

# CCEE MONTHLY

The Department of Civil, Construction, & Environmental Engineering



COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

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**Structural**

**Geotechnical**

**Water**

**Transportation**

**Environmental**

**Construction**

## **Grants of the Month**

**Professor Thomas A Zink, Dr. Natalie Mladenov, & Dr. Alicia Kinoshita** were awarded not one but two grants this month! Great news for Alvarado Creek as well!

1. "Restoration of Alvarado Creek Upper Reach 1" from the San Diego River Conservancy for \$543,500!
2. "Baseline Monitoring for Restoration of Alvarado Creek Upper Reach 1" for \$58,559

## **El Niño Readiness**

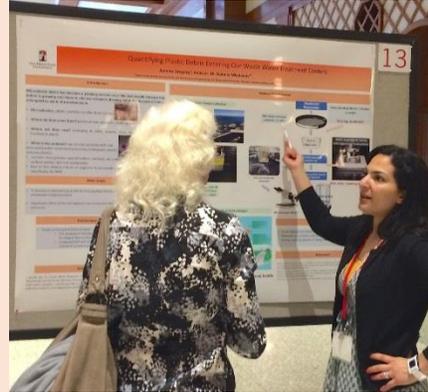
**Dr. Alicia Kinoshita** was invited to a workshop in Bangkok, Thailand for the "El Niño Readiness Portal Project 2016" from March 21-24, and it was fully funded! The workshop will bring together the project's study team leaders in order to define and identify the "level of readiness" of nations, National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), cities and communities. The workshop findings will contribute to the 2015/16 ENR Project's final report which is supported by USAID's OFDA, the UCAR and the University of Colorado's Consortium for Capacity Building (CCB). This is such an important topic to improve awareness and understanding of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as the global climate continues to warm.



## **SDSU Student Research Symposium**

**Dr. Natalie Mladenov's** student, **Jannira Gregory**, received the Women in Engineering Award for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual event of SRS!

Here she is with her winning poster:



In addition, **Dr. Alicia Kinoshita's** student, **Patrick Poon** received the Provost award for his poster presentation at the symposium! The title of his poster was: "Investigating satellite-based evapotranspiration after wildfire in southwestern US." What exactly is "Evapotranspiration"?

Well, thankfully Patrick provided us with an answer: "Evapotranspiration (ET) is an important water-energy flux in the hydrological cycle that transports water from soil (evaporation) and vegetation (transpiration) to the atmosphere". His study will provide a better understanding of the impact of wildfire on ET to improve hydrological estimates, ecosystem monitoring, and climate studies. Congratulations to both students and professors!

## **Explore SDSU Open House**

March 19 was Explore SDSU Day where students, parents, faculty/staff, and the general public are welcome to visit SDSU for academic program workshops, tours and open houses. This is an all campus event, but for our department, we had 3 different tours available for viewing. The tours for were hosted by **Dr. Natalie Mladenov, Dr. Victor Miguel Ponce, and Dr. Robert Dowell. Dr. Janusz Supernak** provided general information to the overflowing crowd of visitors.

## **Vlab Open House**

**Dr. Victor Miguel Ponce** celebrated the 15 year anniversary of the Visual Lab. He had an Open House on March 7 and served refreshments. Congratulations on such a successful teaching and research facility! For more information, please feel free to visit the website here: <http://visualab.sdsu.edu/> Or there is also a Facebook account here: <https://www.facebook.com/visualab.vlab>

## **Engineering Opportunities**

The J.R. Filanc Construction Company, Inc. hosted an Open House for SDSU on March 24<sup>th</sup>. They provided food, beverages, and an opportunity to meet the Filanc staff. Filanc is an award-winning general engineering and design-build contractor that constructs, renovates, and expands water and wastewater treatment, biosolids management, and waste-to-energy facilities throughout the Western United States.

**Quotes of the Month:** "To the optimist, the glass is half full. To the pessimist, the glass is half empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be." - Unknown