



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

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Origami engineering conference draws world experts

Among recent innovations in engineering, one of the most intriguing is the use of the principles of origami to create novel structures. Folding structures are being developed at all scales for a broad range of purposes—for example, in the creation of tiny, minimally invasive surgical tools and in the development of moveable parts on buildings that regulate shade or orient solar panels. Some are smart structures, capable of assembling themselves through the use of shape memory alloys or the inclusion of semi-conductors. With the goal of furthering this science, some of the world's foremost experts gathered on the University of Illinois campus April 14-16 for the Workshop on Origami Engineering, funded by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) and organized by CEE Professor Glaucio Paulino. [More about the workshop](#)

CEE researchers to study Oso landslide

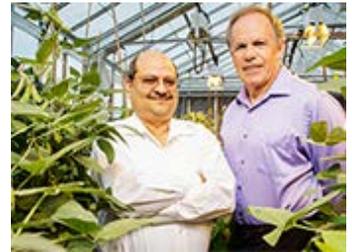
Funded by a Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) Rapid Response Grant, five University of Illinois researchers plan to visit Oso, Wash. to observe the impact of the catastrophic March 22 landslide, investigate the environmental and geological causes and assess what role, if any, land-use policy may have played in the disaster. [More about the landslide](#)



Scientists say new computer model amounts to a lot more

than a hill of beans

Crops that produce more while using less water seem like a dream for a world with a burgeoning population and already strained food and water resources. This dream is coming closer to reality for University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign researchers who have developed a new computer model that can help plant scientists breed better soybean crops. [More about the model](#)



Lopez-Pamies wins Journal of Applied Mechanics Award

Assistant Professor Oscar Lopez-Pamies was awarded the 2014 Journal of Applied Mechanics Award for his paper “Some remarks on the effect of interphases on the mechanical response and stability of fiber-reinforced elastomers,” co-authored with Katia Bertoldi, an associate professor in Applied Mechanics at Harvard University. [More about the award](#)



Golparvar-Fard wins CETI award

Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering and Computer Science Mani Golparvar-Fard won the 2013 Outstanding Early Career Researcher CETI award in recognition of his work in advancing innovation in research on automated approaches to construction performance monitoring and condition assessment of buildings and civil infrastructure systems using images, videos and Building Information Models. [More about the award](#)



ASCE regionals hosted at Illinois

Concrete canoe races and bridge-building competitions were just part of the fun April 10-12 when the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Great Lakes Regional Conference competition came to campus. Hosted by CEE at Illinois' ASCE student chapter, the event featured students from 19 universities competing in eight different contests related to civil and environmental engineering. [More about the competition](#)



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