Summer is over! Gone is the time when we could casually stroll across campus without fear of being run over by a bike or longboard. While most of us are sitting and wondering how it could have gone by so quickly, new graduate students have shown up and are moving their stuff into previously empty desks. Now that classes have started and the semester is underway, it’s important to make sure that all the new grad students feel welcome in their new workplace. If you have new faces in your office, make sure to introduce yourself, show them where to get coffee, and get to know them. After all, we see far more of each other than our advisors. Should you forget the name of any of these new grad students, just scroll down as we have provided names and pictures of the new incoming grad students.

If you are a new graduate student, this CEEES graduate student newsletter is released monthly to do two things: 1.) Keep everyone informed on the research being done by their colleagues and 2.) Brag about all your accomplishments. If you do anything such as win a grant, or present at a conference, we want to hear about it. Email the info to any of the three newsletter editors (info at the bottom) and we will include it in the next edition. Lastly and most important, welcome to the department.

Cheers,

Ryan Alberdi, Andrew Schranck, and Dave Burney, Newsletter editors
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations

Nunzia Pirro was awarded the opportunity to attend summer school at the NASAs Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Center for Climate Sciences Using Satellite Observations to Advance Climate Models. She also received the Indiana View Student Scholarship for using remote sensing in her research and passed her Candidacy Oral exam in July.

Early this summer Alejandra Cartagena Sierra was awarded the Geological Society of America Graduate Student Research Grant to support her project: Temperature Reconstructions of the Agulhas Corridor during the Plio-Pleistocene Transition. In addition, in June, she received the 2017 European Association of Organic Geochemists (EAOG) Travel Scholarship Award to support her research and analyze samples at the Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research (NIOZ), Netherlands.

Call for CEEES Newsletter Contributors

The CEEES Newsletter editors are looking for interested grad students to contribute to this monthly newsletter. We feel this is a great opportunity for students in the department to get to know the CEEES community and various research initiatives within while providing a valuable service to the CEEES grad students by disseminating pertinent information to keep you informed amidst our busy schedules. If you would like to learn more about becoming an editor of this student led newsletter, please contact any of the editors listed at the end of this Newsletter.

South Bend Cubs Game

A big group of CEEES grad students had a successful outing to the South Bend Cubs game on Thursday, August 17 to kick off the academic year. Over thirty students attended the game, which though was a suspenseful shutout loss for the Cubs, was tons of fun for everyone who attended. It was a great opportunity to relax, catch up with friends about summer research, and get to know some of the first years in the department. The outing, which included entry to the park and a free SB Cubs baseball cap, was funded by the great folks from Grad Life thanks to their GO Grant program (http://gradlife.nd.edu/events-programs/go-grants/). Check it out for future social outings with your friends that might be otherwise financially prohibitive.
CEEES Picnic

The CEEES Department picnic is coming up on Wednesday September 20 at St. Patrick’s Park from 5-8 pm. Graduate students are being asked to help chip in with setup and cleanup, so please consider offering up even ten minutes of your time to help make the event a success by signing up at this link (https://goo.gl/EvDt5n). The event will be catered by Javier’s Bistro, and it is sure to be a fun event for everyone. There will be food, fellowship, and opportunities to once again tour the Notre Dame Linked Experimental Ecosystem Facility (LEEP) during the picnic.
Conferences

Andrew Schranck, Randy Marks, and Junyeol Kim of the Doudrick lab presented posters at the Association for Environmental Engineering and Science Professors biennial conference at the University of Michigan in June. Notre Dame cohosted the conference with five other universities including the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, University of Toledo, Wayne State University, and Michigan Tech. Brooke Stemple and Andrew Schranck were also selected as Notre Dame representatives to assist in planning and carrying out conference proceedings. Check out the word cloud Brooke developed for the conference organizers using the abstract titles from all the conference presentations.


Ryan Alberdi and Lei Li attended the 2017 Engineering Mechanics Institute Conference in San Diego, California and gave the following presentations:

- **Ryan Alberdi**: Topology Optimization of Energy Absorbing Elastoplastic Structures with Rate-Dependent Behavior
- **Lei Li**: Design of Fracture Resistant Energy Absorbing Structures using Elastoplastic Topology Optimization

Additionally, Lei Li presented a poster of the same title in the Computational Mechanics student poster competition.
Ryan Alberdi, Lei Li and Guodong Zhang all attended the 14th U.S. National Congress on Computational Mechanics in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and gave the following presentations:

- **Ryan Alberdi**: *A Computational Framework for Homogenization at Finite Deformations Including Stability Considerations using Isogeometric Analysis*
- **Lei Li**: *Topology Optimization of Elastoplastic Structures under Cyclic Loads*
- **Guodong Zhang**: *Topology Optimization of Incompressible Solids under Finite Deformation*

Fei Ding participated in the student poster competition in the Global Grand Challenge Summit (GGCS) held by the U.S. National Academy of Engineering, Chinese Academy of Engineering and U.K. Royal Academy of Engineering in July, Washington D.C. The title of the poster was *An Intelligent Design of Real-time Morphing Structures under Winds*.

Jize Zhang and Fei Ding attended the 12th International Conference on Structural Safety & Reliability (ICOSSAR 2017) in August, Austria. The title of the presentation made by Jize was *Multi-objective Optimization under Uncertainty Utilizing Kriging Modeling in Augmented Input Space*. The title of the presentation made by Fei was *Inflow Uncertainty Propagation and Quantification in CFD-based Aerodynamic Shape Optimization of Civil Structures*.

Stefanie Lewis attended the American Chemical Society National Conference in Washington D.C. in August and gave an oral presentation titled “*Detailed in-situ Chemical Characterization and Pb-Pb Age Dating of Uraninite from North American Deposits*”.

**CEEES Graduate Student Organization (GSO)**

The CEEES GSO seeks to provide opportunities for students in the department to socialize and unwind through activities, food, and drinks in a variety of settings from informal research seminars, to ND football tailgates, to picnics, to outings at local bars and restaurants. With a diverse department spread over multiple disciplines and campus buildings, we often do not encounter some of our fellow CEEES students as much as we could, and this group aims to bridge that gap and foster a sense of community and support among one another.

The CEEES GSO will be transitioning from the monthly presentations and gatherings of the past two years to seasonal events with more emphasis on quality over quantity. Be on the lookout in your email and this Newsletter for upcoming events. You are also encouraged to join the CEEES Grad Student Organization (GSO) Facebook page to learn about upcoming events. If you are interested in planning an upcoming event or feel you need to be added to the email list, please reach out to any of the organizers: Andrew Schranck (aschranc@nd.edu), Theresa Aragon (aragon.10@nd.edu), Lara Grotz (sisman.1@nd.edu), Stefanie Lewis (Lewis.184@nd.edu), or Keith O’Connor (Keith.F.O’Connor.211@nd.edu). They would love to hear from you.
GRADUATE STUDENT UNION (GSU) UPDATE

The Graduate Student Union (GSU)—not to be confused with the CEEES GSO, the Graduate School or Grad Life—serves as your student government, representation, and advocate for many aspects of your graduate student experience at Notre Dame. The GSU provides representation to every department on campus, and is led by a President, two Vice Presidents, and various committee chairs to holistically address graduate student needs across a variety of issues from healthcare, to social life, to professional development and beyond. The first monthly council meeting of the 2017-18 academic year will be on Thursday, September 21 at 6:30 pm in the LaFortune Student Center. Check out the GSU website (https://gsu.nd.edu/) for more information about the GSU, and feel free to contact your CEEES representative Andrew Schranck (aschranc@nd.edu) for more information about CEEES representation or to get involved.

NEW STUDENTS

We would like to welcome all of the new graduate students that have joined the department since last Fall! Here is a directory to help you get to know all the new faces.

Not pictured: Siti Raisah, Advisor: Na Wei.

Amirhosein Begmohammadi
Advisor: Diogo Bolster

Cailey Burnett
Advisor: Clive Neal

Katherine Crank
Advisor: Kyle Bibby

Meenu Garg
Advisor: Rob Nerenberg
GROUP SPOTLIGHT

Whether you are a first year or a fifth year student, knowing your departmental resources will be very valuable to you, and the kind ladies in the CEEES Department office can be a major asset to on a weekly basis. You are encouraged to introduce yourself to Julie, Bonnie, and Mollie and to become acquainted with how they can help you efficiently accomplish all your administrative task related to being a graduate student in the department. Brief descriptions of their responsibilities are proved below. In subsequent months, we will continue to spotlight your research groups in this section, but we know these ladies are a major asset to our department and want to give them a big THANK YOU here as we introduce you to them at the beginning of this academic year.

**Julia Hennion** - Is the Undergraduate Coordinator and works predominately with Liz Kerr the Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS) with undergraduate students and their issues. In addition to fielding all sorts of questions from faculty and students, she also works on the curriculum, schedules classrooms and conference room reservations, hires student and temp workers, and handles the undergraduate graduation. Julie also coordinates the department’s seminar program.

**Bonnie Prestin** - Is the go to person for anything to do with expense reports and purchasing. If it has to do with finances she is the one to contact. Bonnie also handles facility requisitions for problem areas such as heating and cooling systems, surplus pick-up, new keys, and locks.
Mollie Dash—Is the Department Administrator and handle salaries (faculty & grad student) departmental budgets, office management, Human Resources as related to our department and a contact for those that would like to meet with the department chair. Mollie is also the graduate program coordinator. Please contact her with any grad related issues.

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL – SCHEDULE OF DEADLINES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Fall 2017</th>
<th>Spring 2018</th>
<th>Summer 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching assistant list submitted to Graduate School</td>
<td>Aug. 20</td>
<td>Jan. 4</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First class day</td>
<td>Aug. 22</td>
<td>Jan. 16</td>
<td>Jun. 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All course changes</td>
<td>Aug. 29</td>
<td>Jan. 23</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Initial graduation list available in GradAdmin (Registrar)</td>
<td>Sept. 5</td>
<td>Jan. 30</td>
<td>Jun. 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall/Spring break begins</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
<td>Mar. 10</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course discontinuance</td>
<td>Oct. 27</td>
<td>Mar. 23</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preliminary theses/dissertations submitted for formatting check*</td>
<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>Mar. 5</td>
<td>Jun. 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thanksgiving break begins (Wed. – Sun.)</td>
<td>Nov. 22</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easter break begins (Fri. – Mon.)</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>Mar. 30</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master’s comprehensive examinations &amp; PhD dissertation defenses**</td>
<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>Apr. 3</td>
<td>Jul. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final theses/dissertations submitted to Graduate School</td>
<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>Apr. 9</td>
<td>Jul. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All admission to candidacy forms submitted to Graduate School</td>
<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td>Apr. 12</td>
<td>Jul. 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last class day</td>
<td>Dec. 7</td>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Jul. 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final exams begin</td>
<td>Dec. 11</td>
<td>May 7</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduation date (official degree conferral)</td>
<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>May 19</td>
<td>Aug. 5</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Formatting checks should be submitted to the Graduate School when the document is given to readers, at least two to four weeks prior to the defense.

**Reader’s reports must be submitted to the Graduate School at least two days before the defense takes place.
FELLOWSHIP/SCHOLARSHIP/EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Graduate Student Union Conference Presentation Grants (Rolling basis)
  (https://gsu.nd.edu/student-resources/gsu-conference-presentation-grant/)

- Graduate School Professional Development Awards (Rolling basis)
  (http://graduateschool.nd.edu/professional_development/professional-development-award-application/)

- National Defense Science and Engineering Fellowship (NDSEG)
  (https://ndseg.asee.org/about_ndseg/eligibility)

- National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship (GRF) (Deadline: October)
  (https://www.nsfgrfp.org/)

- NASA Space Technology Research Fellowship (NSTRF) (Deadline: November)
  (https://www.nasa.gov/directorates/spacetech/strg/archives_nstrf.html)

- Harriet Evelyn Wallace Scholarship
  (https://www.americangeosciences.org/workforce/harriet-evelyn-wallace-scholarship)

- The Smithsonian Institution Fellowship Program (Deadline: December 1)
  (https://www.smithsonianofi.com/fellowship-opportunities/smithsonian-institution-fellowship-program/)

- O.H. Ammann Research Fellowship (Deadline: November 1)
  (http://ektronstaging.asce.org/structural-engineering/ammann-research-fellowship/?_ga=1.54203821.467554197.1471637048)

For more funding opportunities or help crafting a winning application see the flyer on the next page from the Office of Grants and Fellowships. They are a very valuable resource for you whether you are preparing an abstract, a research statement, or a complete proposal.
Office of Grants and Fellowships

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- Orientation Breakout Sessions
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Contact us:
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