USGBC Students Help Local Restaurant

Over the course of the past several weeks, members of the US Green Building Council student chapter at CSU have been assisting the owners of the soon-to-open FoCo Café with preparations for opening later this summer. The students have been spending their time sanding and refinishing the tables that will be used in the restaurant. “The tables were donated by a local detention center,” said David Nocella, USGBC student president. “The entire Fort Collins community has been getting involved with this great innovative idea for a restaurant.”

FoCo Café will be the first non-profit restaurant in Fort Collins. Patrons will set the price for the restaurant’s cuisine based on a pay-what-you-can setting where a donation box will serve in place of a cash register. Menu selections will change daily based on the availability of fresh, locally grown ingredients. The mission of the café is to build community by providing nutritious and delicious meals to the people of Fort Collins regardless of their ability to pay.

Alumnus Presents Ethics to CON 101

On March 28, the topic of discussion in Mary Nobe’s CON 101, Introduction to Construction Management, course revolved around ethics. Joe Glaze, ’04, project executive at Neenan Archistruction, presented his company’s guiding philosophy of ‘stand-up, don’t cover up’ and how it was implemented when Neenan faced structural engineering deficiencies in schools it had designed and built. In 2013, due in large part to these efforts, Neenan received the American Business Ethics award, a national recognition that honors companies in the United States that demonstrate a deep commitment to the highest ethical standards.

“It is vital that students in CON 101 truly understand the importance of high ethical standards, both professionally and personally, early in the degree program,” said Nobe. “Neenan’s response to a critical issue provided an excellent example for these students of a construction company that chooses to maintain a high ethical standard in a very difficult situation.”
Grad Student Presents Poster at ASC

Evan Hughes, a graduate student in the CM program, presented his research at the 50th Associated Schools of Construction International Conference in Washington, D.C., at the end of March. Hughes is a graduate research assistant working with faculty member Rodolfo Valdes-Vasquez.

The purpose of his study is to identify non-technical barriers preventing the widespread adoption of compressed earth blocks, or CEB’s, as a viable building material in the North Carolina Piedmont region. Earth construction has thrived in a variety of climates for thousands of years, but has been largely ignored by residential contractors in the United States, with the exception of New Mexico. With the combination of ideal soil and the availability of labor, as well as time-saving technology, non-technical barriers must be explored as a potential obstacle to the adoption of CEB as a mainstream building material. The identification of these non-technical barriers is a necessary step for increased market penetration of CEB construction.

“I had the chance to meet with students and educators from all over the world and received great feedback from instructors and other presenters,” said Hughes. “I was struck at how willing everyone was to offer their advice and suggestions. As a graduate student, it’s sometimes easy to become focused on one or two narrow topics in the industry, so it was refreshing to hear the opinions of a wide array of specialists in various construction disciplines and to see what my peers at other schools are studying. I truly enjoyed my experience, and I look forward to returning to the conference next year!”

Milwaukee Tools Contributes to CM Cares

At the Spring 2014 PADB meeting March 25, Kenny Cochrane (*12, Business Administration) of Milwaukee Electric Tool Corporation announced the donation of several new tools to the CM Cares initiative. The donation included circular saws, sawzalls, drills, rotary hammers, and various accessories for use both on the job site and in the CM Cares lab. “We are very grateful to Milwaukee Tools for this generous contribution,” said CM Cares coordinator Khristy Preston. “These tools will make the work of our volunteers much easier.”

CON 366 Tours Woodward Project

On March 11, fifty students enrolled in CON 366, Construction Equipment and Methods, visited the Woodward Technology Center project at the intersection of Lemay and Mulberry in Fort Collins. Emily Peddicord, a project manager for Mortenson Construction, graciously hosted the students on a cold, snowy day for an up-close look at a large project in the earthmoving and site development stage. “The students received excellent insight into the construction and environmental protection challenges for this project,” said Cam McNair, the instructor for the course. “They also learned about the importance of public outreach and communications for successful project delivery.”

The site is the future home of the Woodward, Inc., world headquarters. The company delivers lasting contributions to energy control and integrates leading-edge control systems for aerospace and energy markets. It already has locations in Fort Collins, Loveland, and Windsor, which will remain operational once this new location is finished, though the capacity remains to be determined.
Preston Receives AP Star Award

When it comes to the pursuit of excellence and the drive to be the best program in the country, employees of CM work extremely hard and accept extra responsibilities to best serve the program’s goals. Khristy Preston, CM Cares and graduate recruiting coordinator, is one such individual whose commitment and dedication to the success of the program and its initiatives is among the highest of CM’s supporters. For this, she was nominated for and received an Administrative Professional Star award at CSU.

The AP Star award was created as a means to express appreciation for and recognition of the accomplishments of AP employees who demonstrate exceptional individual performance at CSU. Nominees must demonstrate a willingness to go above and beyond their scope of work, must utilize resources in a “do more with less” mindset, and contribute to the APs on campus.

"Khristy’s work supports CSU’s land-grant mission by teaming our students with construction industry members for work that benefits those in need in our community,” said Kristin Haller, assistant to the department head. “It is through her passion, leadership, and interest in making a difference in the lives of our students and community that the department, the college, and the university are being recognized for a commitment to service-learning and community engagement.”

“Khristy is an invaluable member of the CM team,” said department head Mostafa Khattab. “She consistently demonstrates a positive demeanor, even in the most challenging circumstances. Our industry and students always commend her professionalism and willingness to go beyond what is required.”

Faculty Receive NSF Travel Grant

Assistant professors Caroline Clevenger and Rodolfo Valdes-Vasquez received NSF travel grants to attend and present during the 2014 Construction Engineering Conference and Workshop in Seattle, Wash., March 27-29. Both were asked to contribute their expertise by serving as ‘hosts’ to the non-construction researchers to bridge interdisciplinary boundaries, serving as note-takers during all events they attended to capture key research areas, and actively participate in the brainstorming sessions of the research agenda setting workshop. They were also able to tour the SR 99 tunnel project that is part of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program.

“This conference was a great opportunity to network not only with faculty members from other institutions but with industry members,” said Valdes-Vasquez. “It was a great venue to discuss research ideas focusing on aspects of knowledge and career paths for success, sustainability, and Building Information Modeling. Most of the papers presented were a team effort among industry and academic authors, serving as seeds for future partnerships.”

Paper Published by CM Faculty Receives Award

Caroline Clevenger and Scott Glick, along with former graduate student Peter Watson, received notification in March that their paper received a Highly Commended Paper Award for 2013. According to Glick, the Journal of Cultural Heritage Management and Sustainable Development’s editorial team described the paper as “one of the most impressive pieces of work seen throughout 2013.”

The paper, titled “High Performance Preservation: Research and Funding Opportunities,” highlighted the complexities of grant writing to fund sustainable upgrades to historic properties, such as melding grant solicitations, identifying potential partners, defining project scope, securing matching funds, identifying institutional barriers, and the importance of collecting actual binding performance data. The authors utilized a case study of the Chautauqua National Historic Landmark in Boulder, Colo., to document the process of funding energy-efficient upgrades to a historical landmark.

The goal of the paper is to provide information to preservationists, builders, homeowners, grant sponsors, and policy makers as a multifaceted approach to using funds from grants to improve the outcomes of money spent on historical preservation.
PADB Platinum Member Spotlight: Adolfson & Peterson Construction

WE ARE PROUD

CSU Graduates and A&P Team Members

Aaron Knack, Field Engineer
Ben Koerselman, Marketing
Brandon Hill, Superintendent
Brian Yahn, Superintendent
Bryan Dunn, Senior Vice President
Clark Bender, Preconstruction Manager
Cody Fundus, Carpenter
Dan Inno, Project Manager
Dan Rabon, Assistant Superintendent
David Storbeck, Assistant Superintendent
Doug Johnson, Vice President
Eric Dimmick, Senior Estimator
Felix Rojas, Estimator
Gabe Madsen, Superintendent
Ian Warner, Assistant Project Manager
Jade Mercer, Project Manager
Jason Heustis, Project Manager
John Haass, Superintendent
Kent Wecht, Chief Operating Officer
Kevin Harrison, Superintendent
Kyle Kennett, Project Manager
Kyle Stapp, Assistant Superintendent
Kyle Tillery, Assistant Superintendent
Mark Ortiz, Director of Business Development
Matt Curtis, Project Manager
Matt Hogoboom, Assistant Project Manager
Matt Huner, Field Engineer
Nolan Sorrell, Assistant Superintendent
Peter Matinez, Estimator
Quintin Quinby, Field Engineer
Randy Berner, Project Executive
Ryan Anderson, Project Manager
Talbot Holmes, Superintendent
Tony Cingoranelli, Preconstruction Manager
Tyler Sarff, Assistant Superintendent
Tyler Short, Field Engineer
William Goodwin, Field Engineer
Zella Goettsch, Project Manager

innovate collaborate outperform

VALUE BEYOND BUILDING
Two Faculty Receive ASC Awards

Excellence in teaching is one of many sources of pride for CSU’s CM program, and this year two faculty members were recognized at the Associated Schools of Construction International Conference in Washington, D.C., for their exceptional work. Carla Lopez del Puerto and Mehmet Ozbek received the 2014 ASC Regional Teaching Award for their contributions to construction education, excellence in teaching, service to ASC, and dedication to the construction profession.

“I cannot speak highly enough of Dr. Ozbek’s professionalism and dedication to CSU CM students,” said senior Chris Lierheimer. “More than anything, it is his strong personal interest in his students that sets him apart.”

“Carla is a team player and always willing to help students,” said faculty member Scott Shuler. “She is a good mentor to graduate students and strives to keep her course content current so that students can incorporate their education into current projects or work.”

Lopez del Puerto and Ozbek are among several faculty in CM to have received awards from ASC. Congratulations to both!

Upcoming Events

Annual CM Golf Tournament

This year’s golf tournament will take place on Friday, April 25, at the South Ridge Golf Course at 5750 S. Lemay Avenue in Fort Collins. Cost is $30 for students and limited sponsorships are available. Shotgun tee time is at 8:00 AM.

Students: Registration has closed. We will see you there!

Companies: If interested in joining and/or sponsoring students, contact Kayla Boos at kjboos@rams.colostate.edu.

CM Cares Project Presentations

The project leaders of the three CM Cares projects completed this semester will present their work on Thursday, May 15, at 11:50 AM in room 122 Preconstruction Center. Invitations will go out by the end of April. Join us as we celebrate these amazing projects and families and the hard work of our students!

Connect with us!