WSU CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

ASCM Newsletter

Updates

Construction Management — Jason Peschel, Program Head

The 2016-2017 school year is certainly off to a quick start - the fall semester is more than half over so far! There is much to celebrate...competitions, integrated study tours, and dedications to name a few.

- This semester four integrated (CM, ID, and Architecture) student teams competed in the regional portion of the DBIA national student competition with teams placing 1st and 3rd. The regional winners were selected to compete for at the DBIA Conference & Expo on November 3rd...and took 2nd place! Congratulations and Go Cougs!
- For the first time in several years, a number of CM students participated in the SDC integrated study tour course. The students (56 in total from all four disciplines) traveled to NYC and spent a week learning about design and construction in the "big apple". The CM students, along with ID and Architecture, also participated in two very interesting and unique project tours thanks to Turner Construction & Foundations Group.
- The formal dedication for the remodel of Carpenter 220 was a huge success - now the Kiewit Construction Management classroom. The event was attended by over 60 students, the VCEA advisory board members, CM faculty, and representatives from VCEA. Scott Cassels, Executive VP (‘81 CM) was on hand for the ribbon cutting and provided an inspiring presentation for the students.

We are confident that there will be much more to celebrate as the school year progresses and we’ll do our best to keep you updated. Go Cougs!

ASC Competitions — Dr. David Gunderson, Associate Professor

The CM students will be participating in the Region 6-7 student competition again this year with teams in the VDC, Heavy-Civil, Design Build, and Commercial categories. The teams are meeting on a regular basis and practice problems will be starting soon!

New this year, four WSU Construction Management students will be competing in the Associated Schools of Construction Region 8 (International Region) Student Competition at the University of Reading in the United Kingdom on November 17th and 18th. The student competition will be based on "one of the University’s recent infrastructure investments". The WSU Team members are Steven Bradshaw, Marcus Konopaski, Marie Landsverk, and Charlotte Schmitz. The faculty coaches are David Gunderson and Jason Peschel. The team is planning on visiting construction jobsites in London before taking the train to Reading for the competition. Student teams from England, Ireland, and the United States will be developing solutions to the problem on November 17, and their oral presentations will be on the 18th. This will be an amazing opportunity for our students to spotlight the CM program at WSU while gaining invaluable insight into our ever shrinking, global construction industry.

Solar Decathlon — Tim Goheen, WSU Solar Decathlon 2017 Project Manager

WSU has been chosen to compete in the Solar Decathlon 2017 competition to design, build, and promote a solar powered home. The team includes over 50 students from 22 different majors. The Decathlon consists of constructing the project on WSU’s Pullman campus, transporting it to Denver by September 23, 2017, and reassembling it in 9 days. The team is currently in the design development and prototyping phase — creating a project manual and construction drawings. WSU’s Construction Management program has equipped the team with the tools and understanding necessary for construction planning, scheduling, logistics, and developing a safety strategy. The integration of the various disciplines within the School of Design and Construction has facilitated a broader collaboration effort and will greatly contribute to our success.

This project is made possible by donations from alumni and industry sponsors in the form of material, consultation, and financial support. Folks interested in supporting this endeavor can contact Jennifer Dean at 509-335-8096 or jenn.dean@wsu.edu.
Inaugural CM Golf Tournament

The ASCM student group did an excellent job of coordinating and putting on the golf tournament at the Harbour Pointe Golf Club in Mukilteo, Washington. The students had most, if not all, of the hole sponsors and foursomes sold out about a month before the event. Not bad at all for the first time around! Marcus Konopaski is deserving of a special thanks as he took the lead on this event.

Professors Chef and Peschel attended, played in the tournament and networked with industry folks and alumni. It was awesome to see such a great turnout...144 golfers in total. The feedback was incredibly positive with a couple of folks already asking to sign up for a sponsorship again next year. The proceeds from the tournament have been directed towards the ASCM student group and the Student Excellence Fund.

The students are already in the planning phase for next year’s tournament. We hope that you’ll continue to participate and help make this a success!

Student Experiences/Perspectives

Integrated Class Learns About Modular Construction

This semester, six CM students and four Hospitality Business Management (HBM) students are teaming up with Stonebridge Companies to participate in an independent study class that aims at exploring the viability of modular construction in the hotel industry. Throughout the duration of the course, we will be able to watch the process of how they build their new modular hotel prototype on Pullman’s campus. Early in the semester, we had the opportunity to take a trip down to Boise, Idaho to tour Guerdon Enterprises where we saw first hand how the modular construction process works. We were able to watch modules being placed together piece by piece (floors, ceilings, walls, etc.), furnished, and prepared to ship. The modules under construction are the same ones that will be going into the Marriott Courtyard hotel project in Pullman.

While touring Guerdon’s facilities, we were able to ask a multitude of questions and were presented with an overview of how each facet of their company operates (engineering, design, management, estimating, etc.). The HBM students gained insight of the construction industry while the CM students were able to use our knowledge to ask detailed questions and begin to compare how modular construction compares to the traditional processes that we have learned about. The trip was a learning experience for everyone - the students were able to discuss ideas and thoughts amongst one another, which was unique because we come from very different backgrounds of thinking within our respective degrees.

— Charlotte Schmitz, Construction Management and Architecture 2017

The Value of Construction Management at WSU

In my opinion, the opportunities provided to students in the Construction Management program are unmatched by any other major at Washington State. Whether it is an opportunity to network, interview and intern with industry partners, travel on study tours, compete in the various competitions, or learn in (and out of) the classroom from excellent professors with significant industry experience — there are endless ways to get involved and enrich your undergraduate experience.

I had the opportunity to intern with Howard S. Wright in Seattle during the summer of 2016 and enjoyed being able to apply what I have learned. Not only that from my classes but also what I have learned as a member of the commercial team in the ASC Student competition. It was all applicable to real life situations that I encountered. The Howard S. Wright staff was great at assisting me in apply my base knowledge from school and taking it to the next level - so I could be an active and equal team member on the project. With that experience I am now more prepared to take on the fourth year in the program and look forward to graduation in May.

All of this is made possible because of the great CM faculty and staff — the value of which is quite honestly, immeasurable.

— Marie Landsverk, Construction Management 2017

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Help Strengthen the CM Program

The WSU Construction Management program has a long, rich history of producing graduates who are “work ready, day one”. To continue this proud tradition, we look to alumni and supporters to help us provide resources to inspire and encourage our students to reach their full potential. The industry and alumni can provide financial support to the program through gifts to the following primary funds:

**CM Student Excellence Fund (student experience fund)**
These gifts are used to fund learning opportunities for students in the CM program outside of formal classroom activities. The opportunities include student clubs such as ASCM, regional and national student competitions, conferences, field trips, and the Senior Capstone event. Our goal is to generate a minimum of $60,000 annually.

*Learn about the CM Student Excellence Fund or Give to the CM Student Excellence Fund*

**A. Donald Poe CM Laboratory Fund (BIM laboratory fund)**
These gifts are used to create, maintain, and update student access to technology and laboratories within CM. We are currently undertaking a major fundraising effort for a three-phased plan that will provide equipment, software, and upgraded classrooms for our students that is reflective of current industry technology.

The fund will provide workstations in the lab and classrooms to allow students to collaborate with building information models and provide for future research and development for BIM, augmented reality, and virtual reality as they become increasingly more relevant to the design and construction industry. Our goal is to raise a total of $800,000 which includes $500,000 for facility updates and equipment plus an additional $300,000 to build an endowment for future upgrades and maintenance.

*Learn about the BIM Laboratory Fund or Give to the BIM Laboratory Fund*

**A. Donald Poe CM Excellence Fund**
This fund is the discretionary source we utilize to assist our students and support the highest needs for the CM program.

*Give to the CM Excellence Fund*

Please support the future of the construction industry and the WSU Construction Management program through one of these important opportunities. Go Cougs!