Here at CCEE we pride ourselves on our SDSU family, but we had no idea that one of our newest faculty members would be reunited with an actual family member when we hired her. Dr. Christy Dykstra (our new Ast. Professor) and Tiffany Dykstra, the sister she has been reunited with, are featured in the SDSU Newscaster, and that is where we learned the news! Both sisters joined SDSU this Fall. Welcome to our SDSU family! You can read the article on the http://newscenter.sdsu.edu/sdsu_newscenter/news.aspx website, it is entitled “Sisters Reunite on SDSU Campus” publication date 11-20-18.

Paper Publication
Dr. Alicia Kinoshita and (former) graduate student Samira Nourbakhsheidoftdi are co-authors for a paper entitled "Interacting geomorphic and ecological response of step-pool streams after wildfire," which was led by colleagues at the University of Denver. Our paper was accepted for publication in Geoscientific Society of America Bulletin.

White Happy Elephant Den Party
Dr. Janusz Supernak hosted his end-of-the year party for colleagues and students at his Happy Elephant Den for a gift exchange.

MS Thesis Defense Congrats!
Dr. Julio Valdes Geo-Innovations Research Lab recently celebrated the MS Thesis Defense of group members Kishore Shivaram and Chris Vonk. Congratulations!

2018 AGU Fall Conference
Several of our Graduate students attended American Geophysical Union Fall conference in Washington, D.C.: Kelly Flint, Lauren Mathews, Jack Mikesell, Kyler Stevenson, Kristen Snyder and Federick Pinongcos; along with Dr. Alicia Kinoshita. These students presented posters of their research (pictured above: Federick Pinongcos & Lauren Mathews) including Kristen Snyder (WIRLab); who presented a poster on her research on the persistence of dissolved chemicals from the Refuge Oil Spills and a nearby oil seep; and Federick Pinongcos (WIRLab) presented two posters, one which had Jose Calderon, and Drs. Alicia Kinoshita, Matt Verbyla, and Natalie Mladenov as authors and one authored by Jose Calderon.

Fall 2018 CIVE 495 Capstone Design Day
Our Fall 2018 Senior Design Day for CIVE 495 was a great success and the Professors (James Haughey & John Prince) and our Department would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to Caltrans for hosting the event and helping support our Design Day for so many years. As Professor John Prince states: “The connection between the Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering Department and Caltrans is a special one, and there are so many folks from the Industry that thoroughly enjoy and appreciate the opportunity that Caltrans provides for us all to get together and support the Industry. In addition to the Caltrans leaders and personnel that are connected and engaged, we are fortunate to have support from many top leaders and agencies across the region every semester... such as the Director of Engineering for City of Coronado that was in attendance, several leaders at the County with interest and connection to three of the projects, members of the Santa Margarita Ecological Reserve who are actively seeking grants to actually implement the projects that the students have developed, and members of the Mount Helix Park Foundation who are also excited to take the students efforts in their project to the next level of design and implementation. The Design Day event is quite a special opportunity where all of these folks finally come together for one day of acknowledging the students hard work and supporting the future of our industry. Thank you to Caltrans for helping provide such a great venue for that collaboration and celebration.”

Quotes of the Month: “Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.” – Edward Everett Hale