

CCEE MONTHLY

The Department of Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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Structural Geotechnical Water Transportation Environmental Construction

Summer at SDSU has been filled with **humid weather, construction, and water conservation**. The **weather** during the summer months are always a cause for concern as the Santa Ana winds cause dry conditions and there is fear of wildfires. However, this month has seen some of the most humid weather San Diego has had in a long time for June. The humidity keeps the fires from sparking but it has turned San Diego into a tropical paradise! **Construction** started on the College of Engineering labs and Instructional Technology buildings. The labs are being moved into their temporary rooms and the fences have gone up to block off the areas being effected. Even though it can be an inconvenience the excitement of the new buildings will be worth the wait! Please plan accordingly as some areas will be closed to foot traffic. **Water conservation** is now mandatory and the affects can be observed throughout San Diego. SDSU is water efficient and most of the plants are drought tolerant thanks to smart gardening.

Grants of the Month:

Dr. Julio Valdes received a grant from Instructional Technology Services for “Blended and Online Learning and Teaching”

Dr. Temesgen Garoma received a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the California Energy Commission for an 18 month project with the goal of demonstrating the feasibility of using next-generation biomass waste fuel sources, namely lipid extracted algae and protein extracted algae, as feedstock for biomethane production. The project has a potential to develop new renewable energy resources, helping the State of California achieve its AB 32 and RPS goals.

Brazil Scientific Mobility Program

The institute of International Education (IIE) is administering this program at SDSU and other universities in the United States. This program provides scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students from Brazil. Scholarships are awarded to students in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) field. SDSU is proud to host the program and we have several friendly and eager Brazilian students currently learning and working with various departments for their enrichment through International study. This initiative is part of the Brazilian government’s larger effort to grant scholarships to 100,000 of their best students to study abroad. Welcome to lovely San Diego and SDSU for the summer!

Master Thesis Publication

Dr. Thais Alves is one of the co-authors of a recently published Master Thesis by Yoshua Neuman entitled: “Quantitative Analysis of Supplier Quality Surveillance Practices in EPC Project.” It has been published by the Journal of Construction Engineering and Management, ASCE. You can find it located here: [http://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/\(ASCE\)CO.1943-7862.0001023](http://ascelibrary.org/doi/abs/10.1061/(ASCE)CO.1943-7862.0001023) Congratulations Dr. Alves and Yoshua on your recent publication as of June 12, 2015!

ACE 15 Poster Competition



(Pictured: **Amy Bigelow**)
Our **SDSU Student Chapter for AWWA (American Water Works**

Association) attended the Annual Conference & Exposition for ACE15 in Anaheim, CA this June. They won first place for the poster competition! What a wonderful accomplishment!

You can also find more information on our Current Events page on our website:

<http://ccee.sdsu.edu/cceecurrentevents.php>

Beginning of Summer Session 2

Summer Session 2 begins on July 6, 2015. Make sure to mark your calendar! July 14 is the last day to add/drop a class. The final day for all summer classes is August 14, 2015.



Google Scholar H-Index

You may have noticed on our Faculty & Staff page on our website that we list the Google Scholar H-Index for our Faculty. This is called the Hirsch index. This index measures both the productivity and the citation impact of the published body of work. An H-Index of “N” means that the person has “N” publications cited at least “N” times each. Another measure of a publication’s impact is the “impact factor” associated with a given journal. For example, Dr. Supernak’s top publication is in the #1 Transportation journal “Transportation Research B: Methodological” that has an impact factor of 5, the highest in the Transportation field. Our notable faculty for this index are: **Dr. Ponce** at 22, our Interim Department Chair, **Dr. Supernak**, **Dr. Walsh**, and **Dr. Mitropoulos** at 14, and **Dr. Mladenov** at 12.

Quote of the Month: “You can be creative in anything – in math, science, engineering, philosophy – as much as you can in music or in painting or in dance.” – Ken Robinson