Happy New Year! Welcome back to all of our faculty, staff and students. The Civil Engineering Department hopes that each of you enjoyed a winter break filled with relaxation, family and friends. If you’re a new to our newsletter, this is a space where we like to connect with past and present students, were our faculty can share their research, and where we can announce important news and events.

In this newsletter we also like to showcase our student of the month, as we hope to celebrate individual achievement, academic success, as well as elevate student’s contributions to the department. Stay tune because this semester will be filled with exciting events and conferences.

Also don’t forget to save the date for our next Stormwater conference happening on May 14-19, 2018.

If you are interested in including an announcement or submitting pictures, please feel free to contact us.

"We are the authors of our destinies. No one can see the vision any clearer, believe in and work any harder to make it a reality more than the visionary." – Nike Campbell-Fatoki
Sustainable Civil Infrastructure Management and Planning Conference

The Sustainable Civil Infrastructure Management and Planning Conference was held on November 16-17, 2017 in Weslaco, TX. The most knowledgeable topic presenters and keynote speakers, as well as local, state and federal government leaders in the industry participated in this event to explore topics in civil engineering, construction management, innovative green infrastructure techniques, local government programs, and transportation topics.

The conference hosted 1.5 days of technical sessions and poster sessions on cutting edge issues related to the water industry and opportunities for networking and socializing with colleagues, industry professionals and numerous local government officials.
STORMWATER IN D.C.

UTRGV Civil Engineering researchers and Office of Sponsored Research staff joined Cameron County, Willacy County and LRGV Stormwater Task Force officials at DC for a 3-day visit, meeting with key Congressmen and Senators, the National Science Foundation and USEPA officials on November 27-29. Pictured: (L-R: Raul Gomez, Chief of Staff Cameron County Commissioner District #3; Yvette Espindola, OSR, UTRGV; Eduardo Gonzalez, Willacy County Commissioner District #4; US Congressman Henry Cuellar; David Garza, Cameron County Commissioner District #3; Jose Hinojosa, Chairperson, LRGV Stormwater Task Force; Javier Guerrero, Director of Water Studies, UTRGV; Augusto S. Gonzalez, Director of Estuary, Environmental and Special Projects, UTRGV; and Hollis Rutledge, Grant Consultant.

The Civil Engineering Department welcomes the new Assistant Professor Dr. Abdoul A. Oubeidillah.

Dr. Oubeidillah research interests are in the area of water resources, particularly in surface hydrology, Hydro-informatics, Hydro-climatology, and Hydrological Modelling. Before joining UTRGV, he held various research positions at different institutions including NOAA National Water Center, where as an Associate Scientist, he was involved in the development and implementation of the first ever US National Water Model for streamflow real-time observations and forecasting over the continental US as part of the US Government initiative to make the country a weather ready nation, and at Oak Ridge National Laboratory where as a Postdoctoral researcher in the Environmental Sciences Division, he developed a hydrological model for the entire conterminous US to research the effects of climate change and their impacts on the national hydropower energy sector. Dr. Oubeidillah also worked as a consultant for international projects funded by USAID, the US Army, and the World Bank.
SENIOR DESIGN POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Daniel Hernandez-Gonzalez, Oscar Hernandez, Abner Padron,
Erika Resendez, & Manuel Reyes

Widening and Rehabilitation of FM 490 from Hidalgo County Line to FM 88
Javier Arenas, Cronos Oros, Gerardo Rocha, Jairo Ruiz, & Alejandro Santana

KC Landing Estates
Aaron Hernandez, Santos Ramos, Cassandra Sias, & Kimberly Salinas

JHG Subdivision
Joaquin Hernandez, Rusbel Pena, Estrellita Morales, Leon Anzaldua,
& Jose Perez

Design of Mireles Elementary Addition
Zenia De Leon, Sandra Gonzalez, Katia Naavar, & Sailyn Ortega

Utilization of Steel Chips as Partial Replacement of Coarse Aggregate in Concrete
Moises Beas, Juan Gonzalez, Mohammed Allam, & Cesar Tobias

The Schematic Design of Proposed Las Milpas Road Extension
Monico Quintanilla, Ezekiel Coleman, Enrique Martinez, Javier Cuellar,
& Javier Valdez

Thank you to everyone that was able to attend our fall 2017 senior design poster presentations and we would love to congratulate all of graduates as well. It must have been a very proud moment for all of you. Chasing a dream requires your efforts and passion. Hard work isn’t over when you graduate, it’s just a break as you enter the new battlefields of life. At this important milestone in your life, congratulations and best wishes for your continuing success.
STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Oscar Salinas Jr.

What made you decide on your current major?

I chose to study Civil Engineering because I saw it as a way to help people. I have also always enjoyed building things, so I thought it only natural to follow through on that passion.

What are your plans after graduation?

As a Civil Engineer, I'll be able to take part in the construction of buildings. The buildings I'd like to focus on would be residential homes and small projects of the sort.

What advice do you have for civil engineering students?

Plan ahead of time. Think of what you want in the long-term, and adjust your short-term goals accordingly.
The Civil Engineering Department wants to wish

A Happy Birthday to Dr. Jungseok Ho, Dr. Jongmin Kim and Dr. Aaron Greenwood.

January 17

January 19

January 22

Happy Birthday!