



# Allegheny-Ohio Section NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2013

Editor: Nate Saraceno

## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

### Dr. Abdul Shakoor

2013 Karl and Ruth Terzaghi Mentor Award  
Kent State University, Dept. of Geology



*Dr. Shakoor surrounded by current and former students at the AEG Annual Meeting, prior to receiving the 2013 Terzaghi Mentor award. Allegheny-Ohio Section member Dr. Brian Greene (second from right) served as citationist for the award.*

### Paul Hale, P.G., L.R.S.

2013 Floyd T. Johnston Service Award  
L.G. Hetager Drilling, Inc., President & CEO



*Paul Hale receiving the 2013 Floyd T Johnston Service Award, cited by Allegheny-Ohio Section Treasurer and past-chair Nichole Wendlandt (left) and AEG past-president Duane Krueger (right).*

Please join us in congratulating AEG Allegheny-Ohio Members, **Dr. Abdul Shakoor** and **Paul Hale** for receiving two prestigious awards at this past AEG Annual Meeting in Seattle, Washington on September 12, 2013!

### Also in this issue:

- ASCE 2012 Terzaghi Lecture Meeting Announcement
- Call for volunteers: 2015 AEG Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA!!!



## THE ASCE PITTSBURGH SECTION GEO-INSTITUTE CHAPTER PRESENTS

### GEOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING – PROBLEMS SOLVED AND CHALLENGES REMAINING

2012 Terzaghi Lecturer

*Presented by: David E. Daniel, Ph.D., P.E., NAE, Dist. M.ASCE  
President, University of Texas at Dallas*

*Attendance at this technical presentation qualifies participants for 1.0 PDH*

Although the origins of geoenvironmental engineering can be traced to numerous activities, the transformative event was leakage of toxic chemicals from the chemical waste dump at Love Canal, New York, in the late 1970's. The actual and alleged health impacts produced dramatic changes in regulations and stringent new requirements for disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. Concerns also fueled major investments in research on clay barriers, geosynthetics, chemical transport in the subsurface, groundwater clean-up, and other areas. The result was enhanced understanding of natural and engineered systems, and much better engineering materials, designs, and laboratory and analytical tools.

Early permeability testing of clay materials showed that concentrated organic liquids caused large increases in hydraulic conductivity, but many people questioned the validity of the tests given the likelihood of sidewall leakage in the experiments. Early field hydraulic conductivity tests on small-scale compacted clay liners pointed to great differences between laboratory and field testing results, which led to much controversy and to changes in testing protocols. Traditional earthwork specifications were sometimes found to be inadequate for achieving the exceptionally low hydraulic conductivity required by regulation, and improved methods of thinking about earthwork specifications evolved. The appearance of geosynthetic clay liners led to many engineering questions, but as knowledge was gained, dramatically expanded use of geosynthetic clay liners evolved. Similarities between the controversies experienced in the evolution of knowledge about the geoenvironment are compared with experiences of the author while he served on investigation teams for levee failures in New Orleans and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, all of which highlight the challenges that engineers may face as they balance demands for reduced costs against application of sound engineering principles that ensure public safety.

#### ***DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED FOR THIS MEETING***

***PLEASE RSVP BY Friday, September 27, 2013***

Any reservation cancellations must be made by Friday, September 27, 2013. Failure to cancel any reservation will result in billing for the applicable event fee.

**Date:** Thursday, October 3, 2013  
**Time:** 6:00 PM Social Hour (Cash Bar)  
7:00 PM Dinner  
8:00 PM Presentation

**Place:** Pittsburgh Athletic Association  
4215 Fifth Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
(412) 621-2400

**Entrée Choices:**  
Chicken Marsala  
Wild Mushrooms, Marsala Wine Sauce

Herb Crusted North Atlantic Salmon  
Pesto Cream Sauce

Roasted Vegetable Ravioli  
Vodka Tomato Cream Sauce

**Cost:** \$45 for ASCE Pittsburgh Section members  
\$55 for Non-members  
\$10 for Student members

**Contact:** Stephanie Chechak (412) 922-5575  
[schechak@gfnet.com](mailto:schechak@gfnet.com)

**Or register online at:** <http://www.asce-pgh.org/>



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

**AEG 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting • Pittsburgh, PA • September 2015**

*From the 2015 Annual Meeting Co-Chairs, Paul Hale and Dale Andrews:*

**Pittsburgh, PA was selected as the location to host the 2015 AEG annual meeting!** It will mark 25 years since the Allegheny-Ohio Section last hosted this event and we are very excited to show off how much the city has changed.

Paul Hale and I will be co-chairing this event. The meeting will be held at the Wyndham Grand Pittsburgh, Downtown the week of September 21, 2015. The hotel is currently undergoing some substantial updates and offers a beautiful view of the newly renovated fountain and the three rivers. We feel very lucky to have been able to secure this hotel. It was our first choice of all the locations we considered.

Although the meeting is 2 years out, time flies when you're having fun and it takes a tremendous amount of effort to make a successful meeting. Paul and I are beginning to ramp up our planning efforts for this event and are now in the recruiting phase. Our group of volunteers is growing already, but we recognize *that many hands make light work* and your inclusion would make the process more enjoyable and add to the meeting's success.

Our hope is that this opportunity will bring our section closer and allow us to build stronger relationships with our members and our local Environmental & Engineering Geology community.

If you have any interest in volunteering any amount of time for this event, please let Paul or I know. We are planning a webinar in early October that will act as the official kick-off meeting. If you indicate that you have any interest, you can be sure that we will be sending you an invite. The volunteer options are abundant, and we will discuss what those are in detail during the webinar. Chances are very likely that something will suite your strengths and interests.

We sincerely hope that you will consider involving yourself in this process. Simply email us at [dale.andrews@carmeusena.com](mailto:dale.andrews@carmeusena.com) and let us know.

Yours truly,  
Paul Hale & Dale Andrews  
2015 Annual Meeting Co-chairs



## **NEW VOLUNTEER POSITION OPENING!**

Visiting Professional Program Liaison

AEG is looking for friendly, motivated members to help run the Visiting Professional Program in the Section.

Responsibilities of the **VP Liaison** position will include:

- Scheduling VP presentations within your Section
- Recruiting new VP volunteers
- Outreach to potential new presentation groups

**This position is open to all AEG Section members!**

For information on the VP Liaison position or AEG's Visiting Professional Program, contact the AO Section Secretary, Nate Saraceno at [nrsaraceno@gmail.com](mailto:nrsaraceno@gmail.com)

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### **Are you interested in volunteering as a Visiting Professional?**

The AEG Visiting Professional Program (VPP) helps to increase advocacy for AEG and the professions of engineering geology, environmental geology, and related fields. This is accomplished by AEG members volunteering their time to share their experiences with other professionals, community members, students, and others who could benefit from the services AEG and its members provide.

Contact Nate Saraceno ([nrsaraceno@gmail.com](mailto:nrsaraceno@gmail.com)) to learn more about the VPP and how an hour of your time can help promote the exciting career that is environmental and engineering geology.



## CHAIR'S MESSAGE

**Kristen Enzweiler**

I hope everyone has been enjoying the great weather this summer.

Thanks to all of you who participated in the 2013 Annual Meeting in Seattle last week. We had great representation from our section at the meeting. We had almost 20 members attend, including students, with 9 members presenting their projects/research. Congratulations to several Kent State student members who received Lemke Scholarships at the meeting. Congratulations to two of our members who received awards: Dr. Abdul Shakoor received the Karl and Ruth Terzaghi Mentor Award and Paul Hale received the Floyd T. Johnston Service Award.

Don't forget to renew your membership for the upcoming year! Please consider volunteering either at the section level or the national level, help is always needed and appreciated. Also, visit AEG's website for information and membership benefits.

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### AO Section Calendar

- Fall 2013 (Date TBD): Gary Luce, 2014 AEG President
- Spring 2014 (Date TBD): [Gregory L. Hempen](#), 2013-2014 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer

#### **CALL FOR MEMBER NEWS**

*If you would like to submit member news for the AEG News: The Homefront,*

*please email Nate Saraceno at [nrsaraceno@gmail.com](mailto:nrsaraceno@gmail.com)*



#### **Your Section Officers:**

**Chair:** Kristen Enzweiler

**Co-Vice Chair:** David Plas

**Co-Vice Chair:** Alex Prvanovic

**Treasurer:** Nichole Wendlandt

**Secretary:** Nate Saraceno

#### **Other Section Positions:**

**Student Liaison:** Brian Greene

**Short Course Director:** Terry Downs

**VP Liaison:** Vacant

**Past Chair:** Nichole Wendlandt

