EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

2005 Professors Institute
Best One Yet!

By Tonya Goble, PDCA Executive Director

PDCA conducted its Third Professors Piling Institute June 19-24 at Utah State University in Logan to glowing evaluations from the 25 professors in attendance.

PDCA believes that professor education is one of the most important and effective activities that the association does. The Professors Institute is an intensive week-long program that covers all aspects of driven pile installation, design, and quality control. It is truly a unique program that blends practical, real work construction knowledge with academics. The objective is to ensure that engineering educators are presenting material in the classroom that will result in constructible and economic driven pile foundations. The attendees also receive comprehensive teaching materials and course outlines. Key topics in this year’s Institute included:

- Driven pile design process including ASD and LRFD methods
- Geotechnical response of driven piles (static analysis, set up, relaxation, group response)
- Pile types and pile driving equipment
- Subsurface investigations for driven pile foundations
- Wave mechanics, wave equations
- Lateral behavior of pile groups
- Computer workshops with GRLWEAP, DRIVEN and FB-PIER
- CAPWAP workshop
- Cost components and economics
- Field demonstrations of pile driving, dynamic measurements and static load testing

Since 2002, PDCA has delivered this program to approximately 75 professors representing more than 60 universities (see page 6) from around the country. We estimate that on average, each professor teaches foundation engineering courses to approximately 40 students every year. This adds up to 3,000 engineering students getting much better training on designing constructible and economic driven pile foundations every year!

The PDCA has many to thank for helping us put together and deliver this outstanding program.

The Professors Institute would not be possible without financial support from the PDCA membership. A list of this year’s sponsors is provided on page 8. These sponsors will also be featured in the 2005 PDCA Membership Directory. PDCA expresses its sincere thanks to these companies for their ongoing support of our programs.
PDCA sends a big thank you to Build, Inc., that once again generously contributed their equipment and manpower in difficult site conditions to help us provide an actual pile driving demonstration along with static load test and dynamic pile monitoring demonstrations. We also want to recognize Pile Dynamics, GRL Engineers, Campbell Scientific, and Jay Appedaile Drilling for their wonderful contributions as well. The field demonstrations are consistently mentioned by the attending professors as the highlight of the Professors Institute.

The Professors Institute instructors are well-known in industry and academia and PDCA is grateful for the time and energy they devote to the success of the program. This year’s instructors included:

- J. Brian Anderson  
  (University of North Carolina)
- Loren Anderson  
  (Utah State University)
- Jim Bay (Utah State University)
- Steve Dapp (Dan Brown & Associates)
- George Goble (Goble Consulting LLC)
- Pat Hannigan (GRL Engineers)
- Van Komurka (Wagner Komurka Geotechnical)
PDCA Professors Institute
2002-2005 Participating Universities

Auburn University
Boise State University
Brigham Young University
California State University, Sacramento
Case Western Reserve University
Clemson University
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
Cornell University
Drexel University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida Atlantic University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Iowa State University
Lawrence Technical University
Louisiana State University
Minnesota State University
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New Mexico State University
Oregon State University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
South Carolina State University
Texas A&M University
Texas Tech University
The Citadel
Tufts University
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Colorado, Denver
University of Florida
University of Hawaii
University of Hong Kong
University of Houston
University of Idaho
University of Illinois
University of Kansas
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Memphis
University of Michigan
University of Missouri, Columbia
University of Missouri, Rolla
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of North Carolina, Charlotte
University of North Florida
University of Puerto Rico
University of Rhode Island
University of South Carolina
University of Southern California
University of Texas, El Paso
University of Texas, Arlington
University of Texas, Austin
University of Toledo
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
University of Wisconsin, Platteville
Utah State University
Washington State University

* Garland Likins (Pile Dynamics)
* Kyle Rollins (BYU)
* Joe Caliendo (Utah State University)

PDCA also wants to thank Utah State University, Loren Anderson, Jim Bay, and especially Joe Caliendo for their tremendous efforts in pulling together another highly successful Institute! The Institute would not be possible without their commitment and access to the beautiful facilities that the university has to offer.

The Professors Institute has helped PDCA established excellent relationships with many university programs around the country. We encourage PDCA members to build upon these relationships by reaching out to their local universities. Many professors would love it if you offered to speak at their class or conducted a field demonstration for their students and you will find the door open to you. The competition is doing these things today. Please call PDCA headquarters if you would like contact information or an introduction.

PDCA and Utah State plan to continue to offer the Professors Institute in the future and hope to offer the next one as soon as 2007. Thanks once again to all who contributed to making this year's Institute a big success!