

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Welcome back to the CEE Department! Even though budget cutting has seriously eroded State funding for Higher Education, we have exciting new developments in our Department. Our goal of sponsored research of \$1M/year is close to fruition. We now have three full-time research faculty on our staff and are looking to continue to grow with new faculty hires. Once the new Engineering Building is complete, we will almost triple our laboratory space in CEE. We are in the middle of our new ABET Engineering Criteria 2000 accreditation preparations which involve continuous feedback and improvement in our undergraduate curriculum. As a result, we will be making several curricula changes in the next few months. Alumni are invited to come back to PSU and visit us in the CEE office at any time. Perhaps you can join us next year for our annual CEE Alumni Open House and Dinner. Looking forward to seeing you on campus!

GRANTS

Dr. Robert Bertini, Assistant Professor, is the recipient of the CAREER Award from the National Science Foundation. The NSF recognizes and supports the early career-development activities of those teacher-scholars who are most likely to become the academic leaders of the 21st century. The NSF award includes a five-year, \$400,000 grant for research and education activities that will involve undergraduates in multidisciplinary research teams and support many important programs. This was the only CAREER Award in the transportation field in the U.S. this year, and one of only five across all disciplines awarded in the state of Oregon this year. For more information about this award, see the full article at:

<http://web.pdx.edu/~bertini/nsf.htm>.



FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

Dr. Robert Doneker has joined the CEE faculty as a Research Assistant Professor. His research interests include: pollutant transport modeling, hydraulic engineering, and regulatory decision support. He is also teaching a class this fall titled, "Mixing Zone Analysis." On a personal note, he and his wife Laura are new proud parents of twin boys, Eric and Kai.



In other "baby" news, Dr. Gwynn Johnson had a son, Gabriel Rowen Johnson-Taggart, on September 14th. Mom, dad and baby are doing well. She will be on leave until Winter term 2004.

Retirements:

Steve Speer has formally retired as CEE Technician even though he is still with us working part-time to keep the Department functioning.

Also, Dr. Wendelin Mueller has retired from CEE. He is still working part-time teaching courses, advising students, and keeping his STAR research activity going strong.

ACHIEVEMENTS

The College of Engineering and Computer Science has selected Dr. Franz Rad as the first recipient of the Arthur M. James Professorship. Arthur M. James, a local structural engineer, endowed the professorship through a generous donation in Spring 2003. The Professorship recognizes Dr. Rad's achievements and will provide support for his academic and professional activities.



STUDENT NEWS

With the new 2003-2004 academic year, the CEE department has implemented our own Departmental Honors' program. This is a great opportunity for high-achieving undergraduate students to add a research component to their studies. Further information can be found on the website at www.cee.pdx.edu under the link about the Bachelor of Science program or flyers can be picked up at the bulletin board outside the CEE office.

A new requirement for juniors in the BSCE program is now in effect. The course title is "Civil and Environmental Engineering Profession" – CE 407. This one-credit seminar course gives juniors an important introduction to all the areas in the Civil Engineering discipline. It is a great way for students to learn more about their chosen field!

The ASCE student chapter has several activities planned (talks, meetings, etc.) for the 2003-2004 school year. Every year, the PSU ASCE student chapter participates in the regional Concrete Canoe/Steel Bridge competition. Check the ASCE calendar of events at www.asce.pdx.edu to see what's happening.



Samples of faculty research grants for 2002-2003

Faculty	Title (shortened)	Sponsor	Amount
R. Bertini	German/US Traf.	BMW Group	\$60,000
R. Bertini	ITS Trans Support	ODOT	\$6960
R. Bertini	ODOT Safety	ODOT	\$90,000
R. Bertini	Mining Data	NSF	\$232,338
R. Bertini	Speed Limit	ODOT	\$11,000
R. Doneker	Mixing Zone	EPA	\$15,530
B. Fish	Virtual Remed.	NSF	\$54,272
B. Fish/G. Johnson	Metals in Soil	OR Dept of Ag.	\$212,945
W. Mueller	Test of Fiberglass	Gunderson, Inc.	\$1800
W. Mueller	High Voltage Test	DOE-BPA	\$43,080
W. Mueller	Bent Member Test	BPA	\$6100
W. Mueller	Standard Dev.	BPA-DOE	\$150,000
T. Smith	Geotechnical IPA	CENWP, etc.	\$22,356
T. Smith	Ground Anchor	WFL-HD	\$23,000
S. Wells	Willamette Basin	EPA	\$103,632
S. Wells	Lake Laurence	MFI District	\$30,000
S. Wells	Steambed Heating	OSU	\$14,998
S. Wells	Spokane River	City of Spokane	\$48,001
S. Wells	Spokane River	EPA	\$20,000
S. Wells	Lake Roosevelt	Spokane Tribe	\$95,996

ALUMNI PROFILE

The CEE department wants to know what you've been doing since you've graduated. Send us an e-mail with an update on your story to appear in the future newsletters. We would love to hear from you! (Photos are always a plus!)

E-mail: ceedept@cecs.pdx.edu

BUILDING UPDATE

PSU has recently received \$500,000 from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the Northwest Center for Engineering, Science and Technology, which will be the new home for the College of Engineering and Computer Science. Find out more about the new building at www.pdx.edu/cecs/



Drawing of the new PSU Engineering building



CEE Faculty

DONORS FOR 2002-2003

Thanks to all of you for your continued support of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. We appreciate your generosity! Donors to CEE for October 2002-October 2003 are as follows:

Ed and Mary Anderson ▪ Marcella and Dave Boyer ▪ CH2MHill ▪ Tracy Dudgeon ▪ David Evans & Associates, Inc. ▪ Julie Havelka E. Scott Huff ▪ Arthur M. James, ▪ KPFF Consulting Engineers ▪ Massiah Foundation, Inc. ▪ Kenneth and Noreen Robbins ▪ Scott and Leah Wells ▪ Joost and Janice Zeegers

HOW TO DONATE TO CEE

A check payable to "PSU Foundation-CEE" can be mailed to: Portland State University Foundation, P.O. Box 243, Portland, OR 97207-0243. Please specify that your donation is for the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering; this ensures that your entire donation will be directly available for our Department to use to support the ASCE Student Chapter, upgrade student labs and equipment, etc.

OUR MISSION

To be the Civil Engineering program of choice in the Northwest for students seeking quality education and research experience in partnership with regional industry and government