

Civil Engineering Committee Meeting

Meeting Time: 9:15 to 10:15 am on Friday, March 6, 2026

Meeting Place: via Zoom at <https://washington.zoom.us/j/96498285809> 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 (absent), Aubree Steffens

Agenda Items & Meeting Minutes

1. **Approval of meeting minutes** from February 6, 2026
 - a. Emese moved, Nara seconded. Approved: 6/6 (0 abstained: 0 absent)
 - i. Kira to follow up with Jeff and Angela
2. **Academic advising team updates**
 - a. Staff transitions; more information will be coming soon but there is an internal student advising coverage plan.
 - b. Major applications
 - i. SET Direct offers released. UWS decisions released as well, so we are starting to see more confirmations
 - ii. UWS is over enrolled in pre-major engineering sequences. CTCs are running statics/ mechanics/ dynamics at capacity this year. There is high competition for the limited seats in engineering at 4 year colleges in the state for Autumn 2026. There was discussion on ways to increase visibility into this issue at UW Tacoma.
 - iii. 36 major applications submitted as of 3.5.2026. Angela, Jeff & Kira meeting to start releasing decisions to applicants.
3. **CE laboratory manager updates**
 - a. Campus power outage 3/27, 6am -6pm (2nd power outage announced in campus email). All employees should plan to work remotely that day. Cragle parking lot will be blocked off through the end of June.

- b. Reach out to Clare Tupper for Earth Day Celebration Poster presentations (4/22 11-2PM; WPH). Please email Clare within the next two weeks if you are working with any students who intend on having a poster at Earth Day.

4. CE program updates:

- a. *Affiliate instructor appointment for AY26.27 (July 1, 2026- June 30, 2027)* – Tim Nordstrom (@ Tacoma Power); now that SET has delegated affiliate faculty appointment decisions to programs, we need to vote again. Emese moved to renew Tim’s affiliate instructor appointment, Nara seconded. Approved: 6/6 (0 abstained: 0 absent)
- b. MSCE (JW). Aubree and Jeff have been working to update the budget proposal assuming there is full enrollment in each certificate option and MS option at year 2. The updated proposal will be sent to SET leadership (Emese and Raj) before moving to APCC again.
- c. Foundation design. Adding this back into the schedule for next AY (geotech elective; LA).
- d. TME 310 civil section next AY. Lorne piloted teaching the course in Python last year. We will add a note in the Time Schedule encouraging Civil Engineering students to take Lorne’s course and identify it will be taught in Python. The other TME 310 sections will be taught using MATLAB.
- e. TME 221-223. Moving forward, effective Autumn 2026, the TME 221, TME 222, and TME 223 courses will be restricted to SET Direct students for Period I registration. Major restrictions will be lifted for Period II/ III registration.
- f. Feb 27th open house – Lorne and Emese welcomed students; including some who were offered SET Direct for Autumn 2026 and confirmed because of their time with faculty. Both FTIC and transfer students connected with faculty at the event. The Civil SET Ambassador who represented the program at the event was exceptional.
- g. Other industry partners have expressed interest in teaching in the program. Until we have resources to hire additional affiliate instructors or part time lecturers, we can continue inviting folks to be guest lecturers.

5. Any other updates

- a. April 18th- HuskyFest. If there are any students who want to be connected with Civil faculty, the advising team will make email connections between students and faculty after the event.
- b. May 29th (11-1PM; WPH) - Engineering Senior Design Expo

- c. Leslie shared the staff “who to turn to” document. Feel free to utilize folks on the sheet, including having the Program Coordinator assigned to Civil Engineering add calendar invites, etc.
- d. A Civil senior was awarded full conference funding for a Spring international conference.