



CMGT News

Volume I / 2012

Newsletter Date: December 2012

Special points of interest:

- The MCM has grown in the past two years and now has 35+ students in the program.
- The new Undergraduate Curriculum developed last year is now the required curriculum for all incoming undergraduate students.
- There is a planned 2013 Summer Study Abroad program to China.

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Chair's Welcome

Greetings from the Department of Construction Management! It gives me great pleasure to introduce the Fall 2012 department newsletter for all our friends and stakeholders. Given below is a summary of some of the key activities and issues related to the CMGT department during the current semester.

New Faculty – **Dr. Brad Carey** and **Dr. Donna Hollar** are our two new tenure-track Assistant Professors who took up their new positions starting Fall 2012 semester. **Dr. Jodi Farrington** joined us as a Fixed-Term Instructor. Please see the articles about each individual on page 2.

External Research Grants – A \$98,000 HELP Grant (4 years) has been awarded to ECU CMGT department by the National Housing Endowment, the philanthropic arm of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) starting in 2013. The grant will support the development of a “Residential Construction” track within the Master of Construction Management (MCM) program and a Graduate Certificate in Residential Construction. Please see the article on page 6.

ACCE Accreditation – The CMGT Department submitted their first annual report in December 2011, which was accepted by the ACCE. We will send our 2nd and 3rd year reports in December of 2012 and 2013.

CRAFT Lab – Mr. Robert Brown, Assistant Director of Facilities Engineering & Architectural Services, the ECU Project Manager for the CRAFT Lab project and Mr. Steve Hall, Project Architect for Perkins + Will presented the conceptual design and rough to the CMGT faculty on November 17. The CONCEPT Design was prepared by Site Solutions in conjunction with their design team. The CMGT faculty approved the conceptual design. A presentation will be made to the CMGT Advisory Board members as early as possible.

Curriculum - The title of the course CMGT 2200 (Introduction to Construction) was changed to “Introduction to the Sustainable Built Environment”. This change will go into effect Fall 2013.

International Activities – There are plans for a “Summer Study Abroad” program to China led by Dr. George Wang in May 2013.

Graduation News - The Topping Off ceremony for Fall 2012 is scheduled for December 13 in the Science & Technology Building. Commencement for the 41 CMGT graduates is December 14.

CMGT Undergraduate Enrollment Task Force

In Fall 2012 the CMGT Undergraduate Enrollment Task Force was created to investigate and implement new measures to increase enrollment in the BS degree program. Because of the downturn in the building industry, student enrollment in construction management programs throughout the United States was greatly affected.

The Task Force is chaired by **Dr. David L. Batie**, Undergraduate Program Director, with other committee faculty members being **Dr. Donna Hollar**, **Dr. Brad Carey**, and **Dr. Jodi Farrington**. In addition, CMGT Advisors **Ms. Kiya Boldts** and **Ms. Jennifer Horne** are also on the committee. **Ms. Margaret Turner**, the College Recruitment Advisor also works with the committee.

The committee has investigated a number of issues. In addition to recruitment at high schools and community colleges, the group has developed new marketing brochures for the BS and MCM degree programs. They are also developing videos that will be accessed from the department webpage. Promotional give-a-ways have been designed and purchased. A new department display board and table were purchased and are in use for department functions and recruitment activities.



New Faculty Member—Dr. Brad Carey

I am excited to be the newest faculty member here in the Department of Construction Management at ECU. The combination of an enthusiastic student body and an exceptional faculty has made my transition very smooth. I am originally from the Pacific Northwest, where my mother was a teacher and my father was a general contractor and land developer. Thus, I feel as though I was almost predestined to become a construction educator.

My experience in the construction industry ranges from providing manual labor as a framer to estimating and detailed project management responsibilities to consulting. During my time as a laborer and a framer I worked primarily in residential construction. As I moved into more of the management side of the industry, I found myself being drawn towards larger scale heavy/civil projects.

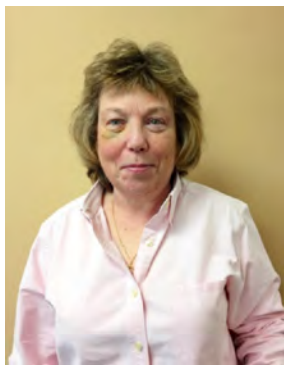
For the better part of the last decade, I have called Phoenix, AZ home. While in Arizona, I was able to work on projects such as the Valley Metro Light Rail, wastewater treatment plants, road and highway projects, sewer expansion and realignments, border fence projects, and various other municipal infrastructure projects.

I look forward to partnering with the current faculty at ECU and working with our students in order to make sure that the Department of Construction Management maintains its place as the premier Construction Management department on the east coast.



New Faculty Member—Dr. Donna Hollar

Although Dr. Hollar has had a long affiliation with the Department of Construction Management (since 1996), she has embarked on a new role as a tenure-track faculty member beginning Fall 2012. A civil engineer by training, Donna's industry background is concentrated in public works – highways, rail, airport, water, and wastewater facilities. She was formerly a project engineer for the Port of Tacoma in Washington, and is a licensed civil engineer in Washington. Dr. Hollar grew up in western North Carolina, earned her bachelor's degree in civil engineering from UNC-Charlotte, and her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from North Carolina State University. Teaching has been and will remain a key component of Donna's new role in the department. In 2000, Donna's teaching was recognized as outstanding both by ECU and the Associated Schools of Construction. She received the ECU Alumni Teaching Excellence Award and the Associated Schools of Construction National Teaching Award that year. As a complement to her teaching, Donna intends to initiate research efforts focused on preconstruction cost analysis, use of geographic information systems to support construction and maintenance operations, and statistical modeling for forecasting and optimization.



New Faculty Member—Dr. Jodi Farrington

Through more than 20 years of field experience Dr. Farrington has gained an extensive knowledge and understanding of construction and project management ranging from initial project analysis through successful completion of construction in both traditional and design-build project settings. Her project scope familiarity includes: large exhibition facilities; industrial; commercial; hotel; high-rise and single family residential; and, Federal government facilities. Dr. Farrington has managed projects with total costs spanning from a few million to nearly one-billion dollars.

Dr. Farrington earned her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Clemson University with an initial research interest in the cost of quality. While an Assistant Professor in the Civil Engineering department at the US Air Force Academy she participated in the development of the Academy's capstone course. Since then, she has developed multiple on-line courses in construction management. Utilizing her multiple professional engineering licenses and memberships in industry organizations, Dr. Farrington now finds herself prepared to teach students and to further the construction industry through research in practical applications.

Modeling of On-Board and Drive-By Tire / Pavement Noise

Dr. George Wang completed his research project for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, "Modeling of On-Board and Drive-By Tire/Pavement Noise in North Carolina", and received positive feedback on the project from NCDOT. The final report was published in the DOT's website and sent to major transportation libraries in the country in March 2012. The major findings were published in the Canadian Journal of Civil Engineering in August 2012. The research investigated tire-pavement noise on various types of pavements across North Carolina by using On-Board Sound Intensity (OBSI) method. The OBSI testing equipment with sound intensity measuring process was established at East Carolina University. The OBSI equipment is an important tool for investigating tire-pavement noise and performing traffic noise research in a standard manner so that the data can be shared and compared with other agencies. Sixty-one highway sites and 153 test sections in approximately 30 counties for nine types of pavements were investigated.

Matthew Lorbacher—NAHB Summer Intern

In the summer of 2012 Matthew Lorbacher (3rd from the left) was one of eight nationally chosen students awarded a National Association of Home Builders' Summer Internship. The internship was based on a competitive proposal open to all CMGT students who were enrolled in HELP Grant recipient programs from the National Housing Endowment. Matt is the second student from ECU to achieve this distinction.

Matt was part of a week-long internship in Washington, DC where he spent time on the construction site of a residential project by Miller & Smith, visited the NAHB Research Center in Maryland, and participated in various team activities at the NAHB headquarters related to the business of residential construction and project management. Matt is a CMGT student in the ECU class of 2013, an NAHB Student Chapter member, President of the U.S. Green Building Council Student Chapter and is active in the student body of the Department of Construction Management.



C2C—Sustainability in the Netherlands

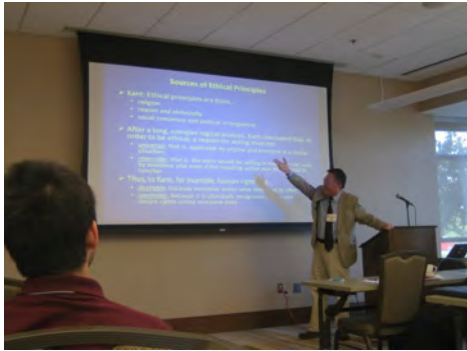
C2C - Sustainability in the Netherlands was an intense full immersion study using "Cradle to Cradle" (McDonough + Braungart) as a framework for the learning objectives of this class. Seventeen students from six different disciplines; Construction Management, Design, Education, Business, Sports Science, and Environmental Science were guided by Dr. Erich Connel from East Carolina University and Dr. Anton Van Bakel from HAN University. The 14-day course visited 9 different cities utilizing 20 study sites for the duration of the study abroad experience.

C2C - Sustainability in the Netherlands
 (Cradle to Cradle) 2012 • Summer Study Abroad • May 6 - 21, 2012 • East Carolina University

Your Name: Your Major

C2C - Sustainability in the Netherlands was an intense full immersion study using "Cradle to Cradle" (McDonough + Braungart) as a framework for the learning. 17 students from six different disciplines; Construction Management, Design, Education, Business, Sports Science, and Environmental Science were guided by instructors from East Carolina University, Dr. Erich Connel and HAN University, Dr. Anton Van Bakel. The 14-day course visited 9 different cities utilizing 20 study sites for the duration of the study abroad experience.

SITE DESIGN WATER MATERIALS ENERGY EDUCATION



Faculty News

Dr. George C. Wang was recently invited by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), to attend the "Engineering Ethics for a Globalized World" Workshop from October 7-9, 2012 at UIUC. Given the rapid trend of globalization, engineers and construction managers from less industrialized countries are now employed in US construction projects. It is now a necessity to develop and enhance international standards for professional ethics, and enhance ethics education and licensing. Dr. Wang made a presentation titled "From Global Ethics Education to International Engineering Professional Registration" using the construction industry and global construction projects as illustrators.

Mr. Bryan Wheeler was involved in three Service Projects during the Summer 2012. He worked on Hurricane Irene Disaster Recovery projects in Chocowinity and Swan Quarter, NC, and on a residence remodel for a family contacted through College Park Baptist Church in Winterville, NC.



PCA Workshop

Dr. Kamallesh Panthi attended the Summer 2012 Professor's Workshop organized by **Portland Cement Association** in Skokie, Illinois. The workshop, *Teaching Buildings, Bridges, Materials, and Pavements*, is organized by Portland Cement Association once a year to help professors in engineering, architecture, and construction management programs with the latest developments on concrete design and construction. The week-long parallel sessions on Buildings, Bridges, Materials and Pavements focused on teaching courses related to these topics effectively. Dr. Panthi attended Materials and Pavement sessions and benefitted from the useful tips and insights shared by the experienced and successful professors and other attendees. Dr. Panthi has already started implementing some of these teaching aids and materials in his Construction and Civil Materials (CMGT 2210) course and has found them to be very useful. In addition to the teaching aspect, he also had exposure to the latest research on concrete such as sustainable concrete, pervious concrete, high performance concrete, and self-compacting concrete. Breakthrough research done by Concrete Sustainability Hub (CSH) at MIT was also presented at the workshop. More than fifty professors attended this workshop.



DAVIS Construction Co. Invasion

On October 1-2, 2012, DAVIS Construction Company experts visited the Department of Construction Management and delivered guest lectures in few of the classes as part of the DAVIS Education Invasion at ECU. Altogether, DAVIS taught 13 classes this year in 1½ days.

2012 Class Subjects included Virtual Construction, Support of Excavation Systems, Project Schedules, LEED Project Reporting, Project Control Requirements, DAVIS 101, The Ins & Outs of Virtual Trade, Laser Scanning, and Concrete Construction.

DAVIS has placed multiple CMGT students in their internship program each year and have hired numerous graduates.

NCDOT Construction Career Days

ECU Construction Management collaborated with the NCDOT Construction Career Days on November 14-15, 2012 at the Pitt County Fairgrounds. This event provided opportunities for high school sophomores, juniors and seniors to learn about rewarding careers in the commercial and highway construction industries. During this event, students were able to:

- Have hands-on access to power and hand tools used by the commercial construction industry
- Participate in interactive exhibits, such as rebar tying, pipe bending, brick laying, tile setting, welding and carpentry
- Operate heavy equipment used to build highways and buildings such as skid steers, track hoes, excavators, back-hoes, bulldozers and cranes
- Have access to contractor personnel, vendors, and university and community college representatives to ask questions about training and educational opportunities.



Student Activities

The **East Carolina Construction Association (ECCA)** and **Student Chapter of the AGC** recently hosted Mr. **Mike Austell** (Carolinas AGC Membership Ambassador) as a guest speaker. Austell shared information about the CAGC Foundation Scholarships and about CAGC's on-line posting of commercial projects named "IBuild". IBuild is a project listing available to members of the CAGC to view construction projects that are in design and/or already out for bid.

The **Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC)** held its Fall 2012 Induction Ceremony on October 10. Twenty students and one faculty member were inducted. **Lori Brown**, President, Sigma Lambda Chi International and **Richard Moore**, President of the Cal State, Chico SLC chapter were the featured speakers. The insights and ideas presented by the speakers have provided impetus to the ECU chapter to become more involved in service opportunities. The Industry sponsors for the event were Aliana Development Company, Brach Highways, Bristol General Contractors, Caterpillar, Inc., Forrester Construction Company, Fortune-Johnson General Contractors, Harkins Builders, Inc., Hourigan Construction, James G. Davis Construction Corporation, and Kjellstrom & Lee Construction. Representatives from the companies were present, along with Advisory Board members, Faculty, SLC members and their guests. Inductees were **Terrance Adams, John Avolis, Stephen Beaman, LeAnna Becker, Courtney Carter, Hunter Davenport, Harris Griswold, Timothy Hollingsworth, Dylan Hutchinson, Alex Lawson, Michael MacGilvray, Phillip McNaughton, Christopher Meyerhoeffer, Jairo Najera, Ian Quinn, Eric Rigsbee, Edward Tolley, Janes Van Stalduinen, Peter Vuong, Nicholas Watkins, and Dr. Jodi Farrington.**



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Servire Society

East Carolina University's motto is Servire - "To Serve." The Servire Society recognizes faculty, staff, and students who have contributed 100 or more hours of volunteer service to the community in the previous year. The community is defined as outside ECU and can include the region, country, or world. Qualifying volunteer service for faculty and staff should be outside their normal realm of duties. For faculty, the service should be outside their normal duties of teaching, research, and advising.



Pictured are **Dr. David L. Batie** and **Mr. Ron Sessoms** who have been recipients of the award each year since the inaugural 2008 event. Faculty member **Mr. Bryan Wheeler**, and former CMGT students, **Wes Overman** and **Roger Peery** have also been recipients of the award.

National Housing Endowment HELP Grant Awarded

Faculty members **Dr. Erich Connell** (PI) and **Ms. Rebecca Macdonald** (co-PI) from the Department of Construction Management of East Carolina University were awarded the **2013 National Housing Endowment Homebuilding Education Leadership Program (H.E.L.P.)** grant for \$98,000. This grant will support the development, marketing and delivery of online graduate residential course work that are relevant, innovative, and advanced in areas significant to the residential construction industry. The graduate level work will be offered in three contexts; (1) Residential Certificate, (2) Residential Specialization within the Master of Construction Management program, and (3) Advanced studies that prepare students for doctoral work in the area of residential construction. Subject areas will be developed in residential; history, cost controls, risk management, law, energy, code, land development and a thesis/professional project related to residential construction sector. East Carolina University was the first ever university to garner a \$100,000 H.E.L.P. grant in 2006 developing the "Gold Standard" undergraduate curriculum standards for the National Housing Endowment. This second grant will now bring that expertise to the graduate program. The grant will support work within the CMGT department beginning in the summer of 2013 and will continue for the subsequent four years.



For more information related to the online graduate residential course offerings please contact Dr. Connell, the Director of the Residential Curriculum at connellg@ecu.edu or visit, <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-tecs/construction/National-Housing-Endowment.cfm>