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Cal Poly Construction Management Teams Shine in National, Regional Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- Teams of Cal Poly construction management majors, combining expertise with students from several other programs, won a national third place and a regional second-place prize at the 17th Annual Associated Schools of Construction Student Competition held recently in Reno.

In the national mechanical category, a six-member Cal Poly team prepared a cost estimate, schedule and risk assessment for a "clean room" manufacturing plant with intricate piping systems and complex equipment to win third place. Two mechanical engineering majors worked with four construction management students in the intense, 18-hour, two-day competition.

In the regional design-build contest, the Cal Poly team prepared a conceptual design, budget, schedule and management plan for a Navy dormitory housing 350 to 450 sailors and including a fitness center and dining facilities. Students from the construction management, architecture and architectural engineering programs made up the team.

In the national mechanical event, the Cal Poly team competed against eight other universities from around the country.

Construction management majors on the mechanical team were Aidan Bassinger from Abilene, Calif.; Arvin Daeizadeh, Woodland Hills; Elizabeth Gabel, Pleasanton; and Kevin Tominaga, Calabasas. Mechanical engineering students on the team were Joe Chin, Pleasant Hill, and Greg Haskell, San Jose.

Six universities competed in the regional design-build contest.

Design-build team members were Dominica Alvarez, architectural engineering major from Live Oak; Korey Carroll, construction management, Bakersfield; Matt Dahlberg, architecture, Orange; Christian Edwards, construction management, Moraga; Tish Layton, landscape architecture and construction management, San Luis Obispo; and Orlando Madrigal, construction management, Newbury Park.

Mechanical team advisor Denny Gier, a member of the Construction Management Department faculty, said construction management and mechanical engineering students worked together seamlessly.

"The national award is truly a recognition not only of their effort, but also of interdisciplinary collaboration and the Cal Poly spirit," Gier said.

Former Cal Poly Construction Management Department Chair Jim Rodger, one of the co-founders of the student competition, was honored at the meet for his longtime contributions.

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