As our university ages so do our professors. The need for new faculty has been present for the past few years. It’s truly an exciting time to see who will join us at the wonderful department of CEE. Cornell is proud to welcome a new hydrologist coming next year, John D. Albertson, of Duke University. John’s principal teaching is in water resources engineering, optimal environmental sensing, and advanced turbulence theories. The faculty search for three other spots is ongoing. Offers have been put out for a structures position, an environmental process engineering position, and a transportation systems engineering position. We could have four new tenure-track faculty members in CEE! These new faces will be joining Greg McLaskey, who is new this year.
Steel Bridge
Amanda Slawinski

A winning effort.

The Cornell Steel Bridge team recently competed in the 2015 ASCE Upstate Regional Conference at West Point. This year the team decided to be bold and design the lightest bridge possible, using the thinnest steel the team has ever worked with. The bridge consisted of a space frame design in place of a lower truss, and an upper truss which utilized hat-sections on the top chord—something very unconventional but used to create a stronger bridge. The design—requiring some last minute modifications to withstand load testing—brought the team the desired result: a competitive bridge that was something rather unconventional for the Cornell team.

The team placed 5th overall at competition, having been hit with some unfortunate penalties that hurt their overall ranking, but they still managed to place 4th in stiffness (off from 3rd by 0.02 inches in vertical deflection), 5th in lightness (Cornell would have been 4th had it not been for a 25 lb. weight penalty), 6th in construction speed (off from 5th by a time penalty), and 4th in efficiency.

Cornell’s Steel Bridge team learned a lot this year and is excited to apply this experience to keep challenging itself to be competitive with the top teams in the region.

Concrete Canoe
Tiffany Ly

Big Red Success.

The Cornell Concrete Canoe team recently returned from its trip to West Point for the 2015 ASCE Upstate New York Regional Conference. Having chosen the theme “the Big Red Apple,” the team was proud to showcase Empire, the thinnest and lightest boat from Cornell yet. Team members worked countless hours before competition to create a replica of the Brooklyn Bridge for display stands, a miniaturized Statue of Liberty for the mini-mold, and a Manhattan subway map mural for the canoe. During race day, the paddlers fought rough winds to place third in the men’s endurance, women’s sprint, and co-ed races. Overall, the team thoroughly enjoyed interacting with students from other schools, learning from each other, and seeing all of their hard work pay off.

The team is looking forward to a win next year in Buffalo under the guidance of its new team captain, Eugene Ng. Eugene was also the winner of the Mead presentation at the conference, where he gave a thought-provoking presentation on ethics in construction.

ASCE Officers 2015
President: Matthew Calo
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Community Service: David Picinich
Membership Chair: Amanda Slawinski
Freshman/Sophomore Class Chair: Nicolette Swanbery
Faculty Advisor: Derek Warner
Hello Everyone!

I hope you are looking forward to the last few days of classes. For some this can be a relief as summer brings a break from classes and the opportunity to do something different. For others, this month is the last opportunity to enjoy the college experience before entering the work force. We applaud our seniors on all of their accomplishments and future plans. If you haven’t done so already, we encourage you to sign our poster board with your post-graduation plans! We hope that ASCE has made Hollister a comfortable home the last four years and we wish you luck moving forward.

For those who still have some years left in Ithaca, we encourage you to seek out the advice of the graduating class. I have personally benefitted so much through the advice of older members in ASCE and it has helped me shape my time at Cornell. Whether it’s questions about classes or companies, there’s always something to learn from the very successful seniors we have in CEE. The goal of ASCE is to form a community within the halls of Hollister that spans across years and specialties. I ask you to join this community at our end of the year View of the Lake Banquet on May 3rd. Good luck on finals and best wishes this summer!
Touring the Synchrotron

On Wednesday, April 22, ASCE took a tour of the Synchrotron, Cornell’s particle accelerator. The tour, located in the Wilson Synchrotron Lab, was given by Hans Bruno, a Systems Operator at the Cornell Laboratory for Accelerator-Based Sciences and Education (CLASSE). After talking about the history of the Synchrotron and its construction, Hans took ASCE members into the loop of the accelerator where the storage ring and the Synchrotron itself are located. ASCE members were also shown some of the research stations within the lab.

Many thanks to our excellent photographers: Nicolette Swanbery, Bruno Martinez, and Matt Calo.
This year's guest speaker: Michael Donovan. Michael Donovan is an Associate Vice President with the Louis Berger Group and currently serves as the Program Director at the World Trade Center site, at which he has been directing the firm’s operations since 2008. The Louis Berger team provides Program Management and Project Controls support to the Port Authority’s multibillion-dollar World Trade Center Reconstruction effort.

Prior to joining the Louis Berger Group, Mike served as an Engineer Officer in the United States Army for over 26 years, retiring in the rank of Colonel. He has experience as a Senior Army Officer managing diverse engineering organizations both in the United States and overseas.

Mike earned a Bachelors in Civil Engineering from Clarkson University, a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech, and a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. He is a Registered PE in Virginia. His professional affiliations include the American Society of Civil Engineers, Society of American Military Engineers, American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Mike and his wife Anne live in Goshen, New York. They have three children, Andrew, Tim, and John. Two of the Donovan’s children are active-duty soldiers.

Below are a few photos from ASCE’s Spring Construction Tour at Kimball Hall, courtesy of Daniel Fortak.
View of the Lake

Join ASCE for an end-of-the-year banquet featuring:

- Catering by The Heights
- Project Team Awards
- Special Guest Speaker

$10 for Students
$25 for Faculty/Staff
Pay any ASCE officer

Sunday May 3, 2015
Willard Straight Hall
Memorial Room
6:00PM