We've moved...our offices but not any of the classrooms

Our faculty offices have been relocated but the classrooms continue to remain on the 2nd floor of Carpenter Hall. The next time you come to Pullman to visit, guest lecture, or recruit you’ll quickly notice that the administrative, staff, and faculty offices for the SDC and the program are now located in new spaces.

The CM faculty are located in EME 202A - 202H and Dana 146, 146A, and 146B. The offices for the SDC Director, staff, and advisors are located on the 1st floor of Carpenter Hall.

They say that change is good but it is often difficult, too. We are doing our best to adjust and adapt to this new normal. We were fortunate to have gained a few additional spaces as part of this office relocation. These new spaces are serving as interview and collaboration spaces for the students/faculty but also for future growth. We are quickly discovering what works, what doesn’t and what we need to improve the spaces.

Updates

Construction Management — Jason Peschel, Program Coordinator

Another semester is behind us...it is hard to believe that we are so close to the holidays. It’s been busy but productive and we have much to celebrate! This year marked the successful completion of Phase I of the BIM Initiative - the build-out of the lab space in Carpenter 225. This is an amazing space outfitted with 28 computer workstations, SmartBoards, VR equipment, and a host of other classroom technology equipment. A huge thank you to the companies that have donated equipment or made financial gifts to support Phase I of this initiative! Your support will help to ensure that the students are well prepared for the ever changing technology in our industry.

A very busy and successful recruiting season is winding down in the next couple weeks. Since early September we have had over 50 companies on campus recruiting students for internships and full-time employment. These companies represent all market sectors and the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California, Arizona, Idaho, and Colorado. Our students have been incredibly successful in securing employment with approximately 90% of seniors employed and approximately 90% of juniors and 65% of sophomores have internships for the summer. And, about 10% of the non-certified freshmen have found internships as well. It is truly a great time to be seeking a career in the construction industry. Thank you to all of the recruiters for your interest in CM students from WSU and your patience as we are adjusting to our new office and interviewing spaces.

Lastly, this edition of the newsletter is largely dedicated to our faculty - current and new. Please continue reading to learn more about the work that these dedicated and committed individuals are doing to grow and strengthen the CM program at WSU.

Student Competitions — Dr. David Gunderson, Associate Professor

Once again, the CM students will be participating in the ASC Region 6/7 student competition in Sparks, NV. We will be taking teams in the VDC, Heavy Civil, and Commercial categories as well as an integrated team for the Design Build category consisting of CM, Architecture, and Interior Design students. The teams are meeting on a regular basis and will be working on industry sponsored practice problems soon!

In addition to the ASC student competition, the CM program had a team short-listed to compete in the national finals of the Design Build Institute of America (DBIA) again this year. The team was invited to submit an RFP for a student health and wellness project on a liberal arts college campus in the northwestern United States along with 8 other schools as part of the national competition. The WSU team, consisting of 5 students from all four disciplines within the SDC, made their final presentation and won 1st place at the DBIA Conference and Expo in Philadelphia, PA on November 10th! A hearty CONGRATULATIONS to David Chun (CM), Tucker Jones (CM), Frederick Stidhams (Architecture & CM), Kelli Young (Interior Design), and Collin Schweikl (Landscape Architecture) for a job well done!
2nd Annual CM Alumni and Industry Mixer

The CM program held their alumni/industry engagement mixer in downtown Seattle at the Palace Ballroom this past October. It was a great event for faculty, alumni and industry partners to network and re-connect.

A highlight of this event was recognizing two outstanding gifts to the program and the BIM initiative - $75,000 from PCL and $25,000 from Trane. These gifts will serve to support student excellence and growth of the program.

A big THANK YOU to Wilcox, Avenue55, and Venture for sponsoring this great event!

Faculty Focus

The current faculty continue to show their passion for teaching and the construction industry in the classroom and beyond. As a result, they are busy in the classroom and actively participating in numerous areas of research, consulting, training, and engagement that further their goals and the programs goals. Below are some highlights of the great work, recent accomplishments, and/or research activities of our CM faculty:

Dr. Anne Anderson continues to teach and perform research in the area of BIM. She recently presented her work at the 2017 Lean & Computing in Construction Congress this past July in Heraklion, Crete, Greece. Anne co-presented, with Dr. Carrie Dossick (UW), their topic of “Teaching technological leadership in globally distributed teams working with building information models.” This research topic is borne out of a global collaboration project - offered as part of courses at WSU and UW in which students worked with students from universities in Taiwan and India. Anne teaches Materials II, Construction Graphics, Building Information Modeling, and Global Virtual Design, Construction, and Analysis. In addition to teaching and research, Anne also coaches the VDC team for the ASC student competition which earned 2nd place last February.

Rick Cherf continues serve as the Faculty Advisor for the ASCM student group and the MCA student group in particular. Rick traveled to Indianapolis, IN with 6 students to the MCAA GreatFutures Forum this September where they received a briefing on the 2017-2018 Student Chapter Competition. They will be competing against 35 other student groups on a complex project to revamp a high-end restaurant in New York City, NY, which includes a supplementary value engineering proposal for a VRF system. The proposal is due mid-December and the top 4 teams will compete at the MCAA Annual Convention in San Antonio, TX in March of 2018. Rick teaches Intro to CM, Safety & Health, Cost Control, and Senior Capstone. In addition to teaching and service, Rick also teaches at the International Carpenters Training Center for the Carpenters Union in Las Vegas regularly and engages in consulting.

Dr. David Gunderson continues to stay engaged with the construction industry in an effort to keep the content of the courses he teaches as current as possible. He regularly engages in several ways including consulting, industry organizations and teaching at the International Carpenters Training Center for the Carpenters Union in Las Vegas. David is also active with the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) where he serves as the 1st Vice President and the Managing Editor for the International Journal of Construction Education and Research. David continues to coach teams for the ASC and the Design Build Institute of America (DBIA) student competitions - the teams earned 2nd place this past February and 1st place earlier this November, respectively. David teaches Construction Documentation & Plan Reading, Design and Drafting, and Construction Writing.

Dr. Max Kirk continues to teach 3/4 time, conduct research, and also serves as a WSU Ombudsman. Max also continues an active, collaborative research project with the Laboratory of Atmospheric Research (LAR) centered on indoor air quality. Using sophisticated air sampling equipment, the team samples indoor air from 12 homes twice a year - summer and winter - for approximately 6 days per occasion. Once the air sampling is done, they run a blow door test to determine the natural air leakage of the home. The air sampling and leakage data plus other information such as temperature, wind, relative humidity, etc. are entered into a sophisticated computer program called CONTAM, created by the National Institute of Standards and Testing (NIST), to predict how a home’s air quality will react to changes in our climate. The research, via a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is a great example of how CM faculty can collaborate with other programs within the college. Max teaches Materials I, Building Science II, and Human Factors.

Interested in giving to the program at the personal or corporate level? Check out the last page of this newsletter for more information.
Faculty Focus

Dr. George Okere was recently awarded a research grant from USDOT and PacTrans. The objective of this research is to develop a classification system for project types using data from Pacific Northwest DOT’s on projects that are completed, active and awaiting execution. The classification system will be based on several items such as type of system, geographical location, controlling scope of work, level of complexity, contractual constraint, project delivery method, and other set parameters. Such standardization could improve validity of research findings, and deeply enhance research and practice on highway projects within the Pacific Northwest and the entire U.S. George teaches Planning & Scheduling, Heavy Civil Estimating, and Temporary Structures. In addition to teaching and research, George also coaches the Heavy Civil team for the ASC student competition.

Jason Peschel continues to serve as the Program Coordinator for CM. As such, Jason is heavily engaged in the day-to-day operations of the program but also critical items such as fundraising, engagement events, recruiting (corporate and student), and the CM Advisory Board. Jason is teaching a new course (CstM 222 - Culture of CM) this semester which is required for newly certified CM students. The course is geared towards creating a healthy culture within the program, building on previous knowledge and developing a foundation for engagement amongst the students. The class has welcomed 10 guest speakers this semester for roundtable discussions covering market sectors, career paths, and “a day in the life of a project engineer”. Jason also teaches Estimating I and Estimating II. In addition to teaching and service, Jason also coaches the Commercial team for the ASC student competition which earned 3rd place last February.

By the Numbers...
The hard work of the faculty + their efforts to actively engage with the industry and alumni continues to provide opportunities for students while in school and after graduation.

86% Students who have secured employment prior to graduation.

100% Students securing employment within 3 months of graduation.

50+ Companies that recruit for interns and full-time employment via the CM program annually.

94% Students that have completed at least 1 paid internship prior to graduation.

$62,000 Average starting salary for a WSU CM graduate.

* All data collected from 2017 WSU CM graduating class.
Faculty Focus - new faculty

The faculty numbers in the CM program are increasing - this fall we welcomed two new faculty to our team. They are already taking charge in the classroom and making great progress towards their future goals. Please continue reading to learn more about the engagement and research they are doing...while representing the Construction Management program and WSU.

Dr. Tommy Tafazzoli comes to us from the University of Nevada - Las Vegas where he recently completed his Ph.D. in Construction Management. Tommy also has an undergraduate degree in Civil Engineering and a Masters in Transporation Engineering. This educational background coupled with his industry and research experience make him a great fit for the Construction Engineering program.

Tommy has two active research topics at the moment. The continuation of his sustainability studies continue to contribute to the paradigm-shift of “becoming green” by working on the challenges for further improvement, he is now conducting a research study about the barriers of implementing sustainable construction practices and methods in the construction industry. His research is focused on the barriers, challenges, and concerns of the industry people which affect their willingness to adapt the sustainable construction methods.

Dr. Tafazzoli’s second research area focuses on the causes of construction delays in the U.S construction industry. He started working on this research in 2015 and published the preliminary results of his work at the 53rd ASC Conference in Seattle in April 2017. He is now using a new statistical method called “factor analysis” to find the hidden roots and the correlation between the causes of delay.

Tommy will be presenting two research papers at the ASCE International Conference on Sustainable Infrastructure in New York - “Becoming Greener in Construction: Overcoming Challenges and Developing Strategies” and “Strategizing Sustainable Infrastructure Asset Management in Developing Countries”. This conference of civil engineers, urban architects, policy makers, technology experts, and related professionals will provide a showcase for the latest developments and advancements related to sustainable infrastructure.

Dr. Julia Day started her academic career at WSU and is excited to be back home after a recent stint at Kansas State University. She has an undergraduate and master's degree in Interior Design, an MBA in Sustainability, and an Interdisciplinary Ph.D. focused on occupant education, behaviors, and energy use in high-performance buildings. Her industry experience and area of research are integral to the Building Science courses she teaches for CM and Architecture students.

Julia is a member of the International Energy Committee (IEA) Annex 66 and attended the final meeting for 2017 in Beijing, China this September where she was selected to serve in a leadership role in the next Annex group. This is a 3-5 year commitment where she will serve as one of only a few U.S. representatives in this large, collaborative, interdisciplinary research group which is a venue for conducting research in her field.

Dr. Day presented a poster of proposed research topics and met with several individuals with the Department of Defense at the 2017 Defense Innovation Summit and the SBIR/STTR Innovation summit in Tampa, FL this October. Julia has also been working with Bryan Orthel on a collaborative research paper which was accepted for presentation at the International Association of Societies of Design Research (IASDR) 2017 conference in Cincinatti, OH. Julia’s colleague and co-author attended and presented on her behalf.

Julia has also been busy publishing her research and writing. An article titled “Oh behave! Survey stories and lessons learned from building occupants in high-performance buidings.” was recently published in Energy Research and Social Science. Additionally, she has co-authored 3 chapters in a new book, published by Springer Nature, which will be available soon.

- Nick Bryan, CM 2018
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. Industry partners, alumni, and friends of the program can provide financial support 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 $80,000 annually.

Learn more about the opportunities created by 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 more 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, personally or corporately, through one of these important opportunities. Go Cougs!