

Daily Pacific Builder®

The McGraw-Hill Companies

Monday, December 23, 2013

CEA Awards \$150,000 in Grants to Six University CM Programs

For the 16th straight year, the Construction Employers' Association's (CEA) Construction Management University Grant Program awarded grant funding to six top university programs. Awards for the 2013 program year totaled \$150,000, bringing the total amount contributed to \$1.92 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.

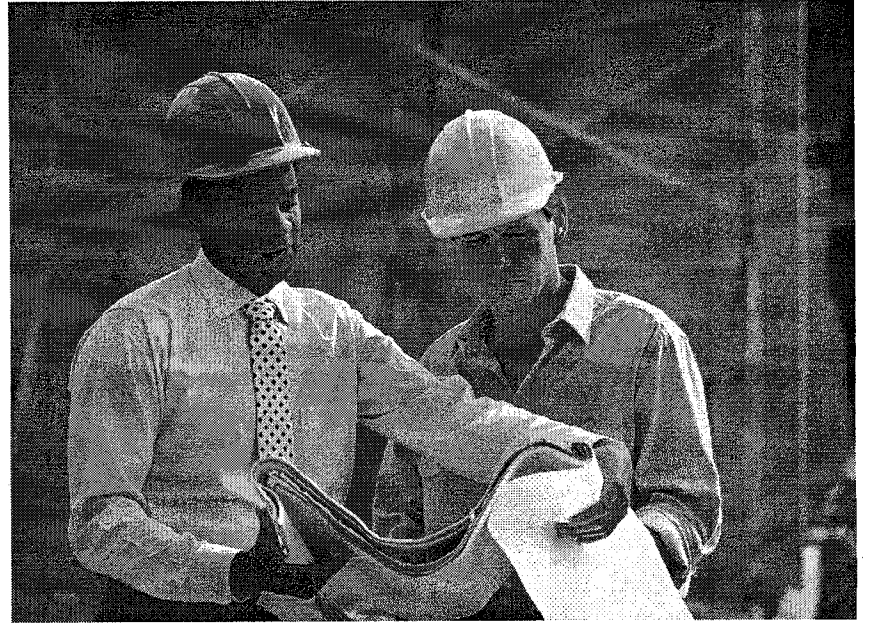
CEA's grant committee consists of nine executives from prominent Northern California building construction firms, with seven firms in business for 100 years or more. Using that expertise, the committee evaluates applications with a special focus on building better future construction managers through 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.

"Developing quality leaders is paramount to the future of our industry," says Committee Chairman Jerry Overaa, chief executive officer of Richmond, CA-based C. Overaa & Company. "With this program, we strive to give students the practical education necessary to succeed in the field and inspire them to grow in our industry. Funding these programs gives students the opportunity to see their future in the building construction industry."

For the first time in their 10 years participating in the program, California State University, Fresno's Construction Management Program earned the 2013 Donald L. Warmby Leadership Award for the best all-around grant proposal. CSU Fresno received support for the development of a Design-Build track.

This program will include a Design-Build lecture series with industry experts, as well as digital instructional



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materials based on the presentations for use by future students. Faculty will also develop a project based learning course in which students will form mock companies and go through a complete RFQ/RFP solicitation process for a Design-Build project.

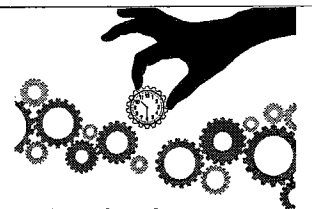
CEA's grant will also support student participation in field trips to job-sites, construction competitions and industry internships.

"The support from CEA has been truly transformational for the Construction Management program at Fresno State" says Dr. Manoochehr Zoghi, program chair and Lyles College associate dean. "It has enabled us to launch major initiatives which would have not been possible otherwise."

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, University of California, Berkeley, California State University, Chico, California State University, Sacramento, and Stanford University also participated in the pro-

gram and were awarded funds to benefit their students. The awards will be presented at the CEA Annual General Membership Dinner Meeting on January 14, 2014.

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



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