

# Phillip L. McDade, FCSI

*"In recognition of your resolute ability to empower people to reach their potential; your unique approach to leadership that has elevated your chapter and region to unprecedented involvement; promoting continuing education and pioneering innovative meetings designed to educate and nurture leaders, you are advanced to Fellowship in the Institute on the 26th day of June 1999."  
Los Angeles, California*



PHIL MCDADE was born and raised in Jackson, Mississippi, and graduated from Mississippi State University with a degree in landscape architecture in 1974. Except for his college years and the three years he lived in Richmond, Virginia, working for the Virginia Department of Highways & Transportation, Phil has lived in Jackson. He has been a principal in the firm of Weatherford/ McDade, Ltd. landscape architects since 1981.

Throughout his career, he has dealt with the perception that landscape architects do not operate as “professionally” as architects and engineers. Phil saw this perception as both a challenge and an opportunity to prove technical competency. Early in his career Phil decided that success in the construction industry would mean modifying that perception, broadening his responsibilities as a landscape architect, and improving the stature of his profession in the design and construction industry.

Phil believes that helping others helps everyone, and that as levels of education and willingness to share information with others improve, society (the construction community in particular) improves. A more informed society can work smarter, thus allowing more time for areas of life just as, or

more important, than work. Phil has devoted considerable time to teaching others how to function more effectively in the construction industry.

Phil’s contributions have been in the area of leadership development. He has led seminars and been a key presenter for programs for his chapter, his region, and the Institute. The Mississippi Transfer of Power Meeting and the Gulf States Committee Chairs Planning Meetings pioneered by Phil had the initial concept for incoming and outgoing officers and committee chairs to exchange ideas about what worked and didn’t work, and plan for the next year. The idea of leadership development took on new meaning to Phil in these meetings. The basic premise was first to get everyone to sit down together and talk, because if you couldn’t do that, you’d never discuss the issues at hand!

Phil continues to enjoy the distinctions of being the first landscape architect and the first Mississippian to be president of CSI. He also is a Fellow in the American Society of Landscape Architects. He continues his training in public speaking/ teaching as a member of Toastmasters International. And, he still is married to his first wife, Corinne, which he believes is his neatest achievement!

## **CSI Membership**

Mississippi Chapter – September 1982 to present  
Mobile Bay Chapter

## **Institute Offices, Committees**

Awards Committee 1994 - 1996  
Institute Director, Gulf States Region 1996 – 1999  
Chair, Unfunded Task Team 1997 – 1998.  
Member, Board Audit Committee 1997  
Member, Institute Policy Revision Committee 1997  
Vice President (Professional) FY 2000  
Secretary FY 2001  
President Elect FY 2002  
President FY 2003  
Chair, Michelangelo Award Committee, 2005  
Institute Nominating Committee 2005; Chair 2006

College of Fellows Nominating Committee 2009; Chair 2010

Jury of Fellows 2013, Chair 2014

## **Gulf States Region Offices, Committees**

Awards Committee member 1990-91  
Awards Committee Co-Chair 1991-92, Chair 1992-94  
Planning Committee Chair 1994-95  
Region President 1997-99  
Region Vice President 1998

## **Awards**

### **Institute**

Institute Commendation – June 1998  
Certified Dirt Decorator (by the Institute Board) 2001

### **Gulf States Region**

Robert V. Bishop Award, 2001  
Eugene Wetzel Award, 2010