

CE students receive national/international honors

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Gaitan named McNair Scholar



Brandy Gaitan

Brandy Gaitan, Valley Falls, was recently awarded the prestigious McNair Scholarship for her dedication to the process of higher education.

The McNair Scholars Program prepares undergraduate students with a record of academic accomplishments

for successful careers as graduate students, professors, and professional researchers. McNair students create an academic development program to prepare for graduate school.

In the summer before their final year of participation, McNair Scholars undertake an eight-week summer research internship under the guidance of a faculty mentor. For her internship, Gaitan worked with graduate student Steven Hart, Enterprise, and Asad Esmaily, CE assistant professor, to evaluate an unloading and reloading stress-strain model for confined concrete. Her work was published in the American Society of Civil Engineers' Structural Journal.

Gaitan expects to complete her B.S. degree in civil engineering in fall 2006 and begin her graduate program in spring 2007. She plans to specialize in the construction of safer structures such as large buildings, earn her doctorate, and teach at a university.

Clark awarded national scholarship

Peter Clark, Manhattan, was one of seven students nationwide to receive the prestigious Samuel Fletcher Tapman Scholarship of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Clark transferred from secondary education into



Peter Clark

K-State's CE program in 2003. He was drawn to civil engineering by participating in bridge-building competitions when he was younger.

He has been an active participant in the student chapter of ASCE and is also a member of Chi Epsilon, the civil engineering honorary. Clark was the co-captain of the team that represented K-State at the national steel bridge competition. He was a recipient of the Outstanding CE Junior award for 2005 and graduated with a B.S. degree in civil engineering in spring 2006. He is currently employed with BHC RHODES in Overland Park.

Kapsalis wins medal in international competition

Stelios Kapsalis, Limassol, Cyprus, won the triple jump at the Israel Championships in summer 2005 with a mark of 51 feet and 5.5 inches. Kapsalis finished 14th at the NCAA Championships. He will graduate with a B.S. in CE in December 2006.



Stelios Kapsalis

Editors

Alok Bhandari
Lakshmi N. Reddi

News from the department head



Lakshmi N. Reddi, prof. and head of civil engineering

2005 and 2006 have been productive years for the department of civil engineering at K-State. On one hand, our ABET visit went very well; our programs have passed ABET scrutiny in flying colors without a single concern raised. On the other hand, our research activities have taken us to a new level of national visibility. The department has made great strides toward two key focus areas – transportation and water resources.

K-State is designated to host a Tier II University Transportation Center (UTC) with congressional funding. Our vision is to create a center housed within the civil engineering department that would serve as an umbrella entity where all of our research and outreach efforts in trans-



CE faculty members attend the Luminary Series Leadership Workshop in Topeka.

2006 CE Advisory Council members

*Kevin Honomichl, BHC RHODES
David Karnowski, Construction, Inc.
Richard McReynolds, KDOT
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portation engineering could be organized and coordinated. Research conducted with the help of funding from the Kansas Department of Transportation; accelerated testing of pavements conducted with pooled funds from Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, and Kansas; and outreach activities such as Traffic Assistance Services for Kansas - TASK, Superpave Training, etc. will all be coordinated under the aegis of the UTC. At the press time of this newsletter, candidates are being interviewed for the UTC director position.

Our department is taking a lead role in developing research activities grouped under “global research on water-based economies (GRoWE).” Dr. Dave Steward is directing these activities with the help of a diverse team of researchers from such disciplines as agricultural economics and geography. We are proud to receive targeted excellence funding for these activities with tremendous support from the K-State Provost’s office. With additional support from the NSF EPSCoR program and other funding agencies, GRoWE is well poised to provide research leadership in the international arena. An additional research assistant professor and secretarial support dedicated solely to GRoWE have given new dimension to this program’s activities.

With new funding in these two research areas, our extramural expenditures are expected to double in the next two years. This is certainly an exciting time period to be associated with this department. I congratulate our faculty, staff, and students on all of their successes and wish them even greater successes in future. I proudly invite our alumni and our professional academy partners to share our excitement and join the winning team.

Best wishes.

Lakshmi N. Reddi
Professor and Head of Civil Engineering

ASCE activities

The K-State ASCE Student Chapter had a membership of 146 in 2005, and out of these students, 64 were also national ASCE student members. The chapter organized 16 activities including assembly speakers, joint dinners with the University of Kansas ASCE Student Chapter and the Kansas Section of ASCE, picnics, highway cleanups, senior project presentations, and a field trip. Several chapter members also participated in the concrete canoe, steel bridge, concrete bowling ball, k'nex, and mystery competitions at the regional conference held at the University of Southern Illinois in Edwardsville.

Tom Strathman, Seneca, and Brandon Decker (BSCE '05) were chapter presidents in the spring and fall semesters, respectively. Other officers during 2005 included Sarah Grotheer, Pittsburg; LJ Dickens, Neodesha; Blake Bretz, Wallace; Lauren Brown, Fairway; Ryan Sims,

Winfield; Nathan Ewert, Hutchinson; Peter Clark, Manhattan; Scott Moeder, Oakley; Jake Perkins, Omaha, Neb.; Cody Gratny, Longmont, Colo.; Kevin Friedrichs, Marysville; Megan Schalansky, Overland Park; AJ Toloza (BSCE '05); Jake Maurer, Great Bend; Kenny Rich (BSCE '05); Joey Holste, Ludell; Jeff Holste (BSCE '05); Eric Lumpkin, Overland Park; Trevor Wooten (BSCE '05); Josh Lipscomb, Augusta; Jeff Shamburg, Manhattan; Kelly Carlton (BSCE '05); Kyle Larson, Frankfort, Ill.; and Joe Wuertz, Richmond. Faculty advisors included Hani Melhem, prof., for both fall and spring semesters; Dunja Peric, assist. prof., for the spring semester; and Bob Stokes, prof., for the fall semester. Practitioner advisors included Dave Karnowski (BSCE '71) and Jeri Meyer (BSCE '89), in addition to Bob Thorn (BSCE '50) continuing to serve as an honorary lifetime contact member to the chapter.

Steel bridge team in national competition



Steel bridge team competes in Orlando.

The CE steel bridge team's strong second-place finish in the regional competition at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville earned them the opportunity to compete at the ASCE National Student Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The team modified the bridge to be more competitive at the next level. Accompanying this were multiple construction practices to get the construction time lower. Lots of hours were poured into the preparations in between studying for finals.

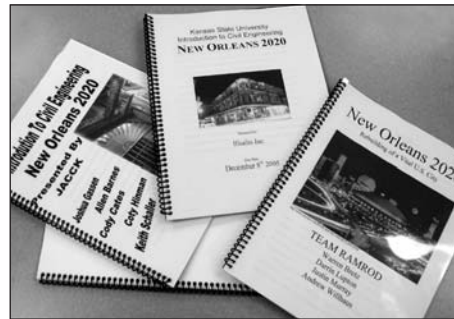
Most of the team flew into Orlando with the bridge in tow behind the pickup truck of one bridge member who had volunteered to drive. The weather was great and the competition was even better. The construction team put the bridge together in their fastest time ever and things were looking very good.

However, all hopes came crashing down when a judge ruled that part of the bridge did not meet a dimensional requirement that merited disqualification. The infraction was so small that the judge decided that even though the bridge could not place officially, the team could still finish the competition by performing the load test. It was a heartbreaking setback, one that could only be consoled by a day spent at the beach playing in the waves. On the way home, next year's team set the goal of coming back to the national competition and doing even better.

Freshmen design New Orleans for 2020

Nearly 50 freshmen enrolled in CE 101 – Introduction to Civil Engineering – in fall 2005. These students experienced a redesigned course taught by three CE faculty members – Lakshmi Reddi, Alok Bhandari, and Steven Starrett – which centered around a collaborative project involving studying the devastation of New Orleans by Hurricane Katrina and proposing designs for a new and improved city.

The class was divided into three learning communities, each consisting of up to five teams of



Freshmen reports on New Orleans 2020.

four students, and each advised by one instructor. The one-hour class met as a large group to hear speakers discuss civil engineering and urban development issues such as land use planning, transportation engineering, water resources engineering, environmental engineering, geotechnical engineering, and structural engineering. On weeks following large group sessions, students met in concurrent breakout sessions as learning communities to debate and discuss topics introduced by speakers. Guest speakers Jeff Hancock (BSCE '98, MSCE '00), Manhattan Director of Public Works and Robert Ott, Manhattan City Engineer, discussed how civil engineers are involved in everyday operation of a city.

According to its learning objectives, this course teaches freshmen to function as members of a team, demonstrate an understanding of the CE curriculum, demonstrate an understanding of the five basic areas of CE practice, and demonstrate an understanding of professional and ethical responsibilities of a civil engineer.

Chi Epsilon news

In 2005, Chi Epsilon inducted into membership Jay Aber, Emporia; William Byer, Great Bend; Bridget Walsh, Prairie Village; Kimberly Stange, Juniata, Neb.; Shaun Quigley, Westmoreland; Shawn Graham, Topeka; Trevor Ahring, Girard; Brock Baxter, Onaga; Chad Charest, Clay Center; Tyler Brown, St. Marys; Josh Howard, Manhattan; and Jeret Kusiak, Independence.

There are currently 35 students in K-State's chapter of Chi Epsilon. Officers for the past semester were president, Scott Moeder, Oakley; vice president, Kevin Friedrichs, Marysville; secretary, Nathan Ewert, Hutchinson; treasurer, Marshall Bird, El Dorado; pledge marshal, Brett Meredith, Olathe; and newsletter editor, Josh Beckman, Oakley. The current officers are president, Kevin Friedrichs; vice president, Brett Meredith; secretary, Nathan Ewert; treasurer, Marshall Bird; pledge marshal, Bridget Walsh; and newsletter editor, Kimberly Stange. Steven Starrett and Sunanda Dissanayake serve as faculty advisors.

Chapter members enjoyed the Tuttle Creek State Park community service project. Members cut trees off the trail and spread woodchips. In April, the chapter will work along the trail and continue this project. A social event was held at Zuckey Bowl. Members enjoyed pizza and disco bowling. This year Chi Epsilon sold "KSU Engineering" T-shirts and did a Bramlage cleanup to raise funds. A picnic has been planned for a social event in late April.



Chi Epsilon members and initiates in 2005-2006.

Ritter, Tadtman inducted into 2006 Hall of Fame



Cathy S. Ritter

Cathy S. Ritter (BSCE '75) was inducted into the 2006 College of Engineering Hall of Fame. She is the founder, owner and president of the Constellation Design Group (CDG), Maryland, a provider of civil engineering design and inspection services since 1982.

Ritter obtained an M.S. in administrative science from Johns Hopkins University in 1981. She is a licensed professional engineer in Maryland and Washington, D.C.

Ritter has been active in the American Council of Engineering Companies. After holding several offices in the Maryland chapter of ACEC, she was elected president in 1992. She served on the national planning cabinet and as chair of the ACEC Small Firm Council where she continues to be active on the SFC steering committee. In 1998 she was elected as the first female vice president of the national organization. She currently serves on the ACEC Transportation Committee and chairs the organization's Business Insurance Trust. In 1997 Ritter was elected as the first female Fellow of ACEC.

Ritter volunteers for Mission of Mercy, a mobile medical clinic. In addition, she and her husband, Tom, and two sons, David and Christopher, have participated in mission trips, providing housing and rehab work for communities across the nation



James L. Tadtman

James L. Tadtman (BSCE '67) was also inducted into the 2006 College of Engineering Hall of Fame. Tadtman is the founder and has been president of Wildcat Construction Co. since its beginning in 1983. He is also a partner in several related construction com-

panies including Sherwood Construction, Borton, Greenhill Materials, and Midwest Environmental Services and has been involved with major construction projects in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado. Tadtman is a registered professional engineer in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Colorado.

He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers, and the Kansas Engineering Society. He was a member of the K-State Alumni Board from 1996-2001, serving as chairman in 2000-2001. He and his wife, Marty, reside in Goddard, Kan. He has two sons and one daughter, and Marty has one daughter.

McLain receives Professional Progress Award

Kevin W. McLain (BSCE '88, MSCE '03) is a geotechnical engineer with the Missouri Department of Transportation in Jefferson City, Mo., where he supervises the operation and activities of the geotechnical section laboratory. He is a member of the scanning team of the Federal Highway Administration-sponsored Innovative Technology for the Accelerated

Construction of Bridge and Embankment Foundations in Europe, the topic panel of the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, and the American Society of Civil Engineers. McLain is a licensed professional engineer and a registered geologist in Missouri. He is married to Ellen Hoelscher McLain.



Kevin W. McLain

2005 fall banquet recognitions

Kyle Loftus, Sawyer, received the 2005 Outstanding Freshman Award.

Nathan Winkley, Valley Center, was the recipient of the Outstanding Sophomore Award for 2005.

Jose Villarreal, Manhattan, received the 2005 Outstanding Junior Award.

Jeff Holste, Ludell, and Kelly Blackwell, Kansas City, received the Outstanding Senior Awards for spring and fall 2005, respectively, from the Kansas Section of ASCE.

Sarah Grotheer, Manhattan, received the Kansas County Highway Association Award.

Scott Moeder, Oakley, was awarded the American Public Works Association Scholarship.

Marshall Bird, El Dorado, was awarded the Wichita Section ASCE Scholarship for 2005.

Kelly Carlton, Lansing, received the Outstanding Service Award from the ASCE Student Chapter.

Taslina Khanum, Manhattan, received the Outstanding M.S. Student Award for 2005.

Monica Palomo, Manhattan, was the recipient of the 2005 Outstanding Ph.D. Student Award. She received the third-place award in a poster competition sponsored by the Kansas Water Environment Association and the Steel Ring Award for best civil engineering display during Open House 2005.

Yacoub Najjar, prof., received the 2005 CE Outstanding Teaching Award and the 2005 ASCE Student Chapter Outstanding Faculty Award.

Stefan Romanoschi, assoc. prof., received the CE Outstanding Research Award and the CE Outstanding Colleague Award for 2005.

Romanoschi was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Paul Lewis, res. tech., received the 2005 CE Outstanding Staff Award.

Sunanda Dissanayake, asst. prof., received her professional engineering license from the state of Florida.

Hani Melhem, prof., received the Chi Epsilon Student Advocate of the Year Award and the 2005 CE Outstanding University and Professional Service Award.

Dunja Peric, asst. prof., was a recipient of the CE Outstanding University and Professional Service Award for 2005.

Asad Esmaily, asst. prof., received the Outstanding Graduate Faculty Award from the CE Graduate Council.

Mustaque Hossain, prof., received the Chi Epsilon Teaching Excellence Award for 2005.

Hayder Rasheed, asst. prof., received the Advisor of the Year Award from the ASCE Student Chapter. Rasheed was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Chandler joins K-State CE Faculty



David Chandler

David Chandler, assistant professor, joined the CE faculty in fall 2006.

Chandler earned his M.S. in civil engineering with a focus on multi-phase fluid transport, and a Ph.D. in engineering with a focus on tropical hydrology, both from Cornell University. Since

then he has lived in the Western U.S. and conducted field studies and modeling in wind erosion, snow hydrology, and desert ecology.

Before coming to K-State, Chandler taught in the department of plants, soils, and biometeorology at Utah State University. At K-State, Chandler is contributing his expertise in surface hydrology to several interdisciplinary teams

Najjar receives teaching honors



Yacoub Najjar

Yacoub Najjar, prof., received the Meyers-Alford Memorial Teaching Award for 2005, the KSU Presidential Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, and the Outstanding Teaching Award of the Midwest

Section of the American Society of Engineering Education. He was also a recipient of the 2005 CE Outstanding Teaching Award and the 2005 Outstanding Faculty Award given by the ASCE Student Chapter. Najjar says that the primary factor responsible for his success as a CE educator is his ability to “do the best in providing what is best for the students.” He says that his guiding principle is “prepare, prepare, prepare and when you teach, be clear, simple, flexible, and get to the point.”

Reddi recognized by Ohio State

Lakshmi Reddi, prof. and department head, received the Ohio State University College of Engineering Distinguished Alumni Award. Reddi received both his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Ohio State under the guidance of T.H. Wu. During his visit to Ohio State in September 2006, Reddi presented a seminar and visited various laboratories to discuss Ohio State’s research activities. Reddi is a winner of the K-State College of Engineering Research Excellence Award and two-time recipient of the Central District James Robbins Chi Epsilon Teaching Award.



Reddi with Ohio State CE department head and college deans.

GRoWE program sees growth

For the past five years, David Steward, assoc. prof., has led the consortium for global research on water-based economies (GRoWE), which is comprised of a multidisciplinary team of researchers from 18 disciplines across six colleges at K-State. GRoWE researchers work together with stakeholders, agencies and policy makers to further the scientific understanding of water resource systems in order to make better management and policy decisions.

Funding from the K-State Targeted Excellence Program has allowed the consortium to focus on three goals: (1) provide integrated scientific support within natural-human systems for local, national, and international water-use decisions; (2) prepare individuals to lead in solving societal dilemmas about water resources;

and (3) propel Kansas State University into an elevated ranking among land grant universities.

Integrated GIS geodatabases and modeling approaches are being developed that incorporate hydrology, economics, agriculture, demographics, and planning. Willem de Lange, on sabbatical at K-State from the Netherlands Institute of Inland Water Management, has worked specifically with the consortium to help researchers understand the approaches utilized in the European Union toward management of water resources. According to Steward, the consortium is a collaborative organization dedicated to helping people understand and manage the relationships between water resources and human consumption for agricultural production and livelihood.

New CAD lab for CE students



The new CE AutoCAD laboratory.

In response to numerous requests from civil engineering students and industry representatives, the CE department developed and equipped a new computer-aided design laboratory exclusively for CE student use. CE students enrolled in the Engineering Graphics course are introduced to AutoCAD and other software packages to produce basic civil engineering drawings. The development of this laboratory, which was funded solely by the engineering student equipment fee, was coordinated by Robert Stokes, prof.

CE students study New Orleans levee failure

Students enrolled in Hydraulic Engineering, CE 552, a course taught by David Steward, assoc. prof., built model levees to understand the mechanisms of failure of the New Orleans levee system during Hurricane Katrina. The bench-scale model showed that the water pushed over the top of the levees causing them to collapse. Students discovered that most of the failure resulted from a loss of soil stability on the backside of the levees.

The students used sand and plywood to simulate the New Orleans levee structure, which was constructed with sand and had concrete structures. The hands-on experiment allowed students to watch the soil become liquefied. Steward explained, “We try to make it relevant to the students. It’s a lot of fun. The students really appreciate the practical application of water and fluids to controlling water and developing structure.”

Student project helps Fort Scott save dollars

Students enrolled in the Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES) Capstone Project class, co-taught by Alok Bhandari, assoc. prof., and other instructors, participated in a service-learning project to help the city of Fort Scott estimate the storage capacity of Lake Fort Scott.

Bhandari and his team of students decided to develop a contour map of the lake bottom, a process called bathymetry. Students elected to use a method that is commonly used by the Corps of Engineers and utilizes an echosounder to find depth and a geographical positioning system to identify location.

“When we started working on the project, all of us – including me – had zero knowledge of what a bathymetric survey was,” Bhandari said. “But very quickly, we learned what it was and how to conduct a survey.”

The students determined the current storage capacity of the lake to be 5,980-acre-feet or 1.9 billion gallons – approximately 7.8 percent less than the original capacity. The project served a community-identified need and saved the city several thousand dollars in consulting fees.

One student summarized his learning experience with the following comment: “This (project) provided an excellent opportunity to develop professional and leadership skills and afforded an experience that will likely bear resemblance to future job-related projects.”



NRES students survey Lake Fort Scott.

K-State transportation center identifies thematic areas

Recent congressional funding has allowed the K-State CE department to significantly expand the scope of transportation research.

An advisory panel with four members from the College of Engineering and CE was formed to develop five long-term, high-impact thematic areas: (1) outreach through national rural transportation symposium; (2) rural transportation safety; (3) intelligence, knowledge, and information systems in transportation; (4) advanced modeling of pavement and subgrade systems; and (5) infrastructure preservation/renovation.

Specific seed projects supported by the first round of funding include “Organization of a National Rural Transportation Symposium” with Mustaque Hossain, prof., as principal investigator; “Development of a Comprehensive Rural Transportation Safety Research Program for the 21st Century” with Sunanda Dissanayake, asst. prof., Robert Stokes, prof.,

Eugene Russell, prof. emeritus, and collaborators as P.I.s; “Intelligent Structural Health Monitoring of Rural Bridges” with Hayder Rasheed, assoc. prof., Robert Peterman, assoc. prof., Asad Esmaily, asst. prof. and Hani Melhem, prof. as P.I.s; “Rural Transportation Initiative Supporting Agricultural Transition and Sustainability” with Dissanayake, David Steward, assoc. prof., and collaborators as P.I.s; “Advanced Modeling of Interfaces Between Asphalt Concrete Layers and of Permanent Deformation in Subgrade Soils” with Stefan Romanoschi, assoc. prof., Dunja Peric, asst. prof., and Yacoub Najjar, prof. as P.I.s; “Ensuring Longevity of Rural Highway Pavements Using Pavement Preservation Concepts” with Hossain as P.I.; and “Development of Efficient Asset Management Practices for Transportation Infrastructure in Rural Communities” with Romanoschi, Dissanayake, Najjar, and Esmaily as P.I.s.

Superpave training completes 10 years



Superpave certification training

Mustaque Hossain, prof., has helped train 1,200 highway personnel over the last 10 years. The Superpave Certification Training, a four- to five-day program, has been offered jointly by Kansas State University and the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) since December 1996. This course is intended to certify engineers, technicians, and other personnel who will be involved in the design and construction of Superpave pavements using quality control and

quality assurance (QC/QA) specifications of KDOT.

Instruction is provided by a select group of instructors from K-State, KDOT, and the asphalt paving industry. Successful completion of the course and certification is required by the state of Kansas for performing Superpave mix designs and conducting tests on Superpave pavement projects built under appropriate QC/QA specifications.

The classroom sessions are held at the K-State Union and the laboratory sessions are conducted in the KAPA Asphalt Laboratory in Fielder Hall. Since its inception, the KSU-KDOT Superpave Program has hosted participants from Kansas and states such as Georgia, Idaho, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, and Oklahoma. International participants have come from Ontario, Canada.

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CE 854 Analysis of Groundwater Flow
CE 872 Transportation Safety

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CE 751 Hydraulics of Open Channels
CE 766 Wastewater Engineering: Biological Processes
CE 775 Traffic Engineering I
CE 776 Pavement Performance and Management Systems
CE 802 Advanced Mechanics of Materials
CE 861 Environmental Engineering Chemistry

Recent CE alumni —where are they now?

Richie Benninghoven (BSCE '03) is a project manager at Briarcliff Development Company, Kansas City, Mo.

Isaac Crabtree (BSCE '05) is an engineer at Black & Veatch Corporation, Kansas City, Mo.

John Dowell, Jr. (BSCE '02) is employed as a staff engineer at Ninyo & Moore in Phoenix, Ariz.

Jason Eichenberger (BSCE '04) works as an assistant civil engineer at Burns & McDonnell, Kansas City, Mo.

Aneel Gogula (MSCE '03) is a transportation engineer at Pape-Dawson Engineers, Inc., San Antonio, Texas.

Steve Hampton (BSCE '00) works as an engineer with the city of Manhattan, Kan.

Travis Heier (BSCE '02, MSCE '04) is a project engineer with Starrett Engineering, LLC in Branson, Mo.

Jamie Klein (BSCE '04, MSCE '05) is employed as a project engineer with Terracon in Columbia, Mo.

Cameron McGown (BSCE '02) is a transportation engineer at HNTB Corporation, Kansas City, Mo.

Kishore Panda (PhDCE '05) is a project engineer with HDR Corporation in Lake Forest, Calif.

Jeffrey Rundle (BSCE '03) was admitted to the 2006 first-year class of the University of Iowa College of Law.

Scott Wetzel (BSCE '93, MSCE '95) is vice president, environmental engineering, at Bucher, Willis & Ratliff Corporation, Salina, Kan.

Ming Xiao (PhDCE '01) is an assistant professor of civil engineering at Fremont State University, Fremont, Calif.

Partnership with K-State CE

Please support the K-State CE department through your financial contributions and/or suggestions/recommendations on our curricular and extracurricular activities.

Name

Year of Graduation P.E. Yes No

I would like to contribute to the following activities within the department:

- Student and faculty professional development
- Outreach activities of the department
- Concrete canoe/steel bridge, other activities
- No preference

Enclosed please find a check to the K-State Department of Civil Engineering in the amount of:

- \$100
- \$200
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Please mail your comments and/or contribution to the Department of Civil Engineering, Kansas State University, 2118 Fiedler Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506-5000.



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