



CMGT NEWS

Fall 2014
Spring 2015

2015

Excellence in Education

Notes from the Chair

The Construction Management Department has had an eventful 2014-2015 academic year. I invite you to review our activities and accomplishments. The Construction Management Department is a community of educators, scholars and construction professionals who value excellence in teaching, research, service to the community and interdisciplinary collaboration. Faculty members have continued to publish papers in journals and conferences. Our faculty and students recently participated and presented their research work at the Associated Schools of Construction Conference at Texas A&M University in April 2015.

The Construction Management Department is pleased to announce our "Outstanding Senior" each semester in order to recognize their dedication and accomplishments during their careers at ECU. Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC). Construction Management Honor also inducted 12 new candidates who were recognized by their peers as an ethical and hard-working student.

The educational experience provided to our students in the Department of Construction Management is enriched by the excellent

teaching of our qualified faculty. Our dedicated teachers, from diverse backgrounds and experience, inspire students to excel within a broad curriculum that focuses on the delivery of projects, organization and control of construction projects of various types and sizes, and in the principals of ethical action to address human and environmental concerns. The Construction Management Department always encourage CMGT students to participate in various types of construction activities such as the Caterpillar Field Trip, Welcome Back Cookout, the Oldcastle Block Fest, and Berlin Wall at ECU in order to honor the fall of the Berlin Wall. In February 2015, Six CMGT students had an opportunity to compete in the Residential Construction Management Competition at the International Builder's Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. Jenna Nelson and Logan Phillips will also be attending the NAHB Residential Construction Symposium this summer in Washington, DC.

In fall 2015, Braxton McKoy and Scott Kelly will be the first students in Construction Management to study abroad at HAN University and earning a 15-credit Wind

Project Management Certificate. Our student organizations, Associate General Contractors (AGC) and Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC) are always in service activities to the community. The Department of Construction Management also partnered with Pitt Community College and Pitt County Schools to host the 4th NCDOT High School Construction Career Days in order to provide the curriculum requirements and career opportunities for high school students.

Two distinguished guest speakers, Mr. Bill Seyler of Lend Lease and an IAB member presented a lecture titled: "A Changing Construction Industry - How to Successfully Navigate the Change". As part of the National Housing Endowment grant, Dr. Lori Ryker made a public presentation on her experiences of home building through the celebration of design sustainability. We thank you all for your support of the Construction Management department and look forward to an exciting new year with our incoming new and transfer students as we navigate through our newly revised and updated undergraduate and graduate curriculums.

Department News

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, & ACTIVITIES

This has been an exciting year with many events and opportunities taking place.

NEW USA CITIZEN

Dear fellow American Citizens and Friends:

Hope you all have been doing well and embracing the incoming spring! Some of you knew that I had recently attended citizenship test and interview. Just let you know that I have become a naturalized U.S. citizen. The naturalization oath ceremony took place April 3, 2015 in Durham, North Carolina. I swore a solemn oath to this country and promised to be involved in my community and promote the American values: hard work and honesty, courage and fair play, tolerance and curiosity, loyalty and patriotism. May God Bless the United States of America!

Dr. George Wang

At the April 22-25, 2015 **Associated Schools of Construction Conference** held at Texas A&M University, several CMGT faculty and students presented papers. They included **Dr. Kamalesh Panthi / Dr. Erich Connell: *Designing an Online Graduate Level Course in Construction Risk Management using the Significant Learning Approach***; **Dr. Kamalesh Panthi / Dr. Syed Ahmed: *Predictive Models from Accident Reports***; **David Willis (MCM) / Syed Ahmed / Megan Lowery (Student) *Recommendations for Improving Hard Hat Safety***; and **Dr. Erich Connell** with Scott Kelting (U Cal) and Jim Sullivan (U Florida) presented the *Residential Educator Academy Workshop*.

Dr. David Batie presented his paper *Introductory BIM Course – DesignBuilder Project* at the **9th BIM Academic Symposium** April 7-8th, 2015 in Washington, D.C. **Dr. Batie** also presented a lecture on *Medieval Construction and Destruction* at the **ECU Medieval & Renaissance Festival**, April 16th.

Dr. George Wang published one journal article and a book chapter. They were "Risk mitigation in Managing a Mega project - A Case Study of Gomal Zam Dam Construction". *Journal of Risk Analysis and Crisis Response*, and "Ethics for Construction Engineers and Managers in a Globalized Market". (Book chapter). Chapter 10 of *Engineering Ethics for a Globalized World*.

Dr. Erich Connell continued with his **NHE HELP Grant** to develop an **MCM Residential Program**. All classes have been approved and in spring 2015, the **Certificate of Residential Construction Management** was approved. Professional students will begin taking classes in fall 2015.

Dr. Donna Hollar received the **ELECTRI International 2014 Early Career Award**. The \$9000 award is in support of proposal she presented the ELECTRI Council meeting in summer 2014.

Mr. Bryan Wheeler spent a week working on a construction project while on a **Missions Trip to Costa Rica** in the fall 2014.



Fall 2014 / Spring 2015 Outstanding Students

We are pleased to announce the seniors selected for the award of "Outstanding Senior" during the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 semesters. Students were asked to submit their documentation based on academic merit, service, accomplishments during their careers at ecu, and their GPA. CMGT Faculty reviewed each candidate's application, with a final selection being made. The Outstanding Seniors were recognized at both the University and College Commencement ceremonies.



Andre Brown – Fall 2014



Megan Sommers – Spring 2015



Fall 2014 Graduates



Spring 2015 Graduates

SLC Induction Ceremonies

In fall 2014, Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC) Construction Management Honor Society inducted 12 new candidates. Being selected as a SLC inductee is an honor in the construction industry. Candidates must maintain at least a 3.0 overall GPA and be in the top 20% of the CMGT class. Additionally, they must be recognized by their peers as an ethical and hard-working student.

Title Sponsor: James G. Davis Construction

Additional Sponsors: Barnhill Contracting Company, Branch Highways, Caterpillar, HESS, Hourigan Construction, L.F. Jennings, Solomon Plumbing, and T.A. Loving.

The guest speaker, Mr. Bill Seyler of Lend Lease, presented an address entitled: *A Changing Construction Industry – How to Successfully Navigate the Change.*



Student Inductees:

- Grant Carr
- Josh Ferrell
- Scott L. Gilmore
- Cole Gragg
- William Janning
- Tyler Johnson
- Bradley McCurry
- Logan Phillips
- Sam Singletary
- Alden Smith
- William Whitley
- Scott Woodward

In spring 2015, 13 students were inducted. The inductees were:

- Allan George Casavant
- Jacob Carter Colavita
- Troy Matthew Crissey
- Sean Irvin Garbarino
- Casey James Giblin
- Jared David Goodrum
- Jared Storm Henry
- Thomas Jeffrey O'Brien
- Tyner Mark Pearson
- Travis Reid Penley
- Samuel Wilcox Siler
- Jenna Nicole Nelson
- Jordan Timothy Westbrook

Title Sponsor: Coakley Williams Construction

Additional Sponsors: Barnhill Contracting Company, Branch Highways, Caterpillar, Davie Construction Co., James G. Davis Construction, D.R. Horton, Hamlin Roofing Company, Hourigan Construction, J.D. Goodrum General Contractors, L.F. Jennings, Meritage Homes, and T.A. Loving.

The **SLC Officers** for 2014-2015 were **Jared Markham**, President, **Jake Carter**, Vice President, **Clay Sobocinski**, Secretary, and **Anthony Williams**, Treasurer.

Happenings at ECU CMGT

Welcome Back Cookout

To kick off the fall 2014 semester, faculty and staff hosted a "Welcome Back Cookout" complete with a friendly construction competition. Games included Hammer Horseshoes, Hanging by Your Nails, and Level Head. Fun was had by all. A great way to start out the academic year.



NCDOT High School Construction Career Days

The ECU Department of Construction Management partnered with Pitt Community College and Pitt County Schools to host the 4th NCDOT High School Construction Career Days on September 17th and 18th, 2014 at the Pitt County Fairgrounds. This event gives high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors the opportunity to learn about rewarding careers in residential, commercial, and infrastructure construction. ECU faculty, staff, and students interacted with the high school students explaining our curriculum requirements and career opportunities.



Oldcastle Block Fest

In October, Oldcastle / Adams sponsored the 1st Annual ECU **Blockfest Competition**. Five student teams created designs for a Campus Sitting Space. All were charged with using one palette of brick and one palette of concrete masonry units, with designs being completed before the actual construction competition. Students were then given one hour to construct their designs in mortar-less construction. Winners were evaluated a panel of professional architects, designers and contractors. Special thanks to **Brett Hardy (IAB), Frank Warner, Robb Haas (ECU Alumni), David McQueen, and Parrish Hoffman** for providing the materials, site assistance, and the generous CASH Awards to the Winners.



Berlin Wall at ECU

ECU marked the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War by installing and then tearing down a replica wall Nov. 3 – 6 on the brickyard near Mendenhall Student Center. The wall divided the city of Berlin, but also stood as a symbol for ongoing political divisions between the East and West. **ECU CMGT students** were active in the construction of the symbolic Berlin Wall. The "Fall of the Wall" events were organized to honor the fall of the Berlin Wall and other peaceful revolutions that have shaped the world since 1989. Activities were sponsored by the ECU Department of German in conjunction with the School of Music, School of Art and Design, and the Departments of Sociology and Construction Management. See the video link of this event at <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-admin/news/berlinwall.cfm>



NAHB National Competition Team

In February 2015, six ECU NAHB students competed in the Residential Construction Management Competition at the International Builder's Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. Over 40 teams from universities and colleges represented the top 2% of students in their field of study. The competition gave participants the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to a real residential development project. Students completed a management proposal to develop a pre-selected site. Proposals were submitted to a group of construction executives for evaluation before the final presentation. At the convention, students defended their proposals to the judges.

ECU CMGT placed in the top 40% of the competing teams. Members were:



Back Row (L-R) **Jared Markham, J. D. Wynn, Robert Mewborn**
Front Row (L-R) **Ryan Pova, Kacie Wolcott, Patrick Wurzel**



Dr. Erich Connell and **Mr. Dan Thomas** served as Advisors for the Competition Team. **Matthew Taylor** was an Alternate. In Fall 2015 a Special Topics Class for the 2016 Competition Team will have eight enrollees who will make up the team for the competition.

NAHB Residential Construction Symposium - ECU Students

Jenna Nelson and **Logan Phillips** will be attending the **NAHB Residential Construction Symposium** this summer, June 15-19, 2015 in Washington, DC. This is a competitive program eligible to the H.E.L.P. programs across the country. East Carolina University is one of the founding members, with 27 other national programs. Jenna and Logan are members of the upcoming seven member RCMC team, to compete in Las Vegas, NV in January 2016

The five-day symposium will address a range of issues that affect the residential construction industry, including environmental and land development regulations, contracts, construction liability, construction codes, OSHA and green building. Attendees will spend time with a local builder and visit the NAHB Research Center, to learn more about the diverse opportunities within the industry. Student fellowships provide for housing, \$300 travel assistance, and breakfast and lunch for the five days. Including this year's participants, ECU has had 5 awardees, and is one of the highest attended schools of the symposia. Previous ECU CMGT students attending the symposium are: Donald Stanley (2008), Matt Lorbacher (2012) and Brantlee Jobe (2014).

The House You Build:

Thoughts, Feelings, Beauty and Processes of Making a Home

As part of the **National Housing Endowment** grant, ECU CMGT hosted **Dr. Lori Ryker**, Founder/Director of the Artemis Institute, author, educator and architectural designer who made a public presentation on her experiences of home building within the larger context of the built environment through the lens of design sustainability, philosophy, self-reliance, nature and the craft of making. The event was April 2, 2015.



Students to HAN University

Braxton McKoy and **Scott Kelly** will be the "first" students in Construction Management to study abroad at HAN University for the semester of August-December 2015. Braxton also participant in the 2-week intensive summer study abroad program to the Netherlands last summer. Braxton and Scott will be earning a 15-credit Wind (construction) Certificate and will be studying in the Department of the Built Environment in Arnhem, Netherlands. HAN University is a sister institution to ECU. HAN University resides in two cities and stands for "Hoogeschool van Arnhem en Nijmegen" which translates in Dutch to the University of "Applied Sciences".

<http://www.han.nl/international/english/>



Student Organizations

Associated General Contractors (AGC)

Associated General Contractors (AGC) students were involved in a number of service activities during the year. In March 2015, on one of numerous workdays, students worked on a Habitat for Humanity residence. They assembled and installed kitchen and bath cabinetry, and installed new vinyl siding.



Caterpillar Trip

AGC students made their annual field trip to the Caterpillar Plant Tour and Heavy Equipment Operation in Clayton, NC. The opportunity to understand the manufacturing and operational use of the equipment gave students a unique experience in this area of the construction industry.



Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC) As part of their Community Outreach, members of Sigma lambda Chi volunteered to "March for the Babies" with the March of Dimes. Students solicited contributions to assist in this worthwhile event. Congratulations!

March for Dimes March for the Babies

* Sigma Lambda Chi is volunteering to help run March for Dimes and needs your help!!



17th Annual ECCA Spring Golf Tournament

April 17, 2015 - Bradford Creek Golf Club

On behalf of the all the student organizations, we would like to thank everyone involved in the 17th Annual ECCA Spring Golf Tournament. The ECCA Golf Tournament was a great success with seventeen (17) teams competing at Bradford Creek Golf Course and approximately \$3,500 was the net profit for the event. A framed "Purple Jacket" Award was given as the First Place Prize to At Work Interiors (Raleigh, NC) which will be returned at next year's tournament and awarded to the 2016 tournament winner.



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