Hello Alumni & Friends!

Another academic year is well under way and thus far, “fresh” seems to be the word of the year. We’ve welcomed two new faculty members and another group of fresh faces to our department, not to mention that fall 2014 has marked the pilot year for our doctoral program. Thanks in part to generous donations by Banner Associates, Inc. and other donors a brand new freshman laboratory is on the way that will support our students on their educational journey. If you’d like to learn more about how gifts support our department’s growth and the professional development of the next generation of civil and environmental engineers, please contact department head Dr. Molly Gribb at: molly.gribb@mines.edu.

On Campus

CEE Students Participate in Engineers Make Great Entrepreneurs (EMGE) Program

The following CEE students participated in the Engineers Make Great Entrepreneurs program on campus this fall: Kylie Berger, Abbey Larson, Joshua Maunu, Cody Schellinger, Dakota Spellman, Patrick Stetson, Derrick Thomas, Cassidy Trapp, Hunter Vincent, and Connie Zehms. The CEE department is proud of these students for taking advantage of this and other unique opportunities offered at Mines. Several CEE alumni also support the program as speakers and donors.

ASCE Student Chapter Members Travel to Panama City for Conference

Members of our department’s ASCE student chapter recently returned from an exciting trip to Panama City, Panama where this year’s ASCE Global Engineering Conference was held October 7-11. The eleven students who attended reported they experienced a number of very interesting presentations and were able to network with professional civil engineers as well as see the Panama Canal and the new Panama Canal expansion project. Thanks to the many donors who support the ASCE student chapter through endowments and cash gifts that support our students’ participation in these events.

Professional Advisory Board (PAB) Members Return to Campus for Annual Meeting

The CEE department welcomed members to its annual Professional Advisory Board (PAB) meeting on September 22, 2014. The meeting focused on strategic planning and development and included a panel discussion presentation by PAB members to CEE seniors. Mines President Heather Wilson, DPhil, welcomed the PAB and shared an update on the university. PAB members in attendance were Ray Bettmeng (CE 87), Mike Halde (CE 98, MSCE 99), Mike Hansen (CE 90), Ron Jeitz (CE 69), Joel Jundt (CE 85), Keith Mattecheck (CE 99), Dave Muck (CE 94, MSCE 95), Jason Love (CE 97, MSCE98), Dennis Rounds (MSCE 91), and Larry Schmaltz (CE 79). PAB members Mike Halde (CE 98, MSCE 99), Agatha Kotsonis and Darin Brickman were unable to attend this meeting. For more information about the CEE department, please visit us on the web: http://cee.sdsmt.edu.
Alumni Spotlight: Patty Mamola, PE

NCEES Immediate Past President Returns to Campus to Deliver Keynote Speech

The CEE department was honored to welcome immediate past president of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and CEE department alumna Patty Mamola, PE to campus this fall. Patty was this year’s keynote speaker for the South Dakota Engineering Society’s annual professional development conference, held on the SDSM&T campus on October 9, 2014. While on campus, Patty also met with the CEE 130 Introduction to Civil and Environmental Engineering class and Women in Engineering and Science students.

Patty graduated from Mines in 1987 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in Nevada and a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and American Public Works Association. An accomplished professional, small business owner, and organizational leader, Patty began her career at the South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT) before moving to Nevada to embark on a 14-year career with the Nevada Department of Transportation. Later, Patty joined the firm of Atkins (formerly PBS&J) as western region Construction Services Manager, covering the western part of the US, and in 2003 she formed the Bowling Mamola Group with business partner Randy Bowling. In 2012 she became the sole owner and subsequently the Bowling Mamola Group was certified as a Small Business Administration woman-owned firm and as a Nevada Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

In August of 2013, she was installed as the president of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. As most of our readers know, NCEES is the national organization that advances professional licensure for engineers and surveyors. It develops, administers, and scores the examinations used for engineering and surveying licensure in the United States. She is the first woman to hold this position in the 93 year history of the organization. Patty is also serving her third term on the Nevada Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, serving two terms as chair.

Awarded

Dr. Marc Robinson Awarded William V. Coyle Professorship

Dr. Marc Robinson has been awarded the William V. Coyle Professorship. Myrna Coyle, wife of William (Bill) V. Coyle, an iconic former professor and head of the CEE department at the School of Mines, established the William V. Coyle Endowment in 2007 to honor Bill’s memory by creating a professorship in the department he cherished and to which he devoted his life. The goal of the professorship is to provide assistance for broadening and enhancing the CEE program at the School of Mines. The Coyle Professorship recognizes Dr. Robinson for his strong commitment to the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department and outstanding contributions to student learning through his teaching, research and outreach efforts.

Sustainable Housing Initiative Receives ASCA/AIA Housing Design Education Award

This year’s ASCA/AIA Housing Design Education Award was awarded to the Native American Sustainable Housing Initiative educational collaboration between University of Colorado Boulder, SDSMT, and Oglala Lakota College. Dr. Jennifer Benning’s work on the project has stimulated student interest in community issues and has contributed to Mines’ developing relationships with regional university partners.

$4.9 Million Air Force Research Awarded for GasCube Mobile Waste-to-Energy Concept

SDSM&T was recently awarded a $4.8 million research contract from the US Air Force to reduce Air Force demand for energy. CEE department faculty member Dr. James Stone is involved with one of the project components, a modular process that would convert...
organic waste from Air Forces bases to energy and compost. The ‘GasCube’ concept will be a deployable, rugged, self-contained system designed to allow the Air Force to better utilize mobile base organic wastes. This multi-disciplinary research is being accomplished by Dr. Stone (http://jamesstonesdsm.wix.com/stone) along with Principal Investigator Dr. Robb Winter and other collaborators from the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department and industry.

**Invited**


**Interviewed**


**Presented**

**Collaboration with National University of Mongolia (NUM) Continues with Training Workshop**

Dr. Kenner led a student team and two faculty from the National University of Mongolia for training and collection of physical habitat data on the Bulgan River in western Mongolia, September 27 - October 4, 2014. This work continues the work Dr. Kenner collaborated on with Dr. Soninkhishig, Chair Department of Biology, NUM. Their work is being done to establish environmental low flows on major rivers in the Selenge River Basin Mongolia. For more information about Dr. Kenner’s work, see: http://www.sdsmt.edu/News/Professor-Supports-Water-Resources-Management-in-Mongolia/.

**Also Presented in Fall 2014:**

Shearer, C. Development of sustainable infrastructure materials. South Dakota Engineering Society Fall Conference, Oct. 9, 2014, Rapid City, SD.

Gadhamshetty, V. Low-cost bioelectrochemical technology for electricity production from waste. South Dakota Engineering Society Fall Conference, Oct. 9, 2014, Rapid City, SD.


Gayton, L., [student presenter], J. Benning [faculty advisor], L. Bailey [student presenter]. Effect of building practices on particulate (PM10) concentrations in sustainable housing projects, poster presentation. South Dakota Undergraduate Research Symposium, August 2014, Pierre, SD.
Betone, P. [student presenter, Oglala Lakota College], J. Benning [faculty advisor]. Weather tower design for the Native American Sustainable Housing Initiative, poster presentation. South Dakota Undergraduate Research Symposium, August 2014, Pierre, SD.

Bailey, L. [student presenter], J. Benning [faculty advisor], L. Gayton [student presenter]. Effect of building practices on radon concentrations in sustainable housing projects, poster presentation. South Dakota Undergraduate Research Symposium, August 2014, Pierre, SD.

Benning, J. and J.F. Sawyer. The importance of place, culture, and trust in sustainable engineering education, 2014 Hawaii Education STEM Conference, June 17, 2014, Honolulu, HI.


**Attended**

**Dr. Benning Attends Meeting to Discuss Inclusion of Research Initiative in Design Exhibition**

Dr. Jennifer Benning attended a meeting with Thunder Valley Community Development, the Native American Sustainable Housing Initiative, and Oglala Lakota College on behalf of SDSM&T along with Cynthia Smith, Curator for Socially Responsible Design, Smithsonian Institute Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum. The meeting was called to discuss the museum’s interest in highlighting the cooperative sustainable community design project in an exhibition on “Designing with the Other 90%” and was held this past September.

**Dr. Kenner Attends Workshop in Mongolia to Discuss Model for the Tuul River Basin**

Dr. Scott Kenner attended the “The Mongolia Integrated Water Resource Management Delivery Workshop” held September 23-25, 2014. Dr. Kenner was invited to participate by the Mongolia Ministry of Environment and Green Development (MEGD), Fresh Water Institute (FWI) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), who in collaboration with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organized the workshop for the purpose of gathering water resource experts in Mongolia to develop a decision sketch and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) Shared Vision Planning (SVP) decision support model for the Tuul River Basin.

**Also Attended in 2014:**

Shearer, C. Portland Cement Association Professors' Workshop, July 21-25, 2014, Skokie, IL.

Gadhamshetty, V. (2014, June). Workshop on Electrochemistry Measurements, Yeager Center for Electrochemistry, Cleveland, OH.


**Published**


Liu, C., Zhang, Y., Benning, J. L., & Little, J. C. The effect of ventilation on indoor exposure to semivolatile organic compounds. *Indoor Air.*
