

GEAUX BUILD

FALL 2020 • VOLUME 21

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LSU

Bert S. Turner Department
of Construction Management

LSU Construction
Management
Alumni

INSIDE THE ISSUE

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GEAUX BUILD is published for the benefit of the Louisiana State University (LSU) Construction Industry Advisory Council (CIAC), the LSU Construction Management (CM) Alumni Chapter, and the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management.

Do you have news, updates, or information to share with us? Please direct your alumni updates to jmiller4@lsu.edu or to Jessica Miller, 3319 Patrick F. Taylor Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. We love to know what great things our alumni, CIAC members, and supporters are up to!

LSUCM TOP 10 CM SCHOOLS 2020



BERT S. TURNER DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT NAMED ONE OF THE TOP TEN CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SCHOOLS

We are excited to announce that the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management was ranked in the Top 10 Best Construction Management Schools based on alumni earnings according to GradReports. The department came in at No. 7 for its graduates earning a median salary of \$65,400 during their first year with a low median student loan debt.

GradReports rankings were based on data published by the U.S. Department of Education in November 2019. Schools were ranked in descending order of their graduates' median salary. Salaries are specific to the degree level and the program of each list.

To be considered for GradReports' Best Colleges program rankings, schools needed to have a reported median salary and an unsuppressed sample size for graduates for the ranking list's degree program. For all schools, GradReports manually researched their degree programs to confirm

degrees' existence before ranking them. If a school had a salary reported but no existing degree program, it was excluded from the list. Additionally, if a program's median salary or earnings count were "privacy suppressed" by the Department of Education, the school was not eligible to be ranked for that program list.



CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

FROM THE CIAC PRESIDENT

A letter From Marc Bourgeois

A global pandemic, unprecedented wildfires, record-breaking tropical systems, and homicidal insects (whatever happened to those murder hornets?)—I think it's safe to designate 2020 as the year of the curveball. Heading into January, leading industry experts and economists forecasted year-over-year real-term growth for the construction industry. The COVID-19 pandemic has reversed this course, with forecasts now indicating a 5%-7% contraction. The adverse impact has spread among nearly all sectors of construction and in both the private and public markets. The lone exception is the residential sector, which has experienced double-digit growth spurred on by historically low mortgage interest rates. As a lagging industry, the effect of a pandemic on construction is expected to be felt well into 2021 and beyond.

The impact has been far and wide. Projects once certain for backlog have been shelved entirely or put in limbo. Active projects are experiencing material procurement delays and shortages, especially on imported products. An industry built on collaboration and safety has been forced to quickly pivot to remote working environments and new jobsite health and wellness protocol. Resiliency and adaptability have become must-have attributes for companies to navigate in these turbulent times successfully.

The same can be said for industry associations like CIAC. As active industry professionals, our Board of Directors understands the challenges and uncertainties that the COVID-19 pandemic has placed on our current and prospective members' businesses. In recognition of these circumstances, the board recently voted unanimously to reduce membership dues by 50% for the 2020-2021 year.

The goal of this initiative is to retain our valued members who have generously donated their time, talent, and treasure to CIAC and the CM department over the last 23 years. It also presents an excellent opportunity for those considering new memberships. With the ease of an online retail purchase, members new and old can take advantage of this "sale" (think buy-one, get-one). Additional information regarding this program can be found at <https://ciac.wildapricot.org/join-ciac>.



WHAT IS CIAC?

The purpose of the Construction Industry Advisory Council (CIAC) is to enhance the construction industry through our support of the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management at LSU.

WHO ARE CIAC MEMBERS?

Recent LSU CM graduates, leaders in the construction industry, and organizations who work in and support the construction industry both locally and across the world.

WHO CAN JOIN LSU CIAC?

Anyone who is passionate about giving back and enhancing the construction industry. It is also recommended that recent LSU CM alumni get involved to share their input on how the program can be improved.

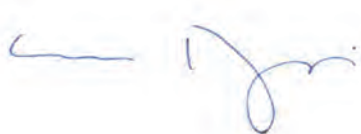
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Though CIAC has been forced to cancel or modify its in-person fall events, we remain optimistic that spring events, including the golf tournament, will be held as planned. Please be on the lookout for communications regarding future events.

Thankfully, there is some good news to report. While the construction industry was dealing with its unique adversity, the CM department was well prepared to handle the challenges brought on by the pandemic. For many years, Dr. Berryman and his staff have heavily invested in online learning curriculums, platforms, and new degree programs. As collegiate learning across the country has become increasingly web-based in response to the pandemic, their foresight has paid dividends. As a result, the department is experiencing historical enrollments and, more importantly, providing the top-notch talent our organizations need to lead us into the future.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, please accept our gratitude for your current and future support of the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management. #GeauxBuild

Sincerely,



Marc Bourgeois, 2020–2021 CIAC President

2020–2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marc Bourgeois, President, Regal Construction
Chris Thompson, President-Elect, ISC
Michael Demouy, Treasurer, Louisiana AGC
Stephen Fertitta, Secretary, Great River Industries
Ryan Day, Past President, Primoris Service Corp
Dr. Gerrad Delatte, Turner Industries
Rudy Comeaux, The Lemoine Company
Lauren Champagne, EXCEL USA
Chris Newton, Cajun Industries
Scott Couper, Pala Group
Jason Creech, Performance Contractors
Josh Rounds, Performance Contractors
Travis Blair, Pala Group
Art Favre, Performance Contractors
Kenny Freeman, Petrin Corporation
Lane Grigsby, Cajun Industries

2020–2021 COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Marc Bourgeois | Personnel
Michael Demouy | Finance and Governance
Ryan Day & Anthony Gulino | Curriculum & Accreditation Review
Jason Creech & Justin Craig | Department Enhancement
Stephen Fertitta & Stephen Breaux | Student Enhancement
Rudy Comeaux & Ross Miller | Membership & Fundraising
Lance McCann | Publicity & Promotion
Josh Rounds | Research Ad Hoc
Scott Couper | PTH Equipment Procurement Ad Hoc

LSU ADVISORS TO THE BOARD

Dr. Charles Berryman Department Chair
Stephanie Heumann Faculty Representative
Jonathan Dyer LSU Alumni Representative
Jonathan Carrl LSU Foundation Representative

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT RECEIVED \$50,000 FROM CIAC

In September 2020, the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management was presented with a check for \$50,000 from CIAC. The money was put into its endowed LSU Foundation account. The endowed account has been set up so that the CM department can use the proceeds to enhance departmental or student activities.



CONGRATULATIONS TO FORMER CIAC PRESIDENT, RUDY COMEAUX, ON HIS PROMOTION TO VICE PRESIDENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE WITH THE LEMOINE COMPANY



The Lemoine Company is pleased to announce the appointment of Rudy Comeaux to Vice President of Infrastructure where he will lead the Civil, Concrete, and Municipal sector teams.

Comeaux has been with Lemoine for 12 years and has served in a variety of roles, including project manager and vice president of organizational development. He has been integral in leading innovative efforts that impact the entire company, including the implementation of a new enterprise resource system (ERP) in 2019. He has also developed and implemented company-wide recruiting, training, and employee performance strategies. Comeaux truly lives and has been a driver of Lemoine's core value of innovation.

Rudy also takes time out to be a mentor and educator, having served as a guest lecturer at both the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and LSU.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL



CIAC MEMBER VICTOR "VIC" WESTON PRESENTED WITH RANDY REBOWE MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD.

Current CIAC President Marc Bourgeois and Past President Ryan Day recently visited Vic Weston at Louisiana AGC headquarters to present him with the 2nd annual Randy Rebow Member of the Year Award. Weston didn't realize this award was named in honor of Rebowe, whom he knew well, so this was very special for him.

This award was named after Randal "Randy" Rebow, who passed away in 2018 at the age of 60. Rebowe was the Senior Vice President of Corporate Estimating and Proposals at Turner Industries. During his 30-year tenure there, he was an integral part of an incredible organization focused on family, friendship, and community. Rebowe also served as an adjunct instructor for the Bert S. Turner Department and was a past president of the CIAC. He was a beloved colleague and friend and is missed by many.

The Randy Rebow Member of the Year Award is given to an outstanding CIAC member who represents what Rebowe stood for—hard work and giving more than you receive. Weston has dedicated his career to the construction industry and construction education in Louisiana. As an industry leader, Weston has served as Chair of the Common Ground Alliance, Chair and Vice-Chair of the Underground Infrastructure Division, AGC of America, President & Treasurer of LAGC, Board Member of Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors, Chair of the National Association of State Contractor Licensing Boards, Chair of the Construction Educational Trust Fund, and board member of the LSU Construction Industry Advisory Council. Weston's legacy is one of service, with several notable highlights.

As a board member of the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors, Weston was instrumental in forming the Construction Education Trust Fund. In 1992, the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors was issuing fines to contractors that broke the law. Weston recognized that the board could collect those fines and dedicate them to higher education. The CETF was formed and immediately donated more than \$6 million by creating chairs within the schools of construction and professorships. The CETF put up 60% of the funding, matched by 40% from the state. Today, the CETF has donated more than \$11 million to higher education and the state's Community and Technical Schools.

As an AGC Education and Research Foundation Board member, Weston was instrumental in establishing three endowed scholarships named after some of Louisiana Construction Industry Legacy Families. The James family, the Folk family, and the Boh family each endowed scholarships within the AGC Foundation that fully fund students in construction management programs.

While serving as a board member and chair of the National Association of State Contractor Licensing Boards, Weston was privileged to see what other states were doing with their licensing fees and how they were supporting higher education. Inspired, he introduced a change to the Louisiana licensing process that allows contractors to dedicate a portion of the licensing fee to the accredited Schools of Construction at Louisiana's Universities and Community Colleges. This change dedicates millions of dollars each year to enhance the CM programs for preparing the next generation of construction professionals.

Through Weston's achievements, we see that his legacy is truly service in dedication to education in Louisiana. Through each milestone, he has always used his talents and resources to improve the education and well-being of all who design and build Louisiana's infrastructure. We are so proud to have Vic Weston as a CIAC board member and congratulate him on winning the Randy Rebow Member of the Year Award.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Alliance Safety Council

Sheri Bankston
Renee Barbier
Travis Broussard
Joelle McGehee
Karen Sparks
Kathy Trahan
Nick Verdigets
Kim Woods

America's Home Place

Doug Higgins

B & K Construction Company LLC

Bo Markovic

Barber Brothers Contracting Co. LLC

Doug Barbe

Boh Bros. Construction Co. LLC

Jeff Plauche

Bottom Line Equipment

Jeremiah Johnson

Broadmoor LLC

Steven Michel

Cajun Industries LLC

Mike Barber
Madison Jackson
Brent Guthrie
Scott Swindler
Byron "BJ" Lato
Eric D'Aquin
Gregory Graugnard
Chip Dupuy
Todd Grigsby
Chris Newton

CenterPoint Energy

Keri Burke

ConocoPhillips

Tim Martin

Contractors Educational Trust Fund

Vic Weston
Ken Naquin

DR Horton Inc.

Michael Cascio

EXCEL

Lauren Champagne
Chad Pierce

Grady Crawford Construction

Trey Crawford

Great River Industries

Stephen Fertitta

GROUP Contractors

Shane Kirkpatrick

Hensel Phelps Construction Co.

Steven Jesulaitis

Iberia Bank

Barry Kilpatrick

Insulations Inc.

Richard Reese

ISC Constructors LLC

Ryan Berryhill
Stephen Breaux
Blake David
Glen Gulino
Anthony Gulino
Thomas Hill
Scott McDaniel
Jason Moak
Kevin Rispone
Chris Thompson

Justin J. Reeves LLC

Donnie LaCombe

Kent Design Build

Adam Martin

Louisiana AGC

Michael Demouy

Manson Construction Co.

Kyle Allen

MMR Group

Jennifer Brock
Chris Scheumack
Amber Leach

Moore Construction

Steve Moore

Moretrench

Scott Falgoust

Pala Group

Jesse Coots
Scott Couper

Palmisano

Nick Moldaner

Pat Williams Construction Inc.

Jason Williams

Performance Contractors Inc.

Art Favre
Chad Courville
Justin Craig
Jason Creech
Weylin Guidry
Lance McCann
Josh Rounds

Perrier Esquerre Contractors LLC

Keith Esquerre

Petrin LLC

Kenny Freeman
John Freeman

Primoris Services Corporation

Ryan Day

Regal Construction LLC

Marc Bourgeois
Ross Miller

Repcon Inc.

Josh Causey

Rogers-O'Brien Construction

Cameron Salter

Ryan Gootee General Contractors

Michael DeGruy
Ryan Gootee

Sealevel Construction

Richard Roth
Tyler Glaze
Jacques Duplantis

Shavers-Whittle Construction

Gerard Whittle

Shields | Mott LLP

Andrew Vicknair

Southern Home Builders

Mary Martha Gaiennie

2019-2020 MEMBERSHIP ROSTER

Specialty Application Services Inc.

Steven Fleury

Stuart & Company General Contractors

Tyler Tramonte

The Brandt Companies LLC

Greg Chandler

The Lemoine Company LLC

Rudy Comeaux
Bryan O'Connor

The McDonnell Group

Jeffrey Proctor

Triad Electric & Controls

Brian Hooks

Turner Construction

Damion Pourciau

Turner Industries Group LLC

Troy Bergeron
Chad Bradley
Carlos Guidry
Gerrad Delatte

United Rentals

Bruce Magee

US Fusion

Travis Blair
Dustin Miller

Waskey

Jon Gary

Wesley Construction Company Inc

Bryan Wesley

Woodward Design+Build

Stephen Scallan

LSU Construction Management Alumni Membership

Luke Lemoine
Joshua McMahon
Austin Root
Wesley Young

Fall 2019 Graduates

Nicholas Berry
Nick Chelchowski
Jake Clay
Moctar Coll
Hunter Crawford
Nathan Estess
Robert Federico
Thomas L. Gaze
Cameron Haney
Katherine Hartenstein
Staci Hux
Drew Landry
Nicholas Light
Michael Lopiparo
Matthew Moran
Blaine Phillips
Brandon Ralser
Logan Ray
Carter Reed
Dominique Shaw
Madelin Smith
Shane Smith
Courtney Tilly
Jeremy Vaughan
Gregory Whalen

Spring 2020 Graduates

Cameron Rubemeyer
Shane Kinard
Evan Molina
Jack Bryant
Chris Shattuck
Diamond Barthelemy
Louis Landrum
Charles Broussard
Troy Pontillas
Chad Usry
Darrian Bouquet
Luis Pacheco
Hunter Monte
Kelli Soileau
Clayton Wood
Andrew Marks
Maddie Bogart
Calli Graner
Ryan McBride
Josh Guarisco
Nathanael Lim

John Schwab
Collin Alexander
Kyle Westholz
Brennan Kelsey
Paul Gelpi
Dakota Bryant
Marcus Smith
Jacob Siegel
Brandt Fairchild
Cameron Roussel
Lacy Dupre
Zachary Coulton
Jacob Brewer
Abigail Fussell
Austin Dunn
Cole Bourg
Jacob Vallette
Robert Dicharry
David Naranjo
Corey Free
James Videau
Scott Colvin
Walker Stinson
Mike Martinez
Hunter Jacob
Brandon Grabert
Zachary Margavio
Bryce Babin
Conner LeBlanc
Michael Berrigan
Evan Stadalis
Brandon Chatelain
Brian Terranova
Joshau Roser
Aaron Sanches
Kyle Simpson
Jordan Snowdy
Jordan Newman
Gregory Cavalier
Benjamin Willis
Jaron Mangipano
Grant Fink
McKenzie Vidrine
Cullen Rooney
Caleb Alford
Nicholas Colaluca
Jonathan Band
Devan Bertaut
Sean Pruet
Paul Bosse
Michael Connelly
Ashley Anspach
Nicholas Hebert
Kalin Hale
Carlos Murillo
Steve Bond
Benji Azar

CIAC FALL 2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

11/4 Board Meeting

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



TURNER INDUSTRIES RANKED NO. 1 TOP PERFORMER IN THE U.S. BY ASSOCIATED BUILDER AND CONTRACTORS

For the second consecutive year, Turner Industries has been ranked No. 1 on *Associated Builders and Contractors' (ABC) 2020 Top Performers* lists, which recognize ABC member contractors' achievements in safety, quality, diversity, and project excellence ranked by work hours.

"We are so honored to be recognized by an organization that we have been a part of for decades," said Turner Industries President Stephen Toups. "Our peers on this list are all a class above the market. Now, we all need to lean into the future together and add technology and innovation to the excellence we deliver daily."

"ABC Top Performers demonstrate the highest commitment to world-class safety, craftsmanship, workforce development, and community engagement in the merit shop construction industry," said Michael Bellaman, president and chief executive officer of ABC. "These rankings highlight companies that are leading our industry as we adopt innovative technologies, tackle industry-wide challenges, such as the workforce shortage, and embrace the opportunities of a new decade."

To be eligible, companies must have demonstrated world-class safety performance by achieving gold status or higher in ABC's STEP Safety Management System, which makes the top-performing contractors up to 827% safer than the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics industry average, according to the *ABC 2020 Safety Performance Report*. Companies were ranked by size based on the number of hours worked in 2018, as reported in their 2019 STEP applications.

Providing "one solution for your success" and documented cost-savings in industrial construction, maintenance, turnarounds, fabrication, equipment, and related specialty services, *Engineering News-Record* ranks Turner Industries as one of the top contractors in the nation and No. 1 in maintenance in petroleum. The company has for the past two consecutive years been ranked the No. 1 Top Performer in the U.S. by Associated Builders and Contractor. Turner Industries is headquartered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and has facilities throughout the United States.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ALUMNI LIFE



WAY TO GO TRAVIS BANKS

Travis Blank, BSCM '15, started his own GC/PM company that landed a project at the Audubon Zoo last summer. He also met Bill Clinton, who loved one of his designs. Travis was also awarded 40 under 40 in Construction Equipment.



KUDOS TO JOSHUA MCMAHON

Joshua McMahon finished his PBC in construction management and is currently working on an MSCM and will graduate in 2022. He also started working with Main Street Homes at the beginning of 2020 as their production manager for multi-family homes.



CONGRATULATIONS TO ANDREW STEELE ON HIS PROMOTION TO ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER WITH THE LEMOINE COMPANY

Andrew completed his LEAP (Lemoine Engineering Advancement Program) Review Presentation and was unanimously approved for promotion into his chosen career path of project management. A 2018 graduate of the LSU Construction Management program, Andrew joined Lemoine in 2016 through an internship in which he worked with the company at LSU's Nicholson Gateway Project. He transitioned to a LEAP Project Engineer in 2018, completing the program in

2 years. LEAP includes formal rotations in a well-rounded immersion of construction disciplines, including preconstruction/estimating, project management, and field operations.

Congratulations to Our Spring 2020 CM Graduates!



LACY DUPRE, BSCM

When asked what was her favorite memory during her time in the CM department, she answered, "being able to serve as 2018–19 CSA president."



BENJAMIN WILLIS, BSCM

After graduation, Benjamin will be a project manager for utility construction services on a project in Jackson, Mississippi.

NEW ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



JACK BRYANT, BSCM

Jack started working with Palmisano in New Orleans in early May. His job title is project engineer, and he is working on the St. Vincent's Guest House Project, an historic renovation and new construction.



LOGAN COURREGES, BSCM

After graduation, Logan is working for Landis Construction Co. LLC in New Orleans as an estimator. He is currently working on The New Orleans Convention Center Restroom job and the Behrman Elementary School in Algiers.



CALEB BURKS, BSCM

After graduation, Caleb plans to expand his family's commercial roofing company, RYCARS Construction LLC.



Paul Gelpi III, BSCM



Clayton Wood, Cum Laude, BSCM



Ryan McBride, BSCM



Kalin Hale, BSCM

CONGRATS!

MAY 2020 LATIN HONORS AND UNIVERSITY MEDALISTS

Magna Cum Laude

Madeleine Bogart

Michael Connelly

Nathanael Lim

Cum Laude

Conner Leblanc

Clayton Wood



LOGAN VAUGHN, BSCM

Logan is currently located in Beaumont, Texas. She stated that she is "super thankful for the opportunity to have served as LSU Construction Student Association's 2019–2020 president and 2018–2019 public relations officer." Logan, thank you for your leadership; we will miss you!.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

A letter from Dr. Charles Berryman

I believe all can attest, this has been a crazy year; however, in spite of pandemic, politics, and the economy, all of the CM programs are vibrant and going strong. We have reached historical enrollments with numbers totaling more than 1,200 students across 11 different programs. All of these programs are housed within the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management. We are now the largest in the college and the largest construction program in the nation. This is a tribute to the hard work of the faculty, staff, and industry.

Moving forward, the department is expanding its online presence through the use of Prior Learning Assessments (PLAs), industry-related MicroCreds®, and partnerships with construction organizations (local and national).

The Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) program is designed to allow students to demonstrate learning completed outside of the college classroom and potentially earn college credit. This is accomplished through military training, licenses, or certificates. For example, using a national certification—if one takes and passes the American Institute of Constructor's (AIC) Level One AC Exam, that person can receive up to 21 college credits (seven courses) toward our online Bachelor of Science in Construction Management (BSCM). If someone takes and passes the AIC Level Two CPC Exam, he or she can receive an additional 12 credit hours (four courses) toward the BSCM. That is a total of 33 hours of (11 courses) college credit. This same exam allows for nine credit hours (three courses) towards the online Master of Science in Construction Management (MSCM). More information about PLAs can be found at <https://online.lsu.edu/pla-construction-management/>.

So far, we have developed two online LSU MicroCreds®. One is in the *Introduction to Construction Management* and the other is *Construction Technology Management* (see <https://online.lsu.edu/online-degree-programs/engineering-construction-degrees/>). These are courses taught through LSU's Continuing Education. Upon completion, students will receive a digital badge for their online resume or electronic social media. These same courses can also be used for college credit in our online BSCM and/or Post Baccalaureate Certificate in CM (CCM). They can eventually be used towards an undergraduate certificate in CM (18 credit hours; six courses; under development).

To aid the industry with online training, the CM department is partnering with construction organizations to develop online training courses that can be taught remotely. This will be accomplished in a collaborative effort using certified online CM instructors, industry experts, and LSU Online's course developers. These same people are developing several industry-related LSU MicroCreds® and undergraduate certificates, where trade certifications can be used for college course credits/PLAs."

Yes, it is interesting times, but as you can see, we are still forging ahead and moving towards being a School of Construction Management. It isn't an "if;" it is just a matter of "when," as dedication and partnerships are unmatched. Thank you all for helping us to have a great year despite the external turbulence.

One last thing...be sure to vote!
Charles Berryman, PhD, CPC



DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

ACCOLADES



STEPHANIE G. HEUMANN, MBA, PROMOTED TO PROFESSIONAL-IN-RESIDENCE

The department also thanks Ms. Heumann for her 11 years of service. Congrats, Steph, on your promotion and years of service.

THANK YOU, DR. CAROL FRIEDLAND AND INTRODUCING DR. CHAO WANG AS GRADUATE ADVISOR

A big thank you to Dr. Carol Friedland for all her hard work and dedication as the CM graduate advisor. She has implemented so many excellent attributes that will be continued.

We want to introduce Dr. Chao Wang as our new CM graduate advisor. Dr. Wang is very eager to take on this new role.



CONGRATULATIONS MR. DON R. SCHNEIDER, MS, JD,

for earning his OLC Online Teaching Certificate. He is one of many CM faculty that has made great strides to give our students the best online education. Way to Geaux, Don!



NEW FACES

ALI KAZEMIAN, PHD, JOINS FACULTY AS ASSISTANT PROFESSOR



The department welcomes Ali Kazemian as an assistant professor! Before LSU, Dr. Kazemian was a senior research and development engineer at the Contour Crafting Corporation from 2017–2020 and a graduate research assistant with the Contour Crafting lab at the University of Southern California from 2014–2018. Dr. Kazemian

received his PhD in Civil Engineering (Robotic Construction) from USC in 2018. Welcome, Dr. Kazemian; we are excited to have you.

WAY TO GO, DR. CHAO WANG AND HIS RESEARCH TEAM FOR BEING ONE OF 42 CHOSEN FOR FUNDING

During this year's Pollution Prevention (P2) Week, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced LSU is among 42 organizations across 39

states selected to receive grant funding totaling \$9.3 million, supporting pollution prevention across the country. These grants will fund projects that provide businesses and other facilities with information, training, and tools to help them develop and adopt cost-effective changes in production, operation, and use of materials to reduce costs and the use of water, energy, and other natural resources.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

TECHNOLOGY UN-LEASHED: LSU CM DEPARTMENT UNVEILS ROBOT DOG THAT KNOWS MANY 'TRICKS'

Grabbing the attention of LSU Construction Management students just got easier thanks to a new pet that will now inhabit one of the department's labs. While this dog can see, smell, hear and listen to commands, he requires no food, water or walks. His name is Spot and he's a robot.

Spot, deemed a "dog-bot" by its creator Boston Dynamics, serves a multitude of purposes. It's just a matter of what one wants Spot to do. Not only can Spot go where people can go, more importantly, he can go where people can't go. Spot can inspect gas leaks, get close to COVID-19 patients (reserving PPE), and even herd sheep. He can climb stairs and traverse rough terrain with ease. The possibilities are endless.

So, why does LSU need Spot?

LSU Construction Management Professor Jonathan Shi is Spot's "trainer," so to speak, and said Spot can be trained to do whatever the department would like him to do.

"We want to create a mission telling Spot where to go and what information to gather," Shi said. "What can we learn from that information and what decisions can be made accordingly? On a construction site, you do inspections and send people to check on safety regulations and progress. What we see, we do not always remember, and it's also not very detailed. Spot's sensors enable us to gather more precise information."

Spot has a graphics processing unit (GPU) and advanced sensors that can sense much better than human eyes and ears. This allows him to detect



dangerous situations, such as in chemical plants, the oil and gas field, and mines. Spot can also communicate through WiFi, telephone networks and GPS. Since he also comes with a laser scanner, Spot can take 360-degree photos. He can be driven remotely or taught routes and actions to perform missions.

"Students will be happy to see what this new technology can do," Shi said. "It's exciting for them and their research."

Shi hopes to work with LSU's engineering departments to create further applications for Spot.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT



CM'S 100% ONLINE BSCM IS LIVE!

Since the fall of 2019, the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management has offered a 100% online bachelor's degree in construction management. The online BSCM has a variety of certificates and micro-credentials that can be earned independently or as part of the cumulative degree program. You can learn more about our BSCM and online program by visiting lsu.edu/eng/cm.

CM ONLINE IS NOW OFFERING CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT MICROCRED®

Starting in Fall 2020, the Bert S. Turner Department of Construction Management will offer a Construction Technology Management MicroCred®. The curriculum contained within this MicroCred® is for beginners and those interested in basic construction software. It has been designed for those that have at least some understanding of the construction process. This program is for those with or without a college degree who would like to learn about construction materials and methods and how these relate to reading a set of construction drawings. Building upon this knowledge, the learner will be exposed to the electronic side of a few construction processes using On-Screen Take Off (electronic quantity take-offs) and Building Information Modeling (virtual 3D environments).

Upon completion of the three-course series, students will receive a digital badge from LSU Online & Continuing Education that can be used for online résumés, personal websites, or social media. In addition, these are college courses and can be fully transferred into LSU's Online Bachelor of Science in Construction Management (BSCM). These seven-week courses also can be used for continuing education units/credits required by some certifications and licenses.



DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

SPRING 2020 SIGMA LAMBDA CHI INITIATIVES

This spring initiation was a little different from past years but on par with how this last semester and current semester is going. The initiation was held over Zoom, and the Upsilon Chapter of Sigma Lambda Chi International Constitution Honor Society installed five new members. Special thank you to Sigma Lambda Chi alums Ronald Moore and Brian Penn for helping out with the initiation.



NEW MEMBERS

- Tyler Stelly
- Jimmie Givens
- Eric Campbell
- Caleb Bridges
- Madison Boudreaux



CONGRATULATIONS TO SRIKANTH BANGARU FOR WINNING GRADUATE STUDENT LEADER OF THE YEAR

Please join us in congratulating CM graduate student Srikanth Bangaru on being named the 2020 Graduate Student Leader of the Year. This award is presented to the graduate student who has made a significant contribution to LSU's quality of life. We are so proud of you and all your hard work.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT STUDENT LIFE



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Elizabeth Marchand
CSA President

It's time to lay the foundation for a better 2020 by becoming a member of the Construction Student

Association (CSA). CSA is open to all LSU students majoring in construction management. CSA advances our members' experience by fostering networking opportunities, strengthening professional education, and engaging with the construction management industry.

I first joined CSA in 2018. I love that CSA gives me unique opportunities to network with industry leaders, expand my knowledge, and stretch my skills. Last year, I served as a CSA secretary and loved every minute. This year, as president, COVID-19 provided a new challenge to how we usually do business. We're up for it and ready to geaux with programming to help our members become successful beyond the classroom.

For our member's health and safety, our meetings will be virtual for now. We have our fingers crossed that soon we'll be back hosting our annual crawfish boil, preparing for our annual CSA banquet, and volunteering at the CIAC Golf Tournament in the spring. CSA is looking forward to volunteering at the ABC Skeet Shoot, preparing our members for Construction Interview Day, and expanding your knowledge of companies around the world this fall. I want to thank the Construction Industry Advisory Council (CIAC) for all its support and commitment. CIAC's dedication to the students goes above and beyond to prepare for life and careers after graduation.

CSA is committed to providing students opportunities throughout the school year, even when the year feels like it was smacked with a 2x4. I look forward to seeing everyone at our events.

For more information about CSA, please contact csa@lsu.edu and follow our Instagram [@_lsucsa_](https://www.instagram.com/_lsucsa_).

Geaux Tigers!

Elizabeth Marchand, 2020-2021

CSA President

Contact Info: csa@lsu.edu



Elizabeth Marchand
PRESIDENT

2020-2021
CSA
Officers



Rudy Alvarez
VICE PRESIDENT



Lindsey Harrell
SECRETARY



Marc Leblanc
TREASURER



Caroline Panepinto
SOCIAL CHAIR



Bria Sosa
PUBLIC RELATIONS



Daniel Mirabito
BANQUET CHAIR



CSA Fall 2020



Sept. 29th ... 2nd meeting with Performance Contractors

Oct. 16th ABC Skeet Shoot

Oct. 20th ... 3rd meeting with MAPP

Oct. 21st ... Interview Panel for CID

Oct. 23rd ... Construction Interview Day

Nov. 3rd ... 4th meeting with Kiewit

Nov. 11th ... MMR Campus Tour



CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT STUDENT LIFE

COMPETITION TEAMS

LSU WINS THIRD IN ANNUAL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT COMPETITION

The LSU student chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors Pelican chapter, placed third overall at the annual Construction Management Competition, which was held virtually for the first time. LSU's team was one of 26 assigned to complete the same construction management project.

Dr. Charles Pecquet, LSU chapter advisor, said this about the winning team, "Our ABC team rose to the challenge this year and placed third in the nation for the third year in a row. This year's project was the federal courthouse in Nashville. During the initial stages of the competition, the courthouse was hit by a tornado. Later in the year, it was damaged by fire. Weeks before we were to travel to Nashville to conclude the competition, the pandemic closed everything. Six months later, the competition was finally held online. Thanks to our outstanding team and the support of the ABC Pelican chapter YP leaders, Lance Arvel and Brain Hooks, the team rose to meet all these challenges. Hopefully, next year will go much smoother."

This annual competition, designed to challenge knowledge, organization, time management, and presentation skills, gives the nation's top construction management students a glimpse into the real world of construction. All participants are active members of the ABC National Student Chapter Network, which connects local ABC chapters to colleges and universities with construction management programs to work toward the ultimate goal of building the talent pipeline and mentoring future leaders of the construction industry.

"It was an honor to watch future construction industry leaders from LSU test their skills in real-time," said Greg Sizemore, ABC's vice president of health, safety, environment, and workforce development. "Designed to challenge construction knowledge, organization, time management, and presentation skills, every competitor showed diligence, tenacity, and teamwork. We're excited about the contributions these students will soon make to our industry."

This year's project focused on the construction of a new federal courthouse for the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee, which required the students to plan demolition, construction, and site development.

CMC was presented by ABC and sponsored in part by American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers. A full list of the winners is available at abc.org/cmc.

LSU ABC COMPETITION TEAM MEMBERS

- Annalise Rabito, Team Captain
- Adam Burkhalter, Team Captain
- John Davis
- Rebecca Davis
- Lindsey Harrell
- Evan Hood
- Corbett Russell
- Martin Sipiorski
- Bria Sosa
- Kiersten Weidel
- William Gibson
- William Rosevally

Dr. Charles Pecquet serves as the Faculty Advisor to the team.



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In this issue, we would like to recognize a few of the companies that employ CIAC members, CM alumni, and CM students. Thank you for your continued support!

