

CAE Newsletter

Issue 3, 2015-2016



Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering

Qatar University

P.O. Box 2713, Doha, Qatar

T +974 4403 4170

F +974 4403 4172

<http://www.qu.edu.qa/engineering/civil/>
civil@qu.edu.qa

Newsletter editors:

Prof. Ramzi Taha

Eng. Khaled Rabie

© 2015-2016-CAE

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3, 2015-2016

QD-SBG Industry Chair Position

Qatar University (QU) and Qatari Diar-Saudi Ben Laden Group (QD-SBG) signed an agreement on October 20, 2015 to establish a Professorial Chair in Civil Infrastructure in the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering. QU President, Dr Hassan Al-Derham, and QDSBG Group Chairman, Khalid Al-Sayed, signed the agreement. The chair will benefit students in Civil Engineering by engaging them in practical senior design projects and by supervising their summer training. Both institutions will also co-operate to provide joint research and consulting activities, and develop tailored training programs. This will result in graduating highly qualified professionals who are able to contribute to the fast-changing Civil Engineering and infrastructure development in Qatar, including dissemination of knowledge, deployment of state-of-the-art technology, application of best practice in Civil Engineering infrastructure, and establishing stronger links with industry.



The 5th Qatar BIM User Day

The Fifth “BIM User Day” is a non-profit series event covering various aspects of Building Information Modeling (BIM). The last event took place at Qatar University (QU) on November 5, 2015. The unique event attracted 263 delegates from 97 companies and 16 countries, including the MENA Region, USA, Europe and China. This event attracted the highest number of participants so far ranging from students to CEOs, from young professionals to long-time experts all engaging in diverse presentations, networking opportunities and knowledge exchange. Following the success of the earlier four BIM User Days since 2012, the organizing partnership of the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering and HOCHTIEF ViCon, in collaboration with Teeside University, UK, was well on its way to advancing an important platform for BIM knowledge transfer in Qatar and the Middle East.



Civil Engineering Social Day

This event was organized by the ASCE Student Chapter in the department to give an opportunity for students, faculty, and staff to meet. During the Social Day, several competitions were also organized such as the “Paper Tower Competition,” “Table Tennis Competition,” and “Fusball Competition.” The event took place on April 27, 2016.



(Continued)



College of Engineering Football Tournament

A team of faculty members, staff, and students from the department participated in the College of Engineering Football Tournament on March 31, 2016. The departmental team came in the Second Place in the football competition and in the First Place in departmental participation.

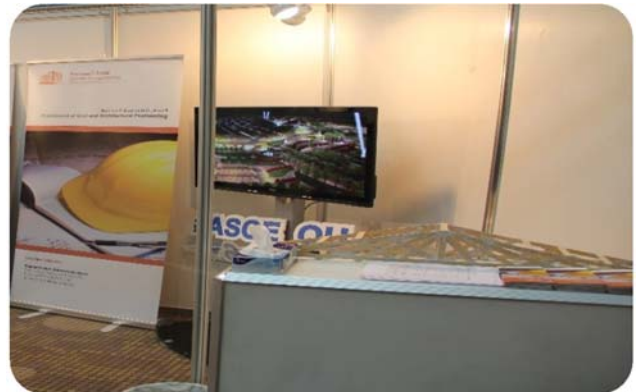


(Continued)



Open Day for Secondary Schools

The ASCE Student Chapter represented the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering in the Open Day for Secondary Schools to introduce high school students to the Civil Engineering Program at Qatar University. The event took place on March 22, 2016.



Site Visits

Civil Engineering students visited the Lusail Light Rail Transit (LLRT) project on April 23, 2016. During this visit, students had the opportunity to visit both the Light Train Pearl and Marina Stations. The students observed the work progress on-site and linked their class studies with field work. The visit was organized by the ASCE Student Chapter at QU.



Alumni Talk

The ASCE Student Chapter, in collaboration with the QU's Alumni Association, hosted Engineer Naif AL-Ibrahim, Msheireb Project Manager, who shared his experiences with the Civil Engineering students about the technical and non-technical skills needed by engineers. The talk took place on October 28, 2015.



ASCE Orientation Day

The ASCE Student Chapter at QU organized an Orientation Day on October 21, 2015 to introduce new Civil Engineering students on how to apply for membership via the ASCE International Society website. Gifts and souvenirs were also distributed to Civil Engineering students.



Visit to New College of Engineering Building

Faculty members and staff in the Department of Civil and Architectural Engineering visited the new College of Engineering Building site on December 23, 2015 to check work progress on future departmental facilities, and to provide feedback on the current construction.



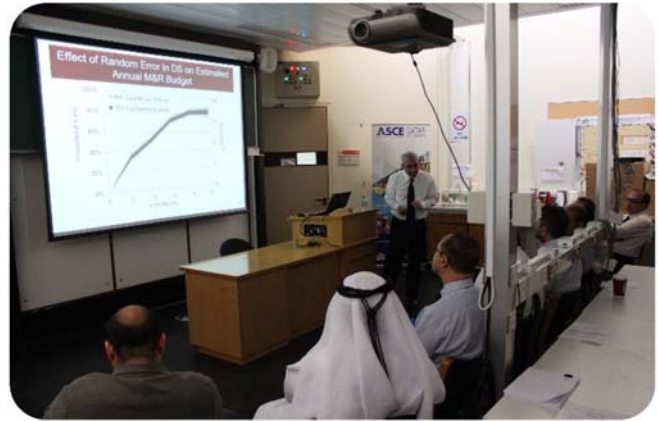
Guest Speakers

- Dr. Shahid Azam, Professor and Chair of the Environmental Systems Engineering at the University of Regina, Canada, presented a seminar on September 1, 2015 entitled “Unsaturated Flow Through Soils for Engineering Applications.”
- Dr. Araki, Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture and Architectural Engineering at Kyoto University in Kyoto, Japan, presented a seminar on September 21, 2015 entitled “Integrated Material and Structural Design of Concrete Constructions Toward Sustainable and Disaster-Resilient Built Environment.”



(Continued)

- Dr. Nasir Gharaibeh, Associate Professor of Civil Engineering at Texas A&M University, USA, presented a seminar on April 21, 2016 entitled "Infrastructure Asset Management: A Close Look at Data Quality."
- Professor Ashraf Ayoub, Chair of Nuclear Infrastructure at City University London, UK, presented a seminar on April 25, 2016 entitled "Behavior of Complex Concrete Infrastructures under Three-Dimensional Loads."



Newly Approved NPRP Projects

NPRP: National Priorities Research Program-9th Cycle-(2015-2016)

The National Priorities Research Program (NPRP) is the flagship state funding program of the Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF). It is held annually to fund successful proposals and is intended to support the overarching goal of the QNRF, which is to foster research culture in Qatar. For this cycle, two projects were awarded to faculty members as LPs and two others where faculty members are participating as PIs.



الصندوق القطري لرعاية البحث العلمي
Qatar National Research Fund

عضو في مؤسسة قطر Member of Qatar Foundation

Project Number: NPRP 9-110-2-052

Project Title: Sustainable Concrete Using Seawater, Recycled Aggregates, and Non-Corrosive Reinforcement

LPI: Dr. Usama Ebead

Collaborative Institution: University of Miami

Project Number: NPRP 9-093-1-02

Project Title: Groundwater Pollution by Petroleum-Derived Contaminants in Coastal (Semi)-Arid Environment

LPI: Dr. Riyadh Al-Raoush

Collaborative Institution: University of Waterloo

Project Number: NPRP9-390-1-088

Project Title: SIMUPOR: Simulation of Microscale Biogeochemical Processes in Porous Media Using Advanced Computer Vision Methodologies

PI: Dr. Riyadh Al-Raoush

Collaborative Institution: Université de Bourgogne and Institute of Research for Development (IRD), France

Project Number: NPRP9-360-2-150

Project Title: Modeling the Impacts of Different Variable Message Sign Strategies on Driver Behavior using Driving Simulations

PI: Dr. Mohammad Ghanim

Collaborative Institution: University of Hasselt

UREP: Undergraduate Research Experience Program

The Undergraduate Research Experience Program (UREP) is an initiative of Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) that aims to stimulate undergraduate research opportunities in Qatar by funding student-driven and student-conducted research projects on topics of relevance to Qatar's national development strategy. For this year, the faculty were awarded four research grants from QNRF under its UREP 17th and 18th Cycles.

Project Number: UREP17-065-2-019

Project Title: Behavior of Basalt Fiber Reinforced Self-Compacting Concrete

Primary Faculty Mentor: Dr. Usama Ebead

Students: Ahmed Ahmed, Ayman Ahmed, HossamEldin El-Sherif, Khaled Abo-Elenen, Mohamed Elakel, and Moustafa Elgaar

Project Number: UREP18-144-2-05

Project Title: Lateral Design Assessment of Low and Mid-Rise Reinforced Concrete Structures in Doha

Primary Faculty Mentor: Dr. Onur Avci

Research Mentor: Dr. Mohammed Hussein

Students: Abdulrhman Saad, Alaa Taha, Mohamed Rabie, Jamal Hannun, and Khaled Shamiyeh

Project Number: UREP18-054-2-020

Project Title: Evaluation of Transit Signal Priority Implementation Along Major Arterial in Doha

Primary Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mohammad Ghanim

Students: Ahmed Ahmed, Mosab Mohamed, and Tariq Shelbaieh

Project Number: UREP18-162-2-065

Project Title: Flexural Behavior and Evaluation of Deflection for High-Strength MiniBar Reinforced Concrete Beams with Basalt FRP Reinforcing Bars

Primary Faculty Mentor: Dr. Wael AlNahaal

Students: Abdulaziz Mohammed Rahma, Ahmad Jayyar, Mohamed Amin Ibrahim, Mohamed Elmanadiely, Mohammad Masoud, and Naeem Albeitjali

Services to Community and Outreach Programs

Dr. Onur Avci delivered a presentation entitled "Structural Health Monitoring of Stadia Structures," at the 2nd World Stadium Congress, Doha, Qatar on May 21, 2015.

Dr. Mohammed Hussein was an invited speaker at the 5th Underground Infrastructure & Deep Foundations Summit, Doha, Qatar, June, 2, 2015.

Dr. Mohammed Hussein delivered a short training course on "Railway Engineering," for Engineers on March, 3, 2016. The course was organized via the Continuing Education Office at QU.

Dr. Ramzi Taha delivered two seminars on “Presentation and Writing Skills” to Civil Engineering students on April, 20, 2016, and May, 4, 2016.

Dr. Mohsin Siddiqui delivered a training course on “Principles of Primavera P6-Professional Project Management Software,” for Civil Engineering students on April 30, 2016.

New Academic Staff

Dr. Mohsin Siddiqui joined the department in Fall 2015. He received Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin, USA in 2008. His research interests include Construction Engineering and Management, IT applications in CEM, Construction Safety, Data Sensing and Analysis, Sensor Networks, Assessment and Accreditation, and Engineering Education.



Eng. Muhammad Afzal joined the department as a Teaching Assistant in Spring 2016. His areas of interest include the analysis and design of structures.



Congratulations

- Dr. Alaa AlHawari was promoted to Associate Professor.
- Dr. Alaa AlHawari received the Dean’s Award for Research Excellence in the College of Engineering.

- Dr. Usama Ebead received the Dean’s Award for Teaching Excellence in General Engineering courses offered in the College of Engineering.
- Dr. Usama Ebead was appointed as the Coordinator of Civil Engineering Program.



(Continued)

- Dr. Nasser Al-Nuaimi was appointed as the Director of the Center for Advanced Materials at Qatar University.



- Dr. Ramzi Taha was selected as an ABET Program Evaluator.



- Engineer Khaled Rabie was awarded QU's Best (Outstanding) Thesis Award for 2015-2016. Prof. Hisham Eid was his master's thesis supervisor.



- Graduate student, Nagla Mohamed, was awarded the Best Postdoc and Graduate Student Research Poster Award in the 2016 Annual Research Forum at QU. Dr. Alaa AlHawari was her master's thesis supervisor.



- Our graduate students: Abdulla Shameem, Khaled Rabie, Mohammad Khader, Mahmoud Al Nouss, and Muhammad Afzal obtained their Master's degrees in Civil Engineering from QU.

(Continued)

- Jamal Hannun and Mohammed Al Bardawil, undergraduate students in Civil Engineering won the 2nd place in the 3rd Annual Innovation and Entrepreneurship Contest at QU. The work was in collaboration with two other students (Abdullah Alsalemi and Ibrahim Ahmed) from the Department of Electrical Engineering.



- Engineer Khaled Rabie and his wife were blessed with a baby boy. May Allah protect his family.
- Mr. Josph Siju and his wife were blessed with a baby boy. May Allah protect his family.

Civil Engineering Alumni

The department is interested in hearing about your news. Please e-mail us at civil@qu.edu.qa with your position, employer, office, mobile phone number, E-mail, and any of your good news that you would like to share with us.

“On the Occasion of the Month of Mercy and Forgiveness, We wish all Muslims Prosperity, Peace and a Place in Paradise.”