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Cal Poly Architectural Engineering Students Take Two First Place Finishes in Building Design Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly architectural engineering students were awarded two first place and two runner-up finishes in the second annual Architectural Engineering Student Competition sponsored by the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) Charles Pankow Foundation. The winners were announced at the 2011 Architectural Engineering Conference in Oakland on March 31.

The Architectural Engineering Institute (AEI) invited student architectural engineering teams to submit a comprehensive plan for the design and construction management of an art museum in San Francisco, defined as a high-performance building.

Based on written project designs submitted in February, 14 teams from 12 universities were selected for the final phase: presenting their designs to a panel of judges at the professional conference. The projects were judged in integration, structural, mechanical, electrical and construction categories.

Each student presentation was followed by intense questioning from the judges. The judges also provided constructive feedback garnered from years of professional experience.

Team 6 won in the mechanical category and was runner-up in both integration and structural categories. Team 6 included Julie Bolander, Linda Huang, Alexandre Batista, Sarah Arrin, Phillip Ost and Brian Croshal and was advised by faculty member James Guthrie.

Team 9 won in the structural category. Team 9 included students Dan Loesch, Brad Stevens, Luke Wegener-Vernagallo and Tim Dieu, advised by faculty member Peter Laursen.

Cal Poly teams won a total of \$2,800 in prize money, with \$1,000 awarded for first place finishes and \$400 to the runner-up in each category. Travel expenses for winning teams were paid by the Pankow Foundation.

In total, Cal Poly sent 47 students to the competition; prior to travel reimbursement for the winning teams, hotel and registration fees were paid for all of the students through the Instructional Related Activities grants, the Student Leadership Fund and donations from the Fluor Corporation.

Six architectural engineering faculty members attended the conference: presenting papers, mentoring students or helping organize the event.

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