

NEWS

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Samuel Ginn
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Announcements

Faculty Colloquium Today

Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Time: 12:00-1:00 pm

Location: Brown-Kopel | 3rd Floor Grand Hall

Please join the Faculty Colloquium today at noon. Today's program includes informational research discussions with lunch, a research introduction by Dr. Raphael (Rongxuan) Wang, a new assistant professor at Industrial & Systems Engineering, and an update on graduate student recruitment from Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Faculty Development, Dr. Maria Auad.

Facility Spotlight

Stormwater Research Facility



Within the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Dr. Michael Perez directs Auburn's [Stormwater Research Facility](#) (AU-SRF). This 10-acre outdoor laboratory aims to improve stormwater management technologies in both construction and urban settings through interdisciplinary research, product evaluation, and training. "Our vision," Perez says, "is to craft innovative and practical stormwater management solutions that will be recognized nationally as standards of practice." The facility supports this vision, as acknowledged in 2023 by the International Erosion Control Association with the Sustained Contributor Award which recognizes distinguished service to the organization and outstanding contributions to improve the erosion and sediment control industry for a sustained period of time.

The facility has partnered with and been funded by the Alabama, Iowa, Ohio, and Nebraska DOTs, the USDOT, USGS, USDA, and USEPA for several of their active projects. Additionally, the facility's partnership with Fagan Consulting to develop an "electric floc generator" shows promising results for removing suspended sediment and other pollutants from stormwater runoff. Perez says the AU-SRF is working with the IP Exchange and the New Venture Accelerator on campus to ready this device for market. As for other partnerships, "We're always looking for new collaborations across the college and campus," Perez states, "and for research and outreach opportunities that increase our impact and service to the stormwater community."

Lately the AU-SRF has worked to expand their outreach mission by creating opportunities to share their research with stormwater industry professionals across Alabama and the southeast. According to Perez, the facility is "in the planning phases to develop a building at the AU-SRF that will house a wet laboratory and training spaces" that will help achieve this mission. Furthermore, they are currently working on a grant funded by the USDA to provide stormwater related training opportunities to underserved communities in Alabama's Black Belt region. Read more about this project in [this recently published article](#).

Funding Opportunities

Sustain Our Great Lakes Program

Pre-Proposal due February 16, 2024

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Areas of interest: stormwater infrastructure, environmental engineering

To preserve the Great Lakes and the critical ecological services they provide to wildlife, this program supports proposals that prioritize expansion of green stormwater infrastructure in Great Lakes communities and restore and enhance stream and riparian habitat, among other things.
Read more [here](#).

University Research Program

Concept Review due February 29, 2024
The Raymond Corporation, a Toyota Industries Company
Areas of interest: logistics, material handling, truck and operation evolution

This program supports proposals that offer solutions to customers in the material handling industry, specifically in the following areas: The Future of Logistics, Improving Material Handling, and Truck and Operation Evolution.
Read more [here](#).

Petroleum Research Fund

Due March 8, 2024
American Chemical Society
Areas of interest: chemical engineering, sustainability

This call by ACS will open February 12, 2024 and close for spring submissions March 8, 2024. Proposals must prioritize research in petroleum-derived materials or other topics in sustainability and green chemistry like new catalysts and the upgrading/utilization of methane and carbon dioxide. Read more about this opportunity on [the PRF page on the ACS website](#).

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