

University of South Florida

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING

ONE OF FLORIDA'S THREE PREEMINENT RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES



Fred Mannering, PhD

Fred Mannering, founding editor and Editor-in-Chief of the Elsevier Science Journal “Analytic Methods in Accident Research,” received a Scopus citation impact score in 2018 (CiteScore = 10.36) ranking it #1 out of 87 transportation journals, #1 out of 65 safety-research journals, and #154 out of all of the 25,469 journals included in Scopus, placing it in the top 1% of all included journals.



Daniel Yeh, PhD

Daniel Yeh and his team have received a seed grant from NASA, titled “Development of Zero-G Anaerobic Membrane Bioreactors (ZG-AnMBR) for Closed-loop Bioregenerative Water Purification and Organic Waste Recycling.” The aim of the project is to help NASA develop next-generation life support technologies appropriate for deep space exploration and planetary surface habitats, such as Mars.



Andres Tejada-Martinez, PhD

Andres Tejada-Martinez received three new grants, two from National Science Foundation and one from Office of Naval Research, to investigate vertical and horizontal turbulent dispersion in the coastal ocean and in estuaries under the influence of winds, waves, tides and surface heat fluxes. Tejada-Martinez is the lead PI in collaboration with colleagues from Skidaway Institute of Oceanography and Brown University in the two NSF grants. The ONR grant is a single PI grant.



Maya Trotz, PhD

Maya Trotz was elected as president of the Association of Environmental Engineering & Science Professors (AEESP). She becomes the first African American and seventh woman to lead AEESP.



Jim Mihelcic, PhD

Jim Mihelcic received the 2018 Charles R. O'Melia Distinguished Educator Award from AEESP. Also, Jim and his team will receive a GAANN grant from the Dept. of Education for a proposed program, Doctoral Fellowships in Civil Engineering for Redesigning Resilient Transportation and Water Critical Infrastructures, to recruit, select, train, and mentor six doctoral students with excellent academic records, who demonstrate financial need and are from diverse backgrounds. They will be prepared for impactful career paths in higher education and/or research that influence the design and management of two critical and interdependent infrastructures, transportation and water.

This past year, our faculty and graduate students continued to garner major federal grants and national honors. Dr. Rajan Sen hosted the 2018 Masonry Educators Workshop at USF and received an invitation from Bentham to edit a series titled “Frontiers in Civil Engineering.”



Dr. Gray Mullins’ doctoral students, Sarah Mobley and Amanda Lewis, won the Women’s Association Teri Dres Scholarship and Women’s Association Scholarship, respectively from the International Association for Foundation Drilling (ADSC). Dr. Sarina Ergas’ doctoral student, Erica Dasi, won the GEM Fellowship and a Chateaubriand Fellowship. Drs. Jeff Cunningham’s and Jim Mihelcic’s doctoral student Kevin Orner, won a Fulbright U.S. Student Program Research Grant to develop and assess a novel technology to recover fertilizer from agricultural waste in Costa Rica. Dr. Maya

Trotz’ doctoral student Wainella Issacs won a Gates Foundation-managed Misk Grand Challenges Grant to create a generation of young people committed to achieving the sustainable development

goals. In addition, Dr. Sarina Ergas’ students, Madison Rice, Estenia Ortiz and Nadezhda Zalivina won the American Waterworks Association scholarships.

Designation of USF as one of the three Florida Preeminent Research Universities has boosted our recruitment drives especially targeting diverse faculty and graduate students. This fall we hired Drs. Christopher Alexander and Michael Maness in the areas of materials engineering and travel demand modeling, respectively.

Manjriker Gunaratne, PhD, PE

Professor and Chairman

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