

Civil Engineering Committee Meeting

Meeting Time: 9:15 to 10:15 am on Friday, April 3, 2026

Meeting Place: via Zoom at <https://washington.zoom.us/j/93531014122> or MLG 306

Civil Engineering Committee:

Voting members present: Nara Almeida (2.6), Lorne Arnold (10.3), Joel Baker, Emese Hadnagy (9.18), Angela Kitali (4.3), Jeffrey Walters (12.5)

Non-voting members present: Julie Palumbo (1.9), Kira King (3.6), Brandy Featherstone (11.7), Noelle Wilson (5.8), Aubree Steffens

Agenda Items & Meeting Minutes

1. **Approval of meeting minutes** from March 6, 2026
 - a. Emese__ moved, Lorne__ seconded. Approved: 6 __/6 (0 abstained: __ absent)
2. **Academic advising team updates**
 - a. With Brandy's departure, SET Direct Civil students can reach out to Kira directly. There is no official timeline we've been given to rehire the role, but we need the additional advising line filled, considering the case load, especially for the SET Direct program.
 - b. The admissions team is meeting again next week to release more transfer student decisions.
 - c. We are moving to 'yield' events this quarter to encourage offered students to confirm UWT. Admissions is healthy for Civil on both the SET Direct and Junior cohorts.
 - d. Strickland Interviews for the 2026 Cohort are going well.
Last week interviewed candidates for the new candidates, received great feedback from the City. There is a potential to have 4 new civil offers (2 juniors and 2 freshmen).
 - e. Remind senior students in Nara's capstone class to register for the commencement ceremony.
3. **CE laboratory manager updates**
 - a. April 6-10 Light rail disruptions
https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.soundtransit.org/ride-with-us/routes-schedules/t-line?route_tab=alerts&direction=0&at=1775026800000&view=table&stops_0=40_T25-T2*2C40_T01&stops_1=40_T01*2C40_T25-T1*alertsTab_ ;JSUj!!K-

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No service between Tacoma Dome and UWT. There is a need to remind students who use the light rail about this disruption. An email will be sent out.

b. April 9 Town Hall

c. April 16, 11am - Active Shooter Drill (Alert Only)

It's a test of the alert system, no physical drill. An email will be sent out to the campus. Review the email to determine action plans. There is a need to provide training for all campus members and possibly hire an expert to inspect campus spaces and develop safety measures. Including questions regarding safety in student surveys may be very helpful as well.

4. CE program updates:

a. MSCE (JW)

Revising the budget for the whole program and individual certificates, and then sending it to Emese and Raj for approval.

b. Maritime 253 Skills Center

Nara and Lorne attended the meeting with the teachers who will teach at the Maritime Center. Lorne and Nara gave a tour of our labs and classes. Other campus leadership personnel were a part of the meeting as well. There is a potential for significant collaboration between our CE program and the Maritime Center. There may be a need to create a clear plan for collaboration between UWT, particularly SET (since its primarily a technology center) and the Maritime Center.

c. Any student nominations for Chancellor's Medal?

David may be the best candidate.

5. Any other updates

a. 3 recipients of 2026 Dean's Awards (Whitney Dillon, Justin Ray, David Hopkins)

b. David Hopkins fellowship of \$12,000 (MS at UW Seattle CEE Department) + \$ 3,400 for traveling to RILEM conference in Belgium.

c. ASCE Sponsored Dinner (CE Mixer) on May 28th (5:30 - 8:00 PM, room TBD) - this might be a recurring event!

Up to 50 industry partners may participate; students will be encouraged to invite their parents. There is a plan to vote for the best poster. Lorne is working to invite Joe Lawless to talk about the campus master plan. This is a great opportunity to invite CE advisory

board members. Explore an opportunity to change the AB meeting to May 28, 2026 before the CE mixer.

- d. The meeting with the WA PE licensure board during Lorne's FE class was well attended by the students; 12+ students attended and asked several questions.