



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

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Spillways Can Divert Sand to Rebuild Wetlands

Researchers could have a new method to rebuild wetlands of the Louisiana delta, thanks to a chance finding while monitoring severe flooding of the Mississippi River. In the spring and summer of 2011, high floodwaters on the Mississippi prompted the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to open the Bonnet Carré spillway. A team of civil engineers and geologists from the University of Illinois, in collaboration with the corps, saw this as a chance to study how much sand flowed from the river into the spillway wetlands. They recently published their findings in the journal Nature Geoscience. [More about the spillways research](#)

CEE Undergraduate Civil Program Ranked Number One

U.S. News & World Report named the civil engineering undergraduate program at Illinois number one in their Best Colleges rankings in the category, Undergraduate Engineering Specialties: Civil. The University of Illinois ranked fourth in the category, Undergraduate Engineering Specialties: Environmental/Environmental Health. [More about the rankings](#)



Tall Buildings Expert, Alum Bill Baker Joins Adjunct Faculty

William F. Baker (MS 80), P.E., S.E., Structural Engineering Partner for Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP in Chicago, has joined

the faculty of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign as an adjunct professor. [More about Baker's appointment](#)



Researchers Optimize the Placement of Biofuel Plants

There are many aspects to the complex issue of biofuel production. One such aspect is the placement of biofuel production plants and the overall logistics planning. Researchers in CEE are tackling this topic, taking into account the impact production plants have on engineering infrastructure, local communities and the environment. [More about the study](#)



Team Studies Track Components for Shared-Use Rail Lines

As the U.S. continues to develop higher-speed passenger railway networks, CEE researchers within the Rail Transportation and Engineering Center are exploring how to use the country's already extensive freight railway systems so they can also accommodate higher-speed passenger trains that operate at speeds of more than 100 miles per hour. [More about the project](#)



ICT Hosts Pavement Sustainability Forum

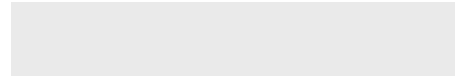
Ensuring roadways are constructed with environmentally-friendly, safe, and durable materials is a concern that overlaps academic, government and private sectors. The Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT) recently hosted a forum on pavement sustainability for concerned parties to discuss cutting-edge developments in pavement sustainability and how research can be implemented to benefit the people of Illinois. [More about the ICT forum](#)



Yeh Student Center Achieves LEED Silver Certification

The M.T. Geoffrey Yeh Student Center in Newmark Civil Engineering has been awarded LEED® silver certification, established by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI). The Yeh Center was recognized for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies, such as a green roof and the generous use of natural light. [More about the Yeh Center](#)





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