



NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

NEWS FROM CEE AT ILLINOIS.....JULY 2014

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## CEE team wins \$1.5M grant to improve sustainability of cookstove efforts

Around the world, billions of people cook their daily meals in biomass-burning cookstoves, a traditional practice that unfortunately produces a substantial amount of air pollution along with the family dinner. Researchers at Illinois are part of a new, \$9 million funding initiative, announced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), with the goal of measuring and communicating the benefits of adopting cleaner cooking, heating and lighting practices. Traditional cookstoves are a major source of black carbon, an air pollutant that not only has serious human health impacts, but also affects climate, including increased temperatures, accelerated ice and snow melt and changes in the pattern and intensity of precipitation. The World Health Organization estimates that more than four million premature deaths result every year from cookstove smoke. [More about cookstoves](#)

## Implementation partner makes a world of difference

On a recent trip to Uganda, students from Professor Benito Mariñas' environmental lab course saw first-hand how water and sanitation issues in developing countries are part of a much broader problem. While there, they met someone who understands the importance of access to safe water and sanitation and is eager to help integrate this goal with other priorities and overcome barriers preventing its successful implementation. [More about Uganda](#)





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## Through data science, Minsker helping design and improve green spaces

While few argue the benefit trees and similar green spaces can have on cities, the desire for them has largely been based on theory and personal preference. That has all changed in the 21st century with the advent of supercomputers where the ability to store and process data is lending proof to the positive impacts of green infrastructure.

[More about green spaces](#)



## T.H.E.: 100 years of transportation leadership

For 100 years, transportation professionals have met every year on the University of Illinois campus to learn about the latest research and engage in professional development and networking. This year, more than 1,200 attendees were present to mark a significant anniversary – the 100th annual Transportation and Highway Engineering (THE) Conference in March. [More about T.H.E.](#)



## García named second Yeh Chair

Professor Marcelo H. García has been named the second holder of the M.T. Geoffrey Yeh Endowed Chair in Civil Engineering. CEE alumnus Yeh (BS 53) established the chair in 1998. Yeh is a philanthropist and the retired chairman of Hsin Chong International Holdings Ltd. In 2000, Professor Robert H. Dodds Jr., now emeritus, became the first holder of the title. [More about García](#)



## Summer 2014 CEE magazine now online

The summer 2014 CEE magazine is now available online, featuring articles that highlight the power of alumni engagement. The issue also includes features on the origami engineering workshop, CEE researchers' visit to a landslide site and the ASCE regional competition, along with all the latest department news. [Read the summer 2014 issue online](#)



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