



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

NEWS FROM CEE AT ILLINOIS.....MARCH 2014

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## Flood study will lead to better preparedness

In May 2011, when the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers used explosives to breach a levee south of Cairo, Ill., diverting the rising waters of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers to prevent flooding in the town, about 130,000 acres of Missouri farmland were inundated. It was the largest flood of the lower Mississippi ever recorded, and University of Illinois researchers took advantage of this “once-in-a-scientific-lifetime” occurrence to study the damage, funded by a National Science Foundation Rapid Response Grant. Their results, published this week in the journal *Environmental Science and Technology*, demonstrate that landscape vulnerabilities can be mapped ahead of time to help communities prepare for extreme flooding. [More about the flood study](#)

## CEE Alumni Association awards presented

The Distinguished Alumnus/Alumna Award recognizes professional accomplishments or unique contributions to society by alumni of the department. The Young Alumnus/Alumna Achievement Award recognizes a recent graduate who has achieved distinction in his or her field and reached a level of accomplishment significantly greater than that of other recent graduates. The honorees were recognized at the CEE at Illinois Alumni Dinner in Chicago on March 12. [More about the winners](#)



## Jeremy Guest, Dan Work win NSF CAREER awards

Jeremy Guest and Dan Work, both CEE assistant professors, have won National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER awards. Administered under the Faculty Early Career Development Program, CAREER awards are the NSF's most prestigious form of support and recognition for junior faculty who "exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations." [More about the awards](#)



## Al-Qadi honored by transportation trade organization

Professor Imad L. Al-Qadi was awarded the American Road & Transportation Builders Association's (ARTBA) S.S. Steinberg Award January 13 during the association's annual Research and Education Division (RED) meeting in Washington, D.C. Named after the founding president of the ARTBA's RED, the award recognizes individuals who make remarkable contributions to transportation education. [More about Al-Qadi](#)



## Growing Global Leaders programs offer students international perspective

The Global Leaders program in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) is a small but growing program that has a big impact in the lives of students. The concept, to provide students with a background in global issues in their chosen field and prepare them for practice in an international arena, has been expanded from its initial implementation in Construction Management to the department's new cross-disciplinary programs. [More about the program](#)



## Video highlights cross-disciplinary programs

Three cross-disciplinary programs in CEE at Illinois are giving students a systems-level perspective and real-world experience. Learn more in this 4-minute video. [View the video](#)



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