Competition Teams Continue Run of Excellence

Once again, CM student competition teams are demonstrating their excellence. The season started with a 1st place overall finish at the Associated Builders and Contractors competition in November. The National Roofing Contractors Association team submitted their proposal in December and will compete in the final competition in early March. The National Association of Home Builders competition team followed with a strong finish at their event in early January, placing 10th out of 35 teams. Additionally, the Mechanical Contractors Association of America team advanced to the final four of the competition and will travel to San Diego, California to compete for the championship in late March.

The Associated Schools of Construction Region 6 & 7 competition, was held in Sparks, Nevada, in February and CSU had one of its strongest finishes to date. The CM department sent over 60 students and faculty-advisors representing 7 teams: Commercial, Design-Build, Heavy Civil, Mechanical, Preconstruction, Sustainability, and Virtual Design and Construction, to the event which brings together over 1300 students representing 45 universities to showcase their knowledge, creativity, and presentation skills.
Competition Teams Continue Run of Excellence *(continued from page 1)*

The CSU Design-Build, Mechanical, Preconstruction, and Sustainability teams all finished 1st in their respective categories, a level of excellence unmatched by any other school. Additionally, Karina Smith, of the Mechanical team, earned recognition for her outstanding individual performance. Ben Egan and Rupal Vaidya, participating in the Alternates competition, helped their teams to 1st and 3rd place finishes respectively.

The continued high level performance of the CSU teams is a testament first and foremost to the students. As intense as the events are, the preparation required is just as demanding. Faculty-Advisor Mohammed Mehany, talking about the Design-Build team, said, “They worked day and night, sometimes from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm! They were eager to learn and improve. They had great work ethic, teamwork, and leadership. I am so proud of what they accomplished!” All of the teams demonstrated a similar level of commitment, spending long hours studying past problem statements and familiarizing themselves with different scenarios and questions they might face during their event. They also immersed themselves in the tools and software needed to create their proposals.

It is also important to recognize the other contributors to the teams’ successes. Faculty-Advisors offer guidance and help steer the teams’ preparations. Industry mentors critique team presentations and offer guidance on their approaches during the lead up to the competitions. The teams’ successes are a reflection of the preparation, commitment, and teamwork found in the CSU Construction Management Department.

Students Get Hands Muddy In Costa Rica

An adventurous group of students spent the first two weeks of January studying sustainable and climate adaptive design and construction in Costa Rica. The students were taking advantage of the CM department’s annual travel abroad course, CON 450-Sustainable Buildings, to learn practices and strategies of sustainable building in a class led by CSU CM professors Svetlana Olbina and Rodolfo Valdes-Vasquez.

The course was held at EARTH University in Guácimo, Costa Rica and was attended by 11 CSU students from the construction management, civil engineering, and interior design departments. Four students from EARTH University joined them.

The travel study course began four years ago when CSU and EARTH University formed a partnership to promote cross-cultural learning opportunities. The course incorporates lectures, discussions, guest speakers, field trips, student presentations, as well as individual and group activities. While students were exposed to various aspects of sustainability, one of the primary foci was on natural construction techniques. A technique that the students explored in depth was bahareque.

Similar to waddle-and daub, bahareque uses a lattice of bamboo or reed in-filled with a wetted clay and straw mixture to create a resilient, durable wall. It was origi-(Continued on page 4)
2016-17 Competition Results

**ABC National Competition**: Dallas, Texas; November 13-16, 2016
**NAHB National Competition**: Orlando, Florida; January 9-11, 2017
**Associated Schools of Construction**: Sparks, Nevada; February 8-11, 2017
**NRCA Competition**: Las Vegas, Nevada; March 1-3, 2017
**MCAA Competition**: Orlando, Florida; March 20-24, 2017

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**ASC**

- **Design Build - 1st place**
- **Mechanical - 1st place**
- **Sustainability - 1st place**
- **Preconstruction - 1st place**
- **Commercial**

**Individual Awards**

- Karina Smith (Mechanical Team) Outstanding Individual Performance
- Ben Egan (Commercial Team) 1st place, Alternates Competition
- Rupal Vaidya (Sustainability) 3rd place, Alternates Competition

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**ABC**

First Place

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**MCAA**

The team competed at the MCAA Summit and advanced to the final four in March.

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**NRCA**

The team will compete at annual convention in March.

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**NAHB**

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CM Students Get Hands Muddy (Continued from page 2)

nally used by indigenous tribes of the Americas to build houses. Due to its use of readily available, easily replenishable materials, bahareque is inexpensive and has a small carbon footprint. Students used this technique to build two partition walls at a community center in La Argentina as a part of their service-learning project.

In addition to building materials and techniques, the students explored other aspects of sustainability, including its nexus with energy, water and agriculture.

To help students gain a deeper insight into the topic, EARTH University professor Dr. Irene Alvarado helped them calculate the CO2 emissions from the University’s banana packaging plant. “This was by far one of the most unique activities I’ve ever been a part of...we realized how much energy actually goes into producing and processing of an everyday food,” said CM student Blake Warner.

To complement their learning experience, students spent two nights with local families, took a day trip to the beach, and visited local construction sites. These complimentary learning strategies impact student values and thinking, raise cultural awareness, and strengthen social connectivity. Most of the students had not previously traveled internationally and the experience was memorable. “The trip gave me the inspiration to continue traveling, learning, and experiencing other cultures...throughout my life,” said Warner.
**Initiative**
CM Cares is a service-learning program that challenges Construction Management students to complete a construction project for individuals or non-profit organizations in need of accessibility modifications to their environments. It infuses leadership, team building, and ethics with hands-on experience while making a difference in the lives of others.

**Leadership**
Projects are delivered through the Construction Leadership course for undergraduates and the Leadership of Sustainable Community Projects course for graduate students. Each empowers students to manage, mentor, and collaborate with various stakeholders in a dynamic learning environment for the success of projects.

**Engagement**
How you can support CM Cares:
- Participate in the projects by volunteering expertise and labor
- Donate materials and/or monetary funds for current projects
- Contribute to the CM Cares Endowment for future projects’ success

**Spring 2017 Projects**

**The Dawoud Family**
Jonathan Dawoud, a veteran, applied for the project for his son, Levi (8), who is autistic and in need of a safe home environment. The project includes modifications to doors, windows, walls, and lighting to make the home safer for Levi, and a sensory center for him.

**The Salem Family**
The Salem’s are a family of nine including 6 adopted children with special needs. Our project will build a deck and make modifications to the home to improve accessibility for the entire family.

[cm.colostate.edu/cm-cares](http://cm.colostate.edu/cm-cares)
SCENES FROM THE 2017 ASC COMPETITION
Professor Angela Guggemos Retires

After 12 years with the department, associate professor Angela Guggemos announced her retirement at the end of the Fall 2016 semester.

Guggemos joined the department in 2004. Always an enthusiastic contributor to the success of the program, her roles included terms as undergraduate coordinator, graduate coordinator, and assistant department head. Department head Mostafa Khattab was generous with his praises for her, “Angela’s service to our program was not driven by a set of requirements or a job description. She understood how to lead by example and was always ready to lend a hand as needed to advance our mission in higher education.”

Guggemos began her career at the University of California – Berkeley where she earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in civil engineering. After completing her master’s, she spent a number of years working for a commercial general contractor in the San Francisco Bay Area. While she enjoyed the challenges presented by the work, Guggemos wanted to start a family. Her work schedule made this a daunting proposition.

As she considered other career options, Guggemos kept returning to the possibility of teaching. While in graduate school she had gotten the opportunity to teach an undergraduate course. The experience had been deeply satisfying and Guggemos decided that she wanted to pursue a career in teaching. She applied for a position at Montana State University but failed to make the short-list of candidates.

Realizing she would likely need a doctorate to be competitive for academic positions, she returned to UC-Berkeley and earned her Ph.D. She stayed on in a post-doc position and began looking for teaching opportunities. When a position opened in the CSU Construction Management Department, Guggemos jumped at the opportunity.

While Guggemos will miss teaching, “I am ready to spend some time focusing on domestic engineering and spending time with my family,” she said with a laugh and a smile. Though she will no longer be teaching classes, Guggemos will continue to contribute to the department as an Emeritus professor. In this role she is mentoring to two assistant professors and will continue to provide support for department initiatives.

Department Welcomes International Visitor

Dr. Alberto Casado, professor at University of Perambuco in Brazil, spent three days visiting the department in December. While on campus he met with faculty to discuss their research interests, attended several graduate student presentations, and toured the new Stadium construction site.

The visit originated with a Memorandum of Understanding signed with University of Perambuco in the summer of 2016. The MOU is part of the department’s vision to expand the boundaries of collaborative and research opportunities for faculty and students.
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CM Student Board of Directors Hosts CM Social

One of the strengths of the CM Department is its strong student involvement. Perhaps nowhere is this more apparent than in its student clubs. Representing a range of industry sectors, 12 clubs allow students to explore the breadth of opportunities offered in construction management. From strengthening ties with fellow students to demonstrating leadership and professionalism, membership has multiple benefits.

Serving as an umbrella organization for the individual clubs is the CM Student Board of Directors (CMBoD). The CMBoD is a group drawn from the most dedicated students in the department. It represents the interests of the clubs and coordinates their organization and functions. It also works to encourage participation and club membership.

To support this goal, every semester the CMBoD hosts a CM Social. The Social brings together all the clubs so that interested students can meet club leadership and learn about membership. It is a festive evening and the clubs enjoy the opportunity to introduce themselves to new students.

Upcoming Events

**PADB Platinum Priority Recruiting:** Monday, February 27 - Friday, March 3, 2017

**Intern Recruiting:** Monday, March 6 - Thursday, March 9, 2017

**Senior Recruiting:** Monday, March 20 - Friday, March 24, 2017

**Spring PADB Meeting:** 1:30pm - 4:00 pm, Preconstruction Building, Thursday, March 30, 2017

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