

Special points of Interest:

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Chair's Welcome

Greetings from the Department of Construction Management at East Carolina University. The Spring 2013 CMGT Newsletter is ready for your viewing. We have had an exciting semester with many accomplishments and activities from our students and faculty. We kicked off the semester with our day-long faculty Retreat on January 10 with a primary focus on long term goals and plans for the department. Ms. Rebecca Macdonald was inducted in the Chancellor's Leadership Academy. She is the third inductee from the CMGT department. Dr. Connell and Ms. Rebecca Macdonald received the National Housing Endowment's HELP grant award (\$98,370) in Las Vegas during the NAHB annual meeting in January. Six students from the CMGT department competed in the NAHB student competitions and did very well. Mr. Ron Sessoms was the Faculty Advisor. Ms. Brantlee Jobe was selected as the CMGT NAHB Intern for summer 2013. She is the incoming Student Chapter President of NAHB. Mr. Mark Hutker from AIANCES and Mr. Sam Rashkin from NAHB were invited as guest speakers on February 18 and March 19, respectively.

Dr. David Batie and I attended the ACCE mid-year meeting in Baton Rouge, LA from February 20-23. Caterpillar, Inc. was very kind to host our Spring Industry Advisory Board Meeting in their Clayton facility on March 22nd. The meeting was well attended by our Advisory Board members and good discussions and presentations took place. Sigma Lambda Chi, the Construction Management Honor Society held its Spring 2013 Induction Ceremony on April 19th. Fourteen students and two faculty members were inducted. Many scholarships were awarded to deserving and qualified students and our ECCA Golf Tournament held at the Greenville Country Club in April was also a huge success. Women in Construction week was celebrated during March 3-9, 2013 and was well represented by our female students, faculty and advisors. CMGT recruiting efforts are in full swing and we are trying to reach out to all our potential constituents in high schools, community colleges and undecided majors within ECU. The CMGT department actively participated in the ECU STEM day held on February 1, 2013 where over 300 high school students from 20 schools participated. Many faculty members actively interacted with these students and informed and educated them about the potential career paths in Construction Management and how to get there.

In closing, we have had a busy and productive semester with our faculty and students engaging in various activities within the department, college, the local community and beyond to fulfill our professional obligations. I am convinced about our extremely bright future as an academic unit and have no doubt that we will continue to play an important and integral role as we shape the future of our next generation of construction industry professionals.

Industry Advisory Board—Caterpillar Plant at Clayton

The **Spring Industry Advisory Board Meeting** on Friday March 22, 2013 was held at the **Caterpillar facility** located in Clayton, NC. Based on positive feedback from the board members, it was decided to hold the Spring meeting at Caterpillar.

Activities included a full day of discussion with the Outstanding CMGT students, faculty and advisory board members, a cook-out style lunch, and full product demonstration of Caterpillar equipment. **Dr. Jodi Farrington** presented information on the new Infrastructures Materials Class/Lab, and **Dr. David L. Batie** presented on a new Video/Images Repository database that he is developing. In addition, **Robert Brown**, ECU Project Manager, presented an overview of the proposed CRAFT Lab facilities that have been developed through preliminary design. The project has been approved by the Board of Governors, and we will now begin the process of raising funds for this projected \$3.5 M project.

A motion was made to change the term of the President and Vice-President to two years, to insure continuity. The motion was approved by the membership. Scott Cooper will remain one more year as president of the IAB.



Faculty News

Ms. Rebecca McDonald has recently been recognized as an inductee to the Chancellor's Leadership Academy (CLA). This is the fourth member of the CMGT faculty that has been selected to the Academy. She is pictured here with Chancellor Steve Ballard.

At the recent 49th Annual **Associated Schools of Construction** Conference, numerous ECU CMGT faculty members presented papers. **Dr. David L. Batie** with MCM graduate **Stephen Brown** presented *Reducing Human Errors in the Pipeline Construction Industry*, **Dr. Namhun Lee** and **Dr. Donna Hollar** presented *Probing BIM Education in Construction Engineering and Management Programs Using Industry Perceptions*, and **Dr. Kamalesh Panthi** and **Ms. Rebecca Macdonald** presented *Environmental Regulations Generated Market Opportunities for Engineering and Construction Companies*. Other faculty members in attendance were **Dr. Syed Ahmed** and **Dr. Erich Connell**.



Dr. Erich Connell and **Ms. Rebecca Macdonald** were in attendance at the 2013 International Builders Show and were awarded the National Housing Endowment's H.E.L.P. grant in the amount of \$98,370. The grant will run for four years and be used to develop online Residential Construction graduate courses that can lead to a "Certificate" and/or a "specialization in the Master of Construction Management degree.



CMGT — AIANCES Speakers Series

The Department of Construction Management and the North Carolina Eastern Section of the American Institute of Architects hosted the 4th Annual Speakers Series on February 18, 2013. The speaker was **Mark Hutker** of **Hutker Architects, Inc.** who spoke on "**The Importance of Building a Solution Based Relationship Between the Architect and the Builder**" Hutker Architects, Inc., is a full service architecture and interior design firm providing in depth design strategies, comprehensive project coordination, and site specific construction observation. The firm's staff includes experts in property planning, architecture, and interior design with offices in Falmouth, on Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, Massachusetts.



NAHB Speaker — Sam Rashkin

The Department of Construction Management and the NAHB Student Chapter sponsored speaker **Sam Rashkin** who spoke on "**Residential Housing, Energy Issues and Codes that will Impact Our Industry**" on March 19, 2013. With over 20 years of distinguished performance as a licensed architect he is a leader in the field. Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Rashkin is the chief architect from the DOE (Department of Energy), and one of the founders of the Energy Star Standards. He is also the 2012 recipient of The Hanley Award for Vision and Leadership in Sustainable Housing. In addition, Mr. Rashkin has recently authored the book: *Retooling the U.S. Housing Industry: How it Got Here, Why It's Broken, and How to Fix It*.



Founders Day Faculty Awards

During the Spring 2013 Founders Day Awards, CMGT faculty members **David L. Batie**, **Ronald Sessoms**, and **Bryan Wheeler** received recognition in the **Servire Society** for their service to the Community. In addition, **Bryan Wheeler** was a nominee for the **James R. Talton Jr. Leadership Award**, in recognition of the embodiment of the characteristics of a servant leader.

NAHB Student Competition Team

Six of ECU's Construction Management students competed in the National Association of Home Builders Student Chapters **Residential Construction Management Competition** (RCMC) as part of the International Builder's Show in Las Vegas, Nevada from January 22-24, 2013. The junior and senior CMGT students volunteered to participate and compete against other universities across the nation. The team members were (L to R) **Chris Pecorino, Kaitlyn Umphlet, Matthew Lorbacher, Collin Silverthorne, Brantlee Jobe, and Brandon**



Haddock. Ronald Sessoms was the Faculty Team Advisor. Each team was asked to design a residential development of a piece of land encompassing 118 acres, and included a portion zoned for commercial use. The students spent hundreds of hours during the Fall semester, including their Christmas break, designing the residential area and designing a presentation for the competition. The team presented their design proposal before a panel of five contractors and developers judges. The ECU team placed 13th out of 31 schools. Team member and senior Matthew Lorbacher commented that "it was a great real-world learning experience that you can't always get in a classroom. It showed me how competitive it is in this business and how important it is to have every detail correct." Caterpillar, assisted in funding the travel for the students. In addition, ECU CMGT Student **Christopher Pecorino** was named an **Outstanding Student** during an awards ceremony. Congratulations!

Popsicle Stick Bridges

On Saturday March 9, 2013, **Dr. Jodi Farrington** assisted the Pitt County Section of the **North Carolina Coastal Pines Division of the Girl Scouts** in their support of the Sigma Gamma Rho Youth Symposium. Her participation in this half-day event that was open to the public was to provide the "entertainment" for the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) session.

Dr. Farrington explained how bridges function and some of the common hurdles in constructing them. To assist in understanding the concepts, she showed them two models that she had constructed of popsicle sticks and school glue. The Girl Scouts (ages 6-46) made their own bridge models. While many were able to complete their bridges, the glue did not have enough time to cure and permit load testing.

The participants were invited back to witness load testing of my Dr. Farrington's model. Unfortunately, not enough weight was available for testing; as the bridge performed better than anticipated. Dr. Farrington challenged all of the participants to take their bridges home and test them after the glue dried.



Student Activities

Scholarship Recipients

In Spring 2013, the Department of Construction Management awarded scholarships in amounts shared among recipients totaling \$17,000 for Fall 2013 and Spring 2014. Individual awards range from \$500 to \$5000. Scholarship Donors include: **Home Builders Supply Co., Mark Tipton/GPCHBA, PCEA-Coastal Plains Chapter, PCEA-Triangle Chapter, Ready Mix Concrete, Service Roofing, Southern Piping, T.A. Loving Company, and donations to the CMGT Scholarship Pool.**



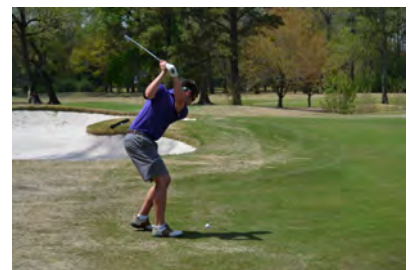
L-R Jonathan Williams, Harris Griswold, Jason Davis, James Van Staaldunin, Bradley McCurry, Adam Hasenfus, and Benjamin Thomas. Not pictured: Dylan Hutchinson and Peter Delorier

ECCA Golf Tournament

Every year the **East Carolina Construction Association (ECCA)** hosts a golf tournament which brings industry sponsors from all over. On April 11th at Greenville Country Club ECCA played host to 19 Industry Sponsors and about 75 total people. This has been the greatest participation that we have seen in the past 5 years.

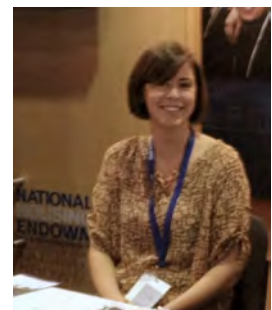
Teams are normally comprised of four industry representatives, or there is a mix of students and industry representatives. Students have the opportunity to spend the day on a golf course with what could be a future employer, what a great way to get their foot in the door for an internship or fulltime position. At the completion of the tournament ECCA hosts the traditional "pig pickin".

Industry sponsors for this year's event included **Barnhill Contracting, Concrete Piping and Precast, Corman Construction Inc., Cox Industries, Fortune-Johnson General Contractors, Gregory Poole Equipment Co., Hamlin Roofing, James G. Davis, L.F. Jennings, Oldcastle, OzCorp, PDI-Sheetz Construction, Ready Mix Concrete, Southeast Industrial Equipment, Southern Piping Company, S. T. Wooten Corp., TA Loving, WIMCO Corp., and WM Jordan.**



CMGT NAHB Intern Selected

Brantlee Jobe, the incoming ECU NAHB Student Chapter President has been selected to participate in the NAHB 2013 National Summer Residential Internship/Fellowship in Washington, DC. She will be involved in a week long internship in Washington, DC where she spent time on the construction site of a residential project; visit the NAHB Research Center in Maryland, and participate in various team activities at the NAHB headquarters related to the business of residential construction and project management.



Sigma Lambda Chi



Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC) Construction Honor Society held its Spring 2013 Induction Ceremony on March 19th. Fourteen students and two faculty members were inducted. **Dr. David M. White**, Dean of the College of Technology and Computer Science, was the featured speaker. The ceremony was made possible by the support of our Industry Sponsors: Aliana Development Company; Branch Highways; Bristol Alliance of Companies; Caterpillar, Inc.; James G. Davis Construction Corporation; Kjellstrom & Lee Construction; Solomon Plumbing; Southern Piping Company; and Xenergy, Inc. Representatives from the companies were present, along with Advisory Board members, Faculty, SLC members and their guests.

Student Inductees were **Adam Brady, Adam Hasenfus, Brantlee Jobe, Clifton Joyce, Dylan Kipp, Billy Lor, Christopher Manning, Patrick McCrary, Justin Pate, Aaron Rachow, Reed Short, Erin Sullivan, Travis Thurman, and Geoffrey Watkins**. Faculty Inductees were **Dr. David Batie and Ms. Rebecca Macdonald**.



The members of SLC have also elected new officers to serve for the 2013 – 2014 academic year. The new officers are **Ben Avolis**—President, **Harris Griswold** -Vice President, **Erin Sullivan** - Treasurer, and **Eric Rigsbee** -Secretary.

Women in Construction Week

March 3-9, 2013 was designated as “Women in Construction Week 2013” by the National Association of Women in Construction. Six women affiliated with ECU’s Construction Management program joined other women on March 7, 2013 for a Caterpillar tour and equipment rodeo event in Clayton, NC. ECU’s representatives were students **LeAnna Becker, Courtney Carter, and Logan Hamm; Jennifer Horne**(Academic Advisor); **Amy Taylor** (Administrative Assistant); and **Dr. Donna Hollar** (Faculty).



CMGT Recruiting Efforts

The CMGT Undergraduate Enrollment Task Force has been actively completing the new **Undergraduate Brochure**. It is available to download from the ECU CMGT website (<http://www.ecu.edu/tecs/construction/>). In addition the group has been compiling video clips from current, former, and industry partners for use in the developing videos for the program. The video is anticipated to be ready for use in the Fall 2013 semester.

Other activities have included recruiting at the ECU Open House on April 6, 2013 where **Dr. David Batie**, **Dr. George Wang**, **Dr. Jodi Farrington**, and **Mr. Bryan Wheeler** spent the morning meeting with parents and students telling them the advantages of the CMGT program. On April 30, 2013 **Dr. David L. Batie** and **Dr. Jodi Farrington** recruited upcoming sophomores and juniors at the **D.H. Conley High School Career Day**.

During the summer, eight New Student Orientation Sessions will take place. **Dr. Syed Ahmed**, **Dr. David L. Batie**, and **Ms Kiya Boldts** (CMGT Advisor) will be presenting the highlights of the CMGT program. The university has changed its format to allow more undecided students the opportunity to visit more program presentations.



ECU STEM Day—CMGT Participation

On February 1, 2013, over 300 high school students from twenty schools reaching from Eastern NC to the Piedmont attended the second annual **ECU High School STEM Day**. These students came to learn more about studies and careers in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics. The students participated in engaging, hands-on learning activities that spanned 12 departments from the Colleges of Technology and Computer Science, Arts and Sciences, and Education. Students reported that they learned a great deal and many indicated their intention to pursue STEM education opportunities. Angelo Collins, Director of the Center for STEM Education at ECU stated, "For many of the high school students, this was their first visit to a university campus and the activities allowed them to imagine themselves as college students." Not only were students able to see exciting activities, but they were also able to meet faculty, talk with current ECU students who are enrolled in STEM degree programs, and hear about career opportunities available right here in Eastern NC.

CMGT faculty, **Dr. David L. Batie**, **Dr. Jodi Farrington**, **Dr. Kamalesh Panthi**, **Dr. Brad Carey**, and **Mr. Bryan Wheeler** were in charge of the activities in the High Bay and Soils lab. Drs. Farrington and Panthi explained how concrete was made and tested. Mr. Wheeler showed students the process for a safe, secure lifting of steel. CMGT students **Landon Adams**, **Daniel Kovacs**, **Tillery Pierce**, **Lata Jeriece**, **Edward Tolley**, **Matthew Ruffin**, **Jeffrey Sines**, **Derek Wittneben**, and **William Rushton** assisted and helped explained, from a student's point of view, the advantages of being educated and working in the construction industry.

