

New Books



Title	Electrokinetic Technology for Contaminated Ground Remediation
Author	Soo-Sam Kim and Sang-Jae Han
Pages	219, B5
Publisher / Date	Kumil Sugwan/May 2003
List	15,000 won



Intended for construction and environmental engineers, this book introduces the electrokinetic technology for contaminated ground remediation. The authors have compiled the data obtained from their research and provide a broad view of basic information necessary for reaching a good engineering judgement. An extensive list of more than 200 references is also given.



Title	Technology for the Future - Lessons from Past Failures
Author	Soo-Sam Kim, Tae-Sik Lee, et al.
Pages	338, A5
Publisher / Date	Gimm-Young Publishers, Inc./April 2003
List	14,900 won



This is the first case study report of technical failures in Korea. The incidents covered range from the software, information, nuclear energy, construction, national land development and power plant stations including notable disasters such as the collapse of Sam-Poong Department Store and Sung-Su Bridge, and the tragic accident in Daegu subway. This book offers an interesting perspective on our technology failures and valuable insight into their background, causes, and effects.

Student Essay

Undergraduate students have always faced a complex dilemma during their senior year, in deciding whether further education is indeed necessary for their future career. Clearly, more undergraduate students today show a tendency of continuing their education for many different reasons. Universities have also stressed for research centered studies to prepare students for professional practice in an era of rapidly advancing interdisciplinary technology. However, graduate study can only score a success when the expectations are met from both the student and the faculty members to collaborate in a close working relationship.



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Original research is an essential component of the graduate program. However, considering the fact that civil engineering is one of the first engineering programs which were offered in early institutions, original idea requires for an excessive amount of adequate knowledge on allied subjects and is always of a great doubt and venture. As a result, many graduate students find themselves continuing their studies on what the circumstances allow, and many try to give up their intellectual aspiration toward a pathfinding research. I believe that original research in graduate education can be achieved when students are inspired and guided by the faculty who have a shared obligation to work together through relationships that advance freedom of inquiry and encourage common respect. A student's academic performance and a faculty member's scholarly and professional interests may coincide during the course of instruction and

research. An original research is hence possible as the faculty-graduate student relationship matures and develops to evolve direct collaborations. In addition, the faculty members should also provide intellectual and technical encouragement, moral support, and direction in support of a graduate student's progress toward degree completion. Expectations are high from students for a professional working environment that nurtures them to learn imaginatively both as an individual and as a team member.

I have appreciated the encouragement of critical thinking from participations in seminars and discussions with faculty members. It establishes competency in students for presentation of a dissertation and further stimulates confidence that is a key to self-development. In addition, I have found that collaboration with colleagues play a vital role because students are able to complement shortages in individual depth of experience and background in the basic engineering sciences. Imperatives must be put on team members to be knowledgeable on their given area of study. Environment where one student is accountable to have a complete knowledge of the entire are of study restricts and limits individual thinking of other team members. Team members must reach an understanding to share and divide responsibilities which provokes one other to thrive for knowledge in their specific area of study.

Graduate students strive to develop professional independence, creativity, leadership, and the capacity for continuing professional and intellectual growth. Under the assistance of the faculty members, graduate students hope to attain mastery of a specific area of study by preparing and performing an original research. Responsibilities must be placed on both the students and the faculty in order to develop the highest level of competencies in a graduate program.

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