

The background of the entire image shows the silhouettes of six people—three men and three women—standing in a modern office space. They are positioned in front of a large, curved glass wall that looks out onto a bright, overcast sky. The people are dressed in business attire. The floor is highly reflective, creating clear mirror images of the people and the text overlay below them. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greys, with the text providing a sharp contrast in white and yellow.

ATLAS
TOP YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
2023

ABOUT



ALEXANDRA (ALEX) DAVIS

NEPA Analyst
Duluth, GA



Volunteering to write my first NEPA document at Atlas changed the trajectory of my career from an Archaeologist to a NEPA Analyst. This career shift has allowed me to work closely with various groups across Atlas and lead environmental projects within Georgia.

After completing a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from Emory University, Alex Davis embarked on a three-month excavation in Malawi, Africa. There, she and her team unearthed an 8,000-year-old cremation and sequenced Africa's second-oldest human DNA sample, earning recognition in the New York Times.

Her career led her to Moreland Altobelli (now Atlas), where she began as an archaeologist and rapidly advanced to her current National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analyst role. In this position, she excels at bridging communication between environmental designers and subject matter experts, overseeing environmental project management, and ensuring the completion of NEPA documentation for project certification.

Alex improves efficiency by developing shared resources and budget-tracking tools, which streamline access to vital project information and real-time budget updates. This same dedication to optimizing operations extends to her passion for field safety, where she's established rigorous safety standards and implemented new policies for her environmental team.

She has completed numerous NEPA-related training courses, including those offered by the National Highway Institute, the Shipley Group, and various DOTs. Alex actively embraces internal development opportunities, recently completing the Project Management II training.

Outside of work, Alex participates in the yearly Gwinnett County wetland cleanup and engages with the Environmental Justice working group through the Georgia DOT Office of Environmental Services to advocate for the engagement of underserved populations.

She is also a member of the American Society of Highway Engineers (ASHE) bowling league, and she recently celebrated an impressive achievement – a “Turkey” – by landing three consecutive strikes. In pursuit of personal growth, she is currently learning Italian with the aspiration of integrating her newfound language skills into both her career and personal life. Alex ensures a work-life balance by finding enjoyable community engagement events and indulging in her favorite hobbies.

ABOUT

Zander Cordan began his career at Atlas after graduating with a bachelor's in geology from The University of Alabama. As a staff geologist, Zander became versed in environmental fieldwork, from Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) to geotechnical drilling and construction materials surveys.

Expanding his role into the Industrial Hygiene (IH) sector while maintaining involvement in various environmental projects, Zander became the go-to IH expert at the Alabaster, Alabama office. Here, he grew into a key member of the emergency hurricane response team, expediting resources to disaster-stricken areas across the country.

Zander's work covers asbestos sampling, lead-based paint surveys, indoor air quality assessments, and hazardous building materials surveys. But he's also conducted air monitoring services during excavations on federal projects like the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) downtown Birmingham superfund site, too.

His promotion to Project Manager I, coupled with an Asbestos Inspector license and Air Monitoring certification, gave him the freedom to put his dual perspective to work, as early exposure to varied tasks helped Zander become well-rounded in environmental, geotechnical, and construction material testing.

Zander's commitment to efficiency is evident in process reviews, exemplified by streamlining the groundwater sampling decontamination process with high-pressure pump sprayers. This adjustment not only saved time during well operations but also improved cleaning efficiency for pumps and equipment in the field. In another instance, when a colleague left unexpectedly, Zander seamlessly assumed additional responsibilities like asset tagging and emergency remediation response work. He ensured a smooth transition by creating a tracking form for scheduling site visits and monitoring report due dates.

Under Zander's guidance, the Atlas Alabaster environmental department expanded to seven members, its highest to date, with improved onboarding guides and training initiatives across offices, showcasing his commitment to knowledge transfer and process improvement. Zander's exceptional work ethic and adaptability make him an invaluable asset to both Atlas and its clients.



ALEXANDER (ZANDER) CORDAN

Project Manager I
Alabaster, AL



In my career, the implementation of after-action reviews stands out. Getting real-time feedback from our staff is paramount to being successful. Hearing what worked well, didn't work, and what we could do to be more efficient is the most important thing we can do to be successful.

ABOUT



ALISE WISNIEWSKI

Executive Assistant
Denver, CO



A defining moment in my career is realizing that my passion lies in helping others become their best. This shapes my professional growth, pushing my skills to better support them. I lead by example, always ready to assist, creating opportunities for their growth, just as I strive for mine.

Alise Wisniewski began her career in athletics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Athletics' Business Office, where she developed business acumen. She then shifted to the medical field before pursuing her passion for education through graduate studies at the University of Denver.

During her master's program, she served as a Teaching Assistant, honing her teaching abilities and preparing for her own classroom. She eventually pivoted from a doctorate program to become a high school English teacher, influencing students on their educational journey. Alise's knack for teaching was evident as she taught advanced college courses, allowing students to earn college credits while in high school.

After three years in education, Alise yearned for the corporate office environment, leading her to her current role as Executive Assistant to Atlas' Chief Operating Officer, Ken Burns, in July 2022. Her professional journey highlights her adaptability and unwavering commitment to learning, a dedication that shines through her transition to Atlas. Her effort to comprehend the company and the broader technical consulting field solidifies her support for her team. Furthermore, her administrative and analytical skills play a pivotal role in boosting the performance of industry experts, emphasizing her proficiency in navigating new domains while continually pursuing professional growth.

Alise has spearheaded initiatives to standardize practices across Atlas, displaying her passion for streamlining processes and efficiency. Alise actively seeks opportunities to lead and foster a supportive office culture, organizing charity drives and mentoring colleagues.

As a newcomer to the industry, Alise is dedicated to gaining a comprehensive understanding of the business and industry before joining an industry-related organization. However, her passion lies in supporting women in their careers and aspirations, leading her to explore female-led and female-focused organizations at local, state, and national levels.

Alise's commitment to community improvement is evident in her three years as a soccer and basketball coach at the high school where she taught. She focused on developing players' technical skills and self-confidence while fostering an appreciation of teamwork, ultimately striving to build a stronger, value-driven community.

ABOUT

Environmental Specialist Ally Richards specializes in Industrial Hygiene. She holds numerous certifications, encompassing Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Building Inspector, EPA Lead Inspector, and multiple credentials from the Institute of Inspection Cleaning and Restoration Certification (IICRC) covering water, odor, fire, and smoke remediation. While well-versed in various disciplines, her primary focus centers on microbial assessments and remediation, and asbestos and lead-based paint surveys and abatement.

Dedicated to continual learning, Ally actively pursues adjacent certifications, sharing her wealth of knowledge with colleagues. Unafraid to admit when she lacks an answer, Ally appreciates each question as an opportunity for growth.

Ally Richards demonstrates a steadfast commitment to organizational efficiency, overseeing equipment inventory and maintenance to ensure project gear is consistently ready for deployment. Her leadership in this area not only prolongs equipment lifespan, minimizing the need for new purchases but also reduces project downtime. Simultaneously, Ally ensures the accuracy of project data, providing clients with reliable and efficient service.

Ally volunteers with Reclaim Idaho, contributing to their mission of building an inclusive Idaho for all residents, irrespective of political party affiliation, through grassroots ballot initiatives.



ALLYSSA (ALLY) RICHARDS

Environmental Specialist
Boise, ID



I am truly inspired by my colleagues, and I am honored to contribute to a company that leads the infrastructure and environmental industries with strength and a values-driven approach.

ABOUT



ANDREW PANKOPP, PE, LEED AP

National Practice Team Manager - Civil Site Engineering
Denver, CO



Watching people experience and enjoy past projects at many colleges, universities, and parks projects gives me a great sense of pride. This sense of gratification drives my passion to provide a great product and develop our team to hold the same joy and satisfaction in the great work that they perform.

Andrew Pankopp, the National Practice Team Manager of Civil Site Engineering, has come a long way from his entry-level Project Engineer position at Long Engineering (Long), an Atlas company. As the former Vice President of Civil Site Design at Long, he oversaw a team of 20 professionals, engineers-in-training, and technical staff. Specializing in civil engineering design for higher education facilities, multi-family housing, parks, sports/entertainment, and renewable energy projects, he champions innovative stormwater treatment, green infrastructure, LEED, and Living Building accredited projects.

Andrew is committed to improving business processes, whether by refining CAD standards or creating standardized design documents and tools to deliver consistency to clients while streamlining design. His paramount dedication lies in the continuous evolution of the design process.

Andrew dedicates his self-improvement time to advancing client and employee interactions, overseeing design, and optimizing overall project budget and contract management. Learning from his team, especially in daily project production and drafting, keeps him updated on new processes and maintains his expertise in CAD and stormwater design software.

Andrew demonstrates leadership through his composure and thoughtful responses to project challenges, inspiring his team. His management style fosters universal respect among engineers, managers, and technical staff, greatly valuing their thoughts, input, and overall contributions.

He passionately volunteers as a soccer coach for Colorado United, nurturing young talents and rekindling his love for the sport. Andrew also supports the Georgia Institute of Technology through leading campus tours and senior project reviews. His extensive involvement in over 80 projects on the Georgia Tech campus offers valuable insights into the institution's developments and civil engineering challenges.

Balancing work and family, he engages in sports, exercise, and outdoor activities with his wife and three children, providing a break from daily duties and fostering quality family time. His flexible work schedule and remote work options allow him to adjust his focus between work and family, ensuring neither takes precedence over the other.

ABOUT

While pursuing a bachelor's in geological engineering from the University of Nevada, Reno, with minors in geology and hydrology, Andrew Pikero worked at a family-owned geotechnical and civil engineering firm. His academic excellence was recognized with the prestigious Nevada Scholastic Millennium Scholarship, Presidential Awards for Academic Excellence, and accolades from the Congressional Student Leadership Committee.

He also participated in work-study as a student tutor and interned with the Center for Transformative Environmental Monitoring Programs (CTEMPs) and Barrack Gold Corporation in the summer. After graduation, Andrew accepted a full-time position and passed the Professional Engineer (PE) exam in 2019.

A year later, he joined an engineering firm as a project engineer, overseeing activities in water and wastewater management, roadway maintenance and design, cost estimates, site development, hazard mitigation, and disaster planning. His contributions extended to design upgrades for large-scale projects in iconic national parks, including Yosemite and Death Valley.

In 2021, Andrew moved to Hawaii to lead Consolidated Engineering Labs (CEL), an Atlas company, as Division Engineer and Lab Manager. He played a critical role in training other employees and obtaining lab accreditations in soil-related testing for the entire geotechnical engineering practice. He eventually accepted a promotion to Division Manager of the Pacific Region, leading a team across the Hawaiian Islands managing critical military base projects.

Beyond his professional achievements, Andrew is committed to his community. He volunteers with Achieve Tahoe, which aims to provide year-round outdoor recreation activities for people with cognitive, sensory, and physical disabilities.

As an advocate for physical fitness and healthy living, Andrew practices and encourages colleagues to lead a balanced lifestyle. His love for outdoor activities, such as skiing, surfing, golfing, tennis, and hiking, motivates those around him to embrace a healthier and more active life.



ANDREW PIKERO, PE

Division Manager / Division Engineer Pacific Region
Aiea, HI



As an intern for CTEMps, our primary objective was to monitor water flux to rehabilitate the diminishing Walker River. Despite the harsh work environment, I received gratification in helping restore this river to protect communities and wildlife, alike. This experience helped me appreciate the possibilities that my education can provide.

ABOUT



BRIGETTE BARR, ESQ., EIT

Senior Electrical Engineer
Chicago, IL



Throughout my career, I have contributed to green initiatives in transportation infrastructure through the sustainable design of projects ranging from electric vehicle charging infrastructure and solar power initiatives to the implementation of Illinois' statewide energy-efficient LED lighting systems. My work demonstrates my commitment towards green transportation design; thus, contributing to a healthier, cleaner environment.

Brigette Barr earned her bachelor's in electrical engineering from George Mason University, where she discovered a passion for Intellectual Property Law. This led her to pursue a law degree at Chicago-Kent College of Law while contributing to Cara Collective, a Chicago-based non-profit focused on fostering employment and success.

During her second year of law school, Brigette accepted an engineering role at TranSmart, an Atlas company, engaging in electrical and lighting projects that harnessed technological advancements in the transportation sector. Now, as a Senior Electrical Engineer, Brigette leads major roadway lighting and electrical projects across Illinois.

Recognized for her tenacity and commitment to excellence, Brigette prioritizes client needs while fostering trust and collaboration within her team. A growth-oriented team player, she eagerly embraces challenging assignments, viewing each project as an opportunity for personal and professional growth.

Dedicated to continuous improvement, Brigette actively seeks constructive feedback, often reflecting on ways to identify and leverage her strengths and weaknesses. Her commitment to learning extends to participating in brainstorming sessions, benefiting both her team and clients. Additionally, Brigette collaborates with manufacturers' representatives in electrical and lighting component evaluation to enhance product specifications and delivery.

Over the years, Brigette has developed a thorough quality assessment process to catch and correct errors. She values using quality templates to ensure consistency and efficiency in her project presentations. Brigette is actively working towards her goals by seeking licensure in engineering and project management certification, while also maintaining her status as a registered attorney in Illinois.

As a member of the Chicago Bar Association, Illuminating Engineering Society, and Women's Transportation Seminar, Brigette utilizes industry resources to enhance her skills in law, transportation, and professional development. She strategically participates in relevant training and industry presentations, staying updated on the latest design standards and guidelines within her field.

Beyond her professional endeavors, Brigette extends her commitment to fostering inclusivity and a healthy work community by coordinating engaging activities for co-workers. Her social life is enriched by spending quality time with family and friends, attending concerts, and supporting local artists and businesses.

ABOUT

Brock Thornock's career with Atlas began at the Construction, Materials, and Testing (CMT) lab in Idaho Falls. It was there that he'd earn certifications in American Concrete Institute (ACI) field testing and the four essential Western Alliance for Quality Transportation Construction (WAQTC) certifications he needed to work on state highway projects.

As his career progressed, Brock learned the ins and outs of field inspection, earning additional certifications to broaden his expertise in the industry. Among these were the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET) (3), ACI (5), and the Idaho Qualified Person (IQP) program (5). With this comprehensive skill set, Brock collaborated closely with the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD), actively engaging in testing and inspection activities across Southeast Idaho.

When Atlas was chosen to conduct testing and inspection for the transportation department in District 6, ITD posed a crucial question: "Will Brock be leading the projects?" The affirmative response set the stage for Brock to assume a leadership role. Since then, he has maintained a close working relationship with ITD and extended his influence to collaborate with other city and federal highway personnel on projects funded by state and federal sources.

Currently, Brock manages and supervises testing and inspection for seven diverse state and federally-funded highway projects, with budgets falling anywhere between three to \$18 million.

Away from work, Brock enjoys spending time outdoors, sharing moments with his wife and two dogs, Fin and Oakley. An avid upland game bird hunter, Brock is often accompanied by his loyal canine companions. He relishes time spent with friends, engaging in various activities, and actively participates in volunteering. Additionally, he dedicates time to officiating various combat sports, including MMA, kickboxing, Muay Thai, jiu-jitsu, and boxing.



BROCK THORNOCK

Senior Inspector
Idaho Falls, ID



The defining moment that made me realize that Atlas is where I want to grow my career was having the leaders of ITD approach my management with a firm request, "Will Brock be leading this project?". This proved to me that my hard work and dedication had paid off monumentally.

ABOUT



BRYAN RALL, PG, CEG

Senior Geologist
San Diego, CA



Early in my career, I assumed leadership of a satellite office despite feeling unprepared. This drove me to rapidly expand my knowledge and skills to meet new job demands, showcasing the transformative impact of active learning and embracing challenges for significant professional and personal growth. This experience fuels my commitment to challenging and inspiring growth in my peers and continually pushing myself beyond my comfort zone by taking on new challenges.

Bryan Rall is an engineering geologist with over a decade of geotechnical consulting experience who conducts forensic investigations related to landslides and distressed properties throughout southern California. He specializes in the comprehensive management of diverse development projects including, but not limited to, custom single-family residences, residential subdivisions, large logistics centers, commercial developments, and critical infrastructure projects.

Bryan's geotechnical investigations help determine subsurface hazards like potential landslides, faults, and soil liquefaction, informing stakeholder decision-making in project design and construction. Throughout the construction phase, Bryan evaluates the conditions of the underlying earth materials while verifying design assumptions and confirming strict adherence to project specifications. He also offers valuable oversight to field personnel, ensuring seamless coordination and the highest execution standards.

Dedicated to improving company processes and industry standards, Bryan seeks diverse project experiences in both private and public sectors. These experiences are further complemented by his attainment of Professional Geologist (PG) and Certified Engineering Geologist (CEG) licenses in California. Bryan actively engages in professional groups such as the American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE) Environmental and Pipeline, The South Coast Geological Society, and the San Diego Association of Geologists, always striving to improve the industry and stay informed.

In his recent role, Bryan demonstrated leadership by collaborating with clients to address challenging field conditions, ensuring cost-effective solutions without compromising quality. This hands-on experience reflects his commitment to maintaining high standards in geotech.

A passionate advocate for inspiring the next generation, he regularly volunteers at local middle schools, educating students about potential careers in geotechnical fields. Balancing his professional and personal life, Bryan finds joy in activities such as surfing and snowboarding, all while being a devoted supporter of his daughter's soccer endeavors.

ABOUT

Clinton Wyllie began his career at Materials Testing and Inspection (MTI) (now Atlas) while concurrently studying at Boise State University. His multi-faceted role included conducting fieldwork for geotechnical investigations, composing geotechnical engineering reports, crafting proposals, and nurturing client relationships. During the first year of his career, Clinton worked full-time in the geotechnical services department while also attending college. In the fall of 2016, he passed the Fundamentals of Geology exam to become a Geologist-in-Training (GIT).

After graduation, Clinton was offered a job focusing on hillside projects and geologic hazard investigations. After acquiring his Professional Geologist (PG) license, he took on added duties that encompassed essential technical report assessments, mentoring junior staff members, and actively contributing to their professional development.

Clinton has effectively employed GIS capabilities to enhance accessibility and efficiency in the geotechnical and environmental departments. He assists offices with project management and GIS dataset creation across regions. He also focuses on advancing technology for future growth.

Renowned in the local region for his expertise in large-scale hillside projects and mentorship of junior geologists, Clinton conducted an eight-hour technical course on slope stabilization and landslide prevention for local professionals in early 2019. In 2020, he played a big part in updating the City of Boise Foothills Ordinance as part of a professional advisory group.

Before his professional career, Clinton served in the armed forces for seven years, displaying dedication to his country. Furthermore, he volunteers with Rake Up Boise, helping elderly and disabled community members since 2016, showcasing his dedication to service and community well-being.



CLINTON WYLLIE, PG

Staff Geologist
Boise, ID



Over the course of my career, I have strived to utilize GIS capabilities and advanced technology to enhance the efficiency and quality of our products, ensuring better deliverables for our valued clients.

ABOUT



DAMIAN BECERRA, CMIT

Vice President / Southern California Sales Leader
Los Angeles, CA



I am not a designer, I am not a planner, I am not an engineer. I am not a builder. I connect people. And through connection, I hope to have a positive impact on those who design, plan, engineer, and build. But most importantly, a positive impact on our communities.

Some of Damian Becerra's most notable wins feature the first design-build project at the China Lake Naval Weapons Station in Ridgecrest, California, and repeat business with the Port of Long Beach, the second-largest harbor in the country.

He's closed multi-year agreements with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and established trust as a Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) partner, laying the groundwork for future opportunities with major state and federal accounts.

At the root of Damian's success in the Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) services sector lies an unabated passion for enhancing community infrastructure, safeguarding job security, leading innovative projects that encourage personal growth, and cultivating meaningful relationships.

Damian is currently involved with various professional organizations, dedicating over 20 hours per week to promoting the growth of young professionals. He also partners with the Associated General Contractors (AGC) Highway and Transportation Liaison Committee to round out his understanding of the industry at large.

He's contributed to the California Infrastructure Delivery Coalition (CALINFRA), the American Public Works Association (APWA) Programs Committee, and the Construction Management Association of America's (CMAA) Committee on Diversity and Equality (CODE), allocating proceeds to AEC industry scholarships for up-and-comers.

Dedicated to advocating for emerging female transportation professionals, Damian sits on the board of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS). For him, work is something beyond business: it's a catalyst.

ABOUT

After graduating with a civil engineering degree from Marquette University, Dan Meier gravitated toward work in Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). His relentless quest for knowledge has empowered him to acquire expertise spanning every stage of projects, encompassing conceptualization, planning, design, construction, and the critical domains of maintenance and operations.

Dan has led various aspects of ITS design contracts and maintenance programs, demonstrating proficiency in navigating the intricacies of these projects. Regularly, he coordinates capital ITS installations, collaborating with a spectrum of stakeholders that include designers, installers/contractors, traffic management centers, and maintainers. His adept management ensures the harmonious integration of efforts, contributing to the successful execution of these critical initiatives.

Dan's dedication to his profession has been acknowledged through his licensure as a professional engineer in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin. His commitment to staying abreast of the ever-evolving technological landscape is evident as he consistently strives to remain at the forefront of the industry, continually adapting to the latest updates, equipment, and emerging trends.

In addition to his technical accolades, Dan is an active member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and ITS Wisconsin, showcasing his commitment to professional growth and networking.

Dan embraces a philosophy that commences with dedicating quality time to family and friends. His approach goes beyond mere presence; he actively ensures that, during these moments, he is fully engaged and attuned to the shared experiences, fostering meaningful connections.



DAN MEIER, PE

Senior Systems Engineer
Milwaukee, WI



Early in my career, I had the opportunity to tour a public agency's traffic operations center and see how their systems were being used to improve roadway safety and assist first responders and maintenance personnel. That drives me to keep safety and quality at the forefront as I design and maintain these critical systems.

ABOUT



DARREN HICKS

Director of Laboratory Services
San Diego, CA



As Laboratory Director, I prioritize precision, employ rigorous quality control, and foster a culture of improvement. Our lab consistently delivers reliable results, setting new standards for excellence in materials testing and ensuring the safety and longevity of infrastructure projects.

Every day, Darren Hicks seizes the opportunity to make a positive impact on various civic projects. As the Director of Laboratory Services, his significant role revolves around ensuring the integrity of the construction materials testing (CMT) lab in San Diego, California. This involves the responsibility of verifying that materials used in construction projects adhere to specific standards and regulations.

Darren's success in his career results from his exceptional leadership, adaptability in spur-of-the-moment situations, and a hallmark commitment to customer service. These qualities have propelled him to the forefront of his field.

To stay abreast of industry best practices, Darren actively maintains accreditations from reputable institutions such as the American Concrete Institute (ACI), California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and Airfield Asphalt Certification Program (AACP). His commitment extends beyond his professional duties; he is actively involved with industry organizations, notably the ACI San Diego Chapter, showcasing his ongoing dedication to community service. Additionally, Darren serves as an assistant examiner for ACI Field Grade 1 classes, emphasizing his commitment to contributing to the education and development of future concrete industry professionals.

Recognizing the significance of community service, Darren seeks opportunities to expand his involvement in initiatives that directly benefit the construction industry. His dedication lies in leveraging his expertise and experience to create a positive impact within his professional sphere and the broader community, demonstrated through his participation in industry-related community service activities.

In maintaining a healthy work-life balance, Darren consciously separates his professional and personal life. By leaving work-related concerns at the workplace, he redirects his focus to personal matters at home. This deliberate approach allows him to prioritize self-care and fosters a harmonious equilibrium between his career and personal well-being.

ABOUT

After a decade-long career in music, Guillermo Troncoso pivoted towards geotechnical engineering. His journey began at California State University, Fullerton, where he contributed to the national championship-winning American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) wall team. He would go on to intern at two different engineering firms that specialized in civil projects, geotech, and hydrology, further rounding out his skills.

Post-graduation, Guillermo worked as a staff engineer for two years, conducting geotechnical investigations, laboratory and field testing, overseeing construction observations, and writing associated reports. Recognized for his skills, he successfully redesigned and expanded the laboratory to meet increased demand, earning the later responsibility for scheduling and operations of geotechnical investigation and testing.

After relocating to Idaho, Guillermo became an integral part of the Atlas team, initially as a laboratory technician. Guillermo later assumed the role of laboratory supervisor during the lab's ISO 17025 assessment with A2LA. Over the next year, he guided the team through AASHTO and DOT assessments, culminating in a commercial grade dedication for NQA-1 level soils and rock testing with RIZZO, Intl. His leadership and efficiency improvements transformed the lab, enabling the successful completion of significant projects, including an 80,000-ton project for the Idaho Transportation Department (ITD).

Guillermo expanded his certification portfolio from nuclear gauge safety to an impressive 12, including ACI and WAQTC. Currently awaiting final approval for two NICET certifications in HMA, he is on the verge of completing his NQA-1 Lead Auditor qualification.

A pivotal moment showcased Guillermo's impact on industry improvement when he addressed concrete supplier issues through careful data analysis. This intervention not only corrected the oversight but also elevated the overall quality of the community's construction projects.

Guillermo's commitment extends beyond his professional life. He's a local church member who volunteers as a worship team leader. As a husband and father of three, Guillermo maintains a strong presence in his family's life, emphasizing nightly reading and prayers. Engaged in local civics, he organizes events focusing on elections, candidates, and legislative discussions.

Despite a demanding schedule, Guillermo finds solace in music, playing multiple instruments and recognizing its power to transcend and soothe. His motivation stems from faith, family, and community, instilling a commitment to excellence and integrity in all aspects of life. As he navigates the intricate balance between work and personal pursuits, Guillermo remains a force in the contexts of engineering, community service, and music.



GUILLERMO TRONCOSO

Laboratory Manager, Staff Engineer
Boise, ID



In everything I do, I focus on helping those around me understand not only what we do but why it is important. Public safety is paramount. I strive to help individuals achieve excellence, and I won't ask something of someone I don't expect out of myself.

ABOUT



LILY SLAUGHTER

Project Manager
Duluth, GA



Being a project manager in Georgia has defined my career. Guiding local communities with their projects in my home state is fulfilling. It's a rewarding experience to contribute to the improvement of the places where I grew up, making a meaningful impact on the fabric of local communities.

Lily Slaughter initially went to college to study communications at the University of North Georgia. She would eventually transfer schools and graduate magna cum laude with a bachelor's in speech communications with a minor in educational psychology from Georgia State University.

Her professional career began after she accepted a job as an Engineering Clerk at Moreland-Altobelli (now Atlas), embracing the challenges of having a non-traditional background. But her quick grasp of the industry and hallmark problem-solving ability merited a promotion to Project Coordinator.

Lily pursued P6 certifications and immersed herself in the intricacies of engineering and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). In 2021, she rose to the role of Project Manager for GDOT's Locally Administered Projects (LAP) program, managing over 20 projects and 140 schedules.

Driven by a desire for self-improvement, Lily diligently obtained all GDOT training certificates and is currently on a path to obtaining the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification. Her ambitions extend to pursuing a Master of Business Administration (MBA) with a specialized focus on project management.

Beyond personal growth, Lily is a dedicated team player. She routinely enhances her team's scheduling efforts, conducts P6 software training, and advocates for her team's professional development.

Lily's philanthropic spirit shines through her commitment to St. Jude and annual contributions to Toys for Tots. Her empathy, rooted in her childhood experiences, drives her to ensure that every child experiences the joys of play and laughter.

ABOUT

Morteza Mirshekari, a geotechnical engineer with over a decade of experience, plays a dual role: SoCal Geotechnical Division Manager and Geotechnical Practice Manager for California. His academic background includes a bachelor's and master's degree from the University of Tehran, Iran, and a doctoral degree from the University of New Hampshire. Morteza has been published in more than 15 academic journals and has earned recognition for his work at over 10 geotechnical conferences.

Some of his most notable achievements include helping successfully integrate Atlas' geotechnical operations, implementing systematic client management systems, reducing turnover rates, and leading recruitment efforts in a competitive market. He excels in identifying client needs, initiating new business lines, and efficiently managing staff and resources for major transportation projects, evidenced in Atlas' recent \$6-million contract award with Brightline West's ambitious High-Speed Rail project.

Morteza is dedicated to propelling Atlas' growth in highly profitable and technically advanced areas of geotechnical engineering, such as transportation, geotechnical instrumentation, and earthquake engineering. He aims to establish Atlas as a symbol of technical excellence, differentiating its services and fostering nationwide collaboration through the ATO model.

His leadership philosophy, grounded in compassion, trust, and a pursuit of mastery, reflects a commitment to fostering a high-performing team. Morteza's emphasis on client satisfaction further highlights his strategic business acumen.

Morteza holds key positions, serving as Vice Chair of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) San Diego Geo-Institute and the Treasurer of ASCE's Orange County Geo-Institute. In addition, he regularly volunteers as a peer reviewer for various geotechnical journals and conferences.

In anticipation of his child's arrival, Morteza uses tools like the time management matrix to ensure his department meets deadlines and maintains a healthy work-life balance. Emphasizing skill-enhancement tasks, he aims to improve efficiency, reducing the urgency and quantity of critical tasks within his team.



MORTEZA MIRSHEKARI, PhD, PE

Geotechnical Practice Team Manager
San Diego, CA



Leading the geotechnical contract efforts for the Brightline West High-Speed Rail project is a major event in my professional life. This all-electric train will connect SoCal to Las Vegas twice as fast as normal driving time, lowering greenhouse gases by over 400,000 tons of CO2 and reducing vehicle miles traveled by more than 700 million annually, benefiting the community.

ABOUT



ROBERT BRODA, PG

Project Manager
Raleigh, NC



In my career, reducing people's exposure to contamination has been the most fulfilling part of my job. My attention to detail during a receptor survey helped identify residential properties that have been drinking contaminated water. I aim to be a helpful co-worker who promotes a positive work dynamic. I would like to think that my work ethic sets an example for my colleagues, the true reason the Raleigh Atlas office performs strongly.

After earning a master's in geology from East Carolina University, Robert Broda accepted a Staff Scientist position with Atlas. Most of his work consisted of field operations, which primed him for a career in project management. Over the years, Robert has grown accustomed to navigating rigorous North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) programs, building his reputation as a detail-oriented professional.

Along with an exemplary safety record, Robert possesses exceptional leadership qualities that have significantly contributed to his office's success. He mentored many of his colleagues, facilitating their proficiency in programs like ArcGIS Pro. With the help of his co-workers, Robert was able to assist a client in better distributing public notification letters within a 500-foot radius of a contaminated site.

Notable achievements include connecting residential properties to city water and rectifying years of contamination in the drinking water supply. In addition, he led investigations that successfully mitigated solvent vapors by installing sub-slab depressurization systems in commercial buildings.

As a member of the Ground Water Professionals of North Carolina and Urban Land Institute (ULI) Triangle, Robert enjoys finding ways to apply his geology background to community service. Above all else, Robert is a full-time husband and father of two young children.

ABOUT

With an impressive career spanning over 15 years in the transportation industry, Sam Allen has honed his expertise in project controls and project management, particularly with GDOT program management contracts.

His robust skill set encompasses the successful management of a diverse array of transportation projects, ranging from significant corridor widenings to intricate bridge replacements, operational enhancements, signal upgrades, and the development of bike/pedestrian facilities and streetscape enhancement projects. He possesses extensive expertise in the strategic development and management of schedules for large, intricate transportation projects, alongside the adept oversight of multiple delivery programs.

Sam has been instrumental in spearheading initiatives to establish the Atlas Project Management Office, a crucial step in enhancing and supporting project delivery throughout the company. His leadership involves the strategic development and implementation of vital components within Atlas' Project Delivery program, such as the Project Estimating and Pricing Tool (PEPT), the Project Manager Training and Certification Program, and the Project Review program. In addition, Sam participated in the inaugural cohort of the Atlas Leadership Academy in Spring 2023, further showcasing his commitment to professional development and leadership within the organization.

Sam holds membership in both the ACEC Georgia and the Atlanta Chapter of the Project Management Institute, affiliations that offer valuable opportunities to contribute to the growth and development of the industry.

Beyond his professional engagements, Sam has been an active volunteer within the Gwinnett County community, notably dedicating his time to various youth athletic associations. His most recent role as a coach for his daughter's softball teams at the Brookwood Athletic Association underscores his commitment to fostering both professional and community development.



SAM ALLEN, PMP

Project Controls Manager
Duluth, GA



The opportunity to join the Atlas Project Delivery team and help establish the Atlas PMO has been a defining career moment for me. Through working with this team, I can use my knowledge and experience to help establish a support organization to drive Atlas' core value of mastery in project management. It has given me the opportunity and confidence to lead a team and shape my own personal leadership philosophy.

ABOUT



STEVEN MOODY, GIT

Senior Staff Geophysicist
San Diego, CA



Excellence demands initiative, even in the face of self-doubt. When tasked with overseeing geophysical work for a significant SDGE contract, I initially felt nervous. Despite the project's complexity and potential consequences, I committed to delivering top-tier service. Maintaining composure, I strengthened client relations, generating revenue exceeding \$100,000. Successfully handling this substantial project early on bolstered my confidence and adaptability across diverse scopes.

Early in his career, Steven Moody engaged with consulting operations nationwide while pursuing a bachelor's in earth science at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. His contributions included emissions testing for Grace Consulting Inc. in the eastern U.S. and environmental consulting for ARCADIS in San Luis Obispo County.

Upon graduating with honors, he went to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, to earn a master's in geological sciences and a Geologist in Training (GIT) certification. During graduate studies, Steven cultivated a specialized skill set tailored for a geophysicist. This expertise wasn't kept to himself; Steven shared it with undergraduates under his guidance and extended collaboration to colleagues, many of whom remain ongoing collaborators.

Since becoming part of the Atlas team, Steven has consistently applied his expertise to diverse geophysical and geological examinations. His contributions extend beyond routine applications; he advises on unique methodologies gaining prominence in the industry. Concurrently, he is fully engaged in attaining both Professional Geologist (PG) and Professional Geophysicist (PGp) licenses in California, showcasing his commitment to ongoing professional development.

In the dynamic field of geophysics, Steven recognized the importance of excelling not only in high-quality fieldwork and data collection but also in serving as an educator and consultant, contributing to seamless project execution. His team highly values his contributions, actively seeking his input on technical applications and theoretical explanations in the geophysical field. Additionally, he is routinely consulted for project proposals and the application of geophysical methods. Actively engaged with organizations like San Diego Geological Society (SDAG), Steven contributes as a thought leader, presenting geophysical methodology and best practices in data collection and project planning.

Steven fosters a sense of community within the company, embracing the roles of friend and colleague. He shares his enthusiasm through various activities, notably as an avid golfer who introduced a significant portion of his division to the sport. Beyond being a recreational pastime, golf provides an opportunity to connect with clients. Steven extends his passion by teaching golf to teammates and, in some instances, their family and friends. This commitment to shared activities, including board and video gaming, and relaxation at team social events, such as coworker-led concerts, contributes to a more inclusive and stress-free division culture.

ABOUT

Will Bamberg began his career in construction engineering and inspection (CEI), gaining hands-on experience in various engineering domains, such as concrete, asphalt, earthwork, and structural inspections. His responsibilities in CEI gradually shifted towards project management, involving close collaboration with the Alabama Department of Transportation.

After two years in the CEI services sector, Will transitioned to the role of a project transportation engineer. After completing his mandatory four-year engineering experience, Will passed Professional Engineer (PE) exams in Alabama, Louisiana, and Georgia. He then assumed the role of a roadway engineer, actively contributing to multiple projects under the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), becoming the Engineer of Record for an impressive portfolio of GDOT-let projects valued at approximately \$40 million.

With a decade of engineering experience, Will has undergone remarkable professional growth, consistently engaging in complex projects throughout his career. His expertise spans the entire project lifecycle, from initial proposals to successful realization.

His dedication to professional growth has driven him to pursue educational opportunities, resulting in the acquisition and maintenance of numerous certifications and licenses, including Professional Engineering (PE) licenses in multiple states, GSWCC Level II Certified Design Professional, and Plan Development Process Certification.

Will has invested in his professional development by receiving training in new software to optimize project design efficiency. This includes in-depth courses in OpenRoads for roadway and stormwater drainage design, heralded as the next industry standard for future projects. Furthermore, he leverages the resources provided by ACEC and ASCE, seizing the opportunity to participate in webinars that span various dimensions of design.

He also participates in multiple engineering organizations, including ASHE, ASCE, and ACEC. He holds memberships in both the national and local chapters of ASHE and ASCE, attending year-round events to network and stay current on innovative technologies and processes to further refine his understanding of the industry and evolve.



WILLIAM (WILL) BAMBERG, PE

Transportation Engineer
Atlanta, GA



During my career, I have found that efficiency and communication are two of the biggest factors in consistently succeeding on projects. I believe that having consistent success on projects is more important than any one specific defining project. This thinking has proven to serve me well in my career.

The word "ATLAS" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A long, thin, white swoosh underline starts under the 'A', passes under the 'T', 'L', and 'A', and ends under the 'S', extending slightly beyond the letters on both sides.

ATLAS

we're built to be better