Construction Management Technology News

http://www.umaine.edu/cmt/

Spring 2011

ENROLLMENT — In the previous newsletter, enrollment in the CMT program exceeded 160 students. Enrollment appears to be steady or increasing for the Fall. We are progressing toward our target enrollment of 90 students. Due to budget constraints, it does not appear that additional faculty will be appointed any time soon so enrollment continues to be constrained.

EMPLOYMENT OF SENIORS — Despite the slow down in the economy, most seniors have obtained employment.

<u>LINKEDIN</u> — There are two CMT Linkedin sites. Cory Verrill a CMT alumni has set up an account and John Brockington of Pizzagalli has set up an account for CMT. Alumni are encourage to access these accounts.

<u>APPRECIATION</u>: CMT would like to thank several individuals and firms for presentations. These individuals and firms included Peter Parizo of Sargent, Bruce Rideout and Greg Schaub of Lane, Shawn Ferguson of CBB, George Thomas of Sargent representing the Construction Financial Managers' Association, Tharryn Smith of Cianbro, John Brockington of Pizzagalli, Steve Perry of Sargent, and Tom Perkins of Dirigo.

3.5 Presidential Achievement Award — The Presidential Achievement award is made just one time in a student's studies at the University of Maine. Full-time students must attain a 3.0 grade point average or better for two consecutive semesters. The student must also achieve a 3.5 grade point average or better for the most recent semester. Very few students achieve this honor. This year the following students have achieved this honor: Joseph Birckhead, Drew Blier, Erik Bodwell, Nicholas Gaddard, Peter Poor, Tyler Sivik, and Cody Smith.

<u>SCHOLARSHIP NEWS</u> — Scholarship investments have suffered along with private investment accounts. Accordingly, CMT scholarships were not awarded this semester. We are pleased to announce that Ian Messier has be awarded the James 'Red' Bell Jr. Pike Industries, Inc. Scholarship. This spring he was elected president of the AGC student chapter. Previously he severed as chapter secretary.

ABC STUDENT CHAPTER — The Student Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors is advised by Assistant Professor Philip Dunn of the CMT program. The chapter has been inactive this semester.

AGC STUDENT CHAPTER — The Black Bear Chapter of AGC is advised by Mac Gray. The AGC Student Chapter completed new elections, electing new officers for every position. The chapter will be busy adopting new ideas, such as pizza nights with companies, jobsite visits, resume writing help and job interviewing lectures. If anybody is interested with helping the student chapter please feel free to email Ian Messier, President, AGC Student Chapter,

ian.messier@umaine.edu. The chapter is always looking for companies to host pizza nights and having people talk to the chapter members.

AGC and CMT would like to thank Sargent Corporation, Cianbro, and Pizzagalli for the pizza nights provided to students.

PROGRAM FUNDING — The Construction Management Technology Educational Excellence Fund has received \$101,000 since it was established in the fall of 2009! The fund was established, "to provide educational assistance to the Construction Management Technology (CMT) program in educating students to meet the demand for a qualified workforce for the construction or related industry." With these funds, the CMT program has been able to hire an adjunct faculty member, a graduate teaching assistant and several undergraduate graders to help relieve the heavy teaching load that has resulted from a very high student to faculty ratio. We greatly appreciate those businesses and individuals who made generous contributions: Bancroft Contracting Company, CCB Construction Services, Cianbro, Consigli, CPM Constructors (Eldon and Dianne Morrison), H.B. Fleming, Douglas and Linda Hermann, Knowles Industrial Services, Lane Construction Corporation, Maine Drilling and Blasting, Nickerson & O'Day, Peachey Builders, Reed & Reed, and Sargent Corporation.

<u>Program Changes</u> — A new course, CET 412 - Sustainable Population & Environmental Design & Construction was taught for the first time. The predominant focus of the course is LEED training. It was well received by the students with plans to offer the course again in the next academic year. The program will also offer a one-credit course in plan reading. We are very pleased that one of our outstanding alumni, Thomas Perkins, P.E., LEED AP will be helping to teach both courses in addition to running his business, Dirigo Architectural.

<u>Associate Constructor Exam</u> — The following students/graduates have passed the associate constructor exam in the Spring Semester 2011: Brendan Costello, Michael Ianello, Nathanial Jacobs, Logan Rackliff, Dylan Smith, Trevor Warren, and Stefan Winslow.

The Associate Constructor exam is offered by the American Institute of Constructors Construction Certification (www.constructorcertification.org). It tests knowledge on surveying, estimating, scheduling, materials, administration, law, and operations. Students are required to take this test and pass four out of the seven sections to graduate.

<u>CMT Crowe Award</u> — Congratulations to Brent Cross for the honor of receiving the Construction Management Technology's Distinguished Francis Crowe Award that was presented at the end of the Spring semester. The Distinguished Francis Crowe Award recognizes individuals who have made considerable engineering contributions to the construction profession and the construction management program.

Brent is currently the executive vice president of Cross Insurance. Brent has been a very strong supporter of the CMT program. He was always willing to talk to the CMT program about insurance and construction operations. Brent graduated from Husson University

with a B.S. degree in business in 1994 and a M.S. in business in 2001. He is a Chartered Property and Casualty Underwriter since 2002 (CPCU); Associate in Risk Management (ARM) and a Construction Risk Insurance Specialist (CRIS). Brent has been honored with the Charles M. Culp Award from the Jaycees; the Husson University Business Hall of Fame inductee in 2005; and serves as a trustee at Husson University, Board Member for FAME and numerous Civic boards like OHI, CHCS, youth sports, etc.

Prior distinguished Francis Crowe inductees include Charles E. Furbish (2000), Robert Chaput, P.E. (2001), Keith Anderson (2001), Eldon Morrison, P.E. (2002), Jack Kelly, P.E. (2003), Mark Bancroft (2003), the Sergeant's Clan (Ralph Leonard, Herbert R. Sargent, Herbert E. Sargent, James Sargent, Shane Sargent) (2005), Timothy Sommers (2006), Ken Ouelette (2008), Karl Ward, CPC (Dec. 2008), Bollie Bollenbach (2009), and Shawn Shelley (2010).

COORDINATOR — Phil Dunn has agreed to assume the duties for coordinator of the program starting in the Fall Semester 2011. Mac has been coordinator for the program for almost two decades with a four-year break in which Knud Hermansen has assumed the role. Mac had overseen the tremendous growth in enrollment of the program along with numerous changes in the program. Thank you Mac!

<u>Faculty News</u> — There are three full time faculty and two adjunct faculty in the program. The three full-time faculty are Howard "Mac" Gray, P.E. (Coordinator); Phil Dunn, P.E., and Knud Hermansen, P.L.S., P.E., Esq. Knud has been active providing seminars to the Midcoast Realtors, Kansas Society of Land Surveyors, Maine Society of Land Surveyors, New York State Association of Professional Land Surveyors, University of New Hampshire, California Association of Land Surveyors, Nevada Association of Land Surveyors, West Virginia Board of Professional Surveyors, and Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors. Mac Gray was awarded a patent, "Slip Method for Prestressing Beams with Bonded Tendons", related to a project that he was involved with at the AEWC. Past research has shown that the strength of a glulam wood beam can be significantly increased by reinforcing the tension zone with an FRP (fiberglass reinforced polymer) tendon. Using the new technology to prestress the tendon increases the beam strength by an additional 38 percent without any increase in the tendon or glulam beam size.

THOUGHTS FROM THE DIRECTOR: As we finish the 2010-2011 academic year I am pleased to share that we have enjoyed an excellent year. What a difference a year can make. Last year at this time, the university had just completed some significant budget cuts causing the loss of faculty positions in the College of Engineering and specifically the loss of an EET Lecturer position. This year, there have been no budget cuts. In addition the EET program was given back the lecturer position.

The CMT program has really benefited from the new Excellence fund. I want to express my sincere thanks to those who have donated to that fund. The CMT enrollment continues to be at a historic high level and without the support from the fund it would be difficult to maintain continued high quality in the program.

I also would like to make note of a recent item that some of you may have missed in the local newspaper. Prof. Mac Gray has served as the Program Coordinator for the CMT program for many years while also teaching some of the core program courses. What you may not be aware of is his continued professional consulting work that he does in conjunction with the Advanced Engineered Wood Composite Center. Recently, Prof. Gray received media attention for his role in developing a process for pre-stressing glue-laminated timber beams to increase performance. This work led to issuance of a new patent. We are proud of his efforts on that project and very thankful that he is part of the School of Engineering Technology.

The SVT faculty are excited about new equipment donations that will greatly augment their program. Recent gifts from Kappa Mapping, Topcon, Spillers and SEFNE will enhance laboratory experiments and provide students with experience on state of the art surveying gear. All of us in the School of Engineering Technology are thankful for the generous support from our donors.