The Graduate Student Research Force at TTC

The research force of TTC includes, but is not limited to, professors from different fields of engineering and business administration in addition to graduate and undergraduate students. The graduate student research force at the center is composed of the following:

Alan Atalah started his doctor of engineering program in 1993. He received his master of science degree in civil engineering, construction specialty, from Louisiana Tech in 1991. He graduated with a B.S. in civil engineering, structural department, from Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, in 1982.

Alan worked in construction engineering and management positions in the construction and rehabilitation of the sewer system of Cairo, Egypt for more than six years. He also worked in the construction management of many building projects in Egypt and Saudi Arabia for five years.

Alan is currently assisting Dr. Isley in teaching construction engineering courses at Louisiana Tech University. He is also preparing educational and presentation material for a training program with NUCA. Alan is the editor of this newsletter.

Salam Khan received his B.S. degree in civil engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Dhaka, Bangladesh, in December 1989. He started his master's program in civil engineering at Louisiana Tech University in 1992.

Salam has been working at the TTC as a research assistant. He participated in the Kidoh research project of measuring the deflection and behavior of the pipes installed by the LLB microtunneling method; the CPAR project—especially mini-HDD evaluation and pipe rehabilitation liner system evaluation; mini-HDD market survey project; state-of-the-art review (SOAR) and task report on mini-HDD.

Wen-Xing Huang received a B.S. degree in civil engineering from Tongji University in Shanghai, China in July 1991. He started his master's program in civil engineering at Louisiana Tech in March '92 and expects to graduate next Nov.

Wen-Xing has been involved in a series of projects conducted at the TTC and is currently working on his thesis which will illustrate a trenchless philosophy integrating trenchless science, engineering and technology. He is also conducting research about jacking concrete culverts which is a relatively new field in the U.S. Wen-Xing is proud of being Dr. Isley's "trenchless man from China."

CORRECTION

Item "b" under "Obstacle Detection" in the TTC Newsletter (March '94, p. 28) should have read, "The influence of the overhead lines and the underground powerlines on the EM."
Current and Latest TTC Activities

Pursuant to the TTC’s objective of creating an interaction between the trenchless industry and academia, eleven students from Louisiana Tech University attended the Trenchless Technology Field Seminar organized by Trenchless Technology magazine in Orlando, Fla., March 14 to 18. The seminar was an opportunity for the students to interact with industry representatives and to learn about trenchless techniques through classes and field demonstrations. The seminar was also one step on the road to preparing qualified human resources for the trenchless industry.

More than 20 students attended the No-Dig conference in Dallas, Texas, April 10 to 13. Two graduate students presented papers; one about estimating the required jacking force in pipe jacking operations, and the other about the mini HDD test that took place at the Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Miss. for the on-going CPAR program. Dr. Tom Iseley delivered the welcoming address and was involved in numerous committee meetings.

The colleges of Engineering and Business Administration are jointly conducting a course about marketing the trenchless technology techniques. The objective of the class is to teach students how to identify needs within the industry and create new knowledge then transfer that knowledge into technology and products that meet future needs.

TTC is assisting NUCA in preparing trenchless technology training programs to be conducted in 10 NUCA regions starting in September ’94. The text material manual will include the slides utilized in the presentation with the corresponding text. The program will cover the topics of mini HDD, microtunneling, rehabilitation techniques, pipe jacking, utility tunneling, slurry boring, and auger boring. The text material was developed by six contractors with considerable expertise in these areas.

Dr. Iseley has many commitments in the near future such as:
- Present paper, “New Developments in Trenchless Pipe Line Rehabilitation” and escort a technical tour group to Berlin, Germany and to the 11th International No-Dig ’94 conference and exhibition, Copenhagen, Denmark, May 28 - June 5, 1994.
- Deliver keynote address at “2nd National Conference on Trenchless Technology,” Sydney, Australia, June 19-21.
- Co-chair the technical scientific committee and present a paper at the “4th International Conference on Pipeline Construction,” Hamburg, Germany, October 16-20, 1994.

Louisiana Tech University Announces Trenchless Scholars

Three students are enrolled at Louisiana Tech University on scholarships designated for studies in trenchless technology.

Sean Callan, a native of the Republic of Ireland, is a first year student in the civil engineering program. Matt Brotherton, Grants Pass, Ore., is a freshman in the construction engineering technology (CET) program. Jason Erik Lopez, a senior from New Orleans, will receive a B.S. degree in CET, graduating in 1995.

Dr. Tom Iseley also announced that Adam Vellano, Scotia, N.Y., has been accepted in the CET program, starting fall 1994. Vellano’s father, Joseph M. Vellano, is treasurer of NASITT and president of Vellano Brothers, Inc., a supply company for underground water and sewer products in Latham, N.Y.

Callan, who came to the U.S. in 1988, is the recipient of the Trenchless Technology $1,000 scholarship for a student focused on the study of trenchless technology. While attending the Trenchless Technology Field Seminar in Orlando, Fla. in March 1993, Callan met Dr. Tom Iseley and learned of the research work carried out by the TTC.

Callan decided to pursue a civil engineering degree at Louisiana Tech. During his first quarter of studies, Callan achieved a 4.0 GPA. He commented, “I feel the civil engineering program offered at Tech, coupled with the knowledge and experience to be gained from the TTC is the perfect combination for anyone interested in pursuing a career in this area.”

Brotherton has worked summers in construction using trenchless technology. His father owns Brotherton Pipeline, a contracting firm. He learned about Louisiana Tech from Dr. Iseley while attending a NUCA convention. Brotherton is enrolled in a CET program on a full four-year scholarship.

After serving two years in the U.S. Navy, Lopez came to Louisiana Tech to obtain a B.S. degree in CET from the civil engineering department. He is president of their AGC Student Chapter for 1994-95. His goal is to be an active construction management professional. Lopez received a $1,000 scholarship from Holly Pipe Corp. He also worked for Holly Pipe during the summer 1993.

Questions on Trenchless Technology?

Do you need more information on trenchless technology? The members of the TTC Industry Advisory Board have committed themselves to the trenchless technology industry. Should you need information concerning matters in their areas of specialty, please contact them directly. The code after each member’s name represents the following areas: Aug-Augur Boring; HDD-Horizontal Directional Drilling; MT-Microtunneling; Pipe-Pipe for Microtunneling and Slipping; Rehab-Trenchless Pipeline Rehabilitation; Tele-Telecommunications; TTApp-Trenchless Technology Applications and Environmental Aspects.

TTC Mailing List Update

The Trenchless Technology Center wants to build and maintain a current mailing list. If you want to receive TTC information, we would appreciate hearing from you. Please provide your mail address, phone and fax, and contact person, so we may add it to or update our records. Fax it to (318) 257-2362, or mail it to: TTC, P.O. Box 10348, Ruston, LA 71212.