

May 2008
Civil Engineering Department
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CIVIL ECHOES

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

ASCE Student Chapter Update

Wins Ridgway (Again)

The spring of 2008 was another busy time for the Cecil T. Lobo Chapter of ASCE. The final quarter of the school year has been highlighted by numerous community service activities, monthly meetings, and social activities. These events came together with great teamwork and extra effort put in by so many of our chapter members, proving once again how important ASCE is to all of us.

Continuing our success in community service, we began the spring with construction of yet another wheelchair ramp for a local Terre Haute family. Several members volunteered to stay through the Easter weekend to finish the ramp, providing a great sense of accomplishment for all who were involved. The activity was also featured in an article in the local newspaper, recognizing our dedication to the community.

Chapter members have also spent time reaching out to our younger generation. As part of our series of Explore Engineering events, local middle school students were invited to participate in a 3 day activity to construct and launch hot air balloons on the Rose-Hulman campus. This event, along with our annual Youth Science Day, provides young students with the opportunity to learn and become interested in science and engineering.

A new activity to the chapter was the trip to volunteer at the local Exotic Feline Rescue Center. A group of students spent a morning building a cage for one of the tigers, and received a personal tour of the center in exchange. Although not much related to civil engineering, members enjoyed the chance to help out such a great organization.

Great weather gave way to another successful year for the chapter's annual golf tournament. Rose-Hulman alumni, faculty, students, and their families enjoyed the day at Rea Park golf course, and all proceeds were given to Habitat for Humanity.

Members of the chapter took a little time before finals began to enjoy a social activity at Victory Field in Indianapolis. Several students spent the night watching an Indians baseball game with invited civil alumni and Younger Members group of the Metro Indy Branch. This is the second year for the baseball event, providing a fun opportunity to network and socialize.

This year ended on a high note with the presentation of the Robert Ridgway Award. Our chapter has been honored to receive the Ridgway three of the last four years, recognizing our hard work and dedication to ASCE and the civil engineering profession. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni met in Hatfield Hall for the presentation and the reception that followed. We would like to thank everyone who has been a part of the past year's accomplishments and for our future success as a chapter. We would also like to congratulate all of our seniors who have graduated and wish them luck as they move on to higher education or begin their professional careers!



Left to right: Sylvia Lobo, Matthew Trowbridge, Rachel Howser, Sebastian Mendes and Andrew Pinkstaff

Interim (soon to be retired) Department Head Comments

The 2007/2008 academic year has been a good year. As usual our students have excelled. The ASCE Student Chapter won the Ridgeway Award for excellence (top student chapter in the country for the 4th time (3rd in the last 4 years). They also were awarded the Richard J Scranton Outstanding Community Service Award, the 1st time the ASCE Service award has been awarded. But the award really should not be unexpected since RHIT ASCE has been the number one supporter of the Tribune-Star Christmas Basket Fund for well over a decade (\$2350 in 2007), supported Habitat for Humanity through the annual ASCE Golf Tournament (\$3200 raised), and performed a number of local service projects, most notably wheel chair ramps. The 2007/2008 senior design projects were very well done providing valuable design information for a number of diverse private entities, social and religious organizations, as well as governmental clients. 100% of the seniors sat for the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam (with high hopes that all passed the exam). Individually our students excelled. Rachel Howser won the 2007 Daniel W. Mead Student Essay Contest on professional ethics with her article on "Eminent Domain and the Engineer's Ethical Responsibilities". Matt Trowbridge was selected by ASCE as the recipient of the Region 4 Student Leadership Award. Matt was also recognized as an Academic All-American in soccer - the second year in a row. HCAC Conference All-American status was conferred upon: Austin Hastings and Steve Hawkins in football; Julie Roebel and Jen Lyman in women's soccer; Liz Ridgway in women's soccer, basketball, and track; Matt Trowbridge and Corbin Clow in men's soccer; Nick Corkill in men's cross country, and track; Zach Tatlock in swimming; and Troy Eveslage in baseball.

I am happy that our newest faculty member, Dr. Sue Niezgoda, had a very good year and was extremely well received by the Civil Engineering student body. Sue has been an excellent addition to the Department. Drs. Hanson and Robinson were promoted and tenured ensuring many years of teaching excellence at Rose. Robert Houghtalen completed 20 years of service as RHIT Civil Engineering Faculty member, while Kathy Nicoson has completed a quarter of a century of service to the Institute while serving as the one and only Rose-Hulman Civil Engineering Department Secretary.

2007/2008 has been a very busy (but enjoyable) year for me assuming many of the administrative duties of our Chair Bob Houghtalen while he was on Sabbatical (vacation) to the Sudan. However, along with the rest of the faculty, staff, and student body, I am eagerly anticipating his return.

And as usual I continue to be CIVIL PROUD.

Jim McKinney

Thanks To Our Donors

Civil Engineering alumni continue to be generous with their gifts to Rose-Hulman. Those alumni who have donated during the past three months to the Institute and designated that their gift should go to the Civil Engineering Department include:

Steven D. Swanson (1986)

Mr. Robert E. Shaw, Jr. (1975)

Note: If we missed your name, email Kathy.Nicoson@Rose-Hulman.edu and we will include you in our next CE Echoes.

KEEP IN TOUCH

We are always interested in how our alumni are doing. Let us know about you! Keep in touch by e-mailing us at kathy.nicoson@rose-hulman.edu with your current contact information and what you are doing.

Kathy Nicoson—25 Year Service Award

Kathy is the only secretary the Civil Engineering Department has known, an outstanding partnership of 25 years. Who but Kathy could handle all the registrations for the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam; who but Kathy could size all of the students' rings for the Order of the Engineer; who but Kathy could track progress toward completion of the Consulting Engineering Certificate; and who but Kathy could maintain contact with all of the RHIT CE Alumni who consider her a surrogate mother.

Kathy is proud of the 2006 Honorary alumni Award she received as well add awards from Delta Delta Delta Sorority. She is married to Tom (Duke Energy) her husband of 38 years. She and Tom have two daughters - Tricia (son-in-law State Trooper Mike Finney) and Kristy - as well as 4 grandchildren - Morgan, Rashawn, Madison, and Sam.

Kathy has been quoted as saying "Rose-Hulman is a great place and I love working here". We can modify the comment because the reason Rose-Hulman is a great place is because Kathy is here.

Civil Engineering Enrollment

Seniors: graduated a class of 42 (One November completion)

Juniors: (Rising Seniors): Anticipate 29 students

Sophomores: (Rising Juniors): Anticipate 44 students

Freshmen: (Rising Sophomores): Anticipate 43 students

Incoming Freshmen: (as of May 2008): 192 admitted, anticipate 45 students registering

2008/2009 Anticipated Civil Engineering Enrollment: 161

Mark Your Calendar

October 4, 2008 —Homecoming Reception for Civil Alumni hosted by the CE Department

December 3, 2008 —CE Board of Advisors Meeting

CE Award Winners 2007-2008

ASCE Alumni Award

Presented annually to the civil engineering student of senior standing judged by the faculty to be most outstanding on the basis of scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities, character, responsibility, attitude and practical problem-solving ability. This award has been established through the generosity of Muriel and Shelton Hannig, former President of Marsh, Inc., a leading civil engineering firm based in Terre Haute. It honors the Hannig's late son, Mark Shelton Hannig.

Rachel Howser: Scottsburg, Indiana - Summer 2008 - National Center for Research of Earthquake Engineering, Taiwan. Fall 2008 - University of Houston

Shelton Hannig Award

Presented annually to the civil engineering student of senior standing judged by the faculty to be most outstanding on the basis of scholastic achievement, extracurricular activities, character, responsibility, attitude and practical problem-solving ability. This award has been established through the generosity of Muriel and Shelton Hannig, former President of Marsh, Inc., a leading civil engineering firm based in Terre Haute. It honors the Hannig's late son, Mark Shelton Hannig.

Stuart Nash: Bow, Washington - seeking employment in Vancouver

Civil Engineering Faculty Award

Established in 1961 and funded by the civil engineering faculty, this award is given to a sophomore or junior civil engineering student on the basis of scholarship, student activities, citizenship, and enthusiasm for civil engineering. The award consists of a monetary award, and the recipient's name is engraved on a plaque in the Department of Civil Engineering.

Jennifer Lyman: Junior; Irwin, Pennsylvania: Summer 2008 - Walsh Construction

Morris L. Cleverley Award

This award is presented in honor of Morris L. Cleverley, a 1962 Rose Polytechnic civil engineering graduate, who had a distinguished career as an engineer, contractor, businessman and entrepreneur. Cleverley, a faithful and loyal supporter of Rose-Hulman civil engineering, founded Morris L. Cleverley Engineering, a design and construction firm based in Syracuse, N.Y. The award is presented to a senior civil engineering student who best typifies the following qualities exemplified by Morris Cleverley: common sense and hard work, focused career objectives and perseverance, work ethic and employment record, scholastic achievement, motivation for a career in design/construction and commitment to the entrepreneurial spirit.

Jeremy Burch: Bedford, Indiana - Hannum, Wagle & Cline Engineering - Terre Haute

American Society of Civil Engineers Alumni Award

This is an award made possible by the interest and dedication of the civil engineering class of 1978, especially Matt Wiesenberg. His intention was to help the ASCE student chapter and to stimulate participation and activity by creating this award to be given to a member of the ASCE student chapter who has made an outstanding contribution to the chapter. Wiesenberg was secretary of the chapter in 1977-79 and was the founder of the chapter newsletter, ASCE News and World Report.

Rachel Howser: Scottsburg, Indiana - Summer 2008 - National Center for Research of Earthquake Engineering, Taiwan. Fall 2008 - University of Houston

J.B. Wilson Consulting Engineering Award

This award was established by Rose-Hulman alumnus J.B. Wilson, '27, and is awarded annually to a Rose-Hulman senior in the consulting engineering program. The recipient must have the highest grades in at least sixteen credit hours of the courses in that program completed by the end of the winter quarter of the senior year

Matthew Trowbridge: Fort Collins, Colorado - Moffatt & Nichol, Tampa, Florida

CE Award Winners 2007-2008 (cont.)

Star Student Award

The Department of Civil Engineering started the "Star Student" award in 2001 to recognize the graduating senior who is most likely to be a "difference maker" in the civil engineering profession. The student selected for this award is considered one of the best and brightest civil engineering graduates in the country in light of his or her collegiate accomplishments and Rose-Hulman's reputation. The selection criteria is based on the candidate's potential for success as indicated by scholastic achievement, leadership, communication skills, work experience, and professionalism.

Matthew Trowbridge: Fort Collins, Colorado - Moffatt & Nichol, Tampa, Florida

Where Are Those Graduating CE's Working

Curtis Anderson—Proctor & Gamble, Cincinnati, OH	Nicholas Klaserner—Turner Construction, Cincinnati, OH
Katie Benner—Stanley Consultants, Denver, CO	Michael Krantz—Kimley-Horn, Sacramento, CA
Nathan Bloss—Peace Corps, Africa	Erin Locke—FCI Constructors, Behicia, CA
Andrea Bollinger, R.W. Armstrong, Indianapolis	Brian McIlwaine—Golder Associates, Tucson, AZ
Jeremy Burch—Hannum, Wagle & Cline, Terre Haute, IN	Alex McLean—Wright Water Engineering, Denver, CO
Joel Campbell—Crider & Crider, Bloomington, IN	Liam Moll—November Grad
Paul Creasey—Bowen Engineering, Fishers, IN	Stuart Nash—undecided
Josey Daugherty—Terre Haute City Engineer, Terre Haute, IN	Ryan Pattenaude—R.W. Armstrong, Indianapolis, IN
Justin Deutsch—Alstom Power, Denver, CO	Tyler Price—American Structurepoint, Evansville, IN
Erik Dolmseth—Manson Construction Co., Seattle, WA	Julie Roebel—University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
Jerel Fields—Woolpert, Dayton, OH	Michael Sandahl—NTH Consultants, Detroit, MI
Jonathan Fone—undecided	Jeffery Smiley—Ball State University, Muncie, IN
Jeffery Gauthier—University of Texas, Austin, TX	Danielle Steinke—DLZ, South Bend, IN
Jason Goble—Francis Associates, Paris, IL	Phillip Sundling—American Structurepoint, Indianapolis, IN
Keegan Gumbs—U.S. Patent Office, Washington, D.C.	Zachary Tatlock—Burns & McDonnell, Kansas City, MO
Austin Hastings—Burgess & Nipple, Indianapolis, IN	Lindsey Thomann—Bernardin Lochmueller, Evansville, IN
Steve Hawkins—Marathon Oil Co., Robinson, IL	Matthew Trowbridge—Moffatt & Nichol—Tampa, FL
Brian Hoesman—Notre Dame, South Bend, IN	Elitsa Voeva—University of Florida, Gainesville, IN
Rachel Howser—University of Houston, Houston, TX	Brian Voll—DLZ, South Bend, IN
Sean Jessup—Moffatt & Nichol, Norfolk, VA	Jessica Young—MD Wessler & Associates, Indianapolis, IN
Timothy Kent—Turner Construction, Cincinnati, OH	Emily Zeigler—MD Wessler & Associates, Indianapolis, IN

Alumni Spotlight

Richard Powers (1974) was awarded the 2007 Society of American Military Engineers' James Connolly Award on February 21, 2008 during National Engineer Week's "Lesson on Sustainability" Technical Training Conference at the Mighty 8th Air Force Museum in Savannah, Georgia. Ric is the area engineer for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Savannah District's Robins Air Force Base Area Office in Warner Robins, Georgia.

Kevin Walker (1996) informed us that he has started his own firm. The firm's name is CSR Engineering in Springfield, Tennessee. They primarily provide track and bridge design and inspection services to Class I and short line railroads.

Chris Bauer (2001) started a new position as Project Manager with Hunt Construction Group (Florida) on March 31st of this year.

John Bowen (2002) and Alisa Hurm (2002) were married on September 29, 2007 at an outdoor ceremony at the French Lick Resort in French Lick, Indiana. Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. John Bowen.

Tara Strahle (2002) has started her own company doing land development called Selah Consulting,. She has also had the privilege to be involved with a college ministry called Campus Crusade for Christ. She reports that she is preparing to make another big move in August 2008. After going to the Middle East last spring with the JESUS Film Mission Trips team, she has decided to take a year off from her professional career and serve at Campus Crusade for Christ headquarters in Orlando, Florida. During her internship, she will be traveling to different parts of the world to record the dialogue for the JESUS Film in different languages. These new translations will be used to share the Good News of the Gospel with people that have never heard of Jesus. To learn more about the JESUS Film and the Travel Team visit www.jesusfilm.org and www.jesusfilmmasterstudio.org.

Tara reports "there are over 6,000 languages in the world and there is still much work to be done. I am convinced that this will be an experience of a life time in which I can continue to use my technical background in a different capacity. Like many mission organizations, I must raise all of my support before leaving in August and am hopeful that others will help make this a reality." If interested, you can send your gifts to 5104 Belcrest Ave., Bakersfield, CA 93309 (checks made payable to Campus Crusade for Christ, in memo line add Acct #0612570). Any questions, feel free to contact her at tstrahle3@gmail.com or by phone 661.472.1342.

Jordan Aigner (2003) passed the PE exam this past fall and is now working in the family business. They are planning on growing into somewhat of a design/build company with emphasis on development and reaching into the environmental field as well. His wife Amanda and he are expecting their third child in June. He said "thankfully we are getting a girl this time". Their daughter will have two big brothers; Cooper (3) and Brooks (1.5).

Michael Novotney (2003) reports he got married on October 20, 2007 in Baltimore. He works as a Water Resources Engineer at the Center for Watershed Protection. Congratulations to Michael and his new wife.

Obituaries

John E. Loomis (1947) of Honolulu, Hawaii, died March 8, 2008. He was a civil engineer and vice president for Amfac Sugar Company and a World War II veteran. He is survived by a sister, Jane Morse; nieces, Catherine Kopp and Juliet Carlson.