Celebrating MAGIC, success and change

Before the rush of another academic year in the Construction Management Department, we wanted to get the latest edition of the Construction Innovator to you. The summer has not been all about planning, however, as you can tell from the cover and the photo above. We once again sponsored the annual Mentor a Girl in Construction (MAGIC) Camp, introducing high school girls to the construction field. I think that teachers and students learned a lot.

This issue of the Innovator is focused on student opportunity and successes. In spite of statewide budget challenges that continue to threaten anything beyond the core, on-campus teaching mission of the department, your generosity and expanding student interests continue to provide exciting chances for our students to expand their professional preparation. In the process, they continue to make us proud of their success.

In this issue, you will find articles about summer study abroad as well as another successful season of student competitions both regionally and nationally. Closer to home, you will read about Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM) club activities during Open House and the annual student celebration at their Senior Banquet. I hope that you can join us for either or both of these events next year. We also highlight the recipients of the annual student awards for outstanding scholarship, leadership and service. Finally, please review our plans to provide practitioner education through some of Cal Poly's first Graduate Certificate Programs in Facilities Management and Operations and in Integrated Project Leadership.

As always, we look forward to your campus visits and hope that you will consider presenting in classes or working with our student groups. You are always welcome, and your input is invaluable to our success. Thank you for your support.

Allan J. Hauck  Ph.D., CPC

On the Cover

High school students participate in MAGIC Camp, an annual CM outreach program that introduces them to the field of construction management.

Arriving in the land of Learn by Doing

I am excited to join Cal Poly as the new dean of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. CAED's programs have stellar reputations and are highly respected by industry partners and employers of graduates. Our unique mix of disciplines provides inspiring opportunities for interdisciplinary work that shapes the built environment. And most importantly, our passionate, talented students collaborate with distinguished faculty in an energizing Learn by Doing culture.

As an architect, civil engineer and educator, most of my career has been dedicated to working with students and professionals to understand how interactions between structural systems and other aspects of architectural design affect the quality and performance of buildings. My interests include international earthquake-resistant design and disaster mitigation, the environmental implications of structural systems, and the development of teaching materials and methods that advance understanding of building structures. Before joining Cal Poly, I was head of the Department of Architecture at the University of Oregon, where I was involved in the development of several initiatives to further sustainable design education and research.

In my short time here, I have been very impressed by the accomplishments of CM's alumni, such as Bryan Mione ('10) and Brett Eberhart ('11), who gave us a fantastic tour of Turner Construction's work on San Diego's new public library; CM's outreach to young women who experience hands-on construction at MAGIC Camp (Mentoring a Girl in Construction); and the fascinating full-scale prototypes appearing daily in the Simpson Strong-Tie Materials Demonstration Lab.

Please stop me on campus, come by my office, or send an email to say hello. I look forward to greeting our new and returning students, getting to know faculty, alumni and supporters, and learning more about Construction Management at Cal Poly.

Christine Theodoropoulos  AIA, PE
Professor Barry Jones led 23 construction management students on a five-week summer experience in England at the University of Sussex in Brighton, integrating with the Sussex International Summer School.

While there, Barry taught two senior-level courses: CM 443, Management of the Construction Company, and CM 463, Professional Practice for Senior Construction Project Managers.

Eight leading construction and engineering companies working on projects in London hosted the students: Dragados, Bechtel, Sir Robert McAlpine, Lend Lease, Kier, Skanska, Balfour Beatty and Costain. Projects included the $40 billion Crossrail tunnels, Europe’s largest infrastructure project; King’s Cross regeneration plant; office and mixed-use developments; residential high-rise developments; and a new school building.

“The experience and knowledge gained by the students through this program takes their understanding of the construction market to new levels,” Barry said. “Students were asked to use their entrepreneurial skills to build a construction company and assemble a business plan that addressed many of the operational, organizational, financial and marketing factors that companies face.

“The students also had to build a website to market their company and work with a client – ‘Hotels, Sports and Leisure Developments’ – to scope out a new hotel and leisure facility on the Mediterranean,” Barry continued.

The challenge required competing teams for responding to a request for qualifications (RFQ) and request for proposal (RFP) for this major construction project. Students were placed in the role of consultants offering professional advice to the client/owner and senior management of their company.

“In addition, students enjoyed the diverse culture of British life and the many historic sites and cities throughout Europe,” Barry said. “A good time was had by all!”
CM students applied the same enthusiastic work ethic and can-do attitude they demonstrate in their studies to prepare for Open House 2012. The April event draws thousands of visitors annually to campus to have fun and learn about Cal Poly’s programs.

The department welcomed prospective students and their families with both educational and fun events. The Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM) and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) student chapter displayed heavy equipment and answered questions about the construction field and the department. ASCM also provided a true Central Coast experience by serving up tri-tip barbecue!
Demonstrating teamwork for a successful 2012 Open House are members of the Associated Students of Construction Management (top); students Matt Ohlund, Shelby Borg and Ali Sheppard (above); and Deanna Alexander (right).

Opposite page: Adrianna Bertoli buys into the fun (top) and Matt Borland beefs up the event.
Celebrating the 2012 Senior Class

Interim Department Head Barbara Jackson gave the welcoming remarks at the Senior Banquet, held in June at the Embassy Suites Hotel in San Luis Obispo. The festive event drew about 100 students, administrators, faculty members and friends.

Barbara introduced the senior class as the industry’s “next generation of leadership.” She thanked supporters, family, friends and alumni. “We have the best construction management program in the country,” Barbara said. “It’s a magnificent program, and I applaud the faculty, dean and associate dean.

“We will miss you,” she told the graduating seniors. “You made a difference in our classrooms. We are your biggest supporters.”

Former College of Architecture and Environmental Design Dean Tom Jones also spoke approvingly of the class. “These students arrived on campus when the economy was robust and jobs were practically guaranteed,” he said. “Then the biggest recession since the Great Depression hit, and we kept changing the rules on these students. And they adapted and changed with it. Tuition kept rising at an unprecedented pace. They took jobs, worked summers. We kept changing the rules, and they kept adapting, and they are graduating with the highest graduation rate ever of this department. They did not give up, they adapted – and they now will take over and lead.”

Barbara announced the three Outstanding Senior Award winners: Aaron Pusztai, winner of the Outstanding Leadership Award; Chris Lawrence, winner of the Outstanding Leadership Award; Chris Lawrence, winner of the Outstanding Senior Award for having the highest grade point average in his graduating class; and Emily Pool, winner of the Service to the Department Award. (Please see their profiles on pages 11-13.)

Faculty & Staff News

Happy Retirement, Hal!

After 24 years of service as a faculty member in the Construction Management Department and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, Hal Johnston has retired.

Colleagues and staff attended a reception in April to express their gratitude and offer best wishes to Hal and his wife, Joy, for their years of dedication to CM and the CAED.

Hal published two books, “Construction Jobsite Management” and “Bidding and Estimating Procedures for Construction.” He was also a licensed contractor in California, Florida and Washington, as well as a certified professional estimator (CPE).

Farewell, Tana!

Certainly all of the corporate recruiters to our department and nearly all of our recent graduates are aware of the contributions Tana Anastasia has made over the past eight years. Beyond the extensive recruiting program she developed and managed, Tana took on and mastered nearly every administrative duty in the department. Needless to say, her announcement of retirement plans left a large hole to be filled!

In early September, Tana relocated to Southern California to be closer to extended family including some new grandchildren. Faculty and staff expressed thanks for her service and wished her well at a reception in August. She will be missed.

Hal Johnston

Tana Anastasia
Cal Poly's California Center for Construction Education (CCCE) has outgrown its name and reputation. Since its establishment in 2006, the focus of the center has been on the development and delivery of advanced practitioner education and leadership that support the architecture, construction and engineering (AEC) industry. Its goal: to help transform a fragmented group of independent service providers into a proactive, integrated network of interdisciplinary collaborators.

“This direction and focus has not changed,” says CIPL Director Barb Jackson. “However, it is time that the center’s name matches its mission.”

The AEC industry has been in a state of major transformation for the past 15-plus years, and Cal Poly has been a primary contributor to this transformation on the educational front since 2000. The center, though, has not reaped the full benefit and recognition of its national reputation and expertise when identified as the California Center for Construction Education.

The CCCE’s advisory board – comprised of contractors, architects, engineers, operators and alumni familiar with CCCE programs – has noted the disconnect between the single discipline and state reference in its name and its actual interdisciplinary, integrated project focus and national reach. As one board member said, “It’s time to step up and step out as the educational leader that Cal Poly is in the arena of design and construction integration.”

On Sept. 1, 2012, the CCCE became the Center for Integrated Project Leadership for the Built Environment (CIPL).

“Changing the center’s name from the California Center for Construction Education to the Center for Integrated Project Leadership will put us on the map in the marketplace at a time when there is a significant design-build (DB) and integrated project delivery (IPD) education demand from every sector, organization, and discipline of the built environment,” Barb says. “The timing and opportunity are right.”

Transformation of the AEC industry requires changing the fundamental cultural underpinning of how the disciplines interact and behave as they pursue solutions to ever more complex building projects,” Barb says.

Technological and procedural advancements alone will not accomplish the goal, she says. Providing this type of educational support to the industry will become a primary focus of the CIPL. “We believe this change needs to be made at every level of leadership and engagement – the corporate level, owner level, project level, team level, and individual practitioner level,” Barb says.

For six years the center has developed and delivered a range of educational programs, activities and initiatives associated with integrated design and construction processes and practices. This education and leadership training has been delivered through a number of different venues – workshops, boot camps, special events, invited presentations and public appearances.

Cal Poly and the center are already recognized nationally as a leader in project integration education by all participants of the built environment and across all collaborative project delivery methods – design-build, CM-at-risk, and integrated project delivery. More than 2,900 professional contractors, engineers, architects, attorneys, risk managers, public and private owners, and military leaders from 39 different states have attended or participated in CCCE educational programs or presentations over the past six years.

At center stage of the newly named CIPL will be a new self-support Graduate Certificate Program in Integrated Project Leadership (IPL). (See boxed sidebar.)

“We believe this program – focused on advanced education that targets changing the ‘mental models’ associated with integrated project delivery and the processes and procedures that support it – will be unique in the marketplace, drawing interest from across the country and every discipline associated with the built environment,” says Barb.
Riding High on Campus
Mark Hunter (CM ’87) has been promoted to associate vice president for facilities at Cal Poly. Mark started at Cal Poly as associate director of facility services in 2001. His current responsibilities include buildings and landscaping, custodial, fleet, environmental health and safety, campus emergency management, energy and utilities, central receiving, and capital planning design and construction. Before returning to Cal Poly, Mark served for eight years with the University of Texas at Austin. He has been a member of APPA, the international association of higher education facilities professionals formerly known as the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, since 1998, completing the APPA Institute in 2000. He served as the PCAPPA Pacific Coast region’s representative to the APPA Educational Committee from 2002-05 and as president of PCAPPA in 2010. Mark was recognized this year by APPA with a Meritorious Service Award.

Successful New Venture
Adam Fischbach (CM ’11) writes: “After graduation, I started Beachfront Builders, a residential design-build firm in North San Diego County, with business partner and architect Paul Longton. Our first year was a great success with two remodels and one new project, totaling $1.7 million in construction. Our current project is a 3,000-square-foot home on the beach in Oceanside. The complicated construction has been an exciting challenge, including four 25-foot caissons; a tight, steep lot requiring some unusual site logistics and a multilevel foundation; nails rusting overnight because of the harsh salt air (and making sure everything we put in will last in the salt air); and a ‘no-wall-is-perpendicular’ design with a curved glulam roof. The future looks bright with a number of interested clients – mostly custom beachfront properties in Oceanside – in the pipeline.” See www.beachfront-builders.com.

Alum Freeman Creates Construction Software Co.
Adam Freeman (CM ’06) co-founded 383 Studio, a cloud-based construction software company he created after spending several years in the commercial construction and high-end custom home industry. He realized there was an opportunity to start his own company after experiencing firsthand the lack of viable and modern software solutions tackling field management tasks. 383 Studio has been developing its first product, Threshold, for the last year and has recently launched a beta version. Threshold is a web application for storing, sorting, and sharing construction progress photos.

Managing Oracle Facilities
After working for eight years as senior project manager with ISEC Inc., focusing on high-end commercial finishes, Tim Roche (CM ’00) moved to Oracle as senior manager of Building Services. He maintains the company’s Redwood Shores campus of 16 buildings and more than two million square feet of office space. Tim and his wife, Chantelle (Knapp) Roche (Finance ’00), welcomed a son in April 2011.
Smooth Gliding at Intel

Jim S. Milne (CM ‘90) – shown enjoying Hosmer Lake in Oregon – joined Intel in 2010 as the company’s Oregon estimating manager. Following is a list of quotes from The Oregonian newspaper regarding Intel’s impact in Oregon during Jim’s tenure:

“Intel renewed its long relationship with Oregon on Tuesday, unveiling plans for a new research factory that will inject thousands of jobs and billions of dollars into the state’s besieged economy.” – Oct. 20, 2010


“Intel CEO Paul Otellini introduces the president (Barack Obama) at the company’s Ronler Acres campus in Hillsboro. Otellini said Intel would add 4,000 U.S. jobs this year.” – Feb. 19, 2011

“The report, by Oregon economic consulting firm ECONorthwest, concludes that Intel is responsible, directly and indirectly, for as much as a quarter of all economic activity in Washington County and more than 5 percent of all the economic activity statewide.” – Oct. 11, 2011

“Though Intel’s headquarters are in Silicon Valley, its largest base and most advanced research are in Oregon. The company has more than 16,000 employees in the state, more than any other business.” – April 22, 2012

“Intel said Monday that PCs with chips from its new generation of processors, featuring a revolutionary design developed in Oregon, will be available this week.” – April 24, 2012

Engineer and Ironman

Andrew Kline (CM ’11) is a project engineer for SL Residential, working on the Bella Riviera project (right) in Santa Barbara, Calif. Andrew finished a full Ironman Triathlon race in St. George, Utah, in May with the incredible finish time of 11 hours, 12 minutes.

Alumni News continues on page 10.
2012

September 12-14
WOW Week

October 1-5
Designated Design Build Professional Boot Camp, San Luis Obispo
http://construction.calpoly.edu/cipl/index.html

October 13
Cal Poly Parents and Family Weekend

October 25-26
Managing Design in an Integrated Process Workshop, San Luis Obispo
http://construction.calpoly.edu/cipl/index.html

October 29
CM Scholarship and Awards Reception

November 7-9
Design Build Institute of America Annual Conference & Expo, New Orleans, La.
www.dbia.org/conferences

November 14-16

December 3-7
Ecobuild America Conference, Washington, D.C.

December 8
Fall Commencement

2013

January 22-24
National Association of Home Builders Competition, Las Vegas, Nev.

February 6-9
Associated Schools of Construction Competition, Reno, Nev.

April 9-13
Associated Schools of Construction International Faculty Conference, Cal Poly

April – Date to be determined
Associated Builders and Contractors Competition, San Antonio, Texas

April 18-20
CM Open House for New Students

June 7
CM Banquet

June 15
Spring Commencement

Visit www.construction.calpoly.edu for the latest news, alumni gatherings and events.

2012-13

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Alumni – Visit Our Job Board

Does your firm have an available job, or are you looking for work? If so, visit CM’s job board at www.construction.calpoly.edu/opportunities/job-board.html to find or post opportunities. For details, call 805-756-1323.

Alumni News

Just Ducky in England

Brian Nebozuk (CM ’01) is working in London as head of International Retail Operations at SuperGroup Plc. He writes: “Store design and development is just one area under my remit, as the role also includes marketing, public relations and in-store experience. My mission is to develop and maintain brand consistency in all aspects of the business throughout the world, including Asia, Australia, the Middle East, North America, South Africa and South America. I find my situation unique and would love to offer guidance to any CM student who wants to stray from the traditional heavy civil, commercial and/or residential paths.”

From San Diego to Sacramento

Brooks Rehkopf (CM ’07), left, was promoted to director of Cumming’s Sacramento office, where he is responsible for regional operations management in client relations, quality assurance and business development. Formerly, Brooks served as a senior cost manager in Cumming’s San Diego headquarters, where he started when he graduated from Cal Poly. Brooks remains a proud supporter of Cal Poly and credits the university with laying the foundation for the early successes he’s achieved. While in San Diego, he played a key role in the development of cost estimates for the University of California’s Jacob’s Medical Center addition and several medical office buildings for Kaiser Permanente. In his new role, Brooks has served as the lead cost manager on the site assessment phase of the Sacramento Unified School District’s modernization program, comprising more than 100 facilities and an estimated budget of about $400 million.

CM Alums – Share Your News!

Hey, CM alumni — we’d like to hear from you. Send your news to Jessica Frazier at jfrazier@calpoly.edu. High-resolution (300 dpi) photos are also welcome.
A rough freshman year didn’t deter Emily Pool, 2012 CM grad and Service Award recipient

Emily Pool has had Cal Poly’s CAED on her mind since visiting the campus as a ninth grader.

as president of the Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM), and vice chair of the College-based Fees Committee. She was a team member at two Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) competitions in Reno, once on the LEED Team and once on the Determining Project Risk Team, which took second place. She also competed in the Bank of America Affordable Housing Challenge, tying for first place with UC Berkeley.

She was excited about winning the Service to the Department award. “It was more recognition than I ever thought I would receive simply by being myself.”

After graduation, she moved to San Jose to begin work as a project engineer with the international firm of Turner Construction.

undergraduate, Emily Pool (CM ’12), winner of the Construction Management’s Service to the Department Award, had her share of ups and downs, including being academically disqualified after her freshman year.

At Homestead High School in Sunnyvale, Calif., Emily excelled without much effort. At Cal Poly “physics and calculus were my downfall,” she said. So she went home and attended Foothill College for a quarter.

During that time, she met up with some colleagues she had worked with as a freshman intern. “They encouraged me to go back to Cal Poly,” Emily said. “I realized I couldn’t do what I loved without that degree.”

And a degree from Cal Poly had long been in Emily’s plans. When just a ninth grader, she had visited the campus with her family. She felt an instant connection to the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. “Something just clicked,” she said. “I felt welcome there. But I still needed to figure out what degree I was most interested in.”

Construction management is not a field that attracts many women. Out of 97 Cal Poly CM graduates in 2011-12, seven were women. Emily didn’t initially consider CM, but after reading about the options available, she was drawn to it. “The field has so many areas of interest – marketing, business development, scheduling, procurement,” Emily said.

After her rocky start, Emily thrived. She made the Dean’s List three times, served as president of the Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM), and vice chair of the College-based Fees Committee. She was a team member at two Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) competitions in Reno, once on the LEED Team and once on the Determining Project Risk Team, which took second place. She also competed in the Bank of America Affordable Housing Challenge, tying for first place with UC Berkeley.

She was excited about winning the Service to the Department award. “It was more recognition than I ever thought I would receive simply by being myself.”

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Leading Man

Aaron Pusztai demonstrates outstanding leadership at school, work and in the military

Aaron Pusztai (CM ’12), winner of the Construction Management Department’s Outstanding Leadership Award, is rarin’ to go – not with one job, but two.

In July he started as a project engineer with Irvine-based Driver URBAN, an affiliate of C.W. Driver, a leading builder serving the western U.S. for nearly a century. He is also a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves, serving as a platoon leader in the 350th Engineering Company, which specializes in combat engineering operations.

He credits his training in the Army ROTC and his four years of summer interning with Suffolk Construction in Irvine for providing him with the leadership skills that landed him the department award.

“I was very honored to receive the award,” Aaron said. “To be recognized as a leader among such a strong group of graduates means a lot to me. A successful leader must be surrounded by the right people. That is pretty easy in the Construction Management Department.”

The youngest of four children, Aaron was raised in Claremont, Calif., where he graduated high school with a 3.87 grade point average. He chose Cal Poly because he “wanted to go to the best construction management program in the country.”

When he started in 2007, 100 percent of the graduates were getting job offers. “It seemed like the department and the industry were swimming in money,” he said. A new reality – and collapsed economy – soon emerged, but that didn’t dampen Aaron’s enthusiasm for the industry. He sought out a summer internship, which turned into a recurring summer internship for the next three years.

He advises freshmen to get involved in industry with internships as soon as possible. “I was fortunate that the people at Suffolk were interested in my development,” Aaron said. “That was huge. The company gave me new responsibilities every year, giving me the opportunity to expand my education.”

He said his summer internships reinforced Cal Poly’s Learn by Doing teaching methodology. “My internships were a huge part of my education,” he said. “I was able to refine what I learned in the classroom and make it concrete at Suffolk.”
came time to pick a college and a major, Chris Lawrence (CM ’12) took his dad’s advice and enrolled in construction management at Cal Poly.

Turned out to have been pretty good advice for the Redding, Calif., native, who made the Dean’s List every quarter, earning the Outstanding Senior Award for having the highest grade point average in his graduating class.

Maybe this high-achiever’s success has something to do with the way he approaches learning. “I studied for the sake of truly grasping the concept, and the grades were an outcome,” Chris said. “Reducing anything to a means to an end sucks the life out of the experience, and learning is no exception.”

He also believes in Cal Poly’s hands-on learning. “Many people – including myself – are kinesthetic learners, and the Learn by Doing approach allows us to succeed in a way we wouldn’t at other universities.”

Chris spent his junior year in Germany, focusing on learning the language and culture. When he returned to Cal Poly, he wasn’t prepared for the academic challenge. “In my first quarter back, I was thrown into the Architectural Engineering series, Construction Accounting, and Paul Weber’s CM 115 Fundamentals, totaling 32 hours of classes a week,” Chris said. “The classes, combined with the reverse culture shock of returning to the States, were overwhelming.”

Chris subscribes to a philosophy that keeps him grounded. “I believe that experiences are neither good nor bad; they are simply different. With this belief, and by continually trying to better myself, I realize that regret and worry are worthless and only detract from my enjoyment of the present moment, which is all that really matters.”

He suggests that students look for the positive in what they are doing. “It’s easier to do well at something that enhances your life than something you 100 percent dislike.”

Chris now works at Nibbi Brothers General Contractors in San Francisco.
Big Wins

Cal Poly places the most of any school at ASC

Cal Poly construction management students took home top honors at this year’s Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Competition in Reno, Nev.

Seven Cal Poly teams placed, more than any other school in the competition. Cal Poly also had 12 teams competing, more than any other university.

A total of 169 teams from 41 universities competed in 17 categories. Of those categories, eight were regional competitions, drawing students from two ASC regions; the other nine categories were open competitions, attracting teams from throughout the U.S.

Cal Poly students won first in Concrete Solutions and Design Build; second in the Mixed Use and Determining Project Risk; and third in the Marine Construction, Mechanical and Electrical divisions.

Senior Deanna Alexander, who has competed in the Determining Project Risk category for the past three years, looks forward to the competition each year but admits it is demanding. “The ultimate highlight is the adrenaline and satisfaction my team has by the end of the grueling competition day.”

Throughout the day we have to meet different deadlines. Most teams are done competing by around midnight.”

The next day, teams present in front of judges and typically participate in a question-and-answer session. After the competition, students can relax at the industry hospitality suites, participate in the job fair, and enjoy the awards ceremony.

Her team has won second place three years in a row. “When they announced us as second place, the first thing that came to my mind was, I’m coming back again in 2013 to get first,” Deanna said.

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the Reno competition, and Cal Poly’s CM has been participating – and winning – from the start.

Thank you, sponsors!

CM extends a heartfelt thanks to the following companies, whose logos below are placed alphabetically. Your generous support made Cal Poly’s participation in 2012 ASC possible.

The 2012 ASC winning teams

Concrete Team: 1st Place
Clint Bechdolt, David Brehmer, Daniel Jedynak, Sam Marquez, Allen Mckinley, Austin Schalich, David Sharkey and Dustin West. Coach: Paul Weber

Design-Build Team: 1st Place
Joshua Bottenfield, Dominic Byrne, Christina Hackett, Keaton Taylor, Hilary Thomas, Kurt Thompson, David Warneke and Scott Yackzan. Coach: Barb Jackson

Mixed-Use Team: 2nd Place
Shelby Borg, Mat Dunlap, Darren Kettler, Aaron Pusztai, Lia Rivers-Birt, Elliott Smith, Cody Strange and Nick Turner. Coach: Scott Kelting

Risk Team: 2nd Place
Bradley Abell, Deanna Alexander, Jamie Gretz, Camille Hardin, Christopher Lawrence, Emily Pool and Kyle Ross. Coach: Phil Barlow

Electrical Team: 3rd Place
Samuel Almaraz, Cody Berger, Cameron Carrizales, Vladimir Corona, Jason Cotterell, Kevin Handeland, Anthony Paterno and Jacob Ruiz. Coaches: Lonny Simonian and Thomas Korman

Marine Team: 3rd Place
Mike Constable, Kelly Hillman, Jason Marshall, Tyler Molesworth, Matt Ohlund, Matt Reed, Katie Worden and Taylor Zamaroni. Coach: Paul Weber

Mechanical Team: 3rd Place
Chris Haemmerling, Colin Leong, Kyle Marrs, Marcus Pippin, Jeff Schieman, Billy Schoeppe, Sean Ratekin and Logan Williams. Coaches: Lonny Simonian and Thomas Korman
Cal Poly CM students take second at national home builders competition

It was a second-place win this year for a group of Cal Poly construction management students at the 2012 National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) International Builders’ Show (IBS) in Orlando, Fla., in February.

Cal Poly team members competed against 35 other NAHB student chapter teams from universities nationwide in the Residential Construction Management Competition, a highlight of the International Builders’ Show.

Their proposal included market research and sales strategy, product design, green building initiatives, land development, estimates, schedules, and a financial analysis. This year Cal Poly was selected to present their solution a second time on the show floor at the IBS Live event.

The competition requires a large time commitment over three months, according to team member Jeff Miller. “We met and worked weekly toward meeting our end-of-year deadline. We stayed past finals week and into winter break to finish. We probably spent five to 10 hours a week during fall quarter, and another 60 hours after finals week to finish.”

The team delivered its 15-minute presentation to five judges acting as a group of investors for the project. A 10-minute question-and-answer session followed. “The time allotted made it challenging, as we had loads of information to cover from our 147-page proposal,” said team member Blake Finkle.

Jeff Miller said he was expecting to place in the top five, but he was “very surprised when I found out we got second place. I was thankful our hard work paid off.”

Blake credits teamwork for their success. “Our ability to function as a team and integrate our thoughts into one cohesive work proved to be the key to our success.”

Cal Poly team members (from left): Andrew Yu, Kevin Niu, Blake Finkle, Kevin Downing, Jeff Miller and Alexson Lim, with faculty coach Scott Kelting

Multidisciplinary team wins Low Income Housing Challenge

For a second year in a row, a Cal Poly team of multidisciplinary students won the Bank of America Merrill Lynch Low Income Housing Challenge, tying with UC Berkeley for first place.

Cal Poly fielded two teams this year. Winning team members included architecture seniors Allie Freund and Kyle Mendizabal; finance senior Jake Hummel; city and regional planning seniors Lisa Elgin, Brent Gibbons, Shanna Hurley and graduate student David Eng; CM seniors Carlos Krinsky and Emily Pool (CM ’12). Coaches were City and Regional Planning Department Head Hemalata Dandekar and City and Regional Planning Professor Loulie Brown.

The team proposed Alere, a 32,000-square-foot, $14.6 million apartment project for low-income, single-parent families in Inglewood, Calif.
Many a fearless foursome hit the links at the 2012 Associated Students of Construction Management (ASCM) Golf Tournament, held in June at the Morro Bay Golf Course. Alumni, friends, faculty, staff and students are invited to come out swinging for the annual event. Players (from left) included: Gary Ralls (CM ’91), of Turner Construction; CM Department Head Al Hauck; Rick Pomeroy (CM ’91), of Skanska; and CM Professor Philip Barlow.

Fore!