



The Deep Foundations Institute is a not-for-profit association of contractors, engineers, manufacturers, suppliers, owners and academia.

DFI's membership promotes understanding and advancement of the deep foundations & excavations construction industry through conferences, publications, and community.

The technical committees, Augered Cast-In-Place Pile, Drilled Shaft, Driven Pile, Helical Foundations & Tiebacks, Marine Foundation, Micropiles, Slurry Wall, Soil Mixing, Testing and Evaluation, and Tiebacks & Soil Nailing provide industry leadership for these foundation systems, through the publication of Guides, Specifications and References and by providing educational programs.

The membership is international.

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For Immediate Release

DFI 2004 STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION AWARD



The Deep Foundations Institute is pleased to announce Martina Balic of Rutgers University Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Piscataway, New Jersey as the recipient of the 2004 Student Paper Competition Award. Ms. Balic presented her winning paper titled "Dynamic Characterization of Drilled Shafts on Doremus Avenue Bridge" during DFI's 29th Annual Conference on Deep Foundations in Vancouver, British Columbia and also had the paper published in the Proceedings Book. The runner-up of the competition, David Staab of the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, also had his paper entitled, "Non-Destructive Geophysical Evaluation of Deep-Mixed Soil: A Computer Modeling Study", published in the conference proceedings.

The competition awarded both students with complimentary conference registrations, a library of 20 DFI publications and a two-year individual DFI membership. As winner, Ms. Balic also received lodging at the Fairmont Hotel, site of the conference, and a travel stipend.

The abstract of the winning paper follows:

Dynamic properties of the drilled shaft foundations supporting Doremus Avenue Bridge were determined by forced vibration testing. The main objectives of the substructure testing at Doremus Avenue Bridge were: (1) site evaluation with respect to the dynamic soil properties, and, (2) shaft evaluation for the purpose of definition of their dynamic stiffness. The site characterization entailed crosshole testing for the purpose of evaluation of the shear modulus profile. The drilled shaft impedance evaluation was done through forced excitation using an electromagnetic shaker. The responses of the tested shaft, as well as the response of adjacent shafts, were measured for the purpose of evaluation of the shaft interaction. To gain a better insight into the shaft dynamics, one of the shafts was instrumented with five triaxial geophones distributed along the full length of the shaft. The scope and results of the site characterization, shaft impedance and shaft interaction evaluation are presented.

DFI looks forward to another successful student paper competition in 2005 where the winner will be presenting their paper in Chicago, Illinois at DFI's 30th Annual Conference on Deep Foundations on September 22 – 24, 2005.