

Civil and Environmental Engineering Faculty

Christopher Baxter, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor



Dr. Baxter's research is in geotechnical engineering with focus on soil behavior. Recent projects include the liquefaction potential of Rhode Island silts, strength of weakly cemented sands in oil bearing formations, tsunami hazard assessment from submarine slope failures, and a technology assessment of offshore wind farms in Rhode Island. Professor Baxter was recently elected to the Board of Governors of the United States Universities Council for Geotechnical Education and Research (USUCGER).

Thomas B. Boving, Ph.D., Professor



Dr. Boving's research interests include environmental hydrogeology, innovative remediation technologies, stormwater runoff treatment, fate and transport of organic and inorganic contaminants, and water treatment by riverbank filtration. Professor Boving, under a World Bank funded project, has been installing riverbank filtration wells in a small village of southern India. He also works on water related projects in Jordan and Kenya.

Aaron Bradshaw, Ph.D., P.E., Assistant Professor



Dr. Bradshaw's research is in geotechnical engineering with special focus on coastal applications and foundations of offshore structures. He has been developing experimental and analytical procedures to evaluate foundations of offshore wind turbines and buried pipelines. He is participating in a team of experts on call for reconnaissance investigations of natural disasters.

Vinka Craver, Ph.D., Assistant Professor



Dr. Craver's research focuses on sustainable technologies for water and wastewater treatment in developed and developing countries. Recent projects include using ceramic filters for water treatment in rural communities from Guatemala, Dominican Republic and South Africa. Other areas include the applications and environmental implications of nanotechnology on water and wastewater treatment and transportation related environmental issues.

Mayrai Gindy, Ph.D., Associate Professor



Dr. Gindy's research interests include structural health monitoring, non-destructive testing, sensors and sensor networks, structural safety and reliability, bridge dynamics and vibration, extreme value theory, risk analysis, applied probabilistic methods, reinforced and prestressed concrete, live load spectra modeling, and design code calibration. Professor Gindy has received funding from the National Science Foundation to develop an experiential laboratory where students will design their own experiments using state-of-the-art equipment.

Christopher Hunter, Ph.D., Associate Professor



Dr. Hunter's research is in transportation engineering with focus on traffic and transit system operations, intelligent transportation systems, multi-modal transportation system analysis, and traffic safety. Professor Hunter is well known for his studies on "red light crossing".

Dimitrios Karamanlidis, Ph.D., Associate Professor



Dr. Karamanlidis' research interests are in computational mechanics, computer-aided analysis of engineering structures, and computer aided steel-detailing. Professor Karamanlidis has authored several books on finite element methods including the text "Advances in the Theory of Plates and Shells."

K.Wayne Lee, Ph.D., P.E., F. ASCE, Professor



Dr. Lee's research interests focus on engineering materials, intelligent transportation infrastructure and system, and sustainable green civil systems. Professor Lee serves as the Director of the Rhode Island Transportation Research Center (RITRC). He is a founding member of the Bituminous Materials Committee of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), has served as ASCE RI Chapter President, and has been elected as ASCE Fellow.

Leon Thiem, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor



Dr. Thiem's research interests are in environmental engineering including industrial waste treatment, drinking water treatment, groundwater contamination modeling/remediation, and adsorption processes. His research has resulted in a novel two filter based stormwater treatment system suitable for treating highway stormwater runoff. Professor Thiem serves as the Director of the Rhode Island Water Resources Center.

Natacha Thomas, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Professor



Dr. Thomas' areas of expertise and interest include traffic engineering and traffic flow characteristics in particular, geometric design of highways, airport design, and traffic safety. Past studies have included the detection of traffic anomalies using probe and detector data. Dr. Thomas is an expert in assessing pedestrian evacuation during extreme events such as hurricanes or other natural and man made disasters. Her models include human behavior as a factor in the evacuation process.

George Tsiatas, Ph.D., Professor and Department Chair



Dr. Tsiatas, focuses his research on civil infrastructure including bridge engineering, health monitoring of structures, renewal engineering, and management of large structural systems. Current research includes use of advanced materials such as composites and high performance steel for bridge design and rehabilitation. Other topics include structural dynamics including vibration control for wind and seismic effects and structural reliability.

George Veyera, Ph.D., Interim Associate Dean and Professor



Dr. Veyera's research interests include liquefaction of saturated soils, dynamic behavior of soils, geosynthetics, unsaturated soil mechanics, marine geomechanics, and experimental geomechanics. Professor Veyera is on the Editorial Board of the ASTM Geotechnical Testing Journal. He currently serves at the Interim Associate Dean of the College of Engineering.

Raymond Wright, Ph.D., P.E., Dean and Professor



Dr. Wright's areas of specialty include water quality monitoring and modeling of surface water systems, development of waste load allocations and TMDLs, identification of nonpoint source pollutants, investigation of wet weather pollutant sources and their impact on receiving waters, and stormwater monitoring and modeling. Dr. Wright is the Dean of the College of Engineering.