The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) offers nationally competitive and fully accredited professional programs at the bachelors, masters, and doctoral degree levels.

**RESEARCH INITIATIVES AND CAPABILITIES**


**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**
- Biomedical Engineering (BSBME)
- Civil Engineering (BSCE)
- Computer Science (BSCS)
- Electrical Engineering (BSEE)
- Information Technology (BSIT)
- Mechanical Engineering (BSME)

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**
- Civil Engineering (MSCE)
- Computer Science (MSCS)
- Electrical Engineering (MSEE)
- Mechanical Engineering (MSME)

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**
- Computer Science & Engineering (PhD)

**DEAN**
Devdas Shetty, Ph.D., P.E.
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**DEPARTMENT CHAIRS**

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- **Pradeep Behera, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE**
  Department of Civil Engineering
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- **Esther Ososanya, Ph.D.**
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- **A. Segun Adebayo, Ph.D.**
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Engineering, and Construction Engineering. The School has The Center for Biomedical and Rehabilitation Engineering that focuses on studying human mobility and The SEAS Research Center.
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A Note from the Dean

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the report on the scholarly, creative, and professional work by our faculty. In addition to excellent teaching, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS) at the University of the District of Columbia believes that scholarship and involvement in grantsmanship are important to sustain excellence in engineering and computer science education and research.

The scholarly activities at SEAS are uniquely focused on student experience and engagement. Several students have been awarded prestigious internships including research at NASA, NIST, Naval Research Laboratory, Air Force Research Laboratory, Goddard National Laboratory, Apple, Intel, Boston Scientific, Boeing and more.

UDC is a vibrant place with faculty collaborating on interdisciplinary grant proposals, numerous research projects mentored by SEAS faculty, and student teams working on real-world projects. Our students have achieved excellence in national competitions including NASA’s 2019 Revolutionary Aerospace Systems Concepts – Academic Linkage (RASC-AL) Moon to Mars Ice and Prospecting Challenge, NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge, and Advancing Minorities’ Interest in Engineering (AMIE) Design Challenge.

These activities have contributed to SEAS achieving national recognition.

Dr. Devdas Shetty
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Grants Awarded to SEAS
2017-2018

GRANTS

NSF grant of $989,475 for the project "Scholarships and Mentoring to Increase the Academic Success of Students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics," by Freddie M. Dixon, Aboise O. Adebayo. February 1, 2019 and ends January 31, 2024.


PI: Kate Klein, NIST Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship Grant, 2017: $11.5k in 2017, $16.7k in 2018.

PI: Kate Klein, ASM Teachers Camp Contract through BEST, $12k in 2017 and 2018.


Thompson LA (PI), Zhang N ($99,997). EAGER: Nurturing Women’s Innovativeness and Strength in Engineering through experiential learning in biomedical engineering (WISE). Division of Undergraduate Education (DUE), National Science Foundation (March 2017 - 2020).

Thompson LA (PI), Haghani S, Zhang N ($399,991). Targeted Infusion Project: Integration, Cultivation, and Exposure to Biomedical Engineering at the University of the District of Columbia. Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP), National Science Foundation (July 15, 2015- June 30, 2019).


Grants Awarded to SEAS
2017-2018

PL: Lei Wang; Co-PI: Pradeep K. Behera, Jiajun Xu, Sasan Haghani; National Science Foundation Targeted Infusion Project: Integrating Risk and Resilience into Undergraduate Engineering Education Towards a Hazard-Resilient Built Environment. Award Number: 1818649; Organization: National Science Foundation; Award date: July 15, 2018-2021; Award amount: $399,931.00.

PL: Lei Wang; Co-PI: Bryan Higgs and Pradeep K. Behera, Development of Urban Sustainability Model for Metropolitan DC based on Population, Food, Water, Energy and Infrastructure, USGS DC Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) Grant, Award Date: June 15, 2018; Award Amount: $9,974.

PL: Lei Wang, Robust Design for Resilient Geotechnical Infrastructures, UDC Faculty Incentive Research Grant Program, Award Date: May 17, 2018; Award Amount: $5,000.

PL: Lei Wang, Fellowship for the 2nd USUCGER Workshop for Early Career Junior Faculty Workshop, United States Universities Council on Geotechnical Education and Research (USUCGER), Award Date: April 9, 2018, Award Amount: $850.

PL: Lei Wang, Travel Grant for 2018 UC Davis Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) Geotechnical Centrifuge Workshop, University of California Davis, Award Date: April 5, 2018; Award Amount: $1,000.

PL: Lei Wang; Co-PI: Jiajun Xu, Tolessa Deksissa, Development of A New and Optimal Geothermal System for Urban Agriculture Sustainability and Food Security in the District of Columbia, USDA/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), Award Date: Dec 20, 2018; Award Amount: $90,000.

PL: Anika Burtin, Co-PIs: Briana L. Wellman and Tolessa Dekissa. Robert Noyce Scholarship Program grant for “Project Firebirds Reinventing STEM Teaching (Project FRST)”, National Science Foundation. Award Date, Sept 1, 2015-August 31, 2021. Award Total, $2,146,100.


Nian Zhang (PI), Lara Thompson and Devdas Shetty (Senior Personnel) “An Intelligent Optimization, Clustering and Classification Framework for Large Scale Photo-Thermal Infrared Imaging Spectroscopy (PT-IRIS) Big Data,” Department of Defense (DoD), $551,889.


Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations
2017-2018

Dr. Pradeep Behera

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Pradeep Behera, Ph.D., P.E., D.WRE
Professor of Civil Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Water resources engineering
- Urban water systems
- Storm water management
- Non-point source pollution
- Climate change

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Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Li Chen, Ph.D.
Professor of Civil Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Image processing
- Object-oriented programming and design
- Algorithm design and complexity
- Discrete Geometry and Digital Geometry
- Data Science: Theory and Applications

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(a) $\lambda = 0.93$  (b) $\lambda = 0.94$  (c) $\lambda = 0.99$  (d) $\lambda = 1$

(e) $\lambda = 0.98$  (f) $\lambda = 0.97$
Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations 2017-2018

Dr. Paul Cotae

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Paul Cotae, Rashed Rabie “On a Game Theoretic Approach to Detect the Low-Rate Denial of Service Attacks”, *IEEE COMM2018, the 12th International Conference on Communication (COMM)*, Bucharest Romania, 14-16 June, pp. 19-26, 2018. DOI: 10.1109/ICComm.2018.8429980.


Paul Cotae, Rashed Rabie “On a Game Theoretic Approach to Detect the Low-Rate Denial of Service Attacks”, *IEEE COMM2018, the 12th International Conference on Communication (COMM)*, Bucharest Romania, 14-16 June, pp. 19-26, 2018. DOI: 10.1109/ICComm.2018.8429980.

Yasser Salem, **Paul Cotae** “Analysis of Low Rate of Denial of Service Attacks Detection by Using Fisher Methods”, *2018 ASEE Mid-Atlantic Spring Conference*, University of the District of Columbia, April 6-7, 2018.


Rashed Rabie, **Paul Cotae** “Network Congestion Protocol and Low Rate Denial of Service Attacks”, *Proceedings ASEE 2017 Gulf Southwest Annual Conference* at Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science at UT Dallas, March 12-14, 2017.

---

**Paul Cotae, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Electrical Engineering  
SEAS Research Center Director  
Ph.D. Program Director

**Areas of Expertise**
- Digital communication
- Cyber security
- Machine learning
- Anomaly detection
- Intrusion visualization

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**Dr. Hongmei Dang**

**Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations**


Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations

Dr. Max Denis


Fig. 4. Experimental setup. (a) Positioning of the transducer and the hydrophone on the bone. Gel pad is used to provide appropriate distance to focus the beam onto the bone surface. (b) B-Mode image revealing the bone surface. The ARF beams (red) are sequentially focused on the bone surface at a distance $\Delta d$ apart.


Dr. Sasan Haghani

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Sasan Haghani, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Smart Grid and Renewable Energy
- Wireless Sensor Networks
- Broadband Communications

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Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations
2017-2018

Dr. Bryan Higgs

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations

“Mapping Household Travel Footprints based on Psychological and Physiological Needs” B. Higgs and R. Guandique, 2018 Lockheed Fellowship.

Bryan Higgs, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Psychophysiological driver behavior
- Transportation network vulnerability and optimization
- Travel demand modeling
- Multi-level multi-objective game theory

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Dr. Dong Hyun Jeong

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Duc Manh Doan, Clayton Gordon, Dong H. Jeong, Summit Selection: Designing a Feature Selection Technique to Support Mixed Data Analysis, SIGCSE '18 The 49th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education.


Dong Hyun Jeong, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
- Human-computer interaction
- Visual analytics
- Information visualization
- Cloud computing

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Book Chapter

A designed intrusion detection analysis tool that consists of two views - Projection view (top) and Data view (bottom). Network traffic activities in the NSL-KDD dataset are mapped with different color attributes as DoS (green), Probe (brown), R2L (purple), and Normal (red).
Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Kacem, Thabet, Wijesekera, Duminda and Costa, Paulo, "Key distribution scheme for aircraft equipped with secure ADS-B IN". In 2017 IEEE 20th International Conference on Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITSC) (pp. 1-6), October 2017, London, UK.

Thabet Kacem, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
- Cybersecurity
- Smart transportation systems
- Software-defined radios/radars
- Cyber physical systems
- Sea level rise

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Overview of ADS-Bsec Framework
Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations 2017-2018

Dr. Kate Klein

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Kate Klein, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
• Nanomaterials synthesis & characterization
• Microscopy
• Electron and ion beam applications
• In-situ experimentation
• Mechanical properties of materials

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The Orion helium ion microscope, with a typical probe size of less than 1 nm, offers a unique capability for nanofabrication at a scale currently unattainable by conventional gallium-based focused ion beam (FIB) processing. We have developed new methods for producing complex fluidic structures (a), via a direct-write process, which may previously have been too difficult or tedious to produce using multi-step processes, thereby enabling rapid prototyping. Here we demonstrate the novel machining capabilities of the helium ion microscope in order to create a nanochannel device (b). Virtually any pipe geometry (c) can be produced using this technique. This work may lead to the acceleration of novel application discovery in energy, health diagnostics, or lab-on-a-chip microfluidics.
Dr. Lily R. Liang

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Teaching Philosophy for Enhanced Learning

Dr. Liang's research focuses on developing various artificial intelligence techniques to discover patterns and make predictions, particularly on digital image data and biomedical data. Her most recent research topics include deep learning for tumor classification, image generation and image captioning.

Lily R. Liang, Ph.D.
Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
• Digital image processing
• Artificial intelligence
• Bioinformatics
• Data mining

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Dr. Timothy Oladunni

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Timothy Oladunni, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
- Data analysis
- Pattern recognition
- Software engineering
- Deep learning
- Business intelligence
- Data mining

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Dr. Esther Ososanya

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Esther Ososanya, Ph.D.
Professor of Electrical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Microcomputer architecture
- VLSI & ASIC designs
- Embedded systems
- Nanotechnology
- Renewable energy

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Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations  
2017-2018

Dr. Amir Shahirinia

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Amir Shahirinia, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Power systems integration of renewable energy and control
- Bayesian statistical analysis & predictive modelling

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Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations 2017-2018

Dr. Devdas Shetty

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Book


Lara Thompson, Jiajun Xu, and Devdas Shetty “Devices to Aid Mobility: Biomedical Engineering focused Undergraduate Senior Projects” IMECE-86826 International Mechanical Engineering Congress, IMECE-86826, 9-15 Nov, 2018, Pittsburg, PA, USA,


Devdas Shetty, Ph.D., P.E.
Dean and Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Areas of Expertise

- Smart manufacturing
- Design for mechatronics
- Rehabilitation products
- Robotics
- Surface roughness

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Dr. Lara Thompson

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Vestibular-focused, Non-Human Primate Balance Research: Top) (a) Schematic of pseudorandom roll-tilt test setup and (b) PRTS balance platform input (left), animal (middle), and trunk roll output (right); Bottom) Sensory Integration Feedback Controller Model

Lara Thompson, Ph.D. Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
• Postural control and mobility
• Non-invasive and invasive prostheses
• Sensory substitutes
• Rehabilitative devices

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Dr. Pawan Tyagi

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


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**Pawan Tyagi, Ph.D.**  
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

**Areas of Expertise**

- Molecular spintronics
- Additive manufacturing and postprocessing
- Spin photovoltaic cells and solar thermal air heaters
- Nano biosensors and brain imaging
- Student presentation based effective Teaching (SPET)

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---

Improving External and Internal Surfaces of Additively Manufactured (3D Printed) Metal

Metal 3D printed samples with internal and external surface after electropolishing and chemical polishing (a) Externally and (b) Internally (b) (Published in: Tyagi et al. Additive Manufacturing, 2018)
Dr. Lei Wang

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations
2017-2018


Figure 3. Finite element model for the earthen levee and its displacement under loading.

Lei Wang, Ph.D., P.E.
Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering

Areas of Expertise
- Geotechnical risk and reliability
- Design of resilient infrastructure
- Sustainable concrete materials
- Tunnels and supported excavations
- Foundations and reinforced soil structures
- Geotechnical earthquake engineering

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Dr. Jiajun Xu

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


**Jiajun Xu**, Devdas Shetty, Abiose Adebayo, “Undergraduate Active Learning Experience through Industrial Sponsored Capstone Projects on Thermal-Fluids Science”, ASME 4th Thermal and Fluids Engineering Conference (TFEC), April 14–17, 2019 Las Vegas, NV, USA.

Lara Thompson, **Jiajun Xu**, Devdas Shetty, “Devices to Aid Mobility: Biomedical Engineering Focused Undergraduate Senior Capstone Design Projects”, ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition, Nov 3-9, 2017, Pittsburg, PA, USA.


Jiajun Xu, Christopher Hendricks, “A multiphysics simulation of the thermal runaway in large-format lithium-ion batteries”, The Intersociety Conference on Thermal and Thermomechanical Phenomena in Electronic Systems, 5/28-31, 2019 Las Vegas, NV.


Jiajun Xu, Ph.D., P.E.
Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
• Multiscale thermal transport and energy conversion
• Multiscale modeling and simulation
• Thermal-fluid science
• Nanotechnology
• Renewable energy and water treatment
• Additive manufacturing

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Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations
2017-2018

Dr. Ahmet Zeytinci

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


American Society of Civil Engineers / National Capital Section
Monthly Newsletter Articles, Problems and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / March 2018
Discover Engineering Family Day: Advice to College Students
Plus 30-50 Original Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / February 2018
New Specifications for Structural Engineering SE Exams: Part-II
Plus 30-50 Original Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / January 2018
New Specifications for Structural Engineering SE Exams: Part-I
Plus 30-50 Original Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / November 2017
A New Record: Columbia University Gives Five Scholarships to One University in the Washington Metro Area
Plus 30-50 Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / October 2017
Only one thing is better than being an engineer: Being a Professional Engineer (P.E.)
Plus 30-50 Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / September 2017
Please Welcome Our New Contributors: Dr. Bryan Higgs & Dr. Lei Wang
Plus 30-50 Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / May 2017
Alternative Item Types: A New Testing Component for FE, FS, and PS Practice Exams: Are You Ready for AITs?
Plus 30-50 Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / April 2017
What Engineers Do? Ten Reasons to Love Engineering
Plus 30-50 Original Problems, Solutions and Applications

ASCE-NCS / Dr. Z’s CORNER / March 2017
Reflecting on 2016: Remembrance of Dmitri T. Clemons
Plus 30-50 Problems, Solutions and Applications

Ahmet Zeytinci, Ph.D., P.E., Fellow-ASCE, Fellow-NSPE
Professor of Civil Engineering

Areas of Expertise
• Structural engineering
• Structural dynamics
• Structural analysis and design
• Engineering education

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Dr. Nian Zhang

Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations 2017-2018

Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations


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**NIAN ZHANG, Ph.D.**<br>Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering

**Areas of Expertise**
- Computational intelligence
- Machine learning and data mining
- Big data, time series prediction

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# Faculty Members and Peer-Reviewed Papers and Conference Presentations
## 2017-2018

## Dr. Segun Adebayo

**A. Segun Adebayo, Ph.D.**  
Professor of Mechanical Engineering

**Areas of Expertise**
- Aerodynamics of rotors
- Aeroacoustics of aircraft engines
- Fluid dynamics of rotating machines and airborne pollution transport phenomena and its impact on watersheds

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## Ms. Uzma Amir

**Uzma Amir**  
Instructor in Computer Science

**Areas of Expertise**
- AREA Robotics
- STEM programs

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Dr. Junwhan Kim

Junwhan Kim, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
• Distributed systems, software and hardware transactional memory
• Fault tolerance
• Wireless networking
• Cross-layer optimization

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Dr. Wagdy Mahmoud

Wagdy Mahmoud, Ph.D., P.E.
Professor of Electrical Engineering

Areas of Expertise
• System-level hardware/software co-design
• Digital signal processing
• Embedded & cyber-physical systems

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Dr. Briana Wellman

Briana Wellman, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
- Multi-robot system
- Educational robotics
- Autonomous systems

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Dr. Byunggu Yu

Byunggu Yu, Ph.D.
Professor of Computer Science

Areas of Expertise
- Database
- Cloud computing
- Big data
- Bigtable
- MapReduce
- Sensor-network DB
- Information storage and retrieval
- Spatial database
- Spatio-temporal database
- High-dimensional database
- Indexing
- Data modeling
- Operating systems
- Mobile database
- Informatics

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