CM Student Named 2010 Pacesetter

Jordan Heberlein, CM senior, was named the 2010 Pacesetter during the CSU Homecoming activities in October. CSU’s equivalent to Homecoming royalty, the Pacesetter is a great honor for a student who is also recognized during the Homecoming game and featured during the Homecoming parade.

The Pacesetter award recognizes students who demonstrate a remarkable ability to balance a variety of extra-curricular activities with their academic pursuits. To be considered, students must be a full-time Junior or Senior with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 and have attended CSU for at least 2 years. Pacesetters must also demonstrate and represent an understanding of diversity, character, the importance of education, and what it means to be a CSU Ram.

Heberlein, who was nominated by CM Department Head Dr. Mostafa Khattab, maintained her exceptional academic standing while participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. She is an active member of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) and Associated General Contractors (AGC) student chapters as well as the CM Student Board of Directors (CMBoD) and Sigma Lambda Chi International Construction Honors Society. She has been a member of ASC competition teams since 2008, including one of the first place finishing teams of 2009.

“It is an honor to be selected to be this year’s Pacesetter,” said Heberlein. “I wouldn’t be considered a Pacesetter if it weren’t for the encouragement and support from my professors, classmates, family and friends.”

NECA Student Chapter Attends National Conference

Five members of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) student chapter attended the national conference and trade show that was held October 2 – 5. Each year, the conference is the main event of the $130 billion electrical industry and includes industry exhibitors, management seminars, keynote speakers, social events and many networking opportunities. Drew McLeod, vice president of the CSU chapter, said, “The conference was a great resource for the students to be exposed to current industry topics ranging from operating a business in today’s economic climate to promising opportunities in green technologies.”

Currently the NECA student chapter is recruiting participants to compete in the ASC Student Electrical Competition in Reno in February 2011 and the NECA Green Energy Challenge Student Competition in San Diego in October 2011. For more information regarding club membership or to learn more about joining the competition team, please contact Michael Burrows at mburrows@rams.colostate.edu.
CM Faculty Conducts Lean Construction Training Sessions

In conjunction with the Lean Construction Institute of Colorado, CM faculty member Dr. Farook Hamzeh provided a lean tool seminar on the Last Planner System on October 15. This seminar included discussions on the background and framework of the Last Planner System along with examples of its use in today’s industry and the benefits that can be gained from its implementation and use. Over 30 people consisting of owner representatives, subcontractors, general contractors, consultants, and engineers attended the seminar, including employees from Haselden Construction, RK Mechanical, KL&A Inc., The Neenan Company, E Light Electric Services Inc., Bowman Construction Supply, Jacobs, The Weitz Company, Cortek Systems, Exxcel, PMA Solutions, ArchVista, Hammesco, Ex-Baker Concrete, GH Phipps Construction Companies, Medical Project Advisory Services, and Mortenson.

The Last Planner is a system of lean construction principles that help increase the reliability of a planning system and thereby significantly improve performance. The Last Planner system involves action at many different levels of a project, starting with the master schedule covering the entire project and ending by developing the weekly work plan and measuring percent plan complete.

Dr. Hamzeh also conducted a lean construction training session for employees of Haselden Construction. The three half-day exercises included discussion on lean construction methods and practices accompanied by games and exercises to simulate lean practices and provide a hands-on learning environment. Personnel in attendance included project executives, project managers and superintendents.

CM Faculty Presents Asphalt Expertise at Two Forums

CM faculty member Scott Shuler was invited to make two presentations in October. The first, entitled “Improving Chip Seals in the Rocky Mountain West,” was at the Rocky Mountain Asphalt User-Producer Group 19th Annual Meeting on October 14 at the Cheyenne Mountain Conference Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This group is one of five in the country responsible for providing a forum where industry professionals and owners can engage in discussion regarding design, construction, materials and methods important to successful pavement construction.

Dr. Shuler was also invited to the 50th Annual Idaho Asphalt Conference to make the keynote address entitled “History of the Asphalt Industry in Idaho—the First 50 Years.” The conference itself is an excellent opportunity for attendees to address design, construction and management of asphalt pavements as well as issues of concern to local and state governments regarding them.

Fall PADB Meeting Well-Attended by Industry Leaders

Thirty members of industry sat down in a meeting with CM faculty and staff as CM’s Professional Advisory Development Board (PADB) on October 21 to discuss past and future happenings in the CM department. Mike Rush, CSU architect, presented information to the attendees regarding the state’s guidelines for design and construction procurement on the CSU campus. Other topics discussed included updates to the CM website, development measures, competition team support and the new CM Cares initiative.

The PADB was established in 2000 to promote and support the CM program at CSU and meets every fall and spring semester. For more information on the PADB, including membership, go to http://www.cm.cahs.colostate.edu/industry_outreach/Default.aspx.
CM Homecoming Float Wins First Again

The CM Student Board of Directors (CMBoD) submitted another first-place float for the 2010 Homecoming Parade on October 15. The float followed the theme of the Homecoming celebrations, “Living Our Legacy”, by incorporating aspects of the agricultural and industrial revolutions into a piece that won first place in the CSU floats division. This is the third year in a row that the CM float has won a first place recognition. Congratulations to our CMBoD for another first class float design!

CM Fall Social Introduces New Students to Organizations

On October 19, the CM Student Board of Directors (CMBoD) hosted the annual CM Social as an opportunity for new CM students to learn more about the eleven student organizations in the CM program. Over 100 students attended the event to get more information on the clubs which include Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), Associated General Contractors (AGC), American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE), Colorado Contractors Association (CCA), Construction Management Association of America (CMAA), Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA), Emerging Green Builders (EGB), Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA), National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), and Women in Construction (WIC). Information was also presented on joining the CM Student Board of Directors and the Sigma Lambda Chi (SLX) International Construction Honor Society.

Fall Skeet Shoot Another Success

On Friday October 29, 30 students and members of the construction industry arrived at Kiowa Creek Sporting Center to participate in the CM Board of Directors’ (CMBoD) annual fall Skeet Shoot. The event raised over $800 for CM student activities and provided a fun and laid back atmosphere for students and industry members to socialize and network. The next fund-raising event for the Board of Directors will be the 2011 Golf Classic in April with the exact date to be determined.
2010 Distinguished Speaker Barry LePatner  
Monday, November 15, 2010 at 6:00 in 222 Johnson Hall

Leading construction attorney Barry LePatner is visiting campus to speak on how to fix America’s trillion-dollar construction industry. He will also address America’s failing infrastructure and the way forward.

LePatner co-authored the acclaimed Structural and Foundation Failures and his book Broken Buildings, Busted Budgets gained him media notoriety as a thought leader in the world of construction industry reform.

This event is sponsored by the CMAA student chapter. The general public and all CSU students are invited to attend.

CM Department Wide Open Forum  
Wednesday, December 1, 2010 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM in 122 Preconstruction Center

Students are given the opportunity to give their feedback, positive or negative, about specific courses, professors or the department as a whole. Faculty and Staff will address these issues along with any questions about the department, the College of Applied Human Sciences or the University.