

DR. EMMETT DAVIS, JUNIOR, '50, DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING NEWS



HAIL AND FAREWELL EDITION

In the military, there is a traditional event called a “Hail and Farewell” where departing members are celebrated and those incoming are welcomed. This is similar to each May in the CECE Department. We celebrate our graduating seniors while applauding the accomplishments of our continuing students who are moving into leadership positions, both formal and informal, within the department and beyond. This newsletter edition serves to say “farewell” to our graduating students while “hail”ing some of the underclassmen “rising stars” identified by the faculty.

OUR 2024 GRADUATES

May 4, 2024 marked the graduation ceremony for 57 Civil and Construction Engineering students. This includes:

- Cadet Bachelor's in CIVL: 24
- Cadet Bachelor's in CONE: 13
- CTP Bachelor's in CIVL: 10
- Master's in CIVL: 10

From our undergraduates, eight graduated Summa Cum Laude, six Magna Cum Laude, and three Cum Laude. This means just over one third of our undergraduates completed their degree with a 3.5 GPA or higher. Among our cadets, six have Armed Forces Commissions where one is also an Army Distinguished Military Graduate. Even with their time constraints, a third were able to maintain “perfect” 4.0 GPAs and graduate “With Distinction.”

The cadet senior class has managed to achieve much in their four years at The Citadel. From committing themselves to a college in Summer 2020 when the world was still largely shut down due to COVID-19 and starting classes in Fall 2020 wearing masks, they have shown great growth and leadership. This cohort of students is largely responsible for the recovery of the ASCE Carolinas Conference competition teams after COVID-19. The Class of '24 not only led the design and construction of the Concrete Canoe for two years, but also competed with the first Steel Bridge since 2018. These students enthusiastically served as pre-knob tour guides, LeTellier Building proctors, and research assistants. Even in Winter 2024 when one of their classmates passed, they banded together to support each other through the Spring of their senior year. We are so proud of all their accomplishments and cannot wait to see what their futures hold.

Our students in the Graduate College, both undergraduate and Master's, primarily joined us in Summer 2022 with the goal of completing a degree to advance their on-going careers. Our undergraduates mostly worked full time in the engineering industry to support their families while also being full time students. They truly banded together as a class to support one another both in and out of the classroom to achieve a high level of academic success. According to some of our Capstone Expert Panelists, they would have been proud to see either of the CTP cohort's 90% Final Presentations from one of their employees. Likewise, the Master's students worked full-time while completing their degrees online. Even with the competing time constraints, a third were able to maintain “perfect” 4.0 GPAs throughout.

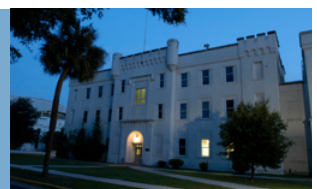


IN MEMORY OF SULLIVAN WATKINS

This “Hail and Farewell” Edition of the CECE Newsletter is dedicated to Sullivan Watkins. Sully tragically passed over the 23/24 Winter Break. He would have been marching as part of the Long Gray Line this May. His degree in Construction Engineering was awarded posthumously. Sully will long be remembered by his peers and the faculty as a devoted student and kind-hearted classmate who enriched our community in many ways. He is the recipient of the 2024 Psillos Family Scholarship, The Col. Thomas Evans Award and the Bert Booth Williams Award.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 2) 2024 ASCE Carolina's Conference
- 3) Rising Star Profiles
- 4) Awards and Faculty News



2024 ASCE CAROLINAS CONFERENCE

The 2024 ASCE Carolinas Conference took place April 4-6 at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The Citadel brought a group of 48 students to compete in 12 of 14 events resulting in a 3rd Place Overall finish out of the eight participating schools. Individual teams that placed in their respective competitions are below. Our senior student team members are shown in bold.

-Concrete Shield (2nd Place): **Blayne Aycock**, Landon Gregory, Caden Leckelt, Daniel Ramirez-Vital, **Lyle Ruchi**, Matthew Schwab

-Geotechnical (2nd Place): **Carter Eddlemon**, **Blakely Edge**, **Andrew Hanson**, **Musukula McClain**, Jacob Pullman, **Mary Coastal Watkins**

-Mead Paper (3rd Place): **Hughes Milling**

-Steel Bridge (3rd Place): **Adam Clement**, James Crowther, George Mandon, **Houston Palmiter**, Jack Standing, Luke Wiggins

-Surveying (3rd Place): Harrison Bishop, Blake Buchholz, Jackson Clemmons, Luke Crouch, Drennon Faile, Paul Maskery, Grady Meeks, Kaden



DEPARTMENT HEAD'S MESSAGE: WILLIAM J. DAVIS, PH.D., P.E. (AL)

Greetings from historic LeTellier Hall; summer department news and highlights include:

- Celebrating Dana Love '59, Engineering Service Award.
- Working with new Civil Engineering Advisory Board leaders highlighted below.
- Welcoming new faculty Dr. Tess Doeffinger and Dr. Health Kaufman, PE
- Hosting student seminar on coastal resilience & climate adaptation in Charleston Harbor
- Summer course offerings including: 7-undergraduate, 3-graduate courses

Dana W. Love, PE, BSCE, Citadel Class of 1959 received the 2024 William T. Linton Service Award, presented by Water Environmental Association of South Carolina, in recognition of outstanding service, leadership and devotion to the State of South Carolina in preserving and protecting valuable water resources. Dana's career highlights include:

- Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (retired after 28-years of service) North Charleston Consolidated Public Service District
- Clemson University, Dept. of Environmental Engineering
- South Carolina Pollution Control Authority
- South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Mount Pleasant Water and Sewer Commission
- Isle of Palms Commission of Public Works



Chair, Citadel Civil Engineering Advisory Board

Erin Slayton, P.E., DBIA, ENV SP

Sr. Vice President, Transportation Program

Management Director, HDR, Columbia, SC

Erin holds a BSCE from Stanford University

and MSCE from University of Washington.

Erin has extensive experience in alternative delivery, business development and cross-sector engagement.

She is passionate about empowering others and serves as Director-At-Large

for Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS).

Erin is a licensed Professional Engineer in California, Washington, Arizona and South Carolina.



Vice Chair, Citadel Civil Engineering Advisory Board

Jim O'Connor, PE, CEng, MIEI

Sr. Vice President, Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson, Charleston, SC

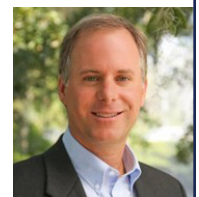
Jim is received his BSCE, from The Citadel and MSCE from Rutgers University.

Jim leads projects in transportation, marine, and buildings/facilities in Charleston, across southeast U.S. and internationally.

He is an active ASCE member, serves as Practitioner Advisor at The Citadel, and supports Senior Capstone courses

as lecturer and judge on the expert review panel.

Jim is a registered professional engineer in seven states and also holds similar licensure as a Chartered Engineer in Ireland.



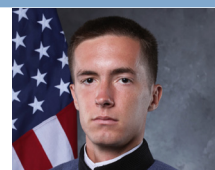
CECE RISING STARS

Cadet Ryan Brozek is a rising junior from Beaufort, SC. He aims to make a career in the US Army after graduation and joined The Citadel because it best aligned with this goal. He is majoring in Civil Engineering because well trained civil engineers “are always in need” both in and out of the Army. Ryan is an academic all-star as part of Citadel’s Honors Program and an Army contracting student all while maintaining a high GPA and participating in internships and research.



Rising Junior **Cadet Blake Buchholz** from Brunswick, GA came to The Citadel after receiving a National Army Scholarship. While he will be commissioning into the Army as a second lieutenant in the aviation branch after graduation, he is spending his college years challenging himself to acquire Civil Engineering skills, like surveying. He was part of the Surveying Team at the 2024 ASCE Carolinas Conference where Citadel placed 3rd. Blake’s previous internship may have helped them place. He worked in the surveying department at Seaboard Construction Company on an expansion project for the Port of Brunswick. While he spent most of the summer working on CAD, he did get to test out new drone surveying technology.

Cadet Joseph Combs from Beaufort, SC is a rising junior in the Construction Engineering program. He came to The Citadel specifically because of the special challenges and leadership opportunities available to students and alumni. His favorite part of the CONE program is how applicable it is to everyday job tasks. Joseph previously was involved in construction industry and thus he directly knows how the curriculum ties together lecture content with hands-on laboratory training. Joseph’s focus on direct, hands-on application of theory carries over into his involvement on the Citadel’s Men’s Tennis team.



Cadet Luke Crouch has to travel a bit to get home to Milton, DE, but he knew he was coming to The Citadel to follow in his dad’s footsteps (CE ’97). While he is only a rising junior, Luke has been interning with Davis, Bowen, and Friedel Inc. for five summers! The first few years, he worked as a surveyor- a skillset that helped him, lead the Citadel’s Surveying Team to 3rd place at the 2024 ASCE Carolinas Conference. After his first year at Citadel, he was able to move into the “engineering design side” of the firm. While DBF is a smaller firm, they have a wide range of types of engineers in office and Luke has appreciated “getting the chance to work with almost everybody” to see his course content come to life.

Cadet Gabriel Gusmao is originally from Brazil, but now calls Summerville, SC home when he is not at The Citadel. He plans to follow his father into the Civil Engineering profession and chose to attend The Citadel due to its well known Civil Engineering program as well as to set an example for his younger siblings so show them that through hard work, they can take on any challenge they face. His favorite moment from his freshman year was attending the ASCE Carolinas Conference with some of his classmates. He will spend the summer before his sophomore year as an intern at Santee Cooper before returning and continuing his involvement in ASCE.

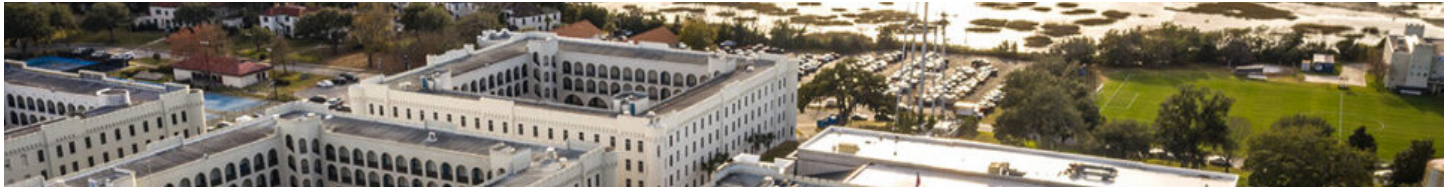


Cadet Aryan Patel chose to come to The Citadel to experience “the best of both worlds” – majoring in Civil Engineering in a well-regarded program while playing D1 Baseball as a shortstop. This rising junior’s favorite academic moment from the past year was in his Geomatics Lab class due to the camaraderie with his classmates getting outside and working hands-on with surveying equipment. This student-athlete plans to do his best to maintain his 4.0 GPA until he graduates and enters the engineering workforce.

Cadet Jacob Pullman is a rising sophomore in Civil Engineering and is already making his mark on the department through his participation in the ASCE Carolinas Conference Concrete Canoe team where he joined the senior students in presenting their project. He joined The Citadel from Cameron, NC for the college’s academic and physical challenges to mold himself into the best he can be ahead of joining the US Marine Corps after graduation. He says, “I hope to become a reliable figure in the CECE department and even hold a position where I can help others and positively influence their everyday journeys.”



Cadet Wade Rothmyer did not go to far from his Mount Pleasant home by joining The Citadel, but he did have a major change in lifestyle. Wade specifically chose The Citadel “for the challenge of the fourth-class system, the opportunity to develop leadership skills, and the long-lasting bonds that are formed in The Citadel’s unique environment.” Thus far, his favorite Citadel moment was Recognition Day where he and his friends had to challenge themselves physically but were able to work together to overcome. Wade is planning to major in Construction Engineering so he can carry that interest in teamwork, leadership, and management into a career in an industry where he can oversee major change in a community’s landscape from beginning to end.



FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Dr. William J. Davis is The Citadel's 2024 recipient of the Grimsley Teaching Award

Dr. Stephanie Laughton received The Citadel's 2024 New Faculty Excellence Award

Dr. Mary Katherine Watson promoted to Full Professor

Dr. Mostafa Batouli and Dr. John Ryan recieved tenured and were promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Simon Ghanat and Dr. Timothy Wood are the 2024 joint winners of the CECE Department's Dr. Harry Saxe Outstanding Teaching Award

After 5 years at The Citadel (following his 35 years of professional practice), **Dr. Dan Nale** is retiring! He will be missed by the whole CECE Department.

After 4 years of service to the CECE Department as the Lab Manager, **Mr. Ege Arslaner** will be leaving to return to industry. We wish him all the best in this next step in his career.



GUS BELL MEMORIAL

Gus Bell (1937-2024), Citadel Class of 1959, is a legendary civil engineering alumnus, who will be missed by his alma mater; however, his legacy will continue to inspire students striving to become engineers at The Citadel.

2023-2024 DEPARTMENT STUDENT AWARDS

Col. Loring K Himelright Award
Mary Coastal Watkins

Construction Engineering Outstanding Student Merit Award
Charles Heaton

Col. Louis S. LeTellier Award
Richard H. Milling
Charles J. Heaton
Shiloah D. Burbage
Eric Lipscomb
Thomas Morrison

Col. Christopher S. Gadsden Award
Thomas B. Aycock
Hayden Johnson

Col. Charles Lindbergh Award
Thomas Morrison

George Walker White Award
Luke Wiggins
Alexander Wulfhorst

Citadel CGC Outstanding Student Award
Thomas Morrison

Capt. Benjamin Sammis, USMC Award
Jake Debenport
Bryson Peppers

Bert Booth Williams Award
AIM Engineering Solutions
Gateway Engineering

Col. Thomas Evans Award
Thomas B. Aycock
Graham C. Blondes
Charles B. Bunton
Shiloah D. Burbage
Patrick L. d'Anjou
Campbell D. deHoll
James C. Dunn
Andrew B. Hanson
Charles J. Heaton
Anthony E. Hunt
Hayden M. Johnson
Christopher A. Jones
Samuel L. LaFrage
Eric Lipscomb
Richard H. Milling
Thomas G. Morrison
Griffin B. O'Shields
Timothy I. Overend
Houston M. Palmiter
Lyle G. Ruchi
William F. Summers
Mary Coastal Watkins
Sullivan C. Watkins
Brandon T. Welch
Luke J. Wiggins
Alexander T. Wulfhorst
Jeffrey R. Zeigler

GIVING TO

Sustaining the levels of student success highlighted in this newsletter is greatly aided by support from our benefactors. You can contribute by making a donation designated for Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering through The Citadel Foundation at <http://foundation.citadel.edu/> or call CEE at 843-953-5083.