January 2013 Dinner Meeting

SPEAKER: Tanner Blackburn, Ph.D., Assistant Chief Engineer, Hayward Baker Inc. (HBI)

TOPIC: Ground Modification for Liquefaction Mitigation

DATE: Tuesday, January 15th, 2013

LOCATION: Radisson Valley Forge — Ross/Jefferson Room
1160 First Avenue, King of Prussia, PA

TIME: 5:30 PM Social Hour, 6:30 PM Dinner and 7:15 PM Presentation

Tanner Blackburn is Assistant Chief Engineer in the central engineering group of Hayward Baker, Inc., (HBI) located in Odenton, MD. Tanner is responsible for technical risk management, scope and estimate development, and implementation of new and complex technologies within HBI. He has been the designer of record and project manager for several ground improvement projects, including vibro-replacement, aggregate piers, compaction grouting, jet grouting, and deep soil mixing projects.

Tanner holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physics from Middlebury College and MS and Ph.D. degrees in civil engineering from Northwestern University. Tanner is an active member of ASCE and DFI, serving on technical committees in both organizations.

*One Professional Development Hour (PDH) will be provided for this dinner meeting.*
November 20, 2012  Dinner Meeting

Professor Benson’s Peck Lecture was based on a collection of papers describing case histories and forensic engineering regarding the hydraulic performance of geosynthetic clay liners (GCLs) used in final covers for waste containment (e.g., landfill closures). His papers are a collection of work over the last 10 years.

The lecture described how the hydraulic performance of GCLs is affected by the physical and chemical properties of the adjacent soils, construction methods employed for GCL installation, and environmental conditions to which GCLs are exposed in the field. Data from controlled laboratory experiments conducted to identify mechanisms affecting GCL behavior were also described. His work in the field has been the major driver in his research to date. Practical design recommendations for GCLs were presented based on the findings.

Wisconsin’s distinguished Professor Craig H. Benson serves as Director of Sustainability Research and Education and Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Geological Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Dr. Benson has a BS from Lehigh University and MSE and PhD degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. Dr. Benson’s research includes laboratory studies, large-scale field experiments, and computer modeling. He currently serves as Vice President and President Elect of the ASCE Geo-Institute and is Vice Chair of the Executive Committee of ASTM Committee D18 on Soil and Rock. Dr. Benson is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and the University of Texas Academy of Distinguished Alumni.
Eric Backlund is a Staff Professional in Kleinfelder's Exton, Pennsylvania office. Eric has been working at Kleinfelder since March 2009. Prior to joining Kleinfelder, Eric worked as an intern at Carlin-Simpson and Associates in Sayreville, NJ from 2003 to 2007 and at Washington Division of URS in Princeton, NJ in 2008. Eric obtained his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from Lafayette College in 2007 and his Master's Degree in Civil Engineering with a focus in Geotechnical Engineering from Virginia Tech in 2008.

During his time at Kleinfelder, Eric has worked on a variety of projects including wind turbines, solar farms, natural gas compressor stations, power transmission lines, slope remediation, and retaining walls. His responsibilities on the projects have included managing subsurface investigation programs, overseeing borings and field classifying soils, performing geotechnical analysis and design, and reviewing daily field reports and tracking project progress. The projects have been located in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Virginia, Utah, Texas, Ohio, and West Virginia. Currently, Eric is serving as the project engineer for a 300 mile electrical transmission line near Amarillo, Texas as well as working on a gas fractionation plant in Ohio.

Outside of work, Eric has been involved with crew. He rowed for 4 years at Lafayette, served as the president of Lafayette Crew his senior year, and coached the crew team at Virginia Tech. He is presently serving as vice-president of his high school crew team in central New Jersey, which he started with fellow alumni 2 years ago. Eric has also started brewing his own beer and has made several batches. Currently, a vanilla porter is on tap.

Eric lives in Glenmoore, PA with his wife Kolleen who is also a geotechnical engineer. Eric and Kolleen met at GeoCongress 2008 in New Orleans, LA.
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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Project Manager - Senior Geotechnical Engineer

Job Description

TRC Companies, Inc. (NYSE: TRR) is an engineering, consulting, and construction management firm that provides integrated services to the Environmental, Energy, Infrastructure, Transportation and Real Estate markets. Our multi-discipline project teams provide turnkey services to help our clients implement complex projects from initial concept to delivery and operation. A broad range of commercial, industrial, and government clients depend on us for customized and complete solutions to their toughest business challenges.

TRC is seeking a qualified Project Manager / Senior Geotechnical Engineer for our Mount Laurel, NJ office. TRC’s Geotechnical Engineering Group consists of a geotechnical engineering division, a full-service drilling division, an ASTM/AASHTO accredited soil mechanics and concrete testing laboratory, a PDA testing and vibration monitoring component, and a commercial construction inspection division, all of whom work together to provide high-quality and cost-effective geotechnical design solutions for a wide range of project applications. Typical projects include industrial processing facilities, mooring structures, municipal wastewater treatment facilities, power generation and transmission projects, low to high-rise residential developments and office complexes, multi-story parking facilities, highways, bridges, schools and churches. Our service area is primarily located within PA, NJ, NY, VA, WV, DE, DC, and MD.

The responsibilities associated with this position include participating in project pursuits and serving in a project management and/or lead technical role for geotechnical projects. Typical tasks will include proposal preparation, the planning, analysis, design, reporting, and preparation of specifications for geotechnical projects, and mentoring of junior technical staff. Specialized experience with regard to site investigation programs, design and in-situ testing of deep foundations, soil and rock slope stability evaluations, design of retaining walls and reinforced soil slopes, and settlement evaluation and mitigation measures is required.

Qualifications

- BSCE required, MSCE in Geotechnical Engineering preferred.
- PE license.
- DOT and/or Turnpike Authority experience a plus.
- 5 to 10+ years geotechnical engineering experience preferred.

Demonstrated leadership skills, communication skills, and ability to work with various technical disciplines in a team setting are essential.

TRC offers a very competitive salary and benefits package. For additional information, or to submit a resume, contact Melissa Gillespie at mgillespie@trcsolutions.com.
Earn PDHs at 2013-2014 DVGI Events

Upcoming Dates for 2013 Dinner Meetings are as follows:

♦ February 19th — Student Night, Villanova University
♦ March 19th— Haiti, Road Reconstruction and Ethics Short Course—Roy Hunt
♦ April 16th—David Elton
♦ May 21st—Deep Foundations, Jerry DiMaggio

One PDH will be awarded for most dinner meetings that you attend.

Looking for a Geotechnical Career Opportunity?

Have you considered a student internship or a co-op position? It’s a great way to “get your foot in the door” while gaining practical professional experience. Check the new geotechnical co-op and internship links on the G-I Student page at: http://content.geoinstitute.org/student.html.

G-I Chapters and Local Geotechnical Groups

As a 21st Century professional organization, the G-I aims to collaborate with local, national, and international geo-professional organizations. To meet that goal, the G-I has developed a strategic plan for outreach to local geotechnical groups to assist them in becoming a Geo-Institute Chapter. Check out this great link to other G-I Chapters and local Geotech Groups across the country:

http://content.geoinstitute.org/groups/index.html.

The University of Delaware has initiated a Student Chapter. Please contact the Chapter President, Lauren Lobo at email address llobo@Udel.edu for more in-

G-I Twitter Brings You Quick News Updates

Twitter is a social networking tool for posting very brief updates, or “tweets.” The G-I launched its Twitter feed in April 2009 to announce updates to its website and other relevant news items. Since then, over 150 updates have been posted and more than 144 persons have become registered G-I followers. Visit our Twitter feed at http://twitter.com/GeoInstitute. You can check for updates or “follow” us using a Twitter account, an RSS reader, or one of the many other web applications that work with Twitter. Spread the word. Also check out the DVGI link at www.linkedin.com. Set up an account and keep up to date with business associates.
***** Scholarship application Due Date – 1/31/13 *****

DVGI is looking for New Board Members— Let us know if you are interested

UPDATE: New DVGI Website

Over the last several months we have added some additional content to the DVGI web site located at www.dvgi.org. The web site now includes links to our corporate sponsors web pages, past newsletters, the 2012-2013 DVGI events calendar, industry related links and events, and most notably a form for online reservations to our monthly meetings. We hope you will utilize the online reservation wherever possible to streamline the reservation process.

HAVE DVGI PUBLISH YOUR ARTICLE

*Do you have an interesting article on a project or individual in your organization that you would like to have published in the DVGI newsletter? Please submit your articles for consideration in an upcoming edition to Archie Filshill at archie@intergeoservices.com*

DVGI Merchandise Available for Purchase

1 GB memory sticks ($12); coffee mugs ($8); and lapel pins with the DVGI logo ($5) are available for purchase. See Ara Mouradian if you are interested in purchasing any of these items.

ASCE/G-I Members:

*Read past and present issues of Geo-Strata magazine online at www.geoinstitute.org*

Internship Wanted

OBJECTIVE: I desire an internship with a local geotechnical firm in order to understand the rudiments of the profession and proceed to full membership in ASCE.

NAME: Chukwudi Apugo
DATE OF BIRTH: 7th December 1982
NATIONALITY: Nigerian
ADDRESS: 3922 Zurich Road Randallstown, Maryland 21133
EMAIL: dashpalm@yahoo.com

ACADEMIC HISTORY: (1) International School Lagos (CERTIFICATE) 1999; (2) University Of Lagos (BACHELOR’S DEGREE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING -GEOTECHNIC OPTION) 2008.
CAREER HISTORY: Foundation Engineering Nig. Ltd (SOIL ANALYST 2) 2009-2011
REFEREE: Mr. Chijiuba A. Godfrey, 3922 Zurich Road, Randallstown, MD 21133