The CM Family:

People Making a Difference

Fall 2007
The late Benjamin Disraeli once said, “Change is inevitable. Change is constant.” So it is at Colorado State University’s Department of Construction Management. Former Department Head Larry Grosse has retired, and I am serving as interim department head. The entire department extends heartfelt wishes to Larry for happiness and success in all his endeavors. He has left this department with a strong foundation that will support even greater accomplishments.

As with many organizations in today’s marketplace, our program is transforming itself to meet the challenges of the future. We are calling the 2007-08 academic year The Year of the CM Family, because strengthening our family will be key to successfully addressing our greatest challenges: undergraduate enrollment growth and faculty recruitment and retention.

The most valuable asset to any organization is its people, and the CM department is fortunate to have talented and passionate faculty and staff. But for our program to develop and rise to a new level of excellence, we must first create a culture of excellence – an environment that provides support for our CM family members who, in turn, support our students and our industry.

With the dramatic increase we have seen in our program’s enrollment over the last decade, the need for additional qualified CM faculty members has become paramount. One of our top priorities this year is to attract outstanding new faculty members and inspire them to join the CM family.

Preserving the quality of our faculty is also crucial to our program’s continued pursuit of excellence and the vitality of the construction industry, as it is our faculty members who educate and prepare the industry’s future leaders. Our faculty also fuel intellectual and economic progress by participating in critical research that directly impacts the future of the industry.

Thanks to the great faculty and staff we now have, and also the unflagging support of you – our industry, alumni, and friends – we have made great progress. Our research productivity is high; our CM family members are recognized locally, nationally, and internationally; and our students consistently receive high marks and acclaim at national and regional competitions.

Our program has a solid foundation, and our CM family has what it takes to achieve our goal of becoming the best CM program in the nation. It will take hard work, planning, and commitment from everyone. We will succeed, because we are all part of one family and share one important mission: to make a difference in the lives of others while also enjoying our own. With this mission guiding us, we will develop a community of excellence that will sustain our program and transform challenges into opportunities.

It is my privilege to be a part of our CM family and share in the vision, energy, and excitement that make our work most interesting and rewarding.

Mostafa Khattab
Interim Department Head
Students Enjoy Career Success

Before Kris Musgrave graduated, before he’d even started his summer internship, the CM senior was hired to be a project engineer with RK Mechanical. Amy Farrell, too, was hired before graduating. When Farrell completed her internship with Kinetics last summer, the company offered her a well-paying full-time job, which she began after earning her degree last December.

It’s no secret that CM graduates are in high demand and are commanding starting salaries averaging between $45,000 and $55,000. Graduates attribute their success to the quality of their education – in particular, to the industry experience they received from teachers who cared about them. Aaron Saunders, ‘06, a field engineer with TIC, says he found especially helpful “all the little things that our teachers brought to our classes – stories about specific construction issues that they’d had to deal with.”

Mechanical Systems, a course sponsored by the Mechanical Contractors Association of Colorado, is an example that puts students in direct contact with specific industry issues. John Thomas, vice president of Trautman & Shreve Mechanical Contractors & Engineers, teaches the course, sharing his 24 years of experience as a mechanical contractor. “I think it’s important for students to understand concrete and steel, mathematics, English, and history – and also to have an understanding of what the mechanical industry is all about,” says Thomas. The MCA has a need for people who are interested in the mechanical contracting field, Thomas continues. “It’s important for us to develop that interest in these students.”

The Phelps Placement Office (PPO) also plays a large role in matching students with appropriate internship and employment opportunities. Anna Fontana, coordinator of the placement office, teaches a pre-internship seminar students must take before applying for their internships. Carol Gentry, who also works in the PPO, prepares a bound book of seniors’ resumes, which she copies and distributes to the 250 companies involved in the Professional Development Advisory Board and on-campus recruiting activities.

The internship requirement is an excellent marketing tool, says Fontana, adding that 50 percent of internships lead to permanent jobs. Dan Starr, vice president of operations with GE Johnson, agrees. “The mandatory internship is one of the major factors why we recruit from CSU and gives the students a leg up on some of their peers.”

Jack Miller, administrative manager with JE Dunn, says the internship program allows students to observe and be part of the JE Dunn culture while allowing the company to observe the students’ qualifications and capabilities to serve in specific positions. “We have found the CSU students to be well educated in construction management and equipped with the tools necessary to begin a career in the industry,” says Miller.

Internship Office Personnel

The CM department welcomes Anna Fontana as the new interim coordinator of the Phelps Placement Office. A 1997 CSU construction management graduate, Fontana says her prior position recruiting CSU students for DPR Construction, Inc., in California gave her experience helping students learn how to interview and present themselves to future employers.

Carol Gentry coordinates the CM Career Fair and on-campus senior recruiting activities. Now working on her seventh career fair, Gentry says she likes working with people and enjoys the opportunity to work with industry and CM students.

Student Competition Results

NAHB Competition, Orlando

Residential Construction Team
Second Place, National – the highest award CSU has received in 15 years of participating in this competition

ASC Competition, Reno

Graduate-Level Problem Team – First Place, National

Mechanical Team – First Place, National

Heavy Civil Team – Third Place, Regional

Commercial Building Team – Third Place, Regional
Lab Prepares Students for Heavy Construction Jobs

Representatives at the ribbon cutting for the Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association Asphalt Laboratory are CAPA president Steve Peterson, Lafarge West, Inc., Denver; Bill Kaufman, Colorado Department of Transportation commissioner; Larry Grosse, CM department head; Vice President Joyce Berry, CSU Advancement and Strategic Initiatives; and Ken Coulson, CAPA secretary, Coulson Excavating, Inc., Loveland, Colo.

Last November, the CM department held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially open the new Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association (CAPA) Asphalt Laboratory, the only laboratory of its kind in Colorado.

The department and CAPA share a goal of giving students the opportunity to develop, and advance the quality of asphalt pavement products for use in countless road and highway projects across the nation. To create a facility where such research can occur, CAPA donated $55,000 in funding to establish the laboratory and provided approximately $150,000 of state-of-the-art hot mix asphalt testing equipment on a long-term loan basis.

“Initially, the laboratory will be equipped for undergraduate teaching,” says CM Professor Scott Shuler, who was hired three years ago to develop a heavy construction concentration within the CM program. “Research capability will come later as we develop the undergraduate program and get more students interested in possible graduate studies in asphalt pavement construction.”

Revamped Curriculum Debuts This Fall

In Introduction to Construction Management, undergraduate students entering the CM program this fall will learn what the CM program is about, what construction managers do, and the types of careers graduates can pursue with a CM degree. This information will help students identify their interests, so they can then tailor their education to meet those interests.

The new required course is one component of a major overhaul made to the CM curriculum.

Over the last two years, a departmental curriculum committee sought input from faculty, students, staff, advisory board members, industry, and alumni about ways to improve the curriculum. “We received a lot of student feedback about the existing curriculum,” says CM Professor Angela Guggemos, who served on the committee. “They really had a sense of what worked well and what didn’t.”

Changes include better course sequencing, revised course content, more integrated concepts, and more timely delivery of materials.

Take Project Administration, for example, which Guggemos used to teach to a class composed of both students getting ready to do their internship and students who had just completed their internship. Because the material is more useful to pre-internship students, the course was melded with a contracts class, and students are now required to take the new course, Construction Contracts and Project Administration, prior to their internship.

Mike O’Reilly, a licensed structural engineer and assistant CM professor, made significant changes to the structural engineering courses he teaches.

“The new courses are now more applicable specifically to CM students,” says O’Reilly. “While constructors are responsible for the construction, but not the design, of permanent structures, they are responsible for both the design and the construction of temporary structures that provide support until the permanent project is finished. Yet both types of structures obey the same laws of physics.”

The updated courses will train CM students to apply engineering principles to the design of temporary steel and wood structures and will also expose them to general engineering design of structural components and systems. This understanding will enable them to communicate more knowledgeably with engineers and architects.

The revised curriculum goes into effect this fall. A transition plan is in place for students in their sophomore through senior years.

Advisers in the CM advising office worked with students, faculty, staff, and the campus community to implement the transition plan.

As of mid-July, CM advisers had met with more than 850 students to help them update their CM check-sheets, create an outline for the remainder of their time at CSU, and address any other advising needs they may have had.

“It was important that we took the time to work with each student, because college can be overwhelming at times, and to throw in new requirements on top of everything else can add to a student’s stress level,” says Nichole Hall, key academic adviser. “We’re offering as much support as possible to our students while also empowering them to take responsibility for their individual academic journey.”

Information about the new curriculum changes appears on the CM website at: www.cm.cahs.colostate.edu/Advising/index.html.
Vico Software Donation

5D Modeling Now Part of the Learning Experience

Construction Management students at Colorado State are learning hands-on how to use Building Information Modeling, or BIM, a technology that is revolutionizing the entire construction process, from preconstruction and building design through facility management and life cycle assessment.

Last fall, Vico Software, Inc. (formerly known as Graphisoft), one of the largest architecture, engineering, and software companies in the world, donated $1.1 million in 5D modeling software to the Department of Construction Management. The donation enables students to develop skills and become familiar with Vico’s Virtual Construction software, a unique product that allows students to merge and manage multiple dimensions of construction projects. The company is also providing updates to the technology as it evolves.

Vico’s Virtual Construction software has been used to design more than 1,000,000 completed buildings worldwide and is in use by more than 40 companies in North America.

“BIM is changing the way projects are designed, constructed, and managed,” says CM Professor Brad Johnson, who began using the software in his graduate class last spring. “We’re actually building the project virtually, prior to construction. From this virtual model we’re able to identify coordination issues, produce an estimate, and create and analyze a visual 4D schedule. Using this process opens the door to collaboration among project participants.”

A local contractor who used this technology was able to produce a parametric estimate for a hospital in about 12 hours, Johnson notes. To address questions about the estimate, the contractor opened the 3D model and visually explained the details of the estimate and cost justifications to the owner.

One benefit of this technology is the ability to quickly make changes to the model and determine the impact on cost and schedule. Among other benefits, BIM enhances the design-build process and also aids in lean construction by helping to minimize waste.

Johnson worked with Ryan Martorano of Hensel Phelps Construction Company to allow students to use the software to work on an actual project. He also invited professionals in architecture, engineering, and construction to serve as guest lecturers, providing a variety of perspectives on the advantages and challenges related to BIM and how the technology is changing the way things are done.

The key advantage to having the software in CM’s computer laboratories is that it gives students an understanding of the technology, the Building Information Modeling concept, and the collaborative process that BIM makes possible.

“The construction industry has an enormous appetite to hire graduates who have 5D skills,” says Vico Vice President Don Henrich. “Many of our customers will only hire those who can demonstrate a strong understanding of managing the relationship between design, cost, and schedule. I am certain that this will be the case with Colorado State graduates.”

Johnson says people in the construction industry call him regularly, asking for students who have knowledge of BIM. “They’re ready to hire them,” he says.

Vico’s 5D Virtual Construction software integrates construction modeling, such as the 3D home shown above, as well as model-based estimating, 4D sequencing, and 5D cash-flow analyses in one powerful solution.

McWhinney Enterprises Picks Up Tab For Development Course

When industry professionals teach, students gain a very real and timely perspective of the work they’ll eventually be doing in their internships and careers. This year, the department welcomes back Dean Barber, VP for McWhinney Enterprises, Inc., who will teach “Development: A Comprehensive Study” for the second time. The course addresses the concepts construction managers need to understand to work effectively in the realm of commercial and residential development.

This year Eric Holsapple, Ph.D., CCIM, a partner at Loveland Commercial, LLC and a professor of finance and real estate at the University’s Everitt Real Estate Center, will co-teach the course, and students from that department will participate along with CM students. McWhinney Enterprises will again fund Barber’s time to prepare for and teach the class.

“Our goal is to give these students an advantage in their careers, by helping them understand how academia is applied in the real world and how the real world substantiates academia,” says Barber.

Involving McWhinney employees in the classroom supports the company’s goals of demonstrating leadership and developing excellent relationships with surrounding communities and business associates, says President and CEO Chad McWhinney. “We consider our relationship with CSU to be integral to our success, as CSU is both an important part of our community and a business partner. We also believe that the associates at McWhinney should be leaders in the efforts of educating the development community with their vast experience.”
Larry Grosse Retires

Larry Grosse retired in February as CM department head, leaving an exceptional “Ram Built” legacy. He provided outstanding leadership over the past 10 years as the department grew in undergraduate and graduate enrollment, industry partnerships, and funded research.

Grosse created a vision for construction management that included numerous partnerships with the construction industry. The 50th anniversary gala funded the establishment of the Phelps Internship Placement Program and the renovation of named classrooms in Guggenheim Hall. He also worked with alumnus Joseph Phelps of Joseph Phelps Vineyards, who established the Joseph Phelps Endowed Chair with a $1.5 million donation, and also funded an endowment for faculty development.

Grosse was the driving force behind the beautiful renovation of Guggenheim Hall, completed in 2004, and the Colorado Asphalt Pavement Association Asphalt Laboratory, which opened in November. He encouraged industry to support student participants in the many student organizations and competitions held each year. He served for more than two decades on the Board of Directors for both the Associated Schools of Construction and the National Association of Home Builders. He also served six years on the American Council for Construction Education Board of Trustees.

Never one to rest on his laurels, Grosse leaves many initiatives in the works, including the Heavy Highway Endowed Chair initiative and a $3.2 million plan to renovate the Industrial Sciences Building, which was built in 1883.

Interim Department Head Focused on People

The author Roland Barth once wrote, “Excellence can be achieved if you care more than others think is wise, risk more than others think is safe, dream more than others think is practical, and expect more than others think is possible.” It’s a sentiment that has driven CM Professor Mostafa Khattab in all of his personal and professional endeavors, and one which he shares with his students.

In February, Khattab became interim head of the CM department. He is focused on helping others to succeed and creating a learning environment that fosters teamwork and excellence.

Khattab arrived at CSU in 2002, after teaching for 14 years in the Department of Construction Management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In 1976, he graduated with honors from the University of Helwan in his native country, Egypt, and in 1981, he earned his master’s degree in production engineering from the same institution. He received his Ph.D. in industrial engineering from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Khattab is a recent past president of the Associated Schools of Construction and served as a member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, Society for Engineering and Management Systems American Institute of Constructors, and the American Society for Engineering Education.

While at Colorado State, Khattab spearheaded an international partnership between CSU and the University of Helwan, which involved sending CM faculty from Colorado State to Egypt to work with faculty members there to develop a multi-culture, multi-discipline construction management program. The Egypt project went beyond the objectives of the USAID grant that helped support it and has led to new international collaborations.

A search for a permanent department head is underway.
People and Sustainability Among New Professor’s Passions

Mary Nobe is fascinated with the people who make up the construction industry. In fact, she considered going after a psychology degree before deciding on construction education instead.

Nobe was hired as an assistant professor in January, after working as a special appointment lecturer in CM while completing her Ph.D. She says her affinity for construction goes back to her early years.

“My dad was a mechanic, and I grew up spending a lot of time in his shop. When I looked at buildings, I understood how they went together. I liked the outdoor activities associated with construction, and I liked the people who worked in the industry.”

Nobe says her overarching research goal is to develop a greater understanding of the people who make up the construction industry.

The thesis Nobe defended last fall focused on how construction students’ values influenced their acceptance of green building and, consequently, their behaviors regarding sustainability.

Over the summer, Nobe developed a proposal for a grant that would enable her to look specifically at construction students’ values toward construction waste recycling. This research builds upon findings from her thesis, which suggested that after students completed their internships, they were less amenable to practicing construction waste recycling than before they went into the internship.

Now she’s asking: “How can we better prepare students to deal with the realities of the construction world? Their values are still very malleable, and teachers, employers, and peers have the ability to influence them.” While considerable research has been done in the area of sustainable design, little research has been done in sustainable construction, Nobe adds. She plans to look more closely at the contractor’s role in sustainability and how to raise contractors’ awareness and application of sustainable construction practices.

“It calls for making sacrifices in some areas for gains in other areas, which all comes back to values,” Nobe says.

“My goals as a teacher are to help my students succeed and to further the success of the construction industry in becoming more sustainable,” she adds.

Nobe lives in Cherokee Park with her husband, Mike, their two young children, Rozie and Kenneth Cole, and several animals. She and her husband are building a new home, incorporating as many sustainable practices as possible.
New Faces in the IBE

Josie Plaut
Director of Projects

Josie Plaut, who worked in the Institute for the Built Environment (IBE) while completing her graduate work in CM’s sustainable building emphasis, is now IBE’s Director of Projects. Plaut coordinates and is helping to define which projects are the best fit with the IBE’s mission.

“I meet with potential project teams and discuss their goals and aspirations for green building. Then I talk with them about the IBE’s mission and student engagement and see if they are amenable to that,” she says.

Plaut also looks conceptually at what the IBE is interested in doing. She envisions the institute remaining on the cutting edge of sustainable building.

“The IBE will continue to focus on projects in Northern Colorado and help build capacity within the region,” says Plaut.

Dale Pettigrew
Director of Outreach Education

“Sustainable building has been a longtime passion of mine,” says Dale Pettigrew, the IBE’s new Director of Outreach Education. In the 1970s, Pettigrew and her husband designed and built a sustainable house. It was the first home in Northern Colorado to co-generate electricity with the Poudre Valley Rural Electric Association.

Now Pettigrew’s supervising the IBE’s Green Building Certificate Programs and is helping to develop a new certificate program in residential building.

An active member of the Northern Colorado chapter of the USGBC and an adviser to the Northern Colorado Emerging Green Builders student group, Pettigrew expects to become LEED accredited this fall.

Angela Guggemos
Director of Research

When New Belgium Brewing was disappointed in the performance of an experimental green roof they had installed, the company called upon the Institute for the Built Environment for help. CM Professor Angela Guggemos, who has a strong interest in life cycle environmental impact, said the project intrigued her. She wanted to find out if roofs that are covered with vegetation and soil really are green and environmentally preferable.

She compared a simple green roof to a traditional built-up roof. Looking just at life cycle environmental impact and life cycle costing, she discovered that the built-up roof was less expensive and had fewer environmental impacts.

As the IBE’s Director of Research, Guggemos helps the institute meet the green building needs of industry and the community. “I try to understand what industry needs in terms of research, and I’m working to increase our funded research and publish our findings,” she says.

Lenora Bohren
Associate Director of Research

As director of the National Center for Vehicle Emissions Control and Safety (NCVECS) in the CM department, Lenora Bohren is well acquainted with project management and field research. She has extensive experience in teaching and conducting social impact research. This background puts her in an ideal position to serve the IBE’s need for an expert in healthy buildings and indoor air quality (IAQ).

Bohren is working with IBE in healthy building research, investigating the importance of green cleaning and healthy indoor air in schools.

Bohren also has international connections that benefit the institute. Her contact with the Costa Rican government led to the IBE recently being invited to visit the University of Costa Rica and work with faculty and students there in the area of sustainable building.

“Building Green” Video Series for Sale

IBE is a partner in the Colorado Green Consortium, which recently produced Building Green in the Rockies, a video series that is an ideal educational tool for construction companies, design firms, and professional organizations.

The three-DVD series may be purchased for $25 from:

The Institute for the Built Environment
Department of Construction Management
Colorado State University
1584 Campus Delivery
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1584

Make checks payable to Colorado State University.
Guggenheim Awarded LEED Certification

The remodel of Guggenheim Hall, home to Colorado State’s CM department, was recognized last fall by the United States Green Building Council with LEED CI Silver Certification.

The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System™ is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. “CI” stands for commercial interiors, and is applied to tenant finish or interior remodel projects. Colorado State is the first university to obtain a LEED-CI certification.

As part of the remodeling project, the building’s hallways, second floor classrooms and staircase were renovated to match or emulate many of the architectural and design elements from 1910, when Guggenheim’s doors first opened.

Sustainable building practices were used in the renovation. The original hanging lights now feature energy-saving fixtures and bulbs and time-period-appropriate brass stems and ceiling fans. The crown molding from 1910 has been repaired and repainted to its original bright white color. Where the old wood floor couldn’t be retained, due to asbestos abatement, carpet tiles made with recycled material were installed, much of which is encased between wide oak borders.

The waste stream out of the building was also minimized. Removed materials were either reused inside the building or were donated to architectural salvage firms. Many of the plumbing fixtures are ultra low-flow, saving over 80,000 gallons per year over standard fixtures. Graduate students in CM Professors Steve Jaouen and Brian Dunbar’s Facilities Planning and Management class worked with manufacturers of healthy, sustainable building materials to gain donations or reduced prices for finish materials.

To carry out the provisions of LEED certification, students then worked with CSU’s Institute for the Built Environment to coordinate and document the energy-saving and healthy-building features of the project.

The LEED-CI Silver Certification plaque has been placed in Guggenheim Hall’s second-floor hallway. Framed posters describing the highlights of the renovation are hung in 227 Guggenheim and also can be viewed at www.ibe.colostate.edu/projects

Students and faculty hold a discussion in one of the new LEED-certified classrooms in Guggenheim Hall.

Next Green Project: The IS Building

Following the successful remodel of Guggenheim Hall, former CM Department Head Larry Grosse pioneered the remodel of the 124-year-old Industrial Sciences (IS) Building. The multiphase renovation is the next CM building project to employ a variety of sustainable elements.

The goal is to use as many environmentally conscientious means, methods, and materials as possible, including low energy use, water conservation, reused materials, materials with recycled content, natural light and more efficient artificial lighting, and improved natural ventilation.

The IS Building renovation – and other sustainable building projects on campus that CM faculty and staff have been involved in – support Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter’s “Greening of State Government” executive order to reduce energy consumption in state facilities and vehicles, and to use efficient materials and resources.

In addition to being green, “the IS renovation will provide a great opportunity for teaching and learning,” says CM Professor Brian Dunbar. “We will seek LEED certification, but we don’t know what level just yet.”

Individuals and companies interested in contributing to the project may contact Lori Sims, Director of Development for the College of Applied Human Sciences, at (970) 491-5669 or lori.sims@colostate.edu.
Students Lend a Hand in New Orleans

In April, CM student Ann Szynski joined 140 other Fort Collins residents who traveled to New Orleans with Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for those in need.

While there, the group worked at several different places, including houses in Saint Bernard Parish and the Musicians’ Village Habitat project in the Upper 9th Ward.

“The experience was life changing,” says Szynski, who represented the CSU chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The devastation was so immense that Szynski felt overwhelmed at times by how much needed to be done. “But, as in so many times in life, the only way to get something done is to just start,” she says. “Keep your eyes focused ahead and follow the path that is directly in front of you.”

After returning, Szynski, who graduated in May, wrote a grant proposal that will enable a large student group from CSU to travel to New Orleans for a week over winter break, 2007.

Asphalt Conference Benefits Department

In February, the CM department organized the 34th annual Rocky Mountain Asphalt Conference and Equipment Show. This year had the largest turnout with more than 1,800 people attending. The honorarium the department receives for organizing the conference supports CM’s new CAPA Asphalt Laboratory and research on specific asphalt issues.

For more information on the 35th annual event, contact Sue Wagner-Renner at (970) 491-7959 or wagner@cahs.colostate.edu.

International Liaisons

Egyptian University Now Has CM Program, Thanks to CSU Partnership

People in Egypt are struggling with unemployment and a stagnant economy – problems exacerbated by a growing disconnect between education and its applications in the community, says Mostafa Khattab, interim head of the CM department. But thanks to an international partnership involving the CM department, Egyptians are becoming equipped with tools and knowledge to help remedy these issues.

In 2005 the CM department received a $100,000 USAID grant to forge a partnership between Colorado State and Helwan University in Cairo. The objective: help develop a construction management degree program in Egypt that includes classroom education, applied research, and hands-on learning, as CSU’s program does.

Faculty and students from both universities participated in the multi-culture, multi-discipline online course in project management, which was offered to Helwan and CSU students in fall 2005 and 2006. CSU faculty have been to Egypt to meet with faculty, administrators, government officials, and constructors there, and Helwan University faculty have come to Fort Collins for a similar experience. Seeing how other countries build, and the materials they use, has provided great learning opportunities for everyone involved.

The partnership has been so successful that this fall, Helwan University will begin offering a new program in construction management. Students graduating from the program will receive a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with a Specialization in Construction Engineering and Management.

The program was developed in cooperation with the CM department, and Khattab and other CM faculty members will serve with Helwan University faculty on the steering committee charged with supervising the program. In addition to their regular duties, the committee will meet every three years in Egypt to assess the program’s quality.

Brad Johnson, one of the CM faculty members who collaborated on the Egypt project, says the next step is to work with Helwan on accrediting the program. “We’ll also have the potential to work on exchanges, with our faculty going to teach in their program and Egyptian students coming here for a semester,” Johnson adds.

Angela Guggemos, another CM professor involved in the Egypt project, says the partnership has brought an international perspective to construction management for CSU faculty and students as well as for the students and faculty in Egypt. “What better place to learn about the history and culture of building than in Egypt, where the pyramids were built?” she asks.

The partnership also presents great opportunities for faculty from Helwan University and CSU to collaborate on grant proposals and research, Guggemos adds.

One International Partnership Leads To Another

In December 2005, representatives from Colorado State University and the Arabic Academy of Science and Technology, pictured above, signed a Memorandum of Understanding, capitalizing on another international collaboration that evolved out of the CSU-Helwan University partnership. As a result of the MOU with the Arabic Academy, CSU has established an exchange program that will bring four students from universities in Egypt to Colorado State, where they will complete their master’s degree in construction management in one year. The first Egyptian students will arrive on campus this fall.
Department Awarded Grant to Train Trainers in the Gaza Strip

This fall, CM professors from Colorado State will conduct a week-long training workshop for 20-25 local trainers in the Gaza Strip and West Bank. The workshop, funded by a $165,000 Education for Employment Foundation grant, will prepare trainers to teach unemployed engineering graduates in the West Bank and/or Gaza practical and application-oriented construction management skills as part of a training program.

The project team from Colorado State will provide the construction management curriculum, instructional support materials, and the Training of Trainers (ToT) workshop. Team members also will assist with assessment and quality assurance for the ToT workshop and the end-user training program for a two-year period.

CM faculty members, including Angela Guggemos, Mostafa Khattab, Brad Johnson, Ron Holt, and workshop coordinator Becky Bell, will provide the trainers with a 120-hour construction management training module, which the trainers will teach to the end users over the course of three months.

While there are a large number of engineers in the Gaza Strip, many are unemployed and don’t have knowledge or experience in construction management. “The engineers who take this curriculum will be guaranteed jobs by companies that are ready and waiting to hire these graduates,” says Khattab. “By helping people become employed, we’re contributing to the area’s economic security and our own national security.”

Career Fair: The Ultimate Recruiting Experience

Is the CM Career Fair a valuable experience for recruiters and students? Considering that company participation has nearly quadrupled since the first fair was held in 2004, that professors cancel CM classes on the day of the fair, and that more than 500 CM students attended the last fair, held in February, the answer would be a resounding yes!

Representatives from 91 companies – the maximum number of participants the fair can accommodate – showcased their businesses and spoke with students about the wide array of work opportunities available to them in the construction industry.

“A lot of companies use the Career Fair as a way to get out there in front of our students before the recruiting process begins,” says Carol Gentry, career fair organizer. “Half of the companies that attend use the fair for that purpose. The others, mostly out-of-state companies, use the fair also to conduct interviews, either that day or during the days following the fair.”

New students through graduating seniors say the fair offers valuable networking and career opportunities for summer internships and post-graduation full-time employment. “With approximately 250 students completing their required internships and another 200 students graduating each year, the CM Career Fair provides a huge recruiting opportunity for the industry and our students,” says Anna Fontana, interim coordinator of the Phelps Placement Office, which coordinates the fair.

The next fair will take place Sept. 25, and participating companies will interview students in the days following the fair. Senior interviews will be held Oct. 1-26, and internship interviews Oct. 15-19.

Companies interested in registering can find more information at http://www.cm.cahs.colostate.edu/career_fair.stm, or by contacting Gentry at (970) 491-1060 or cgentry@cahs.colostate.edu.
Maho Bay Alumni

Course at Eco-Resort a Life-Changing Experience

Upon arriving at Maho Bay Camps on the island of St. John in the U.S. Virgin Islands, I felt as if I was back at summer camp. Wood frame tent-cottages which sleep three, free roaming geckos, and a community bathroom 88 steps up from my tent reminded me of past summer days when I would say goodbye to my television and spend a week in a child’s paradise. I had my suitcase in hand, ready to meet new people, learn as much as possible, and in my free time, play.

So begins CM alumna Katherine Pettit’s recollection of her experience at the Maho Bay Sustainable Building course, a unique 10-day program offered through the Institute for the Built Environment.

The course is taught in the heart of the U.S. Virgin Islands National Park, at an eco-resort that has won international acclaim for its sustainable features. Bathhouses are designed to conserve energy, and Maho Bay employees craft blown glass souvenirs from recycled glass bottles.

Aware of CSU’s early focus on environmental teaching and research, Stanley Selengut, Maho Bay’s owner and developer, invited the IBE to teach sustainable building courses at his eco-resort. Since the first course was taught there in 1999, more than 180 college students and practitioners have participated on the island each May.

Participants come from a variety of interests – architecture, interior design, construction management, natural resources, and landscape architecture. “They’re united by a genuine desire to bring earth-minded problem solving to building projects,” says Professor Brian Dunbar, who developed and co-teaches the course.

The students meet and learn from a number of nationally recognized green building experts who share their expertise. Robyn Lawrence, editor of Natural Home magazine; Dave Nelson, renowned daylight architect; Maggie Day from Maho Bay-Concordia Eco-Resorts, and National Park Service rangers are among dozens of guest lecturers.

“The students often go through an exciting transformation during the course, from having an interest in green building, to deciding to devote their career to creating high levels of green, sustainable built environments,” says Dunbar.

Here are a few of the many success stories of Maho Bay alumni:

Clare (l’Esperance) Epke attended the inaugural Maho Bay course in 1999 and graduated from CSU’s interior design program in 2000. Maho Bay ignited Epke’s excitement about the potential of sustainable design and construction; she’s been immersed in green building ever since. After working for architecture companies on sustainability projects in Colorado and California, Epke returned to CSU in 2003 as a graduate student in CM’s sustainable building emphasis. Epke now works in the Healthcare group of Denver-based Davis Partnership Architects, and is leading a “Greening Davis” initiative to help the company set high goals for LEED-accredited professionals on the company’s sustainability practices.

Costa Rica: The Next Sustainable Building Learning Location

Alejandro Ugarte, professor of architecture from the University of Costa Rica, participated in the 2007 Maho Bay course, sharing his research into eco-tourism, interdisciplinary teamwork, and bamboo construction.

Ugarte is now helping to arrange similar IBE courses and faculty/student exchanges in Costa Rica. Plans are in the works for a winter 2008 course in Costa Rica that would mirror the course taught at Maho Bay. In addition, Ugarte would like to see the IBE provide green building education for professionals throughout Costa Rica, a country rich in ecology yet undergoing development at an unsustainable rate.

Hamilton Eugene, Maho Bay Camps tour guide and Caribbean native, explains to participants in the Maho Bay Sustainable Building course, how islanders have traditionally used their native vegetation for food, medicine, and construction.

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Katherine (Pettit) Wagonshutz, one of CM’s first students in the sustainable building emphasis, served as student/teaching assistant at the 2001 course and as co-instructor in 2002. While finishing her graduate thesis, “Investigating Teamwork in LEED Certified Projects,” she was hired by DPR Construction in Newport Beach, Calif., where she helped train employees on the LEED rating program and became one of the first chapter presidents of the Orange County chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council. Now employed by CTG, in Colorado Springs, Wagonshutz consults on LEED projects nationwide and performs LEED Certification Reviews for the U.S. Green Building Council.

As a natural resource recreation tourism student at CSU, Karen Blust thought that attending the Maho Bay course would be a good way to experience eco-tourism and learn about sustainability. She became so interested in the subject that, upon returning to campus, she enrolled in the graduate course, Sustainable Technology in the Built Environment and, later, focused her thesis on sustainable facilities and operations for the ski industry. After graduating, Blust became a green building consultant for the California architectural firm CTG Energetics, Inc., one of a few select firms contracted by the USGBC to perform official LEED Certification reviews for buildings seeking certification.

In 2005, Christian Williss enrolled in the course, becoming the first entering graduate student to take that path, a practice that is now encouraged. Within a year of completing, Williss was hired by the City of Denver to assist with GreenPrints, Mayor Hickenlooper’s initiative to integrate green building and sustainability measures into Denver’s operations. Working for the City and County of Denver’s Facilities Planning and Management division, Williss provides support for the agency’s sustainability initiatives. His thesis documents which cities have established LEED- and other green-building policies for their municipal buildings.

“Attending the Maho Bay course allowed me to recognize a passion I’ve had my entire life and gave me the direction I needed. I am now certain that I want to devote my time and energy to support a greater good: designing a sustainable lifestyle for the generations of the future.”

– Cortney Schiappa, Miami of Ohio, Maho Bay 2007

Phi Filerman, Maho Bay 2005, a graduate of the University of Colorado’s Leeds School of Business, works for the Perry Rose Co., a leading sustainable developer in Denver and New York.

With an interest in healthy building materials, techniques, and strategies, Shelley Kawamura, Maho Bay 2006, is an intern with the IBE. Her graduate thesis work on developing curriculum in healthy building techniques will likely lead to new IBE offerings for students and professionals.

Ben Stanley, Maho Bay 2006, is a LEED research associate for YRG Consulting, located in Boulder and New York City.

Dana Villeneuve, Maho Bay 2006, has performed research into leading sustainable developers in North America for McWhinney Enterprises, a prominent development company based in Loveland, Colo. Villeneuve, a CM graduate student in the sustainable building emphasis, is focusing her thesis research on sustainable neighborhood development.

Tess Wanick, Maho Bay 2005, a Brazil Consulate from Thailand, has played a key role in establishing the Brazil chapter of the World Green Building Council. Wanick also encouraged Brazilian architect David Douek to attend the IBE Green Building Certificate Program and study for the LEED exam. Douek completed program last spring and has become the first Brazilian LEED Accredited Professional.
Scholarship Update

Fifty-three scholarships totaling $84,294 were awarded for the 2007-08 academic year. Below are two of the newest scholarship funds established in the department. If you would like to contribute to these or any other scholarship funds or would like to establish a new scholarship fund, please contact the Office of Development, College of Applied Human Sciences, 1501 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1501. Or call (970) 491-1938.

Turner Scholarship

An annual scholarship established by Turner Construction Company in Greenwood Village, Colo., will provide financial assistance to traditionally underrepresented students majoring in construction management. The company will award four $1,250 scholarships in the 2007-2008 academic year.

Gerald Ricke Memorial Scholarship

Craig Martin, CEO of Jacobs Engineering group, has made a five-year pledge to endow the Gerald Ricke Memorial Scholarship established by Ricke’s family last December. Martin formerly employed Gerald “Rick” Ricke, whom he came to know on a construction project they worked on together.

The scholarship honors Ricke, who worked over 50 years in the construction industry, for his contributions as an industry mentor.

“Many of us who had the pleasure of working with ‘Rick’ owe our successful careers to his leadership and support,” says Martin. “He was one of the finest old school teachers who truly cared about all those who wanted to learn.”

Mark Goldrich Creates Graduate Scholarship to Support Sustainable Building

The Mark Goldrich Sustainable Building Graduate Scholarship in the Department of Construction Management is the first scholarship in the department’s history to support sustainable building. It is likely the first scholarship of its kind in the country.

Mark Goldrich earned his degree in construction management in 1969 from Arizona State University. He and his wife, Prue Kaley, reside in Fort Collins and have successful careers in real estate with The Group Inc. Kaley graduated from CSU in 1972 with a degree in child development. They have been loyal CSU supporters for over two decades.

This scholarship will be awarded to graduate students enrolled in CM's sustainable building emphasis. Brian Dunbar, director of the CSU Institute for the Built Environment and coordinator of the sustainable building emphasis, says green initiatives reduce the impact on the Earth’s resources compared to conventional building. Sustainable practices also create a building that is healthier and more comfortable for its occupants, consequently enhancing productivity.

“I wanted to make more of an impact with this scholarship,” says Goldrich. “I am impressed by the leadership the department has taken on green initiatives. Not only will this be supporting a student, but this is an opportunity to make a global impact.”

Says Dunbar, “Our department was one of the earliest programs in the country to create a graduate program in sustainable building. Mark’s visionary scholarship will showcase our program, allowing us to continue to attract high quality graduate students who are in high demand by industry at ever-increasing rates.”

Alliance Construction Solutions Endows CM Scholarship

Clayton Schwerin, president and CEO, and employees of Alliance Construction Solutions, present a $25,000 check that will endow a scholarship for CM students. The Loveland, Colo.-based company is one of the premier general contractor and construction management firms serving the Rocky Mountain region. The endowed scholarship will support juniors or seniors in construction management who plan to work in states where Alliance has projects. This scholarship will be awarded for the first time in 2008-2009.
Support the Department of Construction Management

Enclosed is my/our check for a gift of $_____________.
*(Please make payable to the CSU Foundation.)*

Name ______________________________________________________________________

Gift is from:  □ me   □ my spouse and me   □ my partner and me.

Spouse’s/Partner’s Full Name _________________________________________________

Address ____________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip ______________________________________________________________

Home Phone ( _____________ )________________________________________________

E-mail ____________________________________________________________  □ Home  □ Work

□ Charge this gift of $ _______________ to my/our
   □ VISA   □ MasterCard   □ American Express

Card Number/Expires______________________________________________________

Name on Card ____________________________________________________________

Signature ________________________________________________________________

*Please apply this gift to:*

□ Department of Construction Management (#11593)

□ James Parnell Student Professional Development (#52645)

□ Other ________________________________________________________________

*(College, department, or fund name)*

*Please return this form with your gift to:*

CSU Foundation, P.O. Box 1870, Fort Collins, CO 80522-1870.

Make your gift online at: Giving.Colostate.edu

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Wall of Honor

The CM department invites all its alumni and construction companies who hire CSU CM graduates to become a part of the department’s Wall of Honor.

The Wall of Honor recognizes CM graduates by permanently displaying their business cards under glass in Guggenheim’s central hallway.

To add your name to the growing list of professionals who are CSU graduates, send your business card and a minimum donation of $25 per card to:

  Sue Wagner-Renner  
  Construction Management  
  Colorado State University  
  1584 Campus Delivery  
  Fort Collins, CO  
  80523-1584

Please make your check payable to CSU Foundation.

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Display Your Company’s Image Daily to Top-Notch CM Students

Create a 3’ x 5’ masonite display about your company, and we’ll mount it in our computer laboratory, where the country’s top-ranked CM students will see it daily. Use the panel to display your company’s name, logo, and information and to show photos of your projects.

The cost to display a company panel is $3,500 for a 5-year period. Proceeds go to improving the computer facilities for our students. For more information, contact Mostafa Khattab at (970) 491-7958 or mostafa.khattab@cahs.colostate.edu
Events

2007

Sept. 11    Denver Certificate Courses Begin
Sept. 20    CM Scholarship Dinner
Sept. 25    CM Career Fair
Sept. 24-27 Clean Air Conference in Breckenridge, Colo.
Oct. 6      Homecoming Weekend
Oct. 25     PADB Meeting
Oct. 26     1870 Dinner
Dec. 14     Fall Commencement

2008

Jan. 22     Spring semester begins
Feb. 12-16  NAHB student competition – Orlando, Florida
Feb. 13-16  ASC student competition – Reno, Nevada
Feb. 26     CM Career Fair
Feb. 20-22  35th Annual Rocky Mountain Asphalt Conference and Equipment Show – Denver, Colorado
March 2-6   MCAA student competition – Palm Springs, California
March 15-23 Spring Break
March 5-9   ABC student competition
April 2-5   National ASC conference
May 16-17   Spring Commencement
May 21-31   Maho Bay Sustainable Building Course

For further information, see www.cm.cahs.colostate.edu or contact Sue Wagner-Renner at wagner@cahs.colostate.edu.

The float that CM students designed and built for the communitywide 2006 Homecoming Parade paid tribute to many of the people who have contributed to the department’s success over the last 60 years. The CM float took first place in the annual city-wide competition.