

29 January 2026

Dear CEE friends—alumni, students and staff,

A very warm welcome back to the new semester, and a special welcome to all our new students joining the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

As we begin this term, I would like to take a moment to reflect on where we are as a department and the exciting journey ahead.

Last year was a significant milestone as we celebrated the Department’s 70th anniversary. It was truly heartening to see our alumni, staff, students and industry partners come together to commemorate our shared heritage and achievements. The celebrations reminded us of the strong foundation we have built over the decades—and the responsibility we carry to continue shaping the future of our profession. CEE 70th Celebration highlights: [\[link\]](#). More details on the CEE website: [\[link\]](#).

In line with this vision, our department has continued to grow in research strength and impact. We have established new research centres, including the Centre for Resilient Underground Infrastructure and Space Engineering (CRUISE) and the Centre for Construction Robotics and Automation, as well as a new research cluster in Construction Robotics, Automation and AI. [Details under “Research updates”.]

These initiatives are designed to support cutting-edge research, foster interdisciplinary collaboration, and create more opportunities for you to be involved in meaningful work that addresses real-world challenges.

On the education front, we continue to enhance the learning experience for our students to ensure that our curriculum remains relevant to the evolving needs of the industry. You can look forward to new electives, more industry-led projects, and expanded opportunities for internships and research attachments. The faculty members who will support and guide you throughout your studies are listed under “Curriculum updates” for your reference.

Significant happenings and updates at CEE in 2025 (click for details):



[CEE 70th Anniversary Celebration](#)

[New CEE staff](#)

[CDE CEE Alumni Awards recipients](#)

[Curriculum updates](#)

[Research updates](#)

Looking ahead, we have an exciting calendar for 2026. Some key events include:

- CEE international conferences and exhibitions with industry partners
- Final Year Project (FYP) presentations
- Fireside chats with alumni and students
- Alumni Inspiration Campaign, featuring alumni and cohort stories
- Alumni get-togethers for milestone classes

I encourage you to participate actively when details are shared in the coming months. These events provide valuable opportunities to learn, network, and contribute to our community.

As you start this semester, my hope for each of you is simple: embrace every learning opportunity, stay curious, and be bold in pursuing your passions. Remember, engineering is not just about building structures—it is about building a better future for society and our environment.

Wishing you a successful and fulfilling semester ahead.

With best wishes,

Professor Richard Liew
Head of Department
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
National University of Singapore

Stay Connected!

The [NUS Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering](#) has several ways to provide you with up-to-date information on our upcoming activities and our accomplishments. Please subscribe to our social media platforms: [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Instagram](#) accounts. Join us, interact, and share!

If you would like to be on our seminar invite email list, please email Ms Asmidah at asmidah1@nus.edu.sg

CEE 70th Anniversary Celebration in 2025

CEE 70th Anniversary Logo Launch

10 Feb 2025

- We officially launched the CEE 70th Anniversary logo, including the unveiling of a specially 3D-printed logo model, marking the commencement of our anniversary celebrations.
- The event brought together over 140 staff, alumni and donors, reflecting the strong sense of community within the Department.
- We expressed our appreciation to our early donors and the winners of the 70th Anniversary logo design competition.
- The celebrations were fittingly kicked off with the longest Lo Hei ever held in the Department, symbolising unity, prosperity and shared success.



CEE 70th Anniversary Walk

23 May 2025

- The event was attended by over 250 staff, research staff, invited alumni and donors, demonstrating strong support from across the CEE community.
- It provided an opportunity to promote a healthier lifestyle and well-being within the Department.
- The occasion also strengthened bonding and camaraderie among our academic, administrative and research staff.



NUS 120th Anniversary Charity Golf

16 Jul 2025

- The event formed part of a College of Design and Engineering initiative, which raised a total of \$2.87 million in bursary donations.
- We are deeply grateful that CEE donors contributed more than 60% of the total amount, underscoring their strong commitment to supporting our students and the Department.



CEE 70th Anniversary Symposium

10 Oct 2025

- The event attracted over 1,600 participants, including 1,300 engineers and industry professionals, as well as 300 students from junior colleges, secondary schools and polytechnics.
- We were honoured to have Minister Indraneel Rajah as the Guest of Honour.
- The programme featured seven keynote speakers from seven government agencies, alongside five industry leaders, who shared valuable perspectives on the future of the built environment.
- The event provided a platform to showcase CEE's research strengths and capabilities and served as an important outreach initiative to prospective undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Dedicated engagement sessions were conducted for junior college, secondary school and polytechnic students, helping to spark early interest in engineering pathways.
- We were encouraged by the very positive feedback and strong commendations received from industry partners and attendees.



CEE 70th Anniversary Dinner

28 Nov 2025

- The dinner was held to full capacity with 98 tables (90 tables for alumni and staff, and eight tables for VIPs).
- It brought together alumni from the Classes of 1972 to 2025, spanning undergraduate and postgraduate programmes across Civil and Environmental Engineering.
- Many alumni had the opportunity to reconnect with former professors and peers after many years, fostering a strong sense of camaraderie and belonging.
- We were heartened by the strongly positive feedback from alumni, many of whom reaffirmed their pride in being part of the NUS CEE community.



New CEE staff

[Professor Tang Chuyang \(NUS CDE Chair Professor\)](#)

We are pleased to welcome Professor Tang Chuyang, who joined the Department on 22 Dec 2025. Prior to joining NUS, Professor Tang served as Chair Professor of Environmental Engineering at the University of Hong Kong. He received his BEng (First Class Honours) and MEng from Nanyang Technological University, and his PhD from Stanford University.



Professor Tang is a globally recognised expert in membrane and filtration technologies, with research spanning desalination, water reuse, resource recovery, and the water–energy nexus. He has published over 400 refereed papers and has been named a Clarivate Highly Cited Researcher (Cross-Field, 2021–2024; Environment and Ecology, 2025). His pioneering work on aquaporin-based biomimetic membranes has led to successful commercialisation and significant impact in the desalination sector. He is also the recipient of several prestigious international fellowships.

[Dr Pan Weiyi \(Assistant Professor\)](#)

Dr Pan joined CEE on 1 Aug 2025 from postdoctoral positions at Rice and Yale Universities. He holds a PhD from Washington University in St. Louis and was a McDonnell Scholar.



His research focuses on environmental sustainability, with expertise in environmental chemistry, electrochemistry, membranes, and process engineering.

[Dr Meng Xin \(Assistant Professor\)](#)

Dr Meng Xin received his BEng from Tsinghua University in 2015, and his MSc (2016) and PhD (2020) from Imperial College London. Prior to joining NUS on 4 Aug 2025, he worked as a Research Associate and then a Research Fellow at Imperial College London from 2020 to 2025, contributing to both research and teaching at undergraduate and graduate levels.



His research interests include steel structures, metal additive manufacturing (3D printing), and sustainable and automated construction. He has expertise in advanced structural testing, finite element modelling, structural optimisation, and structural design.

Dr Rui Shengjie (Assistant Professor)

Dr Rui joined the Department on 30 Jun 2025 from the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, where he was a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Research Fellow. He completed his PhD in Geotechnical Engineering at Zhejiang University and his bachelor's degree at the China University of Geosciences (Wuhan).

His research bridges geotechnical and ocean engineering, with a strong focus on offshore renewable energy and challenging marine geotechnics. Dr Rui has presented his work at leading institutions, including the University of Oxford, MIT, Imperial College London, UC Berkeley, and ETH Zürich.



Mr Leong Tong Daniel (Laboratory Technologist)

We welcome Mr Leong Tong Daniel, who joined CEE as Laboratory Technologist at the Structural and Hydraulic Laboratory on 13 Oct 2025.



CDE CEE Alumni Awards recipients

The [NUS College of Design and Engineering Alumni Gala Dinner 2025](#) was held on Friday, 7 Nov 2025, at the Pan Pacific Hotel. At the event, seven award recipients were recognised for their outstanding achievements and contributions.

The Alumni Excellence Award was conferred on [Er. Teh Poh Suan](#) and [Er. Lee Aik Seng](#). The Outstanding Young Alumni Award was awarded to [Mr Allan Tandiono](#), who was unfortunately unable to attend due to work commitments. The Alumni Rising Star Award was presented to [Ms Chang Qingyang](#). In addition, the CDE Fundraising Team Award was jointly awarded to [Er. Wong Jin Kok](#), [Mr Seah Cheng San](#), [Mr Edwin Seow](#), and [Mr Yeo Keng Joon](#), in recognition of their collective efforts and dedication.



CEE alumni and staff in attendance at the dinner.

Curriculum updates

Undergraduate Programmes

The CEE undergraduate programmes ([B. Eng Civil Engineering](#), [B. Tech Civil Engineering](#) and [B. Eng Environmental & Sustainability Engineering](#)) are being refreshed to prepare students for future engineering challenges. The curriculum is redesigned around major global themes such as climate resilience, sustainable infrastructure, digitalisation, robotics and AI in construction, and the water–environment–energy nexus. There is a strong emphasis on interdisciplinary learning, hands-on experiences, and the integration of digital competencies, including data analytics, AI-assisted design, digital twins, and BIM. Sustainability literacy is embedded throughout the programme, with a focus on life-cycle thinking and ethical engineering practice.

Students will benefit from distinctive programme features such as early exposure to research, innovation, and entrepreneurship; extensive industry engagement through internships and capstone projects; and global learning opportunities, including exchanges and international design projects. The programme also offers flexibility, allowing students to pursue minors, second majors, and interdisciplinary pathways within NUS's flexible curriculum framework.

Postgraduate Programmes & Continuing Education

CEE is strengthening its postgraduate programmes to ensure strong industry relevance and global competitiveness. Postgraduate curricula are being co-designed with industry, with industry-linked tracks in MSc programmes and greater flexibility through modular and stackable course structures that can lead to certificates or full degrees. Research-based MSc and [PhD](#) students will benefit from closer integration of research and practice through translational projects, supported by strong professional recognition, including PEB accreditation.

To position our postgraduate programmes globally, CEE is focusing on niche strengths in areas such as tropical engineering, smart infrastructure, climate adaptation, coastal resilience, and urban water management. Initiatives include partnerships with regional institutions through 3+1+1 pathways, competitive scholarships, joint supervision, and the introduction of new AI-related MSc offerings.

In parallel, CEE is expanding its role in continuing education and lifelong learning. The Department will offer stackable, blended-learning programmes aligned with professional accreditation requirements, addressing immediate industry needs such as sustainability reporting, carbon management, and infrastructure resilience. Engagement with alumni, industry, and government agencies will be strengthened through flagship events, co-designed training programmes, and professional development initiatives—positioning CEE as a trusted lifelong learning partner for the built environment sector.

Research updates

Research & Innovation: Priority Research Areas

Three strategic research thrusts with strong intellectual depth and high translational potential, addressing key challenges in the built environment through interdisciplinary collaboration with government agencies, industry partners, and across NUS faculties:

- Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure – Support safe, durable, and sustainable cities
- Smart, Digital and Advanced Infrastructure Development – Transform infrastructure delivery
- Water, Environment and Climate Systems – Enable resilient and liveable environments

CEE Department Research Clusters

	Research Cluster	Director	Co-Director
1	Climate Change Mitigation	Prof Rajasekhar Balasubramanian	Prof Vladan Babovic
2	Construction Robotics, Automation and AI	Prof Richard Liew	Assoc Prof Justin Yeoh
3	Environmental Sustainability	Prof Hu Jiangyong	Assoc Prof Yu Liya
4	Ocean Infrastructure and Renewables	A/Prof Low Ying Min	Dr Paul Ong
5	Resilient Infrastructure	A/Prof Qian Xudong	A/Prof Poh Leong Hien
6	Smart and Liveable Cities	Prof Meng Qiang	A/Prof Goh Siang Huat

CEE Department Research Centre

	Research Centre	Director
1	Centre for Advanced Materials and Structure (CAMS)	A/Prof. Qian Xudong
2	Centre for Offshore Research and Engineering (CORE)	A/Prof. Qian Xudong,
3	Centre for Hazards Research (CHR)	A/Prof Poh Leong Hien
4	Centre for Resilient Underground Infrastructure and Space Engineering (CRUISE)	A/Prof Darren Chian
5	Construction 3D Printing Research Laboratory (C3DPR)	Dr Du Hongjian
6	Centre for Transportation Research (CTR)	Prof Meng Qiang
7	Centre for Water Research (CWR)	Prof Hu Jiangyong
8	Centre for Resource Circularity and Resilience (CR) ²	A/Prof Pang Sze Dai
9	Centre for Environmental Resilience (CES)	Prof He Jianzhong
10	Centre for Construction Robotics and Automation	A/Prof Justin Yeoh

CDE Research Centre

	Research Centre	Director
1	Centre for Protective Technology (CPT)	A/Prof Poh Leong Hien
2	Coastal Protection and Flood Resilience Institute (CFI) Singapore	Prof Adrian Law