



A NEW CLASS OF CONSTRUCTION PIRATE GRADUATES

# Excellence in Education

## Note from the Chair

### Welcome

Our Department has been very active in the past 2 semesters. We have welcomed new students, new faculty and new Advisory Board members. Here are a few highlights.

### Faculty

Ms. Sue Sayger joined the Department of Construction Management as an instructor starting August 15, 2013. We now have 9 full time faculty members, including Ms. Sayger. The department faculty is active in pursuing grant opportunities and publishing high quality conference and journal papers in their areas of interest.

### MCM Program

Our newly designed and updated MCM brochure is now ready and is being mailed out to prospective students. The MCM program is growing steadily. We now have close to 30 students enrolled in our MCM program including a couple of international students. Our plan is to offer additional elective courses in the very near future.

### Marketing/Recruiting Efforts

Ms. Erin Acree, our Director of Marketing Continuing Education is actively involved in

marketing and developing our continuing education program in addition to helping and assisting in our student recruitment efforts for our Undergraduate and Graduate programs. The Career Fair, Open House and the NCDOT Construction Career Days were some of the notable events where we actively recruited for our programs.

### Undergraduate Program

In Fall 2013, our BSCM program in saw an approximately 100% increase in our freshmen class compared to Fall semester 2012. Our current UG enrollment is close to 300 students.

### Industry Advisory Board

The CMGT Industry Advisory Board had their fall meeting on October 25, 2013 and their spring meeting on March 28, 2014. Both were very successful and well-attended, with 18 guests at the spring meeting. We currently have 53 construction industry professionals serving in our IAB. Mr. Scott Cooper, who is the President of the CMGT IAB, welcomed a number of new members at both meetings and we hope to grow our membership to 75 by fall of 2014.

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### Site Visits

ECU Construction Management students had the opportunity to visit active construction sites and several local industry operations.

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### Fun & Games

Students kicked-off Fall Semester with a Welcome Back Cookout and a friendly construction competition.

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# Department News

## New Faculty

**Sue Sayger**, formerly an adjunct professor for the Construction Management Department, recently joined our team full-time, as a member of our Faculty. Ms. Sayger, who received a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A&M, is currently teaching courses on Construction Modeling, Estimating and Equipment Managing.



**Erin Acree**, 2008 graduate of ECU's School of Communication, has joined our team to increase the marketing, recruitment and continuing education efforts of the Construction Management Department. Her enthusiasm and passion for the program are bringing a fresh energy to the Department.

## ABC Meeting

Dr. David Batie & Dr. Erich Connell attended the ABC (Associated Builders and Contractors) Carolina - Coastal Chapter Luncheon in the fall, where a panel of representatives from multiple construction education programs in Eastern NC presented on the status of their programs. Dr. Batie, Undergraduate Director of our department, had the privilege of participating in the panel, along with Jon Beque (2003 ECU Alum) of Cape Fear Community College and Ms. Velve Jenkins of Brunswick Community College.



## Tenure Granted

Dr. George Wang was named Associate Professor and granted tenure in the Fall of 2013.

# Department News Cont.

## Scholarship Update

### Two Additional Donations Received for Student Scholarships

The Department's Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the receipt of two new donations earmarked for student scholarships.



The Triangle Chapter (Raleigh, NC) of the Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA) provided \$50,000 to endow a recurring scholarship for East Carolina University's construction management students. CFMA had previously funded an annual \$2000 scholarship. Peter Luca, CFMA's Scholarship Chairman, shared that revenues from the organization's past 16 annual golf tournaments were used to create the endowment. Once the endowment grows to 108% value, the CFMA annual scholarship will be awarded from the proceeds. For more information about the Triangle Chapter of CFMA visit <http://cafe.cfma.org/TriangleNC/Home/>.

Builders Mutual Insurance Company has generously donated \$2500 to the CMGT Scholarship Pool for academic year 2014-2015 awards. Brad Mook, Assistant Vice President of Business Development initiated a relationship with ECU Construction Management in late June 2013. Brad emphasized that he wanted BMI to have a partnership with ECU including speaking and teaching opportunities, as well as student internships. Brad cemented that partnership by joining the CMGT Advisory Board this October. [https://www.buildersmutual.com/About\\_Builders\\_Mutual/](https://www.buildersmutual.com/About_Builders_Mutual/)





## Fall/Spring Outstanding Seniors

We are pleased to announce that six seniors were selected for the title of “Outstanding Senior” during the fall semester, and 13 during the spring semester. Each student was given the opportunity to attend our semi-annual Industry Advisory Board meetings, where they were recognized and introduced to more than 50 influential members of the construction community.

The following students applied and were selected to attend the Advisory Board Meetings based on academic merit, service, accomplishments during their careers at ECU and their GPA. All submitted applications were reviewed by CMGT Faculty and these candidates were selected to represent the Department.

### Fall Attendees

- Adam Hasenfus
- Tim Hollingsworth
- Jairo Najera
- Justin Pate
- Reed Short
- James Van Staalduin

### Spring Attendees

- Ben Avolis
- LeAnna Becker
- Adam Brady
- Courtney Carter
- Peter Delorier
- Harris Griswold
- Dylan Hutchinson
- Brantlee Jobe
- Chris Manning
- Eric Rigsbee
- Erin Sullivan
- Travis Thurman
- Peter Vuong

Prior to graduation, CMGT Faculty further reviewed each candidate’s application, narrowing down the finalists down to 3. The final Outstanding Seniors were recognized at both the University and College Commencement ceremonies.

### Fall Recipients:



Adam Hasenfus



Reed Short



James Van Staalduin

## Commencement

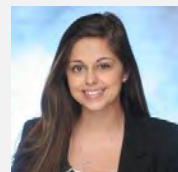


Congratulations to our Fall 2013 Construction Management Graduates!



Congratulations to our Spring 2014 Construction Management Graduates!

### Spring Recipients:



LeAnna Becker



Harris Griswold



Dylan Hutchinson

## SLC Induction Ceremonies

Last fall, the Sigma Lambda Chi (SLC) Construction Management Honor Society inducted 11 new students and one new faculty member. Being selected as an inductee of SLC 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 CM class. Additionally, they must be recognized by their peers as an ethical and hard-working student.



### Student Inductees:

- Andre' Brown
- Andrew William Garrard
- Jake Hart
- Warren Harvey
- Dan Kovacs
- Jared Markham
- Matt Ruffin
- Clay Sobocinski
- Megan Sommer
- Brooks Valtin
- Andrew T. Whitlock

### Faculty Inductees:

- Ms. Sue Sayger

Mr. Sam Hunter, President and CEO of TA Loving Company, served as the speaker for the ceremony. Current SLC members were also in attendance, as well as representatives from industry sponsors, who made this ceremony possible.

**Presenting Sponsor:** Davis Construction

**Additional Sponsors:** RQ Construction, Branch Highways, Inc., W.M. Jordan, Foulger-Pratt, LF Jennings, Hourigan Construction, TA Loving Company, Kjellstrom & Lee and Woolems, Inc.

In the Spring, 10 new students were inducted and one new faculty member.



### Student Inductees:

- Jake Carter
- Mark Cissi
- Jason Davis
- Peter DiMassimo
- Tomas Jerez
- Stephen Mozingo
- Michael Nero
- Clay Sobocinski
- Zachary Rowe
- Tyler Waddell
- Anthony Williams

### Faculty Inductees:

- Dr. Syed Ahmed

Mr. Bill Seyler, Senior Project Manager for Lend Lease, delivered the speech during the spring induction ceremony. Representatives from industry sponsors, as well as past SLC members were in attendance and recognized for their contributions.

**Presenting Sponsor:** Caterpillar, Inc.

**Additional Sponsors:** Barnhill Contracting Company, Branch Highways, Inc., Davis Construction, Fortune Johnson General Contractors, Hourigan Construction, LF Jennings, TA Loving Company and Woolems, Inc.

In addition to the ceremony sponsors, we would like to recognize the 2013-2014 officers for their dedication and hard work.

**SLC Officers:** Ben Avolis, President; Harris Griswold, Vice President; Erin Sullivan, Treasurer; and, Eric Rigsbee, Secretary.

**SLC NEWS:** The officers, along with are also proud to announce that this year SLC has not only become an official student organization recognized by East Carolina University and has completed multiple community service project.



# In The Classroom

## Davis Construction Education Invasion

DAVIS Construction Company partners with the Department of Construction Management each year by offering their services during their annual DAVIS Education Invasion. The Education Invasion involves DAVIS staff members (company project managers, estimators, engineers, etc.) offering lectures on multiple current topics related to the construction management curriculum and skill sets. DAVIS delivers their lectures over a 1 ½ day period usually lecturing in approximately 6 – 12 classes. The students have responded very positively to the DAVIS Education Invasion and enjoy the feel of learning about current construction projects, technology and career opportunities.

## Site Visits

In Spring and Fall 2013, CMGT 3800 students (Soils and Foundations) and CMGT 3400 students (structural Analysis) visited Greenville Wal-Mart construction site, Georgetown Commons student housing complex construction site, and Anderson Truss manufacture.

Site visits and field study tours are important to our students, to enhance learning outcomes and teaching effectiveness. It is especially important for some courses which need to integrate theory and practice such as soil mechanics and structural analysis. From site visit, theoretical concepts can be strengthened, better understood, and will be remembered by students.

Another advantage is that the field study tour not only covers the single course materials which is being taught, it also covers numerous aspects of construction management and process knowledge that may or may not be taught in other classes. Site visits are a real benefit to our students and their future career development.

## Talking Ethics with CMGT Students

Mr. Gary Thompson, PLS and Chair of the North Carolina Board of Examiners for Engineers and Land Surveyors ([www.ncbels.org](http://www.ncbels.org)), facilitated a discussion on October 9, 2013 with Dr. Donna Hollar's

Construction Surveying class on ethical behavior within the industry. Mr. Thompson shared background information about a disciplinary action brought before the NCBELS against a NC surveyor who "allegedly failed to perform services in an ethical manner." The students reviewed testimony from multiple parties involved in the case and determined what disciplinary action was warranted. "By having professionals come into the classroom and share their experiences, ethical action becomes relevant" stated Dr. Hollar. ACCE accreditation requirements emphasize that ethics be integrated across the CMGT curriculum. Conversations on ethics between industry members and students are encouraged. Please contact the CMGT department if you would like to share your insights or experiences.

## SPEAKERS WANTED

Do you have an interest in presenting to our students. Our undergraduates benefit greatly from meeting industry professionals from a variety of backgrounds and learning from their experiences. If you have an interest in sharing your passion or career choice with CMGT students, please contact Dr. David Batie to discuss the details.

<mailto:batied@ecu.edu>

## Welcome Back Cookout

To kick off the Fall 2013 semester, faculty and staff hosted a "Welcome Back Cookout," complete with a friendly construction competition. Games were developed by Dr. Donna Hollar following a "Minute To Win It" format. Students were organized into 3 teams and asked to complete 5 unique challenges – Hammer Horseshoes, Counting Bricks, Hanging By Your Nails, Level Head, and In A Hole.





## NCDOT High School Construction Career Days

The ECU Department of Construction Management partnered with Pitt Community College and Pitt County Schools to host the 3<sup>rd</sup> NCDOT High School Construction Career Days event on September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at the Pitt County Fairgrounds. The 2013 event hosted 32 eastern North Carolina High Schools and approximately 1,123 students. The event gives high school

sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to learn about rewarding careers in residential, commercial and

infrastructure construction. High school students interact with faculty, staff and students from the Department of Construction Management to learn about the curriculum requirements, internships and career/job opportunities after receiving a Bachelor of Science Degree.

The NCDOT event also gives students an opportunity to participate in interactive exhibits such as: rebar tying, pipe bending, bricklaying, carpentry, welding and tile setting. Students also have the opportunity to operate the following heavy equipment (under supervision): Skid steers, track hoes, excavators, backhoes, bulldozers and cranes.

Construction industry representatives, equipment dealers, contractors and material suppliers are on site to meet with interested students and discuss career opportunities and answer questions.

### SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars, the next Construction Career Days event will be in September, 2014 at the Pitt County Fairgrounds. If you are interested in attending the event and/or partnering with us to help educate high school students about rewarding careers in construction, contact Bryan E. Wheeler at [wheelerb@ecu.edu](mailto:wheelerb@ecu.edu) or (252)-328-4140.

## Butch Hardy Memorial Clay Shoot

Presented By ADAMS an Oldcastle Company

Last fall, Adams Oldcastle hosted their first annual memorial clay shoot in honor of the late "Butch" Hardy. Brett Hardy, Butch's son, developed the idea and invited our Department to participate. The tournament, held outside of Fuquay-Varina at Drake Landing, allowed 12 teams of four to take aim at several targets set up throughout an 13 – station trail.

Two student teams and five faculty/staff participated. The event was a morning shotgun start, mid-day lunch, followed by an afternoon shoot and awards. The invitation to participate in the sporting clays shoot gave eight of our students the opportunity to network with leaders in the construction industry. The students were paired with teams of contractors, and they represented us well. Team-wise, members of our group placed third and second in their individual pairings.

This cultured relationship with the Hardy family and Adams Products Company has resulted in the formation of an endowed scholarship. Through the generosity of the Hardy family and contributions from the attending industry participants, a scholarship in the amount of \$20,000 was presented to the department.



# CMGT FLASH FACTS

**59K**

AVERAGE STARTING SALARY<sup>1</sup>



**85%**

JOB PLACEMENT IN 60 DAYS OF GRADUATION<sup>2</sup>

INDUSTRY ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PROVIDING SUPPORT TO OUR STUDENTS

**72**



**17%** JOB GROWTH BY 2020<sup>3</sup>



**GRADUATES SEEK CAREERS AS:**

- PROJECT MANAGER
- ATTORNEY
- FIELD ENGINEER
- SITE SUPERINTENDENT**
- CHIEF ESTIMATOR
- CHIEFSCHEDULER**
- BUILDING INSPECTOR
- FACILITY MANAGER**



**34K**

IN DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP MONEY AWARDED ANNUALLY

<sup>1</sup>National Statistic from National Association of Colleges & Employers 2014 Salary Survey <sup>2</sup>Based on Survey of 2013 ECU CMGT Graduates

<sup>3</sup>U.S. Bureau of Labor Stastics



# Student Organizations

## AGC

The ECU Construction Management Student Chapter of the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America was chartered in 1984 and continues to provide the students with multiple opportunities. The AGC Student Chapter 2013-14 schedule included the following events and activities:

1. Kickoff Cookout Fall 2013 Meeting
2. Guest Speakers – Mike Austell, AGC Representative; West Overman, Gregory Poole Equipment Company
3. Intern Night (current students spoke about intern experiences)
4. ECU Career Center – Larry Donley (guest speaker); resume and interview workshop
5. Career Fair Socials (ECCA)- Construction company representatives meet with students in High Bay after ECU's Career Fair
6. Caterpillar Company Plant Tour & Heavy Equipment Operation – Clayton, NC (Oct. 2013)
7. Habitat for Humanity Work Days – Nov. 2013 and April 2014
8. ECCA Spring Golf Tournament – April 2014

## NAHB

This February, six NAHB students competed in the Residential Construction Management Competition at the International Builder's Show in Las Vegas, Nevada. The 34 teams that competed from universities and colleges throughout the United States represented the top 2% of students in their field across the country. The competition gave participants the opportunity to apply skills learned in the classroom to a real construction project, by completing a management proposal to develop pre-selected plot of land. Proposals were submitted to a group of construction company executives who acted as judges. During the convention, students defended their proposals to the judges in front of an audience.

Students placed in the top 50% of the teams competing and hope to be selected to compete again next year. Leanna Becker, Ben Avolis, Courtney Carter, Dylan Hutchinson, Brantlee Jobe and Alex Littleton (picture below from left to right) represented East Carolina University in the competition. Alternates were Megan Sommer, Logan Hahm and Kacie Wolcott, who will serve on the team in 2015. Dr. Eric Connell served as Advisor for the competition team.



## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual ECCA Spring Golf Tournament

April 11, 2014  
Greenville Country Club

On behalf of all of our student organizations, we would like to thank everyone involved in the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual ECCA Spring Golf Tournament. 17 Teams competed in this year's tournament, helping to raise nearly \$4000 for our student organizations.

Congratulations to Caterpillar, Inc. - this year's winning team!



For more photos from the spring tournament, visit our Facebook page:  
[/www.facebook.com/ecuconstructionmanagement](https://www.facebook.com/ecuconstructionmanagement)



DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS



Ms. Acree, Director of Marketing Outreach, stands at our International Builders Show expo booth with the 2013-2014 NAHB competition team.



The CMGT Department hosted a "Get the Facts" event in the fall, allowing outside students to learn about the major.



Ms. Acree & CMGT Graduate Student, Zach Rowe, represent the Department at the Xtreme Beginnings Career Fair in Raleigh. Hundreds of Wake County HS students attended.



Dr. David Batie and Mr. Bryan Wheeler welcome students and their parents at the Fall 2013 ECU Open House.

# Marketing CMGT

Last fall, our Construction Management program took a step forward in actively marketing our program and recruiting new students. Erin Acree, ECU alumna, joined the team as the Director of Marketing Outreach to bring a new focus to our outreach efforts.

Ms. Acree is making efforts to improve outcomes in 3 areas:

- Marketing
- Recruitment
- Continuing Education

## Marketing

A new emphasis has been placed on marketing the Construction Management Department, in order to raise greater awareness of our quality programs. Be sure to follow ECU CMGT on social media sites, including LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter. Follow us on each site and share with your friends. The greater network we have online, the more exposure we will gain.



East Carolina University – Construction Management



East Carolina University – Dept. of Construction Management



ECU\_CMGT



Ed Tipton was awarded an Exemplary Leader Award in the Spring for his years of service to the Dept. by Dr. Ahmed, Scott Cooper, AB President & Dr. David White, Dean of the College of Engineering & Tech.

## Recruiting

Recruiting efforts are being made for both the Undergraduate and Master's programs. From job fairs at community colleges and industry expos, to trade conventions, the Department of Construction Management is making strides in creating a greater presence in our state and beyond. Just a few of the events that we've attended are listed below:

**ECU Fall & Spring Open House**

**International Builders Show – Las Vegas, NV**

**Xtreme Beginnings Career Fair – Raleigh, NC**

**HBA Home Fest 2014 – Greenville, NC**

**Adams Expo 2014 – Raleigh, NC**

## Continuing Education

Continuing Education has been identified as an area of opportunity for our Department in the past 2 years. Ms. Acree has partnered with Bill Seyler, Lend Lease Senior Project Manager and Advisory Board member, to plan and host 2 events in the last year. Both events were a tremendous success, and we look forward to offering more courses with even greater participation in the coming year. Each course is outlined on the following page.

## Continuing Education Courses: 2013 - 2014

### Benefits of Design-Build as a Project Delivery Method – Nov. 8, 2013 - Durham, NC

The Design-Build seminar featured 4 prominent members of the construction community, who shared their best practices and lessons learned using Design-Build as a PDM. The speakers covered topics like state regulations, effects on construction and architecture, cost control and risk management. This was a well-attended event, which we plan to host again in the future.

#### Speakers:

Gregory Driver, PE – Director, SCO

Paul Boney, FAIA – LS3P

Albert Schwarzkopf – Merck

Robert Gardner, LEED AP – Lend Lease



*Bill Seyler, Sr. PM with Lend Lease and member of the Advisory Board's Continuing Education Committee, welcomes attendees.*



*Dr. Lincoln Forbes presenting the "Parade of Trades" portion of his seminar material.*

### Lean Construction & Integrated Project Delivery – May 21, 2014 - Durham, NC

In May, 3 dynamic speakers and representatives of the commercial construction industry, presented a comprehensive, one-day seminar on Lean Construction & IPD, with a focus on guiding contractors to find greater productivity and cost efficiency in large commercial projects. Topics covered include benefits of application, project integration, case studies of real applications and increased collaboration. This successful seminar shined a new light on the growing use of Lean Construction in collaborative projects.

#### Speakers:

Dr. Lincoln Forbes, PE, LEED AP – Harding Associates, Inc.

David Craft – Rodgers Builders, Inc.

Jim Goff, PMP, Six Sigma – Lend Lease

We are currently seeking new ideas for future continuing education seminars. If you have a suggestion for a course that would be helpful to you and/or your employees, please notify Ms. Acree at [acreee@ecu.edu](mailto:acreee@ecu.edu), and share your ideas. With your help, we look forward to watching our continuing education program grow.







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