

Department of Aerospace Engineering Minta Martin Seminar Series



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Understanding an hourglass, and other granular flows, in under an hour

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ABSTRACT: Flows of particulate material, such as sand discharging in an hourglass, are ubiquitous in nature and industry. The flow and transport of granules, powders, or grains is complex and can differ considerably from that associated with a single-phase material. This presentation will highlight some unique features of granular materials (such as the discharge from an orifice) and describe some recent work at Caltech on granular flow rheology, particle collisions in a liquid environment, and booming sand dunes.

Bio: Dr. Hunt has a B.S. from the University of Minnesota. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California. She is the Dotty and Dick Hayman Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology. Professor Hunt focuses on heat transfer and fluid mechanics associated with granular and particulate flows, fluidized beds, and porous media; convective flows in buoyancy driven flows, rotating machinery, and complex fluid systems.



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