

CONSTRUCTION

# INNOVATOR

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT | COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN | CAL POLY | FALL 2008

## RAISING THE ROOF

CM CELEBRATES  
COMPLETION OF  
NEW FACILITIES



Department Head Al Hauck

# Celebrating 'Innovation'

## New magazine heralds opening of new CM facilities

Welcome to the *Construction Innovator* – a new format for news about the Cal Poly Construction Management Department and its students and alumni. At a transitional period in the life of our department, we are introducing this publication to keep all of you – our alumni, supporters and friends – up to date with the many changes on campus.

In recent years, "Innovation" has become a central theme of our department and our faculty. Each of us has strived to be a leader in selected areas of construction innovation by developing a recognized expertise in integrated project delivery methods, job site management, sustainability, specialty construction, housing issues or construction materials. Research, development, and teaching in these and other core disciplines will be enhanced by the new Construction Innovations Center.

Before fall quarter began, the department moved out of a 13,000-square-foot, 50-year-old space and into 30,000 square feet of offices, classrooms and labs designed to support modern education in construction management.

In 2009, the Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab will add an additional 7,000 square feet to further support CM and the other four departments as an interdisciplinary facility for the entire College. None of this would have

been possible without the generous support of industry and alumni donors.

Our students continue to impress us with their talent, commitment and achievements. 2007-2008 saw the largest CM graduating class ever, and all are enjoying great opportunities as they join the ranks of nearly 2,000 department alumni who work nationwide. It was a year of extraordinary success in student competitions. Altogether, nearly 100 students traveled out of state to conferences and competitions.

Our graduates have big dreams as they join the ranks of their alumni colleagues, and this is reflected in the stories of their collegiate experience. In this issue, you will read about four generations of CM alumni: leaders in the construction of this country's iconic buildings, community activists, educators and young women who are breaking gender barriers.

We invite you to attend the October 4-5 dedication of the Construction Innovations Center and meet with classmates from your time at Cal Poly. Thanks for your ongoing interest in Construction Management at Cal Poly, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

ALLAN J. HAUCK PH.D., CPC

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### On the Cover

The Cal Poly Construction Management Department's Construction Innovations Center opened in summer 2008.

PHOTO BY JOSEF KASPEROVICH

### Dean's Message

## Alumni, industry and state support make CM projects possible

The opening of the Construction Innovations Center is more than the addition of space to the CM Department, College and University: It is a tribute to a creative funding partnership.

This is Cal Poly's first structure funded jointly by state and private donations, and the list of those to thank is long. California voters supported the bond that provided \$25.4 million for the CM building, including renovations and furnishings for three other College facilities. An additional \$2.9 million was contributed by College alumni and industry partners, and CM students dedicated \$300,000 from College Based Fees for specialized instructional furnishings.

This was a team effort, and we are grateful for the leadership of CM Department Heads Al Hauck and Jim Rodger who were honored as Cal Poly's first recipients of the Provost's Leadership Award for Partnership in Philanthropy.

The entire project is the first major addition to the College in 25 years, and provides us with a dynamic facility for the next century. Congratulations to all involved as the College and university celebrate this wonderful achievement.

R. THOMAS JONES DEAN



## Cover Story

# FROM RENDERING TO REALITY

## Fall grand opening slated for Construction Innovations Center

October 4, 2008 will mark the dedication of Construction Management's new home: The Construction Innovations Center. CAED Dean Tom Jones is particularly proud of the collaboration among the state, the University, alumni and corporate donors.

"We were able to create a wide partnership which has resulted in the very best facility imaginable for the department and the College."

Department Head Al Hauck notes, "It is one of only a handful of buildings in the United States designed specifically for a Construction Management Department."

The Capital Campaign, which is still underway to completely furnish the labs, has allowed the college and department to reconnect with alumni and their broad base of supporters. "It is notable that there have been generous gifts from architecture alumni in addition to the support of CM grads," says



Tom Jones. "This shows the value the entire college and its graduates place on a strong CM department and on greater collaborations among the built environment professions."

Al Hauck adds, "We are grateful to all those who committed money, time and energy to make this project the very best possible." The private funding was essential for the creation of space for unique educational experiences.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CM's new Construction Innovations Center was designed by architects Austin Veum Robbins Partners and built by Straub Construction. Both firms are based in San Diego.

RENDERING COURTESY  
AUSTIN VEUM ROBBINS PARTNERS



2006 groundbreaking attendees included (top, from left) CM Department Head Al Hauck, former CM Department Heads Jim Rodger and Bill Brown, donor Nick Watry, Cal Poly President Warren J. Baker, donor Rob Rossi, CAED Dean Tom Jones and Interim Provost Robert Detweiler. Al recently moved into his new office (left).

Input from industry, alumni, faculty and the CM Industry Advisory Committee influenced the curriculum-centered design. Inherent was the need for sufficient flexibility to accommodate future industry and educational developments. The new concept focused on cohorts of 24 students who will be “in residence” in a series of labs – a shift from previous lecture-dominated education.

The labs are each dedicated to a different sector of the construction industry and are tied to an integrated approach to teaching. These culminate in an interdisciplinary lab

that combines CM, Architecture and Architectural Engineering majors to prepare all three for a future of professional collaboration. In addition to the labs and supporting classrooms, private funding allowed the department to provide administrative space for the California Center for Construction Education (CCCE) as well as interview rooms, conference rooms and faculty offices.

No one appreciates the move more than Bill Brown, the program’s first director from 1970-1978. Reflecting on 38 years of history, Bill says it would have been hard to imagine

when the first class graduated in 1972 that the program would have progressed so quickly. He laid the foundation, but is quick to credit the hard work and smart decisions of department heads Jim Rodger (1986-2002) and Al Hauck (2002-present). “They hired the right faculty and made the advances in the curriculum,” he says. “This building is a tribute to what has been accomplished.”

The dedication of the Construction Innovations Center will occur while work commences on the Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab.



The building frames views of Bishop Peak (above).

Angular details and an open floor plan will welcome visitors to CM's lobby (left).

## Facility details

### Sustainable design elements of the Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab:

- Renewable heavy timber frame
- Polycarbonate daylighting system manufactured largely from recycled plastics
- Flat roof with space for green roof elements and photovoltaics
- Drought resistant landscape material
- Courtyard constructed, in part, of porous concrete

### Core laboratories in the Construction Innovations Center:

- Overaa and Watry Fundamentals of Construction Management Lab
- Pulte Home Residential Construction Lab
- Webcor Commercial Building Lab
- Granite Construction Heavy/Civil Lab
- Cupertino Electric Specialty Construction Lab
- J. E. Grant Construction Jobsite Management Lab
- Olson Company Integrated Project Services Lab

### Supporting teaching spaces:

- Rob Rossi Founder's Hall
- DPR Construction Classroom
- Design-Build Laboratory (yet to be sponsored)
- Construction Management Computer Lab (yet to be sponsored)

“Another example of industry generosity,” says Tom Jones of the lead gift. “This lab will be entirely funded through private gifts and, while located in the Construction Innovations Center, it will serve faculty and students from the entire College.”

The subject of construction materials is regarded as one of the fundamental multi-discipline educational areas. The design of the Materials Demonstration Lab illustrates this through the use and display of a variety of materials and components. Visitors to the Construction Innovations Center will have

the opportunity to witness more about another theme of the Simpson Strong-Tie Lab: sustainability.

Taking advantage of recent changes to the building code that allow heavy timber as an option for a commercial or institutional building, donations of timber materials from California growers and manufacturers will allow Cal Poly to demonstrate the use of this renewable resource in a large-scale building. Through a unique partnership with Cal Poly's College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science, the Simpson Lab will demon-

strate the entire supply chain from growth in a certified forest, through manufacturing and design, to installation in a finished building – all part of a process designed to be as flexible as it is sustainable.

Preparing for a new year in a new building, Al Hauck reflects: “A new facility, a great faculty, and breaking ground on the Simpson Strong-Tie Lab; the future looks bright for Construction Management.”

➤ Please join CM for the Construction Innovations Center Dedication Ceremony October 4-5. See event details, back cover.

# Building Partnerships

Sponsors play a key role in lab development through naming

In addition to the significant gifts noted in previous CM publications, important partners have since contributed to make these facilities a reality.

## **J.E. Grant General Contractors Jobsite Management Lab**

Jim Grant (CM '80) has given his company's support for the important J.E. Grant General Contractors Jobsite Management Laboratory. The lab, to be coordinated by Professor Phil Barlow (*please see page 10*), is unique in the country in its dedication of a space for creative thinking about the future of job site superintendency. Jim's interest in job site management made the lab a natural fit when he contacted the CM Department and said, "I want to help."

Jim joined J.E. Grant General Contractors, Inc., the firm his father founded, after graduation. Initially known for their custom homes and residential subdivisions, for the past 35 years they have been engaged in the construction and development of commercial, medical and industrial facilities. Under Jim's leadership, the company expanded operations to Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico,



Jim and Kim Grant

Oregon and Colorado, and they constructed a new corporate office in Carlsbad.

The company continues to pride itself on being "the developer's contractor," a moniker they say was earned through early partner-

ships in Los Angeles County, where they "learned the questions to ask to bring a project to a successful conclusion."

Department Head Al Hauck says of J. E. Grant's support: "They will help us

**Honor Roll of Donors** to the Construction Innovations Center and Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab, as of July 15, 2008, is in the printed version of this magazine. Please contact the Construction Management department for a copy.

fulfill an important need for faculty research and student learning, which will ultimately result in better construction wherever our students go.”

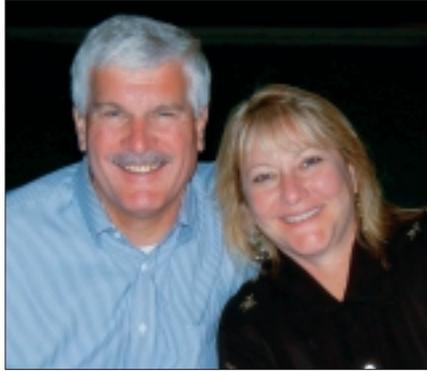
### Funding for faculty research labs

Stephen and Catherine Pankow, The Raymond Group and SC BUILDERS, INC. have each pledged support for a faculty research lab within the new Construction Innovations Center.

SC BUILDERS founders Sam Abbey (CM '86) and Chris Smither (CM '93) started their company in 1999 and “are ready to give back.” Their commitment goes beyond financial support, as they are always willing to give of their time and expertise in the classroom, strengthening the professional ties that Cal Poly CM students value in their education.

Stephen Pankow (CM '76), senior vice president with Panattoni Construction, Inc. in Sacramento, is heir to a strong construction tradition through his father, Charles. A longtime supporter of the College and CM, Stephen also shares his father’s interest in innovation.

When announcing the Pankow gift, Al Hauck noted, “There is no one more knowledgeable about the construction industry in California or about the history of the CM Department at Cal Poly. We are proud to name a faculty research laboratory after Stephen and his wife, Catherine.”



Donors (clockwise, from top): Stephen and Catherine Pankow; The Raymond Group’s Jim Watson; and SC BUILDERS’ Sam Abbey.

The Raymond Group’s pledge of support for the Raymond Group Faculty Research Lab reflects their continued search for innovative solutions to construction problems. Raymond President Jim Watson understands as well as anyone the challenges of hiring for specialty construction and hopes the laboratory will provide a place to seek solutions.

Winner of multiple awards for its projects, The Raymond Group is committed to the work of Cal Poly’s CM Department.

### Supporting student recruitment

The department has a strong tradition of on-campus student recruitment, and it is proud to name the two interview offices after former CM Department Heads William Brown and Jim Rodger. Key contributors to the campaign for the Construction Innovations Center, these men were for many years instrumental in establishing the strong connection between the department and industry, and there is no better place to underscore their commitment.

### Donors underwrite faculty offices

The Construction Management Department also has been the recipient of generous contributions for essential faculty offices.

These donations from alumni and corporations round out the administrative spaces necessary for the department to continue to educate the next generation of construction leaders.

Faculty office donors include:

- Anning-Johnson Company (2 offices)
- Doug and Wendy Austin
- Michael Bartlett
- Brian R. Cameron
- Clark Construction Group
- Larry and Ariel Etcheverry
- Kitchell CEM
- Stephanie Seeno-Miles
- The Swinerton Foundation
- TCB Builders, Inc.

**Honor Roll of Donors** to the Construction Innovations Center and Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab, as of July 15, 2008, is in the printed version of this magazine. Please contact the Construction Management department for a copy.

# Pat Callahan

The sky's the limit for this 1975 Construction Engineering grad

Carpentry, internal combustion engines and safety operations. Pat Callahan (ConE '75) knows which of these things doesn't belong with the others. As a freshman at Cal Poly in Mechanical Engineering, a class discussion

on internal combustion engines and steam turbines made Pat realize that he was in the wrong major – the result of a well-intentioned high school guidance counselor and his professed interest in “building things.”

“The early '70s was the beginning of teaching construction as a profession,” Pat reflects. “I started in 1971, when Construction Management was called Construction Engineering and was a small,

fledgling program in the school of Architecture under the guidance of Professor Bill Brown. This was a unique approach since most construction programs were in the school of Engineering.”

Fortunately, the program caught Pat's attention, and he joined the nascent department. He remembers the time, and the 26 classmates in his year, fondly.

“We were a mixed bunch. About half the students were straight from high school and the other half were returning Vietnam veterans. This created a definite age and experience difference, but we worked well together.”

Pat's interest in building developed the old-fashioned, and some might say tried-and-true, way. Inspired by his grandfather, a native Dane and experienced carpenter, Pat first tried his hand at building on the floor of his grandfather's wood shop. During high school, he literally worked in the trenches as a laborer and apprentice carpenter for a small general contractor.

OVER THE NEXT  
EIGHT PAGES,  
CM SPOTLIGHTS  
FOUR ALUMNI  
WHO REPRESENT  
FOUR DECADES,  
FROM THE 1970s  
TO THE 2000s.



Pat Callahan and a trio of Hathaway Dinwiddie projects emerging from the San Francisco fog (from left): 345 California; Bank of America Headquarters; the Transamerica Building

Today, Pat is senior vice president with Hathaway Dinwiddie Construction Company, a position he grew into during his 32-year career. Providing general contracting, design-build and complete project planning and management services, the company has spent almost a century developing landmark structures and quality interior spaces throughout California.

A few of the projects include the Bank of America World Headquarters and the Transamerica Pyramid in San Francisco's financial district; at Stanford University, The Clark Center, a leading edge Bio X engineering building, and the new Environment and Energy (Y2E2) Building in the new South Engineering Quad (SEQ2). In Southern California, the company's projects include 2000 Avenue of the Stars in Century City, Cal Plaza 2C skyscraper on Bunker Hill in Los Angeles and the magnificent Getty museums in Brentwood and Malibu.

Today, despite the responsibilities of running Hathaway Dinwiddie's Northern



Other Hathaway Dinwiddie projects (clockwise from top left): Stanford's Clark Center; Centennial Towers in South San Francisco (showing Pat, center, with Cal Poly alumni Brian Chisholm, '05 (left) and Mike Black, '75); Avenue of the Stars, Century City; and the Getty Center in Brentwood.

California Operations, serving as corporate safety officer and industry liaison, and acting as project executive on selected projects, Pat remains actively engaged in the education of the next generation of CM professionals. Recently, he served as industry observer on the accreditation team for the CM Department, which provided him with a new perspective of the program and increased his appreciation of its uniqueness as one of only 14 that reside in a College of Architecture instead of Engineering.

"I firmly believe this association – not only with Architecture, but Architectural Engineering, Landscape Architecture, and City and Regional Planning – gives the students a better, more rounded appreciation of the challenges the other disciplines face drawing out of the clients what their project visions and expectations are and turning them into contract documents. We all must continue to learn by doing, the Cal Poly motto."

Barbara Jackson, director of the California Center for Construction Education (CCCE)



A devoted supporter of the Northern California Boy Scouts, Pat is honored at a Scout luncheon.

at Cal Poly, is enthusiastic about Pat's willingness to serve on the center's inaugural advisory board, noting that he already gives his time to the department's Industry Advisory Committee. "When I call, he is there! Always." Barbara had very specific

reasons for wanting Pat on the CCCE Board. "Apart from his knowledge base, he exemplifies a commitment to the betterment of the industry."

This is evident, as among his many professional commitments, Pat is a member of the newly formed group AIE, the American Institute of Ethics.

Beyond his commitment to the department, Pat is an executive board member of the Construction Employers Association (CEA), which represents over 100 of the largest building contractors in California.

Pat is also involved with the Northern California Boy Scouts. Particularly proud of the annual October luncheon sponsored by the construction industry, he won't dwell on his role as past chair of the event; instead he focuses on the event's successes which are impressive: In each of the last two years, the organization raised over \$400,000 for the Boy Scouts in a single day.

Not a surprising achievement for a man who routinely juggles great achievements.



## Philip Barlow

1987 alum-turned-Cal Poly faculty member takes lessons in the field into the lab

2008 President's Service Learning Award recipient **Phil Barlow** (CM '87) begins his third year on the faculty with CM as coordinator of the J. E. Grant General Contractors Jobsite Management Laboratory in the Construction Innovations Center.

Those familiar with Phil will not be surprised by this assignment. Since joining the faculty in 2006, he has demonstrated an interest in the themes that are at the heart of the new laboratory: how construction business gets done in the field.

"The role of the job site superintendent has changed over the years," Phil comments by way of introducing the concerns he addresses in the classroom and his own research. "Many companies need job site managers who bring new skill sets to the site. These new managers bring skills previously kept in the main office – computer technologies, estimating, and scheduling controls – to the job site. They are supervising the subcontractors who are in turn managing a majority of a project's labor and materials."

Department Head Al Hauck agrees, adding, "There is widespread interest in im-



Phil on site (above) and in the J.E. Grant General Contractors Jobsite Management Lab (top)

proving productivity, and this ties into the role of the superintendent. Right now we don't cover this important role well enough in the College's curriculum."

Phil concurs with the industry consensus that the retirement of baby boomers will cause a crisis in mid- to upper-level employees. With the new Jobsite Management Lab, sponsored by J. E. Grant General Contractors, Inc., he – and the department

– have a space unique in the country as a place dedicated to answering the question, "What will a 21st century superintendent look like, and how do they manage today's construction projects?"

Already, Phil has brought these preoccupations to his courses, teaching the Integrated Commercial Methods seminar with Professor Mike Montoya and Integrated Job Site Management seminar with Professor Hal Johnston. Among his diverse course list, Phil teaches two new classes: Contractor Exam Preparation (for the California B license) and Construction Service Learning. It is at this point that he stops the conversation – there are others, but he is really proud of this last one.

"It is exciting to resurrect a course that brings hands-on experience into a classroom environment and is service learning oriented," is how Phil describes the Construction Service Learning Course. Essentially, the course combines community service with construction learning elements that are project based. In spring 2008, five companies (Clark Construction, DPR Construction, Inc.,



The Hanover Company, Opus West and Sundt Construction) supported the four class teams, allowing them to purchase materials, manage and build four community service projects with budgets of \$2,000 each.

The end result: “a variety of student experiences and a tool to convey to a new generation of construction managers the construction process from inception to close-out,” says Phil.

As part of a faculty known for its strong ties to the profession anchored by academic and licensure credentials, Phil draws from two decades of industry experience involved with “most commercial construction buildings and a large spectrum of construction materials and methods.”

He earned his MBA in finance with a concentration in real estate in San Francisco, and he is currently pursuing his doctorate at the M. E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction at the University of Florida. To accomplish this goal, while continuing an impressive teaching load at Cal Poly, Phil has worked out a teaching schedule that will allow him to do work through correspon-



Supervising the setting of concrete formwork (above) is one of the skills that Phil teaches.

The Construction Service Learning course (left) involves students in community service and project-based learning.

dence and then spend two semesters in residence at Gainesville.

A tribute to his abilities, Phil has been named the 2008-2011 Rinker Scholar. This prestigious award was created by the Rinker School to facilitate linkage and support between the University of Florida, the School, and the accredited Construction Management program in which the graduate student teaches. The ultimate goal is to enhance the quality of education the faculty offers

their home institution while increasing construction research.

Reflecting on his experience the past two years at Cal Poly, Phil says, “The students are amazing,” then he adds that the same is true of his faculty colleagues. And while he is content to be in the classroom as a professor and doctoral student, he is clearly most happy when he can lead the students into the field and lend them his expertise on the down and dirty of the profession.



One of Mike Humphrey's San Francisco Bay Area jobs was Project Promontory at VMWare, Inc.'s corporate campus in Palo Alto (above).

Mike works in Mississippi in the wake of Hurricane Katrina (right).



## Mike Humphrey

Focusing on a team approach to customer service

DPR Construction, Inc. operates 10 offices in five states and boasts a seemingly endless list of world-class projects, but when asked about his job as project executive, **Mike Humphrey** (CM '92) turns the conversation to the customer and to team work.

DPR founder Doug Woods (the D in DPR, with Peter Nosler and Ron Davidowski) notes that, "When we started DPR, we wanted to be a customer-focused organization." This theme drew Mike to them in 1992, just two years after the company's founding. Mike remembers the economy of the early '90s as risky and knew he was compounding risk when he joined a new and untested company; looking back, he says it has always been the right fit.

Just as after graduation his commitment to DPR was swift and sure, Mike knew early on in his academic career that his was a commitment to building. He initially looked

to the architecture program at Cal Poly, but soon realized that it was building more than drawing that appealed to him. The decision to move from architecture was solidified after a professor ripped a piece off his model.



“Too personal,” Mike now declares with a hint of laughter, adding that it had become clear to him that while architectural design was very personal, he could build for anyone.

Although the change in majors distanced Mike from architecture as a profession, he credits the cross-disciplinary approach at Cal Poly with his later success, saying that it taught him to “talk to architects in a different way, and maybe even suggested a team approach.” Team continues to be central to Mike’s outlook, his memories of his education at Cal Poly, and his professional experience today.

Mike remains a solid supporter of the CM program at Cal Poly but isn’t without concerns about students today. Specifically, he worries that the tools of technology may be more interesting to young professionals than the tools of the field. He firmly believes that the next generation needs to know the “nuts and bolts” of construction.

With a family of five, Mike values work-life balance every bit as much as this generation and supports any tools that can make the job more efficient, but he also knows that electronics can’t replace relationships. For his part, Mike is committed to getting this computer-savvy generation out of their comfort zone.

Certainly Mike has done all he can to get out in the field, both in the U.S. on DPR building sites and in post-tsunami Thailand and Katrina-stricken Mississippi. When the tsunami devastated Southeast Asia in December 2004, Mike gathered a team of aid workers from DPR for a nine-day trip to Thailand.

“An amazing experience,” he says of their time in the remote fishing village of Koh Lon.



The Aspect Communications headquarters expansion – a sustainable building in San Jose (above)

Pixar Animation Studios’ corporate campus in Emeryville (left)

Initially, the team was concerned that the difficulty of any disaster relief effort would be compounded by the lack of a common language between the DPR team and local aid workers. Those fears were short lived. “We made rough sketches in the field, used hand signs and were able to communicate.”

In fact, despite the expertise he brought to the effort, Mike says he ended up learning a great deal from the locals. “They use a third less wood than we do in California, and we had to refocus on the needs of the people and realize that this project wasn’t the Taj Mahal. It made me think: can we be more efficient with materials, use more recyclable materials? Ultimately, that is the message we brought home and what stays with us years later.”

Moved by the experience, Mike organized a two-week trip to Mississippi in the fall of

2005 following Hurricane Katrina. This time the DPR team included Cal Poly Construction Management students – an invitation that yielded so much interest, the firm held an essay contest to identify the two students who would make the trip.

Looking to the future, Mike points to two upcoming partnerships at DPR with Autodesk and the Packard Foundation. With such an impressive list of projects on his résumé, one might ask what is so special about these? Mike is eager to explain that these newly inked contracts dismiss the usual hierarchy, meaning everyone puts in an equal share resulting in the placement of the *project’s* interests first. Mike is nearly gleeful when he says this is certainly about teamwork. Then he concludes this is how DPR wants to behave all the time.



One of Vianey Contreras' projects involves installing a reclaimed water pipeline at Camp Pendleton – part of CDM's \$260 million contract with the U.S. Navy.

Vianey's portable office (below)



## Vianey Contreras

Enjoying the fast pace of the design-build environment

Six years after receiving her degree in Construction Management from Cal Poly, Vianey Contreras still can't believe the circumstances that led her to college, CM, and a job that she finds constantly challenging and enjoyable.

The first stage of Vianey's story is not unusual in California: arriving in the Fresno area at the age of five when her family moved from Mexico. Fast-forward 12 years, and Vianey is preparing to graduate from high school with an eye toward the military, based on her belief that the cost of college was prohibitive.

Enter a younger sister who worried about the dangers of a military career and confided those fears to Vianey's high school German teacher. That teacher talked to Vianey about her interests and options and encouraged her to apply to Cal Poly. The resulting financial aid package from Cal Poly



HDPE pipe is fused (above) for the Water and Wastewater System Design, Build, Operate & Maintain P-110 Project at Camp Pendleton. The crew bores underneath railroad tracks to install the pipeline (far left) and places concrete into forms for pump station walls (left).

sent Vianey down a different path from the one she had imagined: one that led to the Central Coast and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design.

Vianey originally applied to Cal Poly's Architecture Department based on her success in a high school Environmental Design class. Today, there is humor in her explanation of a self-described "uninspiring story" for a career path that she ultimately found so satisfying.

Although Vianey has fond memories of her first three years in the CAED, she was not convinced it was the right fit. She credits another educator, Architecture Professor Don Swearingen, with helping identify her final path. Today, she still believes this was some of the best advice of her career: Don't change majors until you know for sure what you want to do.

After three years of college, Vianey took the plunge. She shadowed an architect, a contractor and a construction manager and made her decision: Construction Management was where she belonged.

Now, after five years with a company focused on residential construction and nearly a year with her current employer, CDM Constructors, Inc., an environmental engineering and construction company, Vianey says, "My career is better than what I imagined."

Specifically, she points to the variety of personalities she works with daily as the central pleasure and challenge of her work, adding, "Another reason I love what I'm doing now is because it is design-build. The projects move at a much quicker pace, and as a CM, we're more involved with the design process than if we were on design-bid-build projects."

Reflecting on her years in San Luis Obispo, Vianey gives a lot of credit to Jim Rodger, who was head of the CM Department when she graduated.

"He said, 'Don't let employers keep you in an office. Get experience out in the field because it will provide you with a well-rounded foundation for your career.'" Today, Vianey estimates she spends 98 percent of her time in the field and loves every minute of it.

Looking back on her academic experience, Vianey believes she was well prepared for the transition from classes to the work environment. "Cal Poly provided me with the tools to 'learn how to learn,' and I believe that provided me with a solid foundation for a successful career. I feel very fortunate to have found a career that I enjoy waking up to every day. Not many people can say that, and I feel very blessed to have it."

# Alumni News

PLEASE SEND NEWS of your personal and professional achievements to Tana Anastasia at [ganastas@calpoly.edu](mailto:ganastas@calpoly.edu). High-resolution photos are also welcome.



**Curt Kolar** (ConE '74) is an estimator for the Capital Projects Division of Tri-county Metropolitan Transit Authority (Trimet) in Portland, Ore. Curt's office is in charge of project management for the Authority and liaison with contractors for building of public transit light-rail tracks and support facilities in the Portland area and neighboring cities. He says he loves the public servant aspect of his job as it allows him to keep projects on course as "good stewards" of the public funds they receive.

**Jim Lagomarsino** (ConE '75) is Piggings & Chemicals manager at BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc.

**Donna Falcinella Pappas** (BSArch/BSConstruction '81) was honored recently as an Outstanding Educator by Scholastic READ 180. After working in construction in L.A. and Orange County for several years, she returned to school to earn a multiple subject teaching credential. She is an educator in Fresno.

**John Mauk** (CM '86), CPE, is regional manager for O'Connor Construction Management, Inc. An employee since 1999, John is involved in the overall direction of the Irvine office, managing all departments. John and his family reside in Mission Viejo.

**Bob Stephens** (CM '86) is senior concrete manager with Morley Construction Company in Santa Monica. There for over 15 years, Bob oversees structural and architectural subcontract projects in and around Los Angeles. In 2004, he graduated from The Anderson School, UCLA, in their Executive Management Program. Bob lives in Torrance, CA with his wife and two children.

**Donald Schneider** (CM '87) joined Recal Corporation over five years ago and has since been promoted to president. Donald is also managing partner of several limited partnerships of commercial and retail properties. Donald enjoys the flexibility of a small company as it allows him time with his wife and four children.

**Randy Simmering** (CM '87) is director of construction for Venture Partners in Lakewood, Colo. Randy and his partner



## Matt, the architect

**Matt Dahlberg** (ARCH/CM '04), AIA, BIA, LEED, AP, joined the Haskell Company in 2004 as a construction assistant project manager. In 2005, he transferred to the Architect/Engineering Group, where he works as an architect with the firm. Matt and his fiancée, Jennifer Morgan, live in Jacksonville, Fla.

founded the commercial/industrial development firm in 2007. In June 2008, they launched Venture Construction, LLC, the construction management arm.

**Fred Saldana** (CM '88), CPE, PSP, is a principal and president of O'Connor Construction Management, Inc., overseeing managers of construction management, cost estimating, accounting, human resources, and marketing in the Irvine office. Fred has been with O'Connor for 22 years. He and his family reside in San Clemente.

**Lee Sehon** (CM '89) and **Dave White, Jr.** (CM '88) founded Channel Islands Building & Development Partners, Inc. in 2002. The real estate development and construction company specializes in urban renewal and infill residential development in Ventura County communities.

**Kevin Surber** (CM '89) is owner and president of Surber Drywall Construction Inc., which he established in 1999 with his wife, Wendy Johnson Surber (Accounting/Finance '89). The firm specializes in high-end commercial interiors in the Bay Area. He lives with his family in Woodside.

**Tom Hodges** (CM '90), AIA, LEED AP, is a principal and senior vice president with O'Connor Construction Management, Inc.

An employee there for 14 years, he runs O'Connor's northern and central California operations, managing bond program work at Allan Hancock College and the Palo Alto Unified School District. Tom and his family reside in Pleasanton.

**David Rossi** (CM '93) is co-founder of a parent company that has three subsidiaries involved in the earthwork and material area of construction: Tucker Engineering has an engineering class A license and does shoring, basement excavation, haz-mat remediation and removal, grading and paving; Bulk Express delivers materials for Home Depot commercial and bulk deliveries; and DirtMarket which buys and sells soil, working with national home builders, Caltrans, airports, grading contractors, etc.

**Justin Peterson** (CM '94), CPE, PSP, CEP, LEED AP, is a principal and senior vice president with O'Connor Construction Management, Inc. An employee there for 14 years, he is responsible for overseeing cost estimating, scheduling, and project management departments. The firm has been involved in numerous high-profile projects, including Wynn Las Vegas. Justin and his family reside in Henderson, Nev.

**Matthew Angell** (CM '96) is a program manager with WorldWater & Solar Technologies Corp. in Greenwood Village, Colo. Matthew is responsible for a project which will provide two megawatts of solar power (adequate for a substantial portion of its operation) to Denver International Airport, the fifth busiest airport in the United States.

**Andrew Bylund** (CM '98) started his own construction management company, TRAILMARK, in late 2007. Headquartered in Las Vegas, Nev., the company specializes in managing high-end residential and commercial projects for developers and homeowners on the West Coast. They are managing the design and construction of two large custom estates in Nevada to be completed by the end of 2009.

**Willy DaRosa** (CM '99) formed his own company, Cantilever Construction, Inc. in 2004. Located in Campbell, they grew into a million dollar company in 2007 and hope to triple that in 2008. Willy lives with his wife and their two children in Campbell.

**Ryan Flagg** (CM '00) has recently relocated to Pebble Beach, where he continues to work in real estate development at his company, Flagg Industries. He and his wife welcomed a daughter in April 2008.



## Expanding an empire

**Jason Laub** (CM '02) is a construction manager with Pacific Empire Builders in Santa Monica. Although historically a Southern California firm, it is actively expanding into other statewide markets. The firm, and Jason, were profiled in the July 2008 issue of *Construction Today*. Jason is engaged to Colorado State CM graduate Ashleigh Hanson.

**Steve Griggs** (CM '00) worked for Whiting-Turner Contracting Company and Centex Homes before joining Kitchell Contractors, Inc. He is working on Central Coast projects, including a hospital addition in Santa Maria.

**Mark Magid** (CM '03) owns and operates Below Magid Construction, a general contracting business in Santa Barbara. In its first two years, the company has completed 40 projects, including residential remodel, residential custom and commercial tenant improvements. Mark lives with his wife and two sons in Santa Barbara.

**Matt Gallagher** (CM '05) works with Vance Brown, Inc. based in Palo Alto.

**Cecily Olson** (CM '05) is a project manager with Western Waterproofing Company, Inc. in San Leandro. The specialty contractor

does concrete and masonry restoration and an array of waterproofing services. Western has more than 40 offices nationwide.

**Simi Harmon** (CM '06), RCDD, is project manager at Ceitronics, Cupertino Electric's low-voltage sister company in San Jose. This fall, Simi will begin work on one of the company's largest projects to date: Thunder Valley Casino Expansion Phase II. Total project cost is estimated at \$1 billion. Simi and Caleb Hansen (CM '07) plan to wed in fall 2009.

**Sal Pacheco** (CM '06) is a field engineer with PCL Construction Services, Inc. in San Diego. He has been with the employee-owned company since graduation.

**Justin B. Gillies** (CM '07) has been with Sundt Construction in Phoenix, Ariz., since graduation. He is a project engineer on the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication in downtown Phoenix, where the firm hopes to obtain a Green Globe certified status, the first for a building in Phoenix. He and his wife are expecting their second son this fall.

**Adam Rupp** (CM '07) recently joined Vance Brown, Inc. in Palo Alto as a project engineer.

**John Tuttle** (CM '07) is a field engineer with the San Francisco office of Bovis Lend Lease, Inc. Current projects include One Rincon Hill, the largest residential project west of the Mississippi. This project has been featured on the cover of *ENR Magazine* and is the winner of multiple awards in San Francisco. Bovis Lend Lease is consistently listed among the top U.S. contractors.

## Classes of 1975 and 1988 reunions set for October

In conjunction with the dedication of the Construction Innovations Center October 4-5, the classes 1975 and 1988 are invited to reunite.

The reunion will include a dinner on October 3 and class photos taken in front of the CAED Architecture main building on October 4.

For more information, contact Tana Anastasia at [ganastas@calpoly.edu](mailto:ganastas@calpoly.edu).

# 2008

## October 3

Classes of 1975 and 1988 Reunion Dinners  
CM Industry Advisory Committee Meeting  
(see details, this page)

## October 4

Construction Innovations Center Dedication and  
Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab  
Groundbreaking

## October 5

Associated Students of Construction Management  
Golf Tournament

## October 18-19

Chumash Challenge for Reno Teams

## November 3-5

DBIA Annual Conference & Expo  
[www.dbia.org/conferences](http://www.dbia.org/conferences)

## November 19-21

US Green Building Council International Conference  
in Boston

## December 13

Fall Commencement

# 2009

## January 21-23

National Association of Home Builders Competition,  
Las Vegas, Nev.

## February 11-14

Associated Schools of Construction Competition,  
Reno, Nev.

## February 25-29

Associated Builders and Contractors  
Competition, Hawaii

## March 2-6

Mechanical Contractors Association of America  
Competition, Scottsdale, Ariz.

## March 4-7

National Associated General Contractor's of America  
Competition and Convention, San Diego

## April 1-4

National Associated Schools of Construction Faculty  
Conference, University of Florida

## April 17-18

CM Open House for New Students

## April 24

CM Industry Advisory Committee Meeting (*tentative*)

## April 25

Simpson Strong-Tie Symposium (*tentative*)

## May 17

CAED Awards Ceremony

## June 6

CM Banquet

## June 13-14

Spring Commencement



Please visit [www.construction.calpoly.edu](http://www.construction.calpoly.edu) for the latest news, alumni gatherings and events.



Ryan DelaRiva

## Ryan DelaRiva 2008 grad takes rich experiences of Poly to Pankow

Always energetic, Ryan DelaRiva ended his undergraduate academic career at Cal Poly on a strong note: as recipient of the Outstanding Leadership Award at the Construction Management Senior Banquet.

Upon meeting him, it is clear why he was chosen: outgoing, interested in bringing people together, and ready and willing to organize anything! Certainly these were attributes Ryan brought to his role as president of Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM). CM Professor and ASCM Advisor Paul Weber describes the organization as the umbrella club for the CM students: “Through them we offer recruiting opportunities, students do community service and, of course, they learn more about the industry and their profession.”

For Ryan, ASCM filled a more personal role, giving him a “taste of leadership in a department full of outstanding students.” He adds that he hopes everyone in the department will see ASCM “as a great opportunity

to not only get involved in something beneficial during their time at Cal Poly, but also something that will help them in their careers.”

Recognizing that CM has become more complex as a profession, with advancing technology and focus on sustainability, Ryan believes ASCM helped him remain focused on one of the things that attracted him to CM: working relationships with his peers. He relates this to what he anticipates will be important components of his job: successful interaction and balance among people with a full spectrum of backgrounds.

Speaking with Ryan, it is easy to forget that he didn’t begin his academic career in CM. When pressed, he laughs and admits that his first year at Cal Poly was spent in Civil Engineering. While he did well in math and science, he “didn’t see the people side in CE” and found it in CM.

Now, degree in hand, Ryan can’t say enough about his experience in school. He is

particularly enthusiastic about the benefits of a co-op or internship.

He interned for a variety of firms during the summers between academic years (O.C. Jones and Sons Inc., Pankow Special Projects Ltd., and McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.) – experiences that culminated with a six-month stretch between his third and fourth years when Ryan worked for Charles Pankow Builders Ltd. to earn income and school credit.

Of these experiences, he says that he learned what he “couldn’t see in school,” verifying what he thought he had learned by seeing the results for himself.

Looking forward, Ryan is headed to the Bay Area and returning to work for Charles Pankow Builders, Ltd., but he has other thoughts for his future beyond professional aspirations. He hopes to eventually be a contributor to CM and the CAED to “help a student, like the Mintons and the scholarship they established, did for me.”



Richard Minton and Ryan DelaRiva

## Minton scholarship supports the spirit of philanthropy

The Allen and Nancy Minton Scholarship is unique within the Construction Management department: It is the only one that provides a full year's tuition and expenses.

A generous gift, it came with their heartfelt wish to find a recipient who wasn't simply a star, but a well-rounded student who loves the profession and gives back as a volunteer. They found that ideal mix in Ryan DelaRiva.

The decision to create this scholarship was a natural fit for the Mintons, who have supported education throughout the careers of their four children. Their son Richard (CM '02) wanted to follow in his father's footsteps professionally and decided to attend Cal Poly Construction Management. After he graduated, his parents' contribution was a logical next step.

"While he was at Cal Poly," says Nancy, "Richard received a phenomenal education, and we knew that our contribution could help someone else have that opportunity."

As owners of a door company, the Mintons also have a particular interest in supporting construction education and see their contribution to the department as an investment in the entire region.

"We want to recognize that education is important to the construction industry, and this scholarship is one way of doing that."

# Cailey Reiman

## Taking a fresh approach to the family business

"Those with big dreams come to California." This is how recent graduate Cailey Reiman describes her decision to attend Cal Poly.

Diploma in hand, she has certainly fulfilled some of those dreams, including graduating with the highest GPA in the Construction Management class of 2008: a tribute she wanted to pay to her parents for their support through college. This achievement earned her the Outstanding Senior Award from the department.

She is also no stranger to departmental leadership, serving as chair of the College-Based Fee Committee for the last year and a half of her academic career. In this position, she represented the students and advised the department head on the use of these funds.

Cailey started her college career in the Construction Management Department knowing from a young age that construction was her career path. However, she is quick to say her choice was not simply because "it's the family business" (as she refers to the company started in 1948

by her grandfather and since joined by her father, two uncles, two cousins, an older sister and a brother-in-law).

For Cailey, construction is a personal passion. She adds, "although there has been a huge

push to get more women in engineering, I think the construction industry has been overlooked as a potential career path for women."

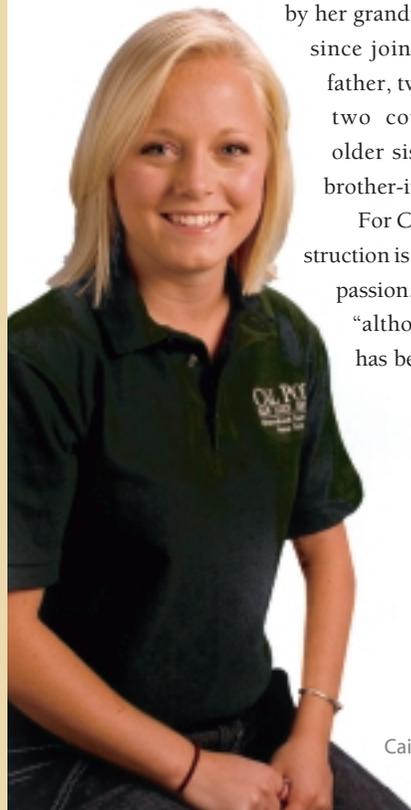
This is a sentiment Department Head Al Hauck agrees with, adding that women do well in the CM program and profession. He notes that over the past half decade, the number of women in the program at Cal Poly has remained steady at 10-15 percent, a figure he hopes will rise sharply as more women graduate and act as role models for the next generation, thus increasing the number of female applicants.

As a member of what she hopes is a trend-setting generation, Cailey says that "the best part about being a woman in an untraditional field is bringing something original to the table. It's not about what the opposite sex can or can't do. It's about bringing a new perspective and fresh ideas to a changing industry."

If the decision to attend Cal Poly was a step away from the security of family, Cailey is as resolute in her next career move. Rather than return to her hometown of Cheyenne, Wyo., she took her big dreams to Ft. Collins, Colo., a city she describes as "toward family but not toward the family company," and picked for its potential professionally.

Preparing for interviews Cailey was clear in her employment objectives, saying they are very influenced by her time in the CM program. Low on Cailey's list of "must haves" with a prospective employer was a list of flashy projects; instead, when deciding to accept a position with Brinkman Construction she looked for a team mentality that she describes as a natural outgrowth of her Cal Poly experience, where she felt the closeness and team mentality of the CM Department was critical to its success.

Looking back at her years in San Luis Obispo, Cailey says the CM program was more than she expected and full of "intelligent and quick people who were an honor to be among." Certainly Cailey's attitude will be instrumental in the next phase of her career where she will surely be a role model for the next generation of graduates.



Cailey Reiman

# Paul and Geoff Acosta

Siblings share Cal Poly experience

Brothers Paul and Geoff Acosta didn't plan to graduate together. When Paul entered the CM program in 1999, his younger brother planned to join him four years later "as an architecture major, but Paul helped me realize I really wanted to be a CM."

What Paul didn't count on was two overseas interruptions. These interruptions came in the form of recalls to active duty with his reserve unit A Company, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, USMC, where Paul serves as a Light Armored Vehicle crewman.

Younger brother Geoff reveled in the chance to extend their history of competition to the Cal Poly classroom. While Paul was on active duty with the USMC, Geoff made the most of the opportunities offered by the department. He gained experience in Mechanical, Residential and Heavy/Civil construction during four summers of internships and is proud of the spot he earned on the Heavy/Civil Competition Team that won the 2008 Regional competition in Reno and the National competition in Las Vegas.

The brothers' sense of joy and accomplishment in the educational and military arenas is possibly only outdone by their love of the CM Department's social events, a trait they say is passed down from their parents. As board members for the Associated Students of Construction Management, they had ample opportunities to show this willingness to organize events.

Some might think it was destiny that the brothers graduated together in 2008, for they certainly share a sense of duty toward the department. This was recognized by their joint receipt of the Service to the Department Award in their senior year. An easy choice, says Department Head Al Hauck, for they "were always ready to contribute their time, energy, and" – this part elicits a smile – "skill at barbecuing tri-tip."

Geoff's career will now begin with Granite Construction Company on the Central Coast, while Paul pursues a career in Southern California combined with continued military service overseas.



Geoff and Paul Acosta enjoy CM social events.





Barbara Jackson (left) directs the CCCE, which offers a Company-Based Integrated Team Workshop (far left) and other training seminars.

## Building Partnerships with Industry Professionals

### The California Center for Construction Education launches Partnership Program

The California Center for Construction Education (CCCE) was originally started in the 1980s by then Department Head Jim Rodger in response to several statewide issues and the prompting of the California State License Board to provide continuing education opportunities to licensed contractors.

After sitting dormant for a number of years, the CCCE was resurrected in 2005 by Director Barbara Jackson with the help of a grant from the Charles Pankow Foundation and additional funding through a CMEA License Board Grant.

Today, the primary purpose of the CCCE is to serve as a resource to the Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industry on multiple fronts by providing both public and custom in-house educational seminars, workshops and boot camps as well as consulting services and fee-for-service work that includes special projects focusing on company, community, association or industry issues.

According to Jackson, "These special projects can be anything from a project-specific assignment such as developing a job site recycling program, to helping a company develop a more formalized internship or mentoring program. The services that we can provide are quite diverse. Not only do we have

a wealth of professional expertise among our own faculty, but we also have a pool of outside consultant partners who are at our disposal."

After three years of successful grant seeking and attainment plus the delivery of many successful educational collaborations, the CCCE is about to expand its offerings and reach. On August 1, the CCCE launched its *Strategic Initiative Partnership Program*. Its primary purpose is to join forces with representatives from the AEC to identify those issues that are of greatest industry concern, particularly in California, and then to leverage resources to address those issues.

In May, at the CCCE Advisory Board's inaugural meeting, two issues were clearly identified around which the CCCE is now developing several strategic initiatives. One issue involves the legislative barriers associated with the use of alternative project delivery approaches in California.

In response, the CCCE is helping to facilitate the organization of an Owner's Coalition in support of legislative changes that would make alternative project delivery options less restrictive for public projects.

The other target issue identified at the meeting was Workforce Development. The CCCE is forming a Strategic Partner Round Table to narrow its focus to one or two ini-

tiatives that would have the greatest impact on this crucial issue.

Jackson suggests that, "Because the CCCE has a unique standing as an independent entity, we can potentially influence issues in ways that the contractor or design community could not. We think this is a distinct advantage and a good way to serve the industry and the community at large."

Another exciting CCCE initiative that will roll out in early 2009 will be the *CM Certificate Program*. This program is being developed to enhance the expertise of field personnel, transition employees from the field to the office or help non-CM personnel from all disciplines better understand what construction management is all about.

To learn more about the CCCE and its educational offerings, contact Barbara at 805.756.6381, [bjackson@calpoly.edu](mailto:bjackson@calpoly.edu), or visit the Mark and Jennifer Montoya CCCE offices in the Construction Innovations Center.

"NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE A WEALTH OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE AMONG OUR OWN FACULTY, BUT WE ALSO HAVE A POOL OF OUTSIDE CONSULTANT PARTNERS WHO ARE AT OUR DISPOSAL."  
- BARBARA JACKSON

## CM Students Compete – and Win

### Teams take top honors in regional and national contests

“A year of outstanding achievement,” says CAED Dean Tom Jones, referring to Cal Poly’s placements at the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Regional Student Competition and the ASC and Associated General Contractor’s of America (AGC) joint National Student Competition. Construction Management sent nine teams to the 2008

competitions in Reno, Nev., and at the regional level garnered first place in Heavy/Civil, second place in Commercial Building and third place in Residential. At the National ASC Competition in Reno, they garnered a first in LEED, second in Preconstruction and third for both Mechanical and Building Information Modeling. The first place finish in Heavy/Civil qualified Cal Poly to go on to the National ASC-AGC competition in Las Vegas, Nev., where they competed against the other six regions of ASC, placing first nationally.

Al Hauck notes that the success of the teams is a credit to the students, but he

doesn’t forget the active role of the faculty coaches. “They give their time and expertise.” He adds that Phil Barlow and Paul Weber deserve special mention as they coordinated the overall event for Cal Poly’s teams, a herculean effort. “Over 20 years the competitions have changed to reflect adjustments within the industry. And they have grown.”

Probably an understatement, for participants literally re-organize their hotel rooms to create war rooms, hauling in computers and tables, and then preparing for sleepless nights as the pressure is on. While each scenario is tailored to its division, the overarching criteria for success are estimating, bidding, planning, scheduling, presentation skills, creativity, understanding of sound construction techniques and thoughtful methodology.

Everyone involved at Cal Poly acknowledges that it is unusual for a department to do so well, with nearly two times as many top three placements as any other participating school. Looking at the poster which features the teams alongside a bar graph showing their astounding success relative to other schools, Al Hauck shakes his head and says, “It really doesn’t seem possible, but it is!” all the while looking ahead to next year’s participation.

For a list of the award-winning teams, visit [www.construction.calpoly.edu](http://www.construction.calpoly.edu).



Students participate in the Chumash Challenge, building team skills in preparation for competitions.

## Generous grants enable CM to expand resources and enhance programs

Construction Management added to its resources this year with grants.

“We have many programs and activities that require support, and grants acknowledge the research and achievements of our faculty and the quality of the education we offer,” says CAED Dean Tom Jones.

At the top of the list was a \$100,000 grant from the National Housing Endowment, the philanthropic arm of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB). This grant through the Homebuilding Education Leadership Program (HELP) helps create, expand, or enhance existing residential construction management programs.

Gary Garczynski, chairman of the National Housing Endowment and former

NAHB president, wrote that “Cal Poly has shown a strong commitment to providing the best education and will raise the level of professionalism in our industry for generations to come.”

The Fluor Corporation Development Fund allocated \$7,500 to CM in support of professional development opportunities. Department Head Al Hauck says, “Experiences outside the classroom are integral to Cal Poly’s learn-by-doing style and to the department’s commitment to hands-on participation in the learning experience.”

The Department also received a \$35,000 Construction Employers’ Association (CEA) Grant to promote education within the building industry. Among other initiatives, this

funded the appointment of Professor Mike Montoya as CM’s director of Co-Operative Education Programs.

The Pankow Foundation continued to support the efforts of the California Center for Construction Education (CCCE) with a \$50,000 grant.

Professors Lonny Simonian and Thomas Korman received a \$10,000 ELECTRI International (EI) Early Career Award. The EI Award “seeks to create early career interaction between faculty in the engineering and construction management disciplines and the electrical construction industry.” Their project will determine best management practices and outline the benefits of using BIM for Electrical Contractors.



Students enjoy exotic side trips to (clockwise, from left): Prague's Old Town Square, Czech Republic; Brighton Beach, Brighton, England; and Lewes Castle, England. Below: The train to Krakow, Poland

## Construction Management takes the classroom abroad

Next year will mark the eighth year of the Construction Management International Studies Program. The program started in 2002 with a small group of students traveling to Prague, Czech Republic, with Professor Hal Johnston, with a follow-up the next year to Brighton, England, with Professor Barry Jones.

Since then, the five-week summer programs have been on a rotating schedule. In summer 2007, Professor Mike Montoya joined Hal to lead a group of 43 students to Prague, a record for the program and a mark of its success.

At Cal Poly, 13 percent of all students will have lived and studied in another country by the time they graduate. About five percent of

# Adventures in Education



CM majors study overseas – a number the department would like to see increase.

Faculty support the programs, for they see a benefit to students beyond the cultural experience; students learn to consider things

from more than one perspective, developing analytical and critical thinking skills, which are important to their university experience.

“Students always comment on the positive value and personal growth they derive from the CM International Program,” says Hal. “Often we see students realizing their parochial views have been expanded, broadening their global outlook. They make lifelong friends during the five weeks, and definitely raise their level of confidence and competence.”

Rob Mo (CM '06) summed it up for all the groups when he said, “My trip to Europe was a great learning experience that I will never forget. Also, it was two of the greatest months of my life.”

## The San Francisco Bay Area program offers the ultimate urban metro experience

Construction Management Professor Barry Jones believes that the on-campus classroom experience at Cal Poly is great, but coupled with an off-campus experience, it is fantastic.

He is enthusiastic about the Bay Area summer program, which begins with two

weeks on campus studying Estimating and Controls. This is followed by two weeks in the Bay Area visiting job sites and offices.

Jones describes the experience as “intensive. The companies put their top people in front of the students. We have access to their training rooms and many go beyond describ-

ing the work they do and create competitive exercises. We all learn something every time.”

Two weeks in the Bay Area prepares the students for the fifth week of summer quarter, where they scope a project, estimating and setting up controls using the process they have learned through first-hand experience.

*Construction Innovator* is published by the Department of Construction Management. We encourage your comments, alumni news and feature ideas. Contact us: **Tana Anastasia**, publication coordinator: [ganastas@calpoly.edu](mailto:ganastas@calpoly.edu) ■ **Construction Management**: 805.756.1323 ■ **Allan J. Hauck**, department head: [ahauck@calpoly.edu](mailto:ahauck@calpoly.edu) **Barbara Jackson**, director, Center for Construction Education: [bjackson@calpoly.edu](mailto:bjackson@calpoly.edu) ■ Text: **Tracee de Hahn** ■ Publication design: **Shirley Howell Graphic Design**

YOU'RE INVITED!



# CONSTRUCTION INNOVATIONS CENTER DEDICATION CEREMONY

ALUMNI WEEKEND SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

## SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

- 11 a.m. Registration – Performing Arts Center Lobby
- Noon-2 p.m. Alumni Luncheon – Performing Arts Center Pavilion
- 2:30 p.m. Construction Innovations Center Dedication – Founder’s Plaza
- 3 p.m. Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab Groundbreaking – Construction Innovations Center Courtyard
- 3:30-5:30 p.m. Construction Management Department Tours/Open House
- 6 p.m. Cal Poly Football Game Against South Dakota (Special Seating in Construction Management Section)

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

- 7 a.m. Registration for ASCM Golf Tournament & Continental Breakfast Morro Bay State Park
- 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Golf Tournament
- 2 p.m. Barbecue and Awards

*Your RSVP will allow us to plan for your attendance. For registration information, please call the Construction Management Department at (805) 756-1323 or e-mail Jessica Frazier at [jfrazier@calpoly.edu](mailto:jfrazier@calpoly.edu).*



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