PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS IMPLEMENTED INTO THE CAL POLY SLO CM CURRICULUM

The California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo has a well-recognized and prestigious program in the Construction Management Department. In a few of the labs, professional certifications or introductory courses to obtain the certification are offered. Professional certifications are viewed highly in the construction industry and encourage students to gain more skills and distinguish themselves in various sectors. Demand has risen for specialized knowledge in professional credentials. Both faculty and industry members view that certain professional certifications should be essential to work in construction. The possibility of implementing these certifications in Cal Poly’s Construction Management program could set the students apart compared to their competition and benefit them when entering the work force. This would also assist in the “learn by doing” motto, as students would be leaving with professional certifications that would apply in their future workplace. With these additional certifications, it would allow students to further their knowledge about the specific area of construction they would like to pursue post-graduation. This paper will explore the various certifications students could acquire and compare the components of each certification. By conducting research, surveys, ad interviews, this paper will outline a proposal for professional certifications to be implemented in the Cal Poly SLO’s Construction Management curriculum.

Key Words: Professional Certifications, Construction Management Curriculum, Credentials, Industry, Cal Poly SLO

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Certifications in Survey:
- LEED - Green Associate (GA)
- NAHB - Certified Green Professional (CGP)
- DBIA - Associate Design-Build Professional (Assoc. DBIA)
- CMAA - Construction Manager in Training (CMIT)
- PMI - Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)
- AGC - CM BIM Certificate
- AGC - CM Lean Certificate

Student Ranking of Certifications Weighted Average

No
1.96% (1)

Yes
98.04% (50)