

THE MOMENT

Cecil T. Lobo ASCE Student Chapter of Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology

Welcome Back

I would like to welcome everyone back to Rose for another school year. I hope you all had valuable experiences and a really good time over the summer. This summer has treated our ASCE student chapter well. As most of you know we were named ASCE Ridgway Award winners over the summer. The award will be presented to the chapter in Los Angeles on October 29th at the ASCE National Convention. The chapter has already gotten back into the swing of things this year. We have spent time at St. Mary's of the Woods helping set up part of the Underground Railroad Reenactment, and we have cleaned trash along the streets of Terre Haute with United Way. Next up we will be constructing another wheel chair ramp, this time down in Farmersburg. We also have some field trips coming up. We are looking into going to the new Indianapolis Airport construction site and to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. We are also planning a return to Black Beauty Coal Mine sometime this fall.

At this time I would also like to encourage all members to get more involved in the chapter. We have many events coming up that are going to require participation from many people. It is a goal of the chapter to retain the Ridgway Award, and that will require everyone to get involved and have some fun. If you are not yet a member, sign up with Kathy in the office. I look forward to finishing up this year as your president. If there are any activities that you would like us to do or anything you need out of ASCE, don't hesitate to contact me.

Best of luck in another school year,

Mike Reeves

Freshmen Frosty Outreach

Several ASCE officers and members met in the lobby of Olin Hall on Saturday, September 3 in hopes of recruiting new ASCE members and helping out the community by constructing the set for an Underground Railroad Re-enactment at St. Mary of the Woods College (SMWC). When we arrived at SMWC, we drove around campus looking for signs of life and made fun of ASCE President Mike Reeves' lack of understanding of what "Wrong Way" signs mean. There was no one to be found and no way to get a hold of our contact. Therefore, we did what we thought any good ASCE officer would do when trying to get freshmen involved in ASCE; we went to Wendy's. While at Wendy's we all enjoyed laughing at Cassidy Sutton and learning about Lauren Hughes' mom, while indulging ourselves with Wendy's Frosties. I'm afraid we may have scared some poor unsuspecting freshmen. Later in the week, we returned to SMWC to help construct the URR set.

Contributed By: Cassidy Sutton

HEC-RAS Conference

On August 25th, 2005 professional civil engineers from around Indiana came to the Rose-Hulman campus for the first session of three in this year's HEC-RAS training workshops. The Cecil T. Lobo student chapter of ASCE, Indiana Association for Floodplain and Stormwater Management (INAFSM), and the Metropolitan Indianapolis Branch of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE MIB) have sponsored this year's workshops. HEC-RAS (River Analysis System), developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is software that allows you to perform one-dimensional steady and unsteady flow river hydraulics calculations. In order to get a certificate for the conference, attendees must be present at all three sessions of the conference. The first session was instructed by Dr. Houghtalen and was an introduction to the software and theory. The second and third sessions will take place on October 13th and November 17th. These will cover bridge hydraulics and hydraulic modeling guidelines. We are hopeful this workshop will become a major fundraiser for the chapter and a service to the Indiana engineering community.

Contributed By: Matthew Trowbridge

Dr. John Aidoo Joins our CE Staff

It is with great excitement and humility that I prepare to join the highly experienced faculty of the Civil Engineering Department at Rose-Hulman.

I obtained my undergraduate degree from the University of Science and Technology, in Ghana. Immediately after graduation, I was hired as an Assistant Civil Engineer with Wahome Steel Ltd, a steel producing company in Ghana. As Assistant Civil Engineer at the Fabrication Department, I was responsible for the design, fabrication and construction of factories, warehouses and roof trusses using steel sections. After working in the company for about three years, I decided it was time for me to pursue graduate studies in the area of structural engineering.

This brought me to the University of South Carolina (USC) where I conducted an experimental investigation in the area of structural rehabilitation of buildings and bridges using Carbon Fiber Reinforced Polymer composites (CFRP). Specifically in my Masters program, I studied the fatigue behavior of large scale reinforced concrete bridge girders strengthened with CFRP composites.

The focus of my PhD degree was on the structural testing of full-scale reinforced concrete bridge girders obtained from a decommissioned bridge. The bridge girders were shipped to the Structural Engineering Laboratory at the University of South Carolina to study methods of strengthening such existing structures. Through this hands-on experience, I have developed a substantial understanding of the application, behavior, and effectiveness of composite materials, such as FRP, for structural purposes.

Prior to being hired by Rose-Hulman, I had the invaluable experience of working at The South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT). At SCDOT we worked to replace and maintain some of the old existing state bridges.

My main objective in teaching is to develop students to become creative engineers and to instill in them skills appropriate to their profession and life-long learning. This can be achieved through class projects, problem solving and student presentations. I believe in hands-on experience and would encourage undergraduate student participation in research programs. Such an approach will enhance their understanding of the fundamental concepts of engineering science and most importantly stimulate student enthusiasm.

Finally, in the foreseeable future, I intend to develop and teach undergraduate level courses in the areas of repair and retrofit of concrete structures using CFRP composite materials.

My wife Tina (a professional photographer) and I have taken up residence at the Village Quarter for the time being. Tina has taken pictures of Ghanaian governmental officials including visiting dignitaries like President Clinton. We are also expecting our first child in October.

Contributed By: Dr. John Aidoo

Upcoming Events

- Civil Pride Friday
Friday, September 30
- Civil Engineering Brunch at Homecoming
Saturday, October 1
- HEC-RAS Workshop II
Thursday, October 13
- ASCE National Convention
October 27-30
- Fall Quarter Finals

November 14-17

- HEC-RAS Workshop III
Thursday, November 17
- ASCE Winter Banquet
Wednesday, November 30

Did we forget something? Please contact an ASCE officer to contribute items to include on our calendar.

To Expose Students and the Community to Civil Engineering through Service and Education

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We're on the Web

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/ce/asce.htm>