### **Geology and Landslides**

Darrell Sapp/Post Gazette

A Brief Introduction/Review IRISE Landslide Capacity Building Seminar Series Daniel J. Bain University of Pittsburgh Department of Geology and Environmental Science August 28, 2020









## Conceptualization of landslide failure $\rightarrow$ Factor of Safety



#### Cohesion and slope failure

Load Loading piston



### The role of water in slope failure

When soils are dry, mass of sediments is less, lowering both forces.

As water fills the pores, the mass of the unit increases.

> The sediments are buoyant in water, reducing friction.



## Summary and review



#### **Prediction is hard**

Which plane will fail?

What is the cohesion?

Fine root cohesion most important

How much water?

Acknowledgements IRISE working group University of Pittsburgh

# Questions?