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Tuesday, January 24, 2023

CEA Awards \$200,000 in Grants to Seven University CM Programs

In its 25th year, the Construction Employers' Association's (CEA) Construction Management University Program recently announced that it has awarded grant funding to seven top university programs.

Awards for the 2022 program year totaled \$200,000, bringing the total amount contributed to over \$3.6 million since the program began in 1998. In an effort to support and promote quality construction management education, CEA funds innovative programs that directly benefit students.

The CEA Construction Management University Program Committee consists of nine executives from prominent Northern California building construction firms. The Committee evaluates applications with a special focus on building better future construction managers through hands-on education and as much field experience as possible. The Committee also looks for programs that promote construction management as a career path and create opportunities for the universities to partner with CEA member firms.

"This program, now in its 25th year, is one of the most important ventures the Construction Employers' Association has undertaken. As the construction industry continues to expand, so does the need for qualified construction-oriented managers," says Committee Chairman Jerry Overaa, Chairman of the Board for C. Overaa

& Company of Richmond, CA. "Through these annual grants to the seven Northern California programs, CEA has built strong partnerships with academic institutions, as well as help prepare students for dynamic



careers and leadership in the industry."

California State University, Fresno's Construction Management Program earned the 2022 Donald L. Warmby Leadership Award for the best overall proposal. CEA's grant will help Fresno State create a series of summer workshop programs for junior

high and high school students that lack access to construction or architectural technology introductory courses. These workshops will aim to promote the architectural, engineering and construction (AEC) industry to students and create exposure to the opportunities within.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; University of California, Berkeley; California State University, Sacramento, California State University, Chico; California State University, East Bay; and Stanford University also

participated in the program and were awarded funds to benefit their students.

The mission of the CEA Construction Management University Program is to award grants to universities that educate students pursuing degrees leading to a career in the construction industry and to develop a network with these universities. This program will demonstrate CEA's commitment to support and promote education within the building construction industry. In addition, the program will enhance CEA and its members' relationships with prominent university construction management programs and their graduates.

The CEA University Grant Program has proudly granted \$3.6 million over 25 years, and was recognized by the California State Senate for its support of Construction Management education

About CEA

CEA is comprised of more than 100 mid- to large-sized unionized commercial building contractors performing work in Northern California. Its members collectively perform over \$30 billion in public and private building construction volume annually and employ over 15,000 employees in the State of California.

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