

# Structural Engineering Institute Graduate Student Chapter West Virginia University



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Graduate Student Chapter  
West Virginia University

2016 SEI Graduate Student Chapter of the Year

## Special Lecture on Nondestructive Testing (NDT) by SEIGSC-WVU Faculty Advisor

*Morgantown, West Virginia*

On October 18, 2021, the Structural Engineering Institute Graduate Student Chapter conducted a special lecture on Nondestructive Testing (NDT). Chapter Advisor Dr. Udaya B. Halabe gave a presentation on “Nondestructive Testing (NDT) for Condition Assessment of Structures.” His lecture included basic theory and applications of NDT techniques such as infrared thermography and digital tap hammer along with in-class demonstrations of these techniques. The presentation also included a brief introduction to Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) Composites and their applications in bridge rehabilitation projects. This was followed by case studies showing applications of NDT techniques for construction quality control during several bridge rehabilitation projects involving the use of FRP composite fabric wraps. A total of 28 undergraduate students attended the session.



MARCH UPDATE

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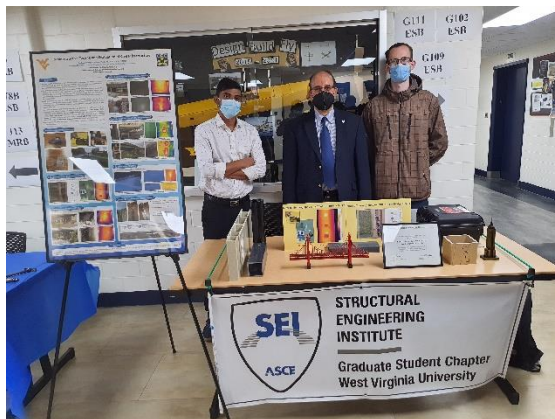
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## SEIGSC-WVU takes part in High School Visitation Day Fall 2021

*Morgantown, West Virginia*

The Structural Engineering Institute Graduate Student Chapter at West Virginia University actively participated in the open house event organized by the Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering and Mineral Resources on October 16, 2021. The Chapter's participation in this event has helped high school students and their families to become familiar with WVU's Civil/Structural engineering program. As a part of this event, SEIGSC-WVU set up a table displaying variety of composite specimens such as pultruded bridge decks, fiberglass composite wrapped timber poles, miniature structural engineering models, fiberglass rebar, nondestructive testing equipment and others. SEIGSC-WVU Chapter officers shared their academic and research experiences with prospective students and their families.

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## SEIGSC-WVU's New Executive Committee

*Morgantown, West Virginia*

Beginning Spring 2022, SEIGSC-WVU has formed a new executive committee. We would like to congratulate our outgoing Chapter Chair/President, Tyler Ashbrook, who graduated with a MSCE degree in December 2021.

The names of the current SEIGSC-WVU Chapter Officers and their brief biographies are given below.

### Prabal Shrestha, Chapter Chair/President

**Prabal Shrestha** is pursuing his MSCE degree in Structural Engineering with an emphasis on Nondestructive Testing and Evaluation at West Virginia University. Prabal started off as the Chapter Vice-President of SEIGSC-WVU beginning in the Fall of 2021 with a goal to advance the success in the structural engineering field. Prabal is looking forward to connecting the different levels of undergraduate as well as graduate programs and studies through various networking and leadership activities. Prabal firmly believes that opportunities offered by SEIGSC for all the students will improve their leadership and management skills while enhancing professional networking. As Chapter Chair, he aims to grow as leader, manager, and a team member along with gaining professional development to serve in the Civil Engineering community.



### Lekhnath Bhandari, Vice-President

**Lekhnath Bhandari** is an MSCE degree student in Structural Engineering at WVU. He joined SEIGSC-WVU in Fall 2021 as the Chapter Secretary. He aims to get exposure to the structural engineering community by connecting to the professionals and by sharing ideas with promising structural engineers from different areas through the Chapter. Besides, Lekhnath wants to transfer the knowledge, idea, and information in the structural engineering field to motivate the students of the upcoming generation to pursue higher education in the field of Structural Engineering. Lekhnath is working in the areas of Fiber



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Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite materials as a graduate student in WVU-CEE.

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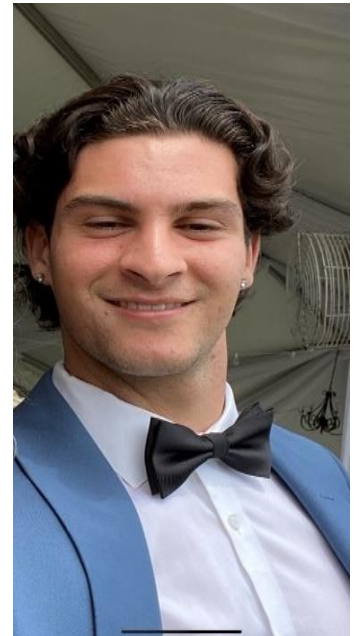
## Vladyslav Machul's'ky, Secretary

Vladyslav Machul's'ky is currently pursuing his MSCE degree with emphasis on Structural Engineering. Vladyslav joined SEIGSC-WVU in Fall 2020 as its Chapter Secretary with an aim of enhancing his leadership and networking skills within the structural engineering community. Vladyslav is willing to help in motivating students to pursue higher education in the field of Structural Engineering and find their topic of interest. Also, Vladyslav strongly believes that SEIGSC offers many opportunities for students to improve leadership and management skills while enhancing professional networking.



## Joseph Ryan (J.R.) Virga, Treasurer

Joseph Ryan (J.R.) Virga is a 2nd semester MSCE degree student at WVU-CEE, with emphasis in Structural Engineering. Born and raised in New York, JR attended West Virginia University for both his undergraduate and graduate studies. For his graduate research, JR is currently working in the area of Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP) composite pedestrian bridges. JR is an advocate of consistent questioning to kickstart new and innovative engineering ideas. As a continual learner and a passionate hard worker, JR plans on impacting the Civil Engineering world with his main priorities being the health and welfare of the general public.



*We thank you for your support and time!*

Please visit us on our Website: <https://sei.orgs.wvu.edu/>

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