Detroit and served on its engineering advisory committee.

Shah is the recipient of the Wayne State University Distinguished Engineering Alumni Achievement Award and is an inductee into the WSU College of Engineering Hall of Fame. He also is a Fellow in the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). He is the recipient of community service awards from ACEC and a Leadership Award from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Shah mentors students at University of Michigan Ross School of Business and Oakland University College of Engineering and College of Business. He currently participates in Lawrence Technological University's Bio-Medical Engineering Program.

Shah continues to encourage engineers to take leadership roles in public and private enterprise and in serving their communities. His mantra in life has been to give back and to make a difference.

Jay and his wife Bharti are parents of two grown daughters and grandparents to five little ones. Jay recently published his memoir (240 pages) dedicating it to them and the future great grandchildren.