From the DEO

Dear CEE Friends,

Well, it has been another exciting year here in CEE with many, many accomplishments, lots of fun, and a few more changes in place for 2012. Our students continue to do amazing projects here in Iowa, around the Nation, and around the world. The projects range from the yearly concrete canoe and steel bridge to designing and installing rain gardens here on campus and building foot bridges in Nicaragua. They are an amazing group, and we are both proud of them, and sad to say goodbye to them. This year we had 54 B.S., 16 M.S., and 8 Ph.D students graduate. Congratulations and best wishes to all of you! You have achieved a goal that was hard-won and will last a lifetime.

Our faculty continue to be first-class teachers and researchers. Our very own Allen Bradley received The President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence for his dedication to student learning and engagement in our introductory first-year class in Engineering Problem Solving (EPS1). One of the many inspiring things that Allen does in this class is that he learns all 250 or more names of the students in his lectures before class starts. I hear stories of students raising their hands in the first class and Allen responding with “Yes, Sarah, how can I help you”. Faculty members like Allen make CEE at Iowa a special place.

In addition to providing a first-class education to our students, our faculty and students remain highly engaged in contributing high-impact, scholarly research on topics as diverse as flood mitigation, radionuclide detection, carbon sequestration, water treatment, and digital human modeling. In 2011 alone, we conducted over $9 million dollars in external research and published seventy journal articles. We also implemented a new program, the CEE Research Experience for Undergraduates (CEE-REU) to provide college and departmental support to get even more of our undergraduates into our labs, out in the field, and engaged in research with our faculty and graduate students.

As we move forward in 2012, we have some exciting changes in CEE and the college. We are delighted to welcome three new faculty to our department - David Cwiertny, Craig Just, and Chris Stoakes. They bring valuable expertise in water sustainability and are already engaged in teaching both core courses, and new graduate level courses. We also have a new administrator assistant, Jenni Rumpling, who has already made herself completely invaluable to both students and faculty alike! In addition, we just finished our external search for the new Dean of the College and we are all so very excited that Alec Scanton, our Interim Dean for the past year will continue to lead our college for the next several years. It is, as you can see, an exciting time in CEE, and I am very much looking forward to see what 2012 brings.
Advisory Board

The CEE Advisory Board meets in the Fall and Spring in the College of Engineering. The CEE department is very appreciative of the Board members support and willingness to share their expertise and wisdom. At the April 2012 meeting, the focus will be preparing for ABET and the Advisory Board will give input on CEE Program Educational Objectives and Outcomes.

Heather Anderson
Project Engineer
Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Rock Island, IL

Jay M. Brady
Senior Civil Engineer
Stanley Consultants
Muscatine, IA

John Clark
Project Engineer
STV Incorporated
Chicago, IL

Jane Driscoll, Chair
Senior Engineer
Deere & Company
Moline, IL

Aaron Granquist
Project Manager
Howard R. Green Company
Moline, IL

Ron Knoche
City Engineer
City of Iowa City
Iowa City, IA

Dick Larew
Retired CEE Professor
Ohio State University
Iowa City, IA

Rebecca Lesnik
Civil Engineer
Anderson-Bogert
Cedar Rapids, IA

Brian Morrisey
Iowa D.O.T.
Fairfield, IA

Greg Parker
Project Engineer
Johnson County Engineer
Iowa City, IA

Dan Rest
Civil Engineer
HBK Engineering
Chicago, IL

Jim Schnoebelen
District Engineer
Iowa D.O.T.
Cedar Rapids, IA

Terry Wipf
Interim Department Chair
Iowa State University
Ames, IA

Allen Witt
Principal Engineer
Hall & Hall Engineers, Inc.
Cedar Rapids, IA
Some Research Highlights

The Iowa Flood Center

The Iowa Flood Center (IFC) at the University of Iowa works to provide accurate, science based information to help Iowans understand flood risks. The IFC’s overarching goal is to improve flood monitoring and prediction capabilities in Iowa. Some IFC projects include:

**The Iowa Flood Information System** provides up-to-the-minute information on rainfall, stream levels, and more.

**Electronic stream stage sensors** measure stream levels and transmit data to the center. The current network of 100 sensors across the state will soon expand to 125.

**Floodplain Maps** for the 85 Iowa counties declared federal disaster areas after 2008 are in development.

**New soil temperature and soil moisture sensors** transmit soil conditions to the IFC to improve the accuracy of IFC flood prediction models.

Follow the IFC’s progress on the web: [http://www.iowafloodcenter.org](http://www.iowafloodcenter.org)

Toward Safer Highway Bridges in Iowa

Bridge Damage Detection: Integration of Structural Health Monitoring System Concepts and Components—A Statewide Collaboration

Beginning in 2003, the Iowa DOT has invested in research (through both the Iowa Highway Research Board and through the Office of Bridges and structures) to develop structural health monitoring systems that are capable of identifying damage and able to report on the general operation condition. In some cases the precipitous for these developments has been a desire to avoid the introduction of damage that might go unnoticed until the “next” biennial inspection by observers. Of specific and immediate concern was the State’s inventory of fracture critical structures. The objective of this project is to bring together various components of structural health monitoring research activities at the State of Iowa’s Regent Universities for the Iowa DOTs benefit.

Water Sustainability

The University of Iowa has established a Water Sustainability Initiative, including 10 new faculty positions for an interdisciplinary cluster hire to advance research, education, and outreach on sustainability.

Motivated by one of 14 Grand Challenges from the National Academy of Engineering — “provide access to clean water” — the University is expanding its existing strength in interdisciplinary research on water including its availability, quality, reuse, health impacts, and its relationship to a changing climate. Economics, policy, and law as well as the natural science and engineering are all engaged to solve the problems of water. CEE has hired two new faculty this year as part of the water sustainability cluster hire.

The faculty alliance on water sustainability encompasses the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Public Health, Law, Engineering, the Graduate College, and the Public Policy Center. Among the various resources already developed to advance the initiative are the Iowa Flood Center, the UI Office of Sustainability, and the undergraduate Certificate in Sustainability.
Dr. Craig Just has served the College of Engineering at the University of Iowa since 1993. He earned a master’s degree in chemistry from the University of Northern Iowa in 1994 and a Ph.D. in environmental engineering and science from the University of Iowa in 2001. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and an assistant research engineer at IIHR—Hydroscience & Engineering. He is also the Coordinator of the Sustainability Programs for the College of Engineering.

The Just Research Group deals in the measurement and quantification of nitrogen cycle fluxes and stores, with a particular focus on aerobic/anaerobic interfaces in aquatic and engineered ecosystems with recognized expertise in chemical sensing and modeling. The Just Research Group also studies the ability of citizen-centric sustainability education and community engagement activities to influence representative democracy such that globally-minded, interdisciplinary policies and solutions can be implemented by increasingly diverse and interconnected populations.

Christopher D. Stoakes is a Lecturer in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Iowa. He is a candidate for the doctor of philosophy degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to his graduate work at Illinois, Dr. Stoakes received a Master of Engineering Degree, in Civil Engineering, from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science Degree, in Civil Engineering, from the University of Iowa. In addition to teaching courses in Statics and Civil Engineering Materials, Dr. Stoakes has research interests in the behavior and design of steel structures, fatigue and fracture of structural materials, and computational analysis of structures and materials.
New CEE Faculty

Professors David Cwiertny and Craig Just are part of the water sustainability cluster hire, which addresses one of the 14 Grand Challenges, the issue of access to clean water. This cluster hire resulted in 10 new faculty positions across campus. Pictured at the left are four of the UI faculty included in the water cluster hire; Craig Just (CEE), Eric Tate (geography, David Cwiertny (CEE), and Adam Ward (geoscience.) Photo by Jim Heemstra, courtesy of IIHR.

David Cwiertny

David M. Cwiertny is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Iowa. He joined the faculty at Iowa in the Fall of 2011 after four years as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Chemical and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Riverside. David has a B.S. in Environmental Engineering Science and minor in Chemistry from the University of California, Berkeley, a Ph.D. from the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, and he previously conducted post-doctoral research at the University of Iowa in a joint appointment between the Departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Chemistry. His research group broadly focuses on pollutant fate in natural and engineered systems, with a particular emphasis on the development of materials-based treatment technologies that promote water sustainability. At the University of Iowa, he is a core faculty member in the campus-wide Water Sustainability Initiative, developing interdisciplinary research, outreach and education programs intended to increase water awareness at the University and across the state of Iowa.
ASCE
Allen Bradley, Faculty Advisor

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Yiming He, Steel Bridge Co-Chairman
Heidi Ranschau, Concrete Canoe Co-Chairman
Tyler Olson, Concrete Canoe Co-Chairman
Adrianna Jarosz, Webmaster

Chi Epsilon
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ASCE Concrete Canoe

The University of Iowa Concrete Canoe team is nearing the end of the second semester of hard work in building the 2012 canoe, “Black and Yellow Submarine.” This year’s theme was chosen by the team as homage to not only a time of great music, but also of great change. Captains Heidi Ranschau and Tyler Olsen wanted to empower this year’s team to not only consider new and innovative ideas in the canoe design, but to focus on the teamwork, comradery, and overall fun that goes along with designing, building, and competing as representative of Iowa. The theme of black and yellow was also chosen to mirror the black and gold colors of Iowa, and show the teams pride for their school during the actual competition. This year’s team consists mainly of freshman through senior civil engineering students, and includes students from engineering majors such as biomedical and mechanical. The competition will be held on April 21st at the University of Wisconsin, Platteville, and features a design paper written by the team members, as well as a presentation and display detailing the development and construction techniques used in this year’s canoe. The competition culminates with a series of races in which team members compete in endurance and sprint trials. This year’s team will return to Iowa having represented the University with honors, but more importantly, having enjoyed the time and effort spent during the year as part of the “Black and Yellow Submarine” team!

The team’s face book page can be found at: [http://www.facebook.com/groups/209474499118600/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/209474499118600/)
Habitat for Humanity Net Zero Home- We want Habitat homeowners to have bills they can afford as well – taking this one step further, we don’t want them to have any bills at all. The idea is that with specific technologies and construction methods, the next generation of Habitat homes will not use more energy than they produce. We are currently in the design phase; Hudson Francis is leading a ten-member team to brainstorm innovative ways to make this a reality. Another challenge will be to monitor the water, gas and electricity usage, and the most critical design constraint is that the average person needs to be able to understand the operation and maintenance of all systems. The build is set to begin in the fall!

Habitat for Humanity Weatherization- The Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity is a sub-grantee of WIPP, the Weatherization Innovation Pilot Program. WIPP works towards new models for energy auditing and retrofitting houses to be more energy efficient. Over the next year, 60 homes will be improved under the WIPP Program. Seven UI-ESW members spent ten hours weatherizing a home – adding insulation in the attic, resealing ductwork, installing foam backing for outlets, and other job.
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<tr>
<th>Undergraduates</th>
<th>Bachelor of Science Degrees Conferred, 2010-11</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kristen Appelson</td>
<td>Mindy Flaherty</td>
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<td>Brenton Barkley</td>
<td>John Foster</td>
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<td>Kevin Bennett</td>
<td>Keith Gaynor</td>
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<td>Naadia Bhatti</td>
<td>Andrew Gettler</td>
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<td>Samuel Brown</td>
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<td>David Buch</td>
<td>Taylor Harmeyer</td>
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<td>Catherine Buckley</td>
<td>Bryan Hills</td>
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<td>Lorraine Buckman</td>
<td>Derek Hopkins</td>
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<td>Lauren Carlson</td>
<td>Emily Hovda</td>
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<td>Timothy Colton</td>
<td>Justin Humke</td>
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<td>David Crawford</td>
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<td>Eryn Dattilo</td>
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<td>Ryan Delves</td>
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<td>Joseph Divito</td>
<td>Lee Lingenfelter</td>
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<td>Jonathan Durst</td>
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<td>William Eggert</td>
<td>Brian Maurovich</td>
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<td>Chad Finn</td>
<td>Daniel Mehl</td>
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<td>Caroline Mills</td>
<td>Brian Moore</td>
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<td>Antonio Motyko</td>
<td>Ryan Phipps</td>
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<td>Hannah Papineschi</td>
<td>Lynne Poggensee-Wei</td>
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<td>Jennifer Reeder</td>
<td>Ryan Rickels</td>
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<td>Pete Sarich</td>
<td>Jacob Snyder</td>
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<td>Jedidiah Snyder</td>
<td>Thomas Stenslik</td>
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<td>Daniel Stewart</td>
<td>Jason Stone</td>
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<td>Nicholas Turner</td>
<td>Adam Thompson</td>
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<td>Bryson Winsky</td>
<td>Chon Wong</td>
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Undergraduates

Grand Challenge Scholar Program

The Grand Challenges program at The University of Iowa College of Engineering is focused on 14 topics identified by the National Academy of Engineers as areas awaiting engineering solutions in the 21st Century. There are currently four CEE faculty advising undergraduate participating in this program: Nick Glynn (Chemical Engineering) is working with Professor Michelle Scherer on metal contamination in water; Jue Gong (Chemical Engineering) is working with Professor Keri Hornbuckle on PCBs and related air toxics in the Chicago metro area; Shayma Elsheikh (Biomedical Engineering) is working with Professor Craig Just on life-saving drinking water purification technologies for the developing world; and Andrew Maurer (CEE) is working with Professor Nandita Basu on managing the nitrogen cycle.

Andrew Maurer, the CEE undergraduate participating in Grand Challenges, had this to say about the program: “As a Grand Challenges Program Scholar I have chosen Nitrogen Management as my area of focus, and am planning to work alongside Professor Basu with regards to nitrogen-related research for this upcoming summer. I am currently studying abroad in Prague, Czech Republic, experiencing as many different cultures and cities this four-month period will allow. From the shores of Valencia to the unmistakable Swiss Alps, I have gained incredible perspective on the European communities and the problems they may be facing. I have written a preliminary report on nitrogen and its importance in our world, and I am working on completing the ‘Global Dimension’ and ‘Service Learning’ portions while abroad. This semester has been an unbelievable journey, and the progress I plan to make on understanding the nitrogen cycle this summer and future semesters will only add to this great year!”

Undergraduate Scholarships

ASCE Scholarship—Heidi Ranschau
Victor and Elizabeth Chang Scholarship—Matthew McSweeny, Tyler Olson
Joseph B. Summers Scholarship—Taryn Tigges
Wayne Paulson Scholarship—Nicole Larson
Concrete Pipe Association of Iowa—Riley Quinn
Philip F. Morgan Scholarship—Ryan Posluszny
Archie N. Carter Civil Engineering Scholarship—Michael Fitz, Nicholas Gerwe
Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Louis Civil Engineering Scholarship—Bridget Johnson
Archie A. Alexander Memorial Fund—Ian Corbin, Yiming He, Thomas Kasang, Lu Liu, John Perkins, John Scholbrock
Asphalt Paving Association of Iowa—Robert Casiello, Kristina Craft, Brian Horesowsky, Michael Steiff
James Shive Memorial Fund—Bradley Reuter
Halverson Construction Co.—Mark Stocker
Parsons Engineering Scholarship—Ethan Gingerich
Franklin D. and Anita L. Hockett Scholarship—Joel Shrader
“In January of 2011, I enrolled in the Transportation Infrastructure Systems Graduate Program to pursue my Master’s degree in Civil Engineering. I was appointed as a graduate research assistant under the direction of Dr. David Lee and assigned as a lead researcher on a project investigating the use of Recycled Asphalt Pavement (RAP) materials in the construction of asphalt roadways. My research project focuses on developing ways to increase the amount of RAP materials that can be reused in Hot Mix Asphalt construction projects while maintaining the new pavement’s performance throughout the design life. Increasing the reuse of RAP materials in new construction or pavement resurfacing projects improves the sustainability of the transportation network by significantly reducing the amount of new material required for the mixture and thereby reducing the cost of construction to the owner of the roadway. In the University of Iowa Asphalt Research Laboratory, we developed different methods of adding the RAP material to the asphalt mixture which allowed for the creation of High-RAP mix designs that used up to 50% recycled material and met all requirements of the IDOT. I presented the results of this research at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board in Washington D.C. in January and at the 2012 Greater Iowa Asphalt Conference in early March. Ultimately the results of the complete project will be presented to member of the IDOT and the Asphalt Paving Association of Iowa to support and increase in the amount of RAP material allowed to be used in the construction of Iowa’s roadways, and to provide contractors with methods of designing these High-RAPH content mixtures.”

“My research involves assessing the integrity of structures with Professor Rahmatalla and his postdoctoral research assistant Ghedban Swadi. We are trying to advance the field of structural health monitoring by developing a technique utilizing accelerometers as a method to detect damage in a structure. This vibration-based detection method is a non-invasive approach to determine the structural integrity of a system by calculating its damage sensitive features (natural frequencies, mode shapes, etc.). From these damage sensitive features, it can be determined if and where damage has occurred in a structure. The research is currently being conducted on a 1:6 scale model of a steel highway bridge with damage simulated at specified joint locations. Preliminary data shows excellent progress, although further refinement is needed for consistency. Our long-term goal for this research is to develop the technique so it is an applicable method for determining and monitoring the structural integrity of existing structures. Along with conducting research, I keep myself busy with being a TA, and working part time at a civil engineering consulting firm as a CAD technician and engineering intern. All of these tasks have provided me with the proper skills and knowledge to become a well-rounded engineer.”
Hydraulics and Water Resources—Seyed Hajimirzaie

“My dissertation is an interdisciplinary study that has components of environmental hydraulics as well as sediment transport. The first part of my work examines the hydrodynamics of flow around small aspect ratio obstacles, such as mussels. This work is motivated by the need for a better understanding of transport mechanisms in fresh water mussel populations but its application far exceeds mussel research. The findings of this NSF project can be expanded to very different engineering applications including control surfaces on aircraft and underwater vehicles, sails, and cowlings on submarines; components on electronic circuit boards; buildings and exhaust stacks; and boulders, clusters, and fish habitat structures on river beds. As part of this work, I am also collaborating in a sediment transport project with Professor Thanos Papanicolaou which focuses on steep mountain streams. This work seeks to characterize the effects of relative submergence on bed shear stress distributions, and mean flow and sediment depositional patterns surrounding the obstacle, and to elucidate the physical mechanisms governing these processes. I am enjoying so much about the University. I also like my studies because of the challenges of learning the engineering concepts. In free time I enjoy spending time with my wife, hanging out with friends and going to the gym.”

Environmental — Jeremy Bril

Jeremy Bril is a Ph.D. candidate working with Dr. Craig Just in the Environmental Engineering and Science Graduate Program. A native of Decorah, Iowa, Jeremy earned his B.S. degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 2008, and his M.S. degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of Iowa in 2010. The goal of Jeremy’s Ph.D. research is to investigate how declines in native freshwater mussel populations will influence nitrogen processing in large river systems. Specifically, Jeremy is working to quantify the effects of mussels on the nitrogen cycle at various temporal scales in the Upper Mississippi River Basin. In addition to his research, Jeremy has remained an active member of the University of Iowa Chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World (UI-ESW). He helped to establish UI-ESW’s Campus and Community Rain Gardens Project and assisted with launching Iowa City’s Community Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative. He also served as the Director of Education and Projects for the ESW National Team from 2010-2011. In his free time, Jeremy enjoys golfing, kayaking, and spending time with family and friends.
Graduate Degrees Conferred, 2010-11

Master of Science (M.S.)

Candice Bark
Assessing Diurnal and Seasonal Nitrate Behavior in Large Rivers Using Nitratax In-Situ Sensors

Fabienne Bertrand
Fluvial Erosion Measurements of Streambank Using Photo-electronic Erosion Pins (PEEP)

Angela Brown
Arsenic Speciation in the Presence of Anoxic Mixed Valant Iron Systems

Kelsey Coulter (Nonthesis)

Kyla Dean
Phosphorus Runoff to Clear Creek

Matthew Flannigan
Phytoremediation for the Treatment of Energetic Material Releases on Testing and Training Ranges at Eglin Air Force Base

Daniel Gilles
Application of Numerical Models for Improvement of Flood Preparedness

Kyle Hudson
Vibration-based Damage Detection with New Operational Response and Waveform Analysis Methodology

Toby Hunemuller
Review and Analysis of the National Weather Service River Forecasts for the June 2008 Eastern Iowa Flooids

Lea Ljumanovic
Low Cost Passive Dampers for Highway Traffic Signs

Matthew Moore
Development of a High Resolution 1D/2D Coupled Flood Simulation of Charles City, Iowa

Sean Murphy (Nonthesis)

John Nicholson
Design of Wind Turbine Tower and Foundation Systems: Optimization Approach

Adam Nielsen
Computational Fluid Dynamics Applications for the Lake Washington Ship Canal

Cody Pump
Air Entrainment Relationship with Water Discharge of Vortex Drop Structures

Nathan Quarderer

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Anne Alexander
Bioremediation and Biocatalysis with Polaromonas sp. Strain JS666

Hao-Che Ho
Investigation of Unsteady and Non-uniform Flow and Sediment Transport Characteristics at Culvert Sites

Drew Latta
A Geochemical Investigation of Heterogeneous Redox Reactions between FE(II), FE(III), and Uranium

Andres Martinez
Release of Polychlorinated Biphenyl Congeners in a Contaminated Harbor and Canal

Carolyn Persoon
Spatial and Seasonal Trends of Atmospheric PCBs in Urban Areas Captured by Passive Sampling

Bong Chul Seo
Towards a Better Representation of Radar-rainfall: Filling Gaps in Understanding Uncertainties

Mehmet Serdaroglu
Nonlinear Analysis of Pile Driving and Ground Vibrations in Saturated Cohesive Soils Using the Finite Element Method

Robert Williams
Measuring and Modeling the Anisotropic, Nonlinear and Hysteretic Behavior of Woven Fabrics
CEE Happenings

⇒ Allen Bradley won 2012 President and Provost Award for Teaching Excellence
⇒ Witek Krajewski was elected to serve as the President of the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science (CUAHSI)
⇒ George Constantinescu won the 2011 Hillgard ASCE award for Best Technical Paper in the Journal Hydraulic Engineering
⇒ Wilf Nixon was honored by ASEE with the 2012 George Wadlin Award for his outstanding contribution to Civil Engineering Education
⇒ The Richard Valentine Distinguished Lecture Series kicked off on Friday October 28th, 2011
⇒ Undergraduate Sean Plenner won best in IIHR for his poster at the 2011 Research Open House
⇒ Undergraduate Adam Thompson won best in CEE for his poster on ‘Real time measurement of tire tread depth’ at the 2011 Research Open House
⇒ CEE graduate student Elliott Beenk made it into the top five for America’s Next EcoStar
⇒ CBE Undergraduate Jonathan Bachman received the Excellence in Undergraduate Research Award
⇒ Civil Engineering was recently ranked as the 26th “Best Job” by US News
⇒ CEE added two new combined degree programs this year—students may now earn a B.S. in Chemical and Biochemical Engineering or Mechanical and Industrial Engineering and an M.S. in Civil and Environmental Engineering.