The Kappa Chapter of the Sigma Lambda Chi (SLX) Honors Society at Colorado State University added 16 new members to its roster in an installation ceremony held on December 9th in Guggenheim Hall. The ceremony also marked the transition between the retirement of Steve Jaouen, who was the chapter’s longtime advisor, and Bolivar Senior, who will serve as its new advisor. Maria Delgado, the chapter’s current president, Berah Taylor and CM faculty member Mike O’Reilly also participated in the event.

SLX is the only official Honors Society for Construction Management. It recognizes outstanding students in the Construction Management program that meet the following requirements: their GPA must be in the top 20% of their class, they must be active in their communities and willing to serve in society projects, and they must be recommended by a faculty member. Membership is lifetime. The Kappa chapter was incorporated in 1964 and is among the oldest in the nation. Several new members have written messages thanking SLX for its solemn and unforgettable ceremony, including Jeb Bair, who wrote, “Thanks for the opportunity to join this very prestigious organization… I look forward to future events.” Congratulations to all new members!
Caroline Clevenger Named 2010 Mortenson Faculty Scholar

Caroline Clevenger has been named the 2010 Mortenson Faculty Scholar. She is delighted to be named and says, "my research interests are well aligned with the company’s mission. These include sustainable design and construction practices and integrating BIM into the intersections of Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industries. I am excited to support and promote a strong partnership between the Construction Management Department and Mortenson Construction. An immediate focus of this collaboration will be to develop pilot teaching modules to integrate BIM modeling into the core curriculum of the Construction Management Department."

Clevenger received a B.S. degree from Stanford University. After teaching high school mathematics and taking time off to travel, she attended the University of Pennsylvania’s Graduate School of Fine Arts and earned a M.Arch and a M.S. in Systems Engineering. During this period she worked for a leading sustainable architect in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and spent a summer working as an on-site architect for an archaeological dig in Aphrodisias, Turkey. She then moved to Colorado where she worked for Architectural Energy Corporation and became the Team Leader of Sustainable Design Assistance. In 2005, she returned to Stanford University, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering as a doctoral student. In 2009 she happily returned to Colorado as an Assistant Professor in Construction Management at Colorado State University. In addition to spending time in the classroom and with her family, Caroline enjoys travel and outdoor adventures.

Carla Lopez del Puerto Receives DBIA Certification

CM Faculty member Carla Lopez del Puerto has successfully completed the requirements for the Designated Design-Build Professional certification from the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA). She is now recognized as a professional in the design-build field and will be added to the Designated Design-Build Professional listing on DBIA’s website.

To obtain this certification, the candidate must meet DBIA’s educational background requirements, complete DBIA’s three core courses along with 18 electives directly relating to project delivery, complete three years of substantial design-build work experience, submit three letters of reference and complete the certification examination. Following certification, the candidate also agrees to earn at least 24 hours of continuing education credits every two years. The program, according to the certification notice, “is intended to create an accepted and recognized educational standard for experienced, professional and knowledgeable practitioners who possess a qualified and quantified level of expertise in design-build.”

Lopez del Puerto received the notification of her accomplishment on December 10th. One key area where her newly awarded designation will be beneficial is the student competition team. “The certification will allow me to be a better coach for the design-build team,” she says.
Scott Shuler Awarded Grant for Waste Tire Research

Scott Shuler was awarded a grant for $60,000 from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) as Principal Investigator in a study entitled “Use of Waste Tires (Crumb Rubber) on Colorado Highways.” The goal of the project is to develop specifications for the use of scrap rubber in the asphalt on Colorado roads. A test pavement is located on US Highway 34 west of Greeley.

According to Shuler, “Colorado has an estimated 52 million waste tires in long-term storage stockpiles across the state and generates approximately 4.75 million additional waste tires annually. Burning waste tires as tire derived fuel (TDF) is the largest end use capable of consuming 2.8 to 3.3 million tires each year. However, this practice may diminish in the future because the use of scrap tires as TDF in concrete cement manufacturing plants is now being opposed by some environmentalists due to emerging air pollution issues. Utilizing the project specifications developed from this research project has the potential to consume more than 100,000 waste tires each year in the CDOT construction program depending on the number of Crumb Rubber Modifier (CRM) asphalt projects built. This approach can help reduce the amount of scrap tires to be stockpiled annually.”

CM Student Attends AGC LEED Green Building Associate Training

CM senior Gary Shafer attended the Associated General Contractors of Colorado (AGC) training session in Denver on December 3rd for the LEED Green Building Associate examination. Lee Blum, Director of Career Development and Education at AGC, said, “We were glad to have an interested CM student participate in the day long training.”

Shafer became interested in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) building during his internship when the company “started doing energy audits for mechanical insulation on equipment and systems. The energy savings, which translates into dollars, was very significant in some cases. In one audit, there was 100% return in just 3 weeks.”

This got me thinking more and more about LEED.”

The training class outlined the new organization of LEED Version 3, the newest green building certification system, and how it keeps up with new technologies for rating green buildings. The instructor also covered LEED subjects that included sustainable sites, water efficiency, energy and atmosphere, materials and resources, indoor environmental quality, design innovation, regional environmental priorities, LEED Synergies, and finally, the Green Associates exam review.

Despite the amount of knowledge absorbed during the one-day course, Shafer feels the effort was well worth the end result. He says, “I am very glad that I was able to go to this class because I now have the tools to succeed in the examination for the Green Associates.”
Graduate Class Coordinates National LEED for Schools Pilot Project

Students in CON571 Facilities Planning and Management, co-taught by Brian Dunbar and Bill Franzen, worked with Poudre School District (PSD) Facilities staff throughout the fall semester to identify and document current and potential sustainable facilities strategies and practices at Kinard Middle School. Kinard, which opened in 2006, followed the district’s sustainable design guidelines but did not originally pursue Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. PSD, recognized nationally for its efforts in building green schools, was selected by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) to participate in a national pilot program for its emerging system, LEED for Existing Schools. The USGBC established its LEED rating systems as a guide and 3rd party verification process to help ensure that new and existing buildings meet prescribed green building performance standards.

Students have learned the scope of facilities planning and management issues and practices through the project. Student teams were responsible for meeting facilities staff, gathering performance data, documenting and analyzing current building performance levels, and providing facility implementation and policy recommendations in an effort to meet the Gold certification standard of the rigorous LEED for Existing Schools standards. Teams were assigned to study site, water, materials and resources, energy and atmosphere, indoor environmental quality, and innovative design, construction, and operations practices at Kinard.

Results of the student work will be a vital part of PSD’s eventual submission to the USGBC LEED for Existing Schools pilot program. USGBC has indicated that they intend to model the CSU-PSD LEED process and encourage other school districts across the nation to create similar collaborative learning arrangements which benefit university students; K-12 students, faculty and staff; and school districts and their communities.

The graduate students presented their findings and recommendations to school district officials at Poudre High School on December 14th. School board members, administrators, facilities staff, and faculty and students of Kinard were invited to the presentation.

Brian Dunbar Presents at Green California Schools Summit

CM Faculty member Brian Dunbar was invited by the U.S. Green Building Council to present his research, “An Integrated Approach to the Design and Construction of Cost-Effective, Green Schools,” at the Green California Schools Summit in Pasadena, CA on December 11th. This is the largest conference focused on green schools in the country.

Dunbar presented the research findings from his on-going work with the Poudre School District (PSD), including the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) cost study on PSD’s Bethke Elementary, the first LEED for Schools certified project in the nation. “Our local Poudre School District continues to be looked to as a leader in high performing, green schools,” Dunbar said. “I was able to showcase the green schools case studies done by CM grad students as well as LEED school projects by the Institute for the Built Environment and the Poudre School District.”

Aside from contributing his expertise to enhance the Summit’s offerings, Dunbar gained new insights into the green building industry’s advancements and projects. “To interact with leading green school architects and builders, see the advances in green building products, and share the work we are doing at CSU related to green, high-performing schools was exciting,” said Dunbar.
Khattab and his wife, Hoda, on December 11th. The variety of world cuisines helped to create a welcoming atmosphere and a good time was had by all! Thanks to our hosts for a thoroughly enjoyable evening!

The faculty and staff of the Construction Management Department attended a holiday party hosted by Department Head Dr. Mostafa Khattab and his wife, Hoda, on December 11th. The variety of world cuisines helped to create a welcoming atmosphere and a good time was had by all! Thanks to our hosts for a thoroughly enjoyable evening!

CM Professional and Travel Courses

The Department of Construction Management will be adding more courses to the professional education listing for 2010. Upcoming programs include the LEED Green Associates Training and Spanish for Construction Managers. These two non-credit classes will be held at the Fort Collins campus.

As in previous years, Sustainable Design and Construction travel courses will be held in Costa Rica and the US Virgin Islands. This year, the Department also continues to offer certificates in Construction Management, Advanced Estimating, Asphalt, Green Homes and Green Building at the Denver and Loveland centers. International Project Management courses in Mexico and Egypt are being developed and will be implemented during the next phase. These courses are geared towards professionals and students from construction management and other fields, who are interested in continuing their education. Participants do not have to be admitted to the CM program to complete these courses and anyone who meets the requirements can register.

Submit your articles or comments to:

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