Moderator/Presenter:

Georgette Hlepas

Bio:
Dr. Georgette Hlepas is the National Geotechnical Policy Advisor for the US Army Corps of Engineers and is located in the Headquarters office in DC. She is also the lead for the USACE Instrumentation and Performance Monitoring Community of Practice and the Chairperson for the USSD Monitoring of Dams and Their Foundations Committee. She has ~13 years of experience in geotechnical engineering and instrumentation with USACE and has been an instructor of several instrumentation courses. She has a PhD in Civil and Materials Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is a licensed Professional Engineer in Illinois.

Headshot:
Notetaker:

Bruce R. Rogers

Bio:

Bruce Rogers is the Levee Safety Program Manager for the North Atlantic Division of the Army Corps of Engineers. He has 38 years of experience at Corps districts, primarily in dam and levee safety. He has provided instrumentation-related presentations at USSD events. Bruce earned a Bachelor's Degree in Geophysical Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines and a Master's Degree in Computer Science at Temple University, and he is a registered Professional Geologist.

Headshot:
Presenter:

Brent Randall

Bio:

Brent Randall is the Infrastructure Group Manager at Campbell Scientific, Inc. Brent received his Bachelors and Master's Degree in Civil and Geotechnical engineering from Utah State University as well as a minor in Portuguese. His thesis project was to instrument and study snowmelt-induced movement on a slow moving landslide in the mountains of northern Utah. Upon graduation he worked as a geotechnical engineer in Washington State on projects throughout the United States and Canada. Projects included geotechnical field work, site surveys, environmental monitoring, and reports. Brent pursued his interest in geotechnical instrumentation by taking a job with Campbell Scientific in their infrastructure group as an Application Engineer. His work in the group has also included the role of Product Manager and most recently Group Manager. Working with Campbell Scientific has allowed him to provide assistance on large infrastructure projects throughout the world. Brent has had the opportunity to teach instrumentation classes and workshops throughout the world. Brent is a licensed professional engineer in the state of Utah. Brent has also worked as a mechanical engineer for the U.S. Air Force in their Radomes, Towers, and Shelters group while attending graduate school. He also spent two summers working for the U.S. Forest Service as a Wildland Firefighter in the Rocky Mountains. Shortly after starting engineering school, he worked as a service volunteer in Sao Paulo, Brazil for two years.

Headshot:
Moderator/Presenter:

Bill Walker

Bio:

Bill Walker is a geotechnical engineer in the Soils and Dam Safety Section of the Engineering Division at the Nashville District Corps of Engineers. He has over 10 years’ experience specializing in dam and levee safety that includes; instrumentation and monitoring systems, dam safety modifications, and risk assessments. Key projects include the Wolf Creek and Center Hill ADAS and barrier wall installations; the Mosul Dam ADAS and emergency grouting; and contributing author of the USACE Dam Safety and Instrumentation Policy. He has both a Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Geological Engineering from Ole Miss and is a Professional Geologist.

Headshot:
Bio:
Brandon Lanthier is a Project Engineer with the SF Bay Area Branch of Geosyntec Consultants, Inc. He has 7 years of professional civil engineering experience with 4 years focused on dam safety. Brandon's experience includes geotechnical analysis and design, instrumentation data collection and analysis, construction management and quality assurance, and dam safety review and analysis. He has also served as recorder on several FERC Part 12D PFMA workshops and is currently working closely with the California Department of Water Resources. Brandon earned B.S. and M.S. Degrees in Civil and Environmental Engineering at UCLA. Brandon is a registered Geotechnical and Professional Engineer in California.
Presenter:

Josh Brown

Bio:

Josh Brown is an Application Engineer in the Infrastructure Group at Campbell Scientific. He has five years of Civil Engineering experience (Twin Falls, ID) and nine years of instrumentation experience (Campbell Scientific, Logan, UT). Notable assignments included project and plan review for the City of Twin Falls, ID and third-party project management and oversight for the Idaho Transportation Department during major roadway projects. He has assisted customers on a global basis with data acquisition systems for agricultural applications, bridges, buildings, and dams. Josh earned a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Utah State University.
Presenter:

Pierre Choquet

Bio:

Pierre Choquet has been involved in the field of Geotechnical Instrumentation and Monitoring for most of his career. He joined RST Instruments of Maple Ridge, BC in 2007 and is now Technical Advisor and Vice-President of Market Development. Pierre graduated in Geological Engineering (Engineering Geology) from Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal and subsequently obtained a doctorate degree in Rock Mechanics from Ecole des Mines de Paris in France. From 1982 to 1993 he was a faculty member at the department of Mining and Metallurgy of Laval University in Quebec City where his specialty was rock mechanics, ground control, and applied geology. Pierre is a member of the ICOLD Technical Committee on Dam Surveillance and is also the Editor of the Instrumentation and Monitoring column of the Canadian Geotechnique magazine.

Headshot:
Presenter:

Rodolfo “Rudy” Saavedra

Bio:

Rudy Saavedra is a Senior Technical Adviser with Durham Geo Slope Indicator. He has 30+ years of professional civil engineering experience focused on instrumentation and monitoring of dams, tunnels, bridge and other large structures. Rudy has helped with the instrumentation of several Dams in the USA, Mexico, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and other countries around the globe. Rudy’s experience includes instrumentation installation, data analysis and correction. He has also served as committee member at TRB, USSD, Geo-I and ASTM. Rudy earned his Degree in Civil Engineering at the Catholic University in Guayaquil Ecuador.

Headshot:
Presenter:

Will Brown

Bio:

Will Brown is a Branch Chief for FERC’s Division of Dam Safety and Inspections Atlanta Regional Office. Will’s team annually reviews instrumentation and monitoring reports for over sixty high hazard dams. Prior to joining the Commission in 2010, Will worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service completing inspections, design and analyses of dams in Georgia. Will also served on active duty as an engineer in the U.S. Army for nine and a half years completing construction and design projects in the U.S., Haiti, Nicaragua, Germany, Kuwait, and Iraq. Will has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and M.S. degrees in Civil Engineering and Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla. Will is a registered Professional Engineer in Georgia and Missouri.

Headshot:
Presenter:

John Hynes

Bio:

Mr. Hynes has 11 years’ experience in project technical leadership and geotechnical analysis and design, instrumentation data collection and analysis, and construction monitoring of heavy civil projects involving hydroelectric powerplants, spillways, earth and rockfill embankments, concrete gravity dams, pumped storage plants, seepage cut-offs, foundation improvements, rock blasting, and excavations. Mr. Hynes’ skills include leadership of multi-discipline teams, preparation of construction drawings and specifications, slope stability and seepage analysis, foundation analysis and design, development of instrumentation monitoring plans, evaluation of instrumentation data, and development and supervision of geotechnical investigations.

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