

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY: JAMES V. HAMEL

Jim Hamel has been self-employed as a Consulting Engineer with Hamel Geotechnical Consultants since 1973 working on projects throughout the U. S. and occasionally in other countries. He has degrees in civil engineering from the University of Pittsburgh (B.S., 1965; Ph.D., 1970) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (S.M., 1966). He is a Registered Professional Engineer in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia and a Registered Professional Geologist in Pennsylvania.

Jim is a Fellow and Life Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and an Honorary Member of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and the Pittsburgh Geological Society. In 1989, Jim was named Pittsburgh Civil Engineer of the Year by the Pittsburgh Section, American Society of Civil Engineers. He received the Distinguished Practice Award from the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America in 2008.

Over the past three decades, Jim's professional interests have evolved somewhat from traditional civil and geotechnical engineering to geological engineering and engineering geology. He expects to continue practicing as a consultant in engineering and applied geology for another decade or so. There are still challenges and opportunities in these areas and many puzzles in field geology yet to be solved.

Jim has worked with landslides since 1967 and published extensively in this area.

Hamel Geotechnical Consultants consists of Jim and his wife Betsy. They have never had employees and are not about to add any. Jim is, however, always willing to talk with students (or others) about technical and professional matters including where to seek employment. He can be reached at jvhamel3918@gmail.com or 412-824-5943.