

Construction Management Technology News

<http://www.umaine.edu/set/cmt/>

Fall 2007

ENROLLMENT: Enrollment exceeds 120 students. CMT is now the largest student body in the School of Engineering Technology. The program is beyond its capacity with the current number of faculty and facilities. The new Director is working to address this issue.

EMPLOYMENT OF 2007 SENIORS: All May 2007 graduates were employed in the construction industry. Once again, the vast majority of 2007 graduates elected to stay in Maine. The average starting salary is around \$52,000 per year.

ABET ACCREDITATION — The next accreditation visit is scheduled for the Fall semester 2008. We will be seeking your help to complete surveys or have employers complete surveys so we can assess the program.

UNDERGRADUATE RESUMES: Once again, most of the graduating seniors' pictures and profiles are available on our website. If you want information on these individuals, contact information is available on the website. If you would like further information on perspective students, contact the University of Maine's Career Center at 207-581-1355. Patty Counihan is the contact.

EMPLOYMENT INTERVIEWS: As an employer, you can register with the Career Center by going to www.umaine.edu/career. After registering, you would go to the toolbar at the top of the page and click on eRecruiting. Completing that step will take you to the front page of eRecruiting, and you will see a box that says "employers log in here."

PROGRAM CHANGES — Starting in the Fall 2008, students entering the program will be required to have a laptop PC. The University of Maine is wireless, allowing students to access the internet anywhere on campus. Individual portable computing power means students can use the internet to access data for a class project in one class while in the next class calculate lab results using spreadsheets.

ASSOCIATED SCHOOLS OF CONSTRUCTION (ASC) REGION 1 COMPETITION (Dunn): Several students from the CMT and Civil Engineering Programs participated in the Region I ASC bidding and estimating competition held in Fairfield, New Jersey on November 8-11, 2007. In this competition, student teams competed in three competition categories sponsored by the construction companies that built the actual projects. Each school is allowed to have a team of up to 6 compete in each of the categories. UMaine had eighteen students competing in each of the three categories. The competition consisted of a pre-bid meeting held at 8:00 am on the day of the event. The teams had until midnight of that day to complete a bid and schedule based on the parameters of the sponsor. Teams experienced the tribulations of addendums, sub quotes, supplier and labor complications, and the whole process of developing the bid package. This year, two of the teams placed 3rd in their respective categories. This represents an outstanding effort since most of the categories had at least 7 to 12 teams.

The Design-Build competition was sponsored by Shawmut Construction. Our team placed third in the event. Students

participating included Brock Bessey, Amanda Fitzpatrick, Orrin Todd, Michael Reynolds, Aaron Bennett, and Herb Ryan

The Heavy Civil competition was sponsored by Skanska USA. Our team placed third in the event. Students participating included Brayden Sheive, Ryan Levesque, Matt Morin, Zach Davis, Michael Morneau, and Devin Prock.

The Commercial Building competition was sponsored by Whiting-Turner. Students participating included Kabe Micklon, Brandon Cummings, Rob Sampson, Nicole Rubenstein, Ben Manning, and Kevin Saloutis.

Next year, CMT advisory committee member Pizzagalli Construction will be the sponsor for the Design Build Competition. If others are interested in sponsoring or participating the job fair held at the competition, contact Phil Dunn for further information.

AGC STUDENT CHAPTER – The fall semester proved to be a busy one for the AGC student chapter. Representatives from the group attended every monthly meeting of the AGC of Maine parent chapter. Several technical presentations from various contractors were conducted, including a presentation on automated machine control, by Chris Johnson of Maine Technical Source. A booth at the 57th Annual Maine Transportation Conference in Augusta provided information regarding the CMT program at the University of Maine, as well as information regarding the Young Constructors Forum that will be conducted by the AGC of Maine parent chapter. The annual Toys for Joy charity toy drive was a big success this year. President Ryan Levesque and Vice President Rob Sampson conducted a bottle drive and held a 50/50

raffle at the Maine Transportation Conference to correspond with additional collecting of donations at the Memorial Union. The toys were then purchased and presented at the AGC of Maine All-Industry meeting in December. They were distributed to need children with the help of the Salvation Army. Several field trips to large construction projects are being coordinated for next semester, as well as community service projects and technical presentations on tilt-up construction.

ABC STUDENT CHAPTER – The ABC student chapter was formed in April with the support of Cianbro Corporation. Mr. Jon Sacks from Cianbro is the industry contact and Phil Dunn serves as the faculty advisor. Several students are involved and have done quite a bit of community service including painting rooms at the Good Samaritan Agency, assisting with a community collection campaign for the handicapped, helping with a project for muscular dystrophy, and providing a booth at the Skills Building expo held at the Augusta Civic Center. Plans are being made to assist with the Handicap accessible treehouse at the Pine Tree Camp. The group held a raffle at the ABC sponsored UMaine football game in September and raised money toward future projects. Students meet weekly to discuss service activity and are making plans for a future trip to participate in the ABC student estimating competition. The group has held three pizza nights with speakers from Cianbro, Dunbar and Braun, and Micklon Construction.

ASSOCIATE CONSTRUCTORS EXAM: Nineteen students took the associate constructors exam in October. CMT students are required to take the exam in order to graduate. They are not required to pass the exam. Approximately half the students passed the exam.

DEAN'S LIST: The following CMT students earned the honor of being recognized in the Spring 2007 Dean's list: Jonathan Aceto, Nicholas Bacon, Jeffrey Bailey, David Biette, Zachary Davis, Christian Eberhardt, Ryan Hart, Kathryn Hurley*, Evan Hutchins, Jason Jendrasko*, Jeffrey Kelley*, Jonathan Kray, Walter Lazarz, Ryan Levesque, Daniel Lyons, Benjamin Manning, Brendan McGuirl, Jerard Murray*, Brian Powers, Nicole Rubenstein, Brayden Sheive, and Marius Tawembe.* Asterisk (*) indicate 2007 graduate.

3.5 AWARDS: The following students achieved the honor of receiving the 3.5 Presidential Achievement Award: Robert Clark, Zachary Davis, Jeffrey Kelley*, Daniel Lyons, Benjamin Manning, Nicole Rubenstein, Brayden Sheive, Lonny Sleeper*, and Marius Tawembe.*

The award is given to those students once in a student's career at the University of Maine. Full-time students must attain a 3.0 GPA or better over two consecutive semesters (a minimum of 24 credits) of accumulated course work, and must also achieve a 3.5 GPA or better for the most recent semester (a minimum of 12 credits).

SHIRTS: The construction management technology program has polo and long sleeve dress shirts available for donations in excess of \$30 made payable to the program. The shirts are embroidered with the University of Maine crest and name above "Construction Management Technology." Available sizes include medium, large, and X-large, 2X large, and 3X large. If you are interested in obtaining a shirt please call Linda Liscomb at 207-581-2340 or complete the form attached to the newsletter.

SCHOLARSHIPS — Currently, the program has four scholarship funds: John F. "Jack"

Kelley III scholarship (\$15,203), Stephen R. Nelson scholarship (\$5,987), CET Scholarship and the CMT Alumni Scholarship.† The Herbert E. Sargent Scholarship† (\$140,345) is a campus wide scholarship. The Sargent scholarship is limited to employees and family of employees of the Sargent Corporation. Those scholarships in excess of \$5,000 can make awards to students. Scholarships under \$5,000 cannot make awards until they reach \$5,000 through additional donations or interest accrual.

SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED — We are pleased to announce the following scholarships and the recipients of the scholarship: Maine Better Transportation Association (NBTA) Scholarship: Nicholas Bacon, Ryan Hart, and Brayden Sheive. New England Transportation Technician Certification Program (NETTCP) Scholarship: Bryan Chounaird and Ben Manning. Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA) Scholarship: Kevin Capponi and Brendan McGuirl.

TRIBUTE & MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS — For those individuals that would like to provide for a tribute to a contractor or firm or honor a departed individual, a memorial scholarship can be established for as little as \$500 (awarding the scholarship requires at least \$5,000). Tribute and memorial scholarships ensure that outstanding individuals and firms will be remembered forever by students training to enter the construction profession.

NEW DIRECTOR — Dr. Scott Dunning, P.E. has assumed the director's position of the School of Engineering Technology. He has made major improvements in the looks of the office. He has many new funding initiatives he plans to explore.

NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR — I am pleased to have the opportunity to speak to the alumni of our CMT program at the University of Maine. As this is my 16th year as a member of the School of Engineering Technology, I have had the opportunity to meet some of you as students and later as industry leaders participating on our Industrial Advisory Committee. For those I have not met, I hope to meet you in the future and urge you to stop by the SET office anytime to visit.

This is an exciting time for the School of Engineering Technology. Industry demand for our graduates continues to be extremely strong and student enrollment continues to grow. At the beginning of the semester, we had over 120 students enrolled in the Construction Management Technology program. Of course this is not without its challenges. Our faculty in CMT have looked like performers spinning plates in the air and have been pressed to the wall this past year. Thus, I have told the administration our number one priority is to expand the number of faculty in CMT to meet this growing demand. We have been discussing a possible initiative to address this concern and I may be reaching out to some of you in the future to assist us.

In the upcoming year, we will be requiring laptop computers for incoming students for all CMT students. This will allow us increased options for covering software-based content in the classroom as

well as increased availability of software tools for students working after hours. I am hopeful that it will also move us closer to providing increased distance educational opportunities for all of our students.

In the long term, I would like the University of Maine to consider offering a Masters Degree program in Engineering Management with the majority of class offerings being on-line. It would offer an alternative to the M.B.A. for our graduates from the School of Engineering Technology. However, we will need to survey alumni to determine if adequate demand exists for this type of degree.

I look forward to working with our CMT faculty to continue to improve our programs. I encourage you to stay in touch with our faculty and provide feedback on how industry needs change so that we can respond with necessary program changes. Thank you for your continued support of our program!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS: The faculty and students of the Construction Management Technology program wish all of you Happy Holidays.

COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS: Contact Knud Hermansen at 207-581-2168 or Knud.Hermansen@umit.maine.edu if you have comments or questions regarding this newsletter or program information.

STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

If you would like to help fund a scholarship for students or support the program make checks payable to the University of Maine. Note on the check "CMT Scholarship," program funding, or include the completed form with your check. Mail checks and form to:

School of Engineering Technology
Construction Management Technology
5711 Boardman Hall, Room 119
Orono, Maine 04469-5711

The enclosed check is to be used for the:

- Program Funding (any amount)
- CMT Alumni Scholarship (any amount)
- CMT Scholarship (any amount)
- Named Scholarship (\$5,000 minimum)

Name of Scholarship: _____

Merit Based: Yes No

Other Limitations: _____

CMT shirts are provided for donations in excess of \$30 please. Check one box for size and another box for style.

- Medium Large X-Large
- Polo Shirt (short sleeve) Dress Shirt (long sleeve)