

# BEYER DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

FALL  
2025

CULLEN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING,  
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING



2:30-4:00 P.M., ROOM #: **CBB104**

SEMINARS ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC.

You may also watch seminars live-streamed via Zoom.

For Zoom links and other updates, please visit:

<https://www.cive.uh.edu/research/seminars>

**UH** UNIVERSITY OF  
**HOUSTON**

## SEMINAR SPEAKERS

**Sep 5, 2025**

**Modeling Coastal Flood Risk: From Physics-Based Simulations to Data-Driven Digital Twins**

**Dr. Jun-Whan Lee**

Assistant Professor, Civil, Architectural & Environmental Engineering  
The University of Texas at Austin

**Sep 12, 2025**

**No Seminar: CEE Faculty Retreat**

**Sep 19, 2025**

**Rockwell Lecture**

**Nanotechnology-Enabled Water Treatment**

**Dr. Pedro Alvarez**

George R. Brown Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Member NAE  
Director, NEWT Center  
Director, Rice WaTER Institute  
Rice University

**Sep 26, 2025**

**More Than Just Sand and Clay: A Deep Dive into Soil Cohesion and Friction**

**Dr. Ali Seiphoori**

Senior Geotechnical Engineer  
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, US HQ Houston

**Oct 3, 2025**

**Digital Twins and AI Towards the Autonomy of Built Environment – Facility/Infrastructure Operations and Management Use Case**

**Dr. Burcu Akinci**

Department Head and Hamerschlag University Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Carnegie Mellon University

**Oct 10, 2025**

**Treatment of Energetic Containing Wastewater in a Sequential Anaerobic-aerobic Membrane Bioreactor (MBR) System: Effectiveness and Microbial Community Dynamics**

**Dr. Kung-Hui Chu**

Professor, Zachry Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Texas A&M University

**Oct 17, 2025**

**Analysis and Optimization of Extruded Thin-Walled Beams**

**Dr. Haim Waisman**

Department Chair and Professor, Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics  
Columbia University

**\*\*\* EACH LECTURE WILL COUNT FOR ONE HOUR OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDIT TOWARDS LICENSURE.**

## SEMINAR SPEAKERS

**Oct 24, 2025**

**Risk-Informed Consequence-Driven Hybrid Cyber-Physical Protection System Security Optimization for Advanced Reactor Sites**

**Dr. Karen Kirkland**

Associate Department Head and Professor, Nuclear Engineering  
Texas A&M University

**Oct 31, 2025**

**Electrified Filter for Sustainable Water Treatment and Reuse**

**Dr. Wensi Chen**

Assistant Professor, Zachry Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Texas A&M University

**Nov 7, 2025**

**TBD**

**Dr. Ryan Ewing**

Space Scientist, Planetary Geology  
NASA Johnson Space Center

**Nov 14, 2025**

**Challenges and Opportunities in Harnessing Big Data and AI/ML for Local-scale Hurricane Hazard Assessment**

**Dr. Avantika Gori**

Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering  
Rice University

**Nov 21, 2025**

**Encapsulated Microorganisms for Enhanced Wastewater Treatment**

**Dr. Paige Novak**

Department Head & Joseph T. and Rose S. Ling Chair in Environmental Engineering  
Civil, Environmental, and Geo-Engineering  
University of Minnesota

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### CONTACT INFORMATION



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