

**2014-15**

# **CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL BIENNIAL REPORT**



**CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE**  
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Construction Industry Advisory Council

# 2014-15 Report: Construction Industry Advisory Council

Construction Science major Ian Moss, mascot corporal in the Texas A&M Corps of Cadets, earned the honor of serving as handler for Reville, the Texas A&M mascot. "My favorite part about being with Reville is seeing how she affects other people," said Moss. "Everywhere Reville goes, all of a sudden everyone's face lights up. She makes everyone's day better."



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## **CONSTRUCTION SCIENCE** TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY

Construction Industry Advisory Council



### **On the cover:**

The 2014-15 CIAC Annual Report shows the foyer of the recently renovated Francis Hall, a realization of the architectural rendering that graced the cover of the group's previous report.

# Letter from the CIAC President



“Today, our students have a wider range of career opportunities thanks to a more diverse and vibrant advisory council.”

— Bob Flowers  
CIAC President  
2014–15

It has been my extreme pleasure to serve as the president of our Construction Industry Advisory Council for 2014 and 2015. It was an honor to join the ranks of those outstanding construction professionals that had the vision and commitment to create and sustain such an important contribution to the program of construction education at Texas A&M.

When we saw the 33% growth in membership from 2012-2013 it was a pleasant surprise and was viewed as a period of unprecedented growth. With membership reaching 167 members at the end of 2015, the heightened demand for interns and graduates resulted in an even larger rate of growth to a 39%. Much of this growth was fueled by a resurging residential sector as well as growth in the oil, gas and energy industry. Today, our students have a wider range of career opportunities thanks to a more diverse and vibrant advisory council.

The increased memberships allowed us to make a significant contribution to the funding of the Francis Hall renovation project while also increasing the number of endowed matching scholarships and adding a new endowed faculty fellowship. In addition, we have increased the CIAC support account to provide a sustained source of supplemental funds.

Our members' priority access to students was improved by the additional space in Francis Hall that allowed us to launch the “Company Day” program where member companies are welcomed to spend a day within Francis Hall to interact with a growing student body.

Much of the success during my tenure has been achieved by the work of CIAC Executive Committee that has guided the various committees and ensured that our meetings achieved the agendas that were set for them. I am very grateful for their contribution of time knowing that each served during one of the most demanding periods of construction in the state's recent history. The reins of the organization could not be in more capable hands as I turn them over to Dave Fleming who has served selflessly in various roles over his many years in the CIAC. Let's give Dave our fullest support as we all continue to build upon the foundation that has produced the finest program of construction education in the nation.

While those of us in the industry stayed busy with the demands of running our projects, we must also express appreciation to Joe Horlen as our executive director, and the Industry Relations Office staff for their outstanding support in planning and guiding CIAC meetings, field trips, banquets, tailgates, and career fairs. Our students are indeed blessed to have such a department-level office on the Texas A&M University campus. Thank you for ensuring that each of the 167 members in the CIAC has a staff that is available and responsive to their needs for graduates that are well prepared to assume their roles in our industry!

Bob Flowers  
CIAC President

It was a historic event and major achievement to move into Francis Hall, the new home for construction education at Texas A&M. While we celebrated this grand occasion, we also paid honor to those whose great vision, dedication and efforts were instrumental in creating our department and our Construction Industry Advisory Council. James Marsh laid a firm foundation for construction education at Texas A&M when he accepted the charge from General James Earl Rudder to create a construction department in 1969. Jim Smith built upon this foundation as our department head and created the Construction Industry Advisory Council with Brice Hill as the first president of CIAC. We lost these outstanding leaders in 2015, but their contribution to construction education at Texas A&M lives on as the department continues to provide the highest quality academic program to develop new understanding through teaching, research and service, and prepare students to assume roles in leadership, responsibility, and service to society.

The additional classroom and office space in Francis Hall allowed us to exceed our university assigned goal for increased enrollment for 2015 with a total of 1,090 students, a 44% increase from 2013, and a near doubling of the enrollment when Francis Hall was assigned for our use. The large increase in the enrollment was achieved by an increased number of applications by freshmen, change of major and transfer students that made admission into the construction science department more competitive than ever. As a result, the quality of the students pursuing a construction education at Texas A&M has never been higher.

This rapid growth in enrollment came at a good time as the demand for more interns and graduates increased substantially with a more diverse field of career opportunities in various industry sectors. A new record for career fair participation was set with 169 companies during the fall 2015 recruiting season. The value of a CIAC membership also increased as our industry partners provided over 90% of all internships and hired 87% of our fall 2015 graduates. As a result, our graduates have enjoyed near 100% job placement with multiple job offers.

Looking toward 2016-2017, the department will continue to meet and overcome challenges and take advantage of every opportunity. A major focus will be ensuring each student is provided an enhanced learning experience with professional internships as well as an expanded study abroad program. We will continue to provide our students with a firm foundation of knowledge while expanding their exposure to the increased use of technology in the construction industry. Our faculty will continued grow as we attract quality construction professionals with the experience to engage our students and advance the body of construction knowledge. We will remain responsive to our industry partners. The faculty, staff and students are blessed by the strong support that is provided by our Construction Industry Advisory Council.

Joe Horlen  
Department Head, CIAC Executive Director



“...the quality of the students pursuing a construction education at Texas A&M has never been higher.”

— Joe Horlen  
Department Head,  
CIAC Executive Director



Flanked by Texas A&M Ross Volunteers and cutting the ribbon to celebrate the renovation of Francis Hall are Craig Reynolds, the architect; Joe Horlen, head

of the Department of Construction Science; George A. Pontikes Jr., general contractor; and Jorge Vanegas, dean of the Texas A&M College of Architecture.

## CoSci moves into historic Francis Hall

The \$10 million transformation of historic Francis Hall, the new headquarters for Texas A&M's Department of Construction Science, into a state-of-the-art academic facility was celebrated with an April 9, 2015 ribbon cutting and open house. The campaign to raise funds for the building's renovation reflects a true investment partnership for the future of the construction industry between the university, the private sector and former students, said Joe Horlen, head of the Department of Construction Science.

"The close ties we have with the industry, vital to our suc-

cess in every way, make it possible for us to graduate students who are consistently in high demand," said Horlen. "This new, state-of-the-art education and research facility will give us much needed room to grow and prepare the next generation of highly trained and uniquely able construction professionals."

At the renovation project's outset, designers with BRW Architects and general contractor Satterfield & Pontikes Construction Inc. were faced with the challenge of renovating and upgrading a 100-year-old building, bringing it into compliance with modern building codes and standards and equipping it

with cutting-edge components — all with an eye to creating a place to prepare construction science students for leadership positions in the construction industry.

The renovated building, located in the heart of the Texas A&M campus adjacent to Evans Library, has many special features, including specialty labs for estimating and surveying, building information modeling facilities, a videoconferencing bid room and an exhibit hall.

Notable features in Francis Hall, the only building in Texas solely dedicated to construction education, include:

- State-of-the-art classrooms and lab spaces;
- Student collaboration areas, including spaces for academic competition teams;
- Exposed mechanical, electrical and structural systems that serve as a learning laboratory, and
- The capacity to increase the program's enrollment to approximately 1,500 students

To prepare the building for all these new features, Satterfield & Pontikes oversaw the demolition of the building's interior, which was then stripped to its concrete frame and floors to pave the way for improvements that included:

- Replacement of mechanical, engineering and plumbing systems;
- Installation of a new roof, windows and elevator;
- New interior partitions, finishes, and ceilings;
- Waterproofing;
- Abatement of hazardous materials, including plaster, adhesives and asbestos;
- Demolition and upgrade of original concrete auditorium seating;
- Fire and life safety code upgrades, and
- Interior structural renovations.



**Debra Ellis leads a class in the renovated Francis Hall. On the left are original support columns left visible in homage to the historic 100-year-old structure.**

The project was funded through a combination of public and private funding.

Texas A&M provided \$4.5 million and the Department of Construction Science raised the remaining \$5.5 million from industry partners and individual donors, many of whom are former students.

Satterfield & Pontikes president and chief executive officer George A. Pontikes Jr., one of the project's initial contributors, helped enlist other companies to participate in the department's fundraising effort. The project's many contributors are recognized in plaques and photographs throughout the building.

In recognition of the overall quality of construction bringing the Francis Hall project to a timely completion, Satterfield & Pontiffs Construction received multiple state and national awards for construction excellence.

Francis Hall was designed by Rolland Adelsperger, college architect and professor of architecture and architectural engineering, in a highly distinctive Romanesque style for the School of Veterinary Medicine. But the proposed design exceeded the budget, so the architectural firm of Endress and Watkin reduced the size and changed the exterior design to match other buildings on campus.

Originally completed in 1918, the structure remains a classically proportioned three-story reinforced concrete building with brick and cast stone exterior. The façade has brick pilasters with Doric and Ionic capitals and projecting faux balconies. The third floor is marked by cast stone quoins and the entire building is capped by a brick parapet wall. Francis Hall is named after Mark Francis, first dean of the School of Veterinary Medicine at what was then the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and is today Texas A&M University.

# About the Construction Industry Advisory Council

## Objectives

Since its formation in January 1998, the Construction Industry Advisory Council has maintained a commitment to the objectives contained in its by-laws and has been an integral part of the Department of Construction Science at Texas A&M University.

The program of construction education at Texas A&M University maintains its top national ranking among the 76 baccalaureate programs accredited by the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) with the real world experience that CIAC members provide to the Texas A&M program that advances all aspects of teaching, research and service.

During 2014-2015, the CIAC member companies enhanced the construction education program at Texas A&M by providing over 90% of all professional internships, and 80% of the jobs for students. These high numbers of interns and jobs illustrate how CIAC members compete to hire Aggie Constructors by taking advantage of the free booth at the fall and spring career fairs, hiring interns, and offering the intern a job prior to graduation.

The presence of council members on campus provides opportunities for active participation, cooperation and coordination between members, faculty and students that increased the quality of the classroom education and internships. Priority access to students is provided by CIAC member involvement as guest speakers, class sponsors, and as internship, field trip and scholarship



Graduating seniors Ashley Corona, Christina Martinez, and Anne Hilty give a "Gig-Em" after the Department of Construction Science's spring 2014 Hard Hat Ceremony.

providers throughout 2014-15. CIAC By-Law objectives include:

1. Promoting and improving the construction profession by education and development of the body of construction knowledge.
2. Advancing and supporting the highest quality faculty, educational facilities and undergraduate and graduate programs for the students enrolled in the Department of Construction Science.
3. Providing liaison between the construction industry and the Department of Construction Science.
4. Developing and implementing innovative programs benefitting the Department of Construction Science, its students and the construction industry.
5. Offering advice and counsel and providing vision for the Department of Construction Science through the active participation of the construction industry.



## Governance

CIAC is governed by a set of by-laws that were reviewed and updated at the October 2012 meeting. This document clearly defines principles, policies and procedures that guide this organization made up of over 160 business entities, 7 associate members, 33 lifetime individual members, 7 emeritus members, and 6 annual individual members with an annual budget of over \$350,000.

A copy of the by-laws is available on the Construction Science Department's website at: [cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry](http://cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry).

CIAC conducts the majority of its affairs and business through standing committees whose members are appointed from the council membership by the Executive Committee.

The president presents the slate of chairs of each committee for the next two calendar years at the fall meeting of each odd numbered year for council approval. The chairs serve for two years beginning January 1 of the next year. The following standing committees are appointed:

- 1. Budget:** The purpose of this committee is to prepare the proposed annual budget for consideration by the full membership. This committee also monitors expenditure of funds from the CIAC account to ensure that expenditures are in accordance with approved budgets.
- 2. Graduate Program Curriculum, Research and Studies:** The purpose



Save Our Streets Ministries staff meet with members of the Texas A&M chapter of The Associated General Contractors of America in front of Francis Hall. The ministry received \$7,500 raised by the students in a benefit golf tournament. From left are SOS staff J.J. Ramirez, SOS founder and director, Carmen Maxwell, SOS assistant director and Will Agnor, SOS director of operations.

- of this committee is to provide continuous review of the Department's graduate curriculum and to foster changes where needed to promote continuous improvement, and to determine the priorities for spending CIAC funds on graduate program issues, research and studies to further the objectives of the CIAC.
- 3. Membership:** The purpose of this committee is to promote and solicit CIAC membership, and to develop and manage a CIAC awards program providing appropriate recognition for students, faculty and CIAC individuals and corporations.
- 4. Curriculum:** The purpose of this committee is to provide continuous review of the department's undergraduate and graduate curriculum, and to foster changes where needed to promote continuous improvement.
- 5. Development:** The purpose of this committee is to support and promote the fund-raising activities of the Construction Science Department.

The Executive Committee of the CIAC may appoint task forces from time to time for special purposes with time limitations as set forth by the Executive Committee.

# Membership Opportunities

## Memberships

CIAC By-Laws provide four categories of membership: business entity, emeritus, associate, and individual.

- **Business Entity Members**, “Partners for the Future,” are industry sponsors who pay annual dues of \$2,500. In turn, the companies are entitled to designate two representatives of the business entity to participate in the council’s activities. Business Entity Members are listed on pages 27 – 37.
- **Emeritus Members** are constructors who have distinguished themselves in some aspect of construction and whose expertise and participation are valuable assets to CIAC membership. This is a special category of membership that is approved by the Executive Committee to recognize these very experienced individuals. The member is invited and encouraged to participate in all council activities. Emeritus Members are not required to pay dues, and are non-voting members of the council. Emeritus Members are listed on page 37.
- **Associate Members** are representatives of professional industry organizations (AGC, ABC, TCA, TEXO, ACCE, IFMA, CMAA, and HCA of S.A) that are invited by the Executive Committee to be members of CIAC and participate in council events. Associate Members, in deference to their significant association contributions to the Department of Construction Science, are not



Professor David Bilbo, left, recipient of the W.A. Klinger Construction Education Award from the American Institute of Constructors, speaks with students Matthew Dorsey, Adam Moncibaiz and Roberto Hass.

required to pay dues, but may vote on CIAC issues. Associate Members are listed on page 37.

- **Individual Members** are construction industry representatives who desire to support the department and participate in CIAC activities and meetings. Although many are graduates of the Department of Construction Science, membership is open to non-graduates. There are two levels of Individual Membership: Annual and Lifetime. While all Individual Members are invited to participate in CIAC activities and meetings, only Lifetime Members may vote on CIAC matters. Individual Members are listed on page 37.

For additional information or to join, contact the Department of Construction Science at 979.862.7345, or by mail at Construction Science Department / Industry Relations Office – CIAC / 3137 TAMU / College Station, TX 77843-3137. Web: [cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry](http://cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry)

The CIAC conducts its regular business meetings each fall and spring semester in College Station, Texas. An agenda for each business meeting is prepared with a full slate of events for the discussion of important funding, curriculum, development, membership and research issues. The Executive Committee, consisting of the president, vice president, committee chairs, executive director, industry relations coordinator and past presidents, meets the day prior to the full membership meeting to review the agenda to ensure all important pending issues would be effectively addressed.

Summer informational meetings are held in Houston, Dallas, Austin, and San Antonio to update members on the status of strategic plans, academic performance and key assessment factors. In the summer 2015, an informational meeting was held in Harlingen, Texas to generate interest in the program by companies and prospective students in this growing area of the state.

## Executive Summary

The CIAC members are provided with meeting agendas prepared prior to each meeting. The minutes for all Executive Committee and the full council meetings are recorded and distributed to the membership after each fall and spring semester meeting. The initial agenda item for each CIAC meeting is a department- and program-level issue that all the separate committees address, providing industry insight and perspective. Copies of the CIAC meeting minutes can be viewed online at [cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry/meetings](http://cosc.arch.tamu.edu/industry/meetings).

Following are summaries of the program and department issues addressed in the full council meetings throughout 2014–15:

**April 2014** — President Bob Flowers opened his first meeting by thanking all the industry partners for their commitment to the program. Respect and admiration were expressed for Jim Marsh, the first department head of the program who was honored as the Construction Industry Advisory Council's 2014 inductee into the Constructor Hall of Fame at the awards banquet. Jim's recollections of the early days of the construction program at Texas A&M helped all to reflect upon how far the program has come over the years.

Joe Horlen reviewed the meeting agenda and requested the membership's input on several key issues to the program as would be identified in the student focus groups. The goal and guidelines for the student focus

group sessions were explained. Four student focus groups were conducted with 10 to 15 students in each group for graduating seniors, juniors, freshman\sophomore and graduate students. Thirty issues were raised and discussed between the students and our industry partners. The majority of the issues raised dealt with program curriculum and industry related topics such as career fair, guest speakers and increased diversity in the sectors of the industry presented to the students. The professional internship program and the high level of industry support were noted strengths.

Stan Marek, introduced the new executive director of the Construction

Career Collaborative (C3), Chuck Gremillion, and briefed the members on the objectives and goals of the C3 for advancing the workforce development initiative in Houston, Texas.

Professor John Bryant distributed a survey to the company representatives seeking input on the early stages of a study as to the need for a new degree in architectural engineering. This would be a new degree that is different than the construction science degree. Professor Bryant is a member of college level interdisciplinary committee exploring the validity of this issue.

**October 2014** — The meeting agenda was adjusted to allow for a meeting



Construction science students visit a physical plant on the Baylor University campus during spring 2015 field day. Students also visited Baylor's football field and other new facilities. During field day each semester, students choose one of several sites that reflect the latest construction, material production and manufacturing practices.

adjournment after lunch in lieu of the customary 3:00 p.m. time. The individual committees had their normal assigned issues, but were also asked to address “The Meaning of Interdisciplinary and Collaboration within the College of Architecture”.

The committees’ input on this issue will be provided to the Dean’s Advisory Council. Individual members were also asked to provide input on the program objectives and design of a “Leadership Development Program” that was being reviewed by the Dean’s Advisory Council. The various committees proposed a list of 12 items to Dean Vanegas during the meeting. Dean Jorge Vanegas addressed the group and provided his perspective on the State of the College of Architecture. The focus is to be aligned and responsive to upper level mandates in order to have a place at the table on university issues. Dean Vanegas recognized that there are some built-in inequities between the departments in the college. Regarding the current culture of metrics of excellence, Dean Vanegas noted that the Construction Science Department has led the college in achieving those metrics concerning students with its growth in enrollment.

An update on the renovation of Francis Hall was provided with pictures of the interior upgrades and finishes. The capital campaign to raise funds for design, construction equipment and furniture reached \$5.15 million. The department continued to exceed and make progress on the various target numbers for growth and graduation rate.

The membership was informed of a faculty search that was in progress for three to six faculty members with a mix of tenure track, instructional professors and lecturers. There is a need for additional faculty with construction industry experience that can be brought into the classroom. The CIAC members were encouraged to pass along the opportunity to those in their professional associations and networks.

April 2015 – It was a time to celebrate with a ribbon cutting and open house event for Francis Hall as major project donors and CIAC members were invited to come to College Station on a Thursday and spend the day touring the new home for construction education at Texas A&M. As a result, the normal day long CIAC meeting on a Friday was not scheduled.

**October 2015** — The primary agenda item for the fall 2015 CIAC meeting was gathering the industry members input to update the department’s strategic plan.

Harold Adams, Visiting Professor in the College of Architecture, and world renowned architect and leader who retired as chairman of RTKL addressed the full membership. Mr. Adams was specially selected to spend a year as a member of the College of Architecture faculty to observe the college and its four departments and to make recommendations on positive actions to undertake to enhance the programs and move forward. He gave the members a brief overview of his extensive professional career and shared the lessons the learned early in his

career on the value of interdisciplinary cooperation between architects, engineers and constructors. He stressed the importance of business classes for all team members, and increasing the level of interdisciplinary interaction between the four departments with more joint classes in the lower level courses as well some interdisciplinary courses. Mr. Adams also suggested that the departments and the College of Architecture develop a succession plan for faculty as well as administrators. He fielded questions from the membership on the topics of creativity, and the need for more faculty members to be agents of change.

The major announcement during the meeting was the planned retirement of Professor Bob Segner in May 2016 after 46 years of service.

The six new faculty members from the 2014-2015 faculty search were introduced to the CIAC members present.

The Executive Committee slate for 2016-2017 was announced with the nomination of David Fleming, Sundt, for president; Jeremy Stovall, Brookstone, for vice president and budget committee chair; Brent Blake, Balfour Beatty, membership chair; Blake Ballard, Marek Brothers Systems, curriculum chair; and Leland Rocchio, Jordan Foster, graduate program and research chair.

Matt Summerville, Brandt, will remain as chair of the development committee.

Bob Flowers, Endurance Builders, expressed his appreciation for the outstanding support he has enjoyed as CIAC president for 2014-2015.

# Segner to leave teaching post after 46 years

Professor Bob Segner, whose former students are leaders throughout the construction industry, is retiring at the end of the spring 2016 semester after a 46-year teaching career.

"Segner has had an immeasurable impact in the construction industry by successfully preparing thousands of students who are now enjoying careers as construction managers," said Joe Horden, head of the department. "He is the department's most recognized faculty member and he will be missed."

He is lauded by his many former students for turning them into leaders while teaching them what they would need to know to succeed in the construction industry.

Many of his former students have expressed their appreciation for the manner in which he molded them as students, giving them the important building blocks of construction methods and materials, and mentoring them throughout their careers after graduation. They also recognized Segner for his thorough class preparations and "hard-nosed," "no non-sense" teaching style. Despite this approach, Segner made the classes interesting and learning fun, blending lessons on character, integrity, honesty and discipline along with steel, concrete and wood. Many cited that his animated and passionate delivery were what swayed them to pursue a career in construction after taking one of Segner's introductory courses.

As a result of these many student acco-



**Bob Segner leads a class in Francis Hall's Segner Auditorium.**

lades, Segner earned outstanding faculty member in 2012, 2011, 2009, 2007 and 2003 on the department level and the Distinguished Teaching Award in 1997 and 1985 from the Association of Former Students. In 2007, Segner earned a lifetime achievement for consistent excellence in graduate and undergraduate teaching, curriculum development and outstanding faculty performance in research and service by the Dean of the College of Architecture.

When historic Francis Hall was undergoing a renovation to become the new home of the Department of Construction Science, one of Segner's former students, Don Weaver '76, found a permanent way to honor him by donating \$250,000 to name an auditorium, the centerpiece of the building, after Segner.

"I can't think of a better way to honor Bob, who has played such a pivotal role in the education and careers of Aggie

construction science students," said Weaver, president of The Urban Companies, a Houston-based real estate and design/build company.

In addition to authoring or coauthoring numerous peer-reviewed publications that have appeared in academic journals, conference and trade association publications, he co-authored three books that are standard texts in construction science education. His books include "Construction Contracting," now in its 8th edition, "Construction Project Management," and "Construction Supervision."

Professor Segner will end his career having served in several administrative positions, including associate head of the Department of Construction Science, associate dean for continuing education and research at the College of Architecture, and acting director of the college's Center for Housing and Urban Development.

## Budget Committee

The Budget Committee was chaired by Dave Fleming of Sundt who also served as CIAC vice president.

The wide variety of programs and special events that enhance the education of all COSC students is due in large part to the to the CIAC's generous financial support.

The annual budgets for 2014 and 2015 are provided on pages 39 and 40. The actual planned income for both 2014 and 2015 exceeded the budgeted amounts due to the continued growth in the number of CIAC members.

A major change in the 2014 budget was doubling the individual scholarships and student recruitment expense line item from \$20,000 to \$40,000. The increase was used to fund incoming freshmen scholarships that cannot be covered with differential tuition funding. The transfer of \$75,000 to the CIAC Support Fund was also added.

Expense line item funding was established in accordance with CIAC By-Laws for the major program areas: student enrichment, scholarships, research and studies, departmental support, and CIAC operations.

A financial review of the CIAC's income and expenses for 2012-2013 was completed by an independent accounting firm.

The increased revenue from CIAC membership resulted in increases to several expense line items in the 2015 and 2016 budgets. The number of funded endowed matching scholarships was increased from six to ten. The funds in



**A rendering of Kyle Field projected in Francis Hall's new BIM-CAVE. The new state-of-the-art computer-aided virtual environment is one of the finest facilities in the nation for viewing BIM models.**

the CIAC's Support Fund was increased by \$75,000. The endowed professorship line item was increased from \$50,000 to \$60,000. A \$2500 sponsorship of the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Conference hosted by Texas A&M in April 2015 was added to the budget.

Going forward into 2016, the budget committee proposed an increased budget with expense line items to transfer \$100,000 to the CIAC Support Fund, and to fund the CIAC meeting expenses in response to the growth in the number of CIAC members.

## Student Enrichment

Student enrichment funds were provided by the CIAC for student competitions, graduation events, the awards banquet, career fairs and the associate constructor exam. This financial support was key to providing our students with a wide variety of enhanced learning experiences.

The construction education program

continued to be represented well in the competitions teams in commercial building, design-build, residential and heavy civil construction at the regional and national levels. The Commercial Building Competition Team, sponsored by Joeris General Contractors, competed in the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region 5 competition with a third place finish in 2014. The ASC Heavy Civil\Highway competition team placed second in 2015. The Design-Build Competition Team placed third in 2014. The coaches for the competition teams were Professors Ken Williamson, Boong Ryoo and George Eustace.

A significant achievement was the selection of team members as the "top speakers" in their respective competitions in both 2014 and 2015 reflecting the program's emphasis on enhancing the students' communication skills as requested by our industry partners.

The American Institute of Constructors (AIC) conducted its first national student ethics competition in 2015. This

national program was patterned after the successful ethics team competition in the COSC 381 – Ethics in the Construction Industry class.

Prior to graduation each semester, a hard hat ceremony is held to honor the graduates with the presentation of a personalized “Aggie Constructor” hard hat. Those students earning department-level awards for leadership and academic excellence were recognized with the presentation of a watch and their name on a permanent wall plaque. The award winners for 2014 and 2015 are provided on pages 20–21.

The annual Spring Scholarship and Awards Banquets were held April 10, 2014 and April 9, 2015 at the College Station Hilton. Each business entity member is entitled to a table for four at this event. The guest speaker for the 2014 banquet was Jim Marsh the first department head of the construction education program at Texas A&M. A highlight of the evening was the opportunity to capture a group photograph of all the programs department heads from 1969 to 2015.

To provide CIAC members with priority access to construction science students, the first career fair each semester is reserved for member firms only. New records for the number of companies participating in the CIAC career fair continued to be set with each consecutive career fair event. A new record level for participation in this career fair was set at the fall 2015 event with 141 CIAC companies eclipsing the fall 2013 number of 110 companies.



Jeff Higdon, center, vice president of Dynamic Systems, Inc., visits with David Gardner during a March 23 Company Day in Francis Hall. At right is Paul Stein, Dynamic Systems project manager.

## Industry luminaries interact with students on CoSci’s Company Day

Texas A&M construction science students have several opportunities to interact with visiting construction professionals as part of the Department of Construction Science’s “Company Day” program, a series of one-day, open-ended visits from construction industry leaders from the department’s Construction Industry Advisory Council.

The council is composed of construction industry luminaries who regularly advise department administrators on contemporary construction issues, modern industry practices and course content.

During Company Day, visiting professionals can choose to meet with students in informal settings, to lecture or simply roam the Francis Hall facility and interact with students.

“It’s a way for representatives from CIAC businesses and students to meet in a relaxed, ‘come and go’ manner,” said George Eustace, the department’s industry relations coordinator.

After the success of the program’s trial run, last spring, Eustace said, “the program was expanded to 33 days for the fall 2015 semester, during which approximately 300 students met with representatives from more than 30 companies.”

This spring, 35 dates are set aside for Company Day visits available to CIAC member firm representatives on a first-come, first-served basis.

To sign up or for more Company Day information, contact Eustace at [geustace@arch.tamu.edu](mailto:geustace@arch.tamu.edu) or 979.458.0156.

## Scholarships

Since 1998, the CIAC budget has included funds for Endowed Matching Scholarships by providing a \$10,000 match for a CIAC member who pledges \$15,000 for a \$25,000 named scholarship. Donations can be made over a period of time, up to five years, to achieve the minimum funding.

The following endowed matching scholarships were added in 2014-2015, increasing the total number of scholarships to 82:

- DSI Employees Scholarship
- Don Jones '61 and Mary and Russell Jones '84 Endowed Scholarship
- Perry Homes Scholarship
- C.J. Strnadel IV Memorial Scholarship
- Lyness Construction Scholarship
- Slate Construction Scholarship
- Harvey/Harvey-Cleary Endowed Scholarship
- Hess Family Endowed Scholarship
- Gary C. Wortham '70 / John S. Lee /Southwestern Services Endowed Scholarship
- HMH Lifestyles Endowed Scholarship

Matching increases to the following existing endowed scholarships were made by:

- The Swinerton Foundation and
- Mr. Ronald J. Gafford. '72

At the end of 2015, the market value of all endowed scholarships was \$3,413,705.95



Scott Parshall, left, and Martin Montgomery, center, were among the many construction science students who helped BUILD, a student service organization, convert four shipping containers into mobile medical clinics.

The scholarship presentation ceremony is held each year at the College Station Hilton. The ceremony is planned and conducted by the Sigma Lambda Chi Honor Society.

During the event, a representative from each scholarship provider presents their scholarship certificate to the deserving student and shares a reserved table at the banquet that follows.

At the 2014 ceremony, 231 students received \$438,500 in scholarships. At the 2015 event, \$385,000 in scholarships were presented to 235 students.

The CIAC budget includes funds for freshman and for matching endowed scholarships. The combined funding by the CIAC resulted in 60 scholarships

awarded to incoming freshmen during 2014–15.

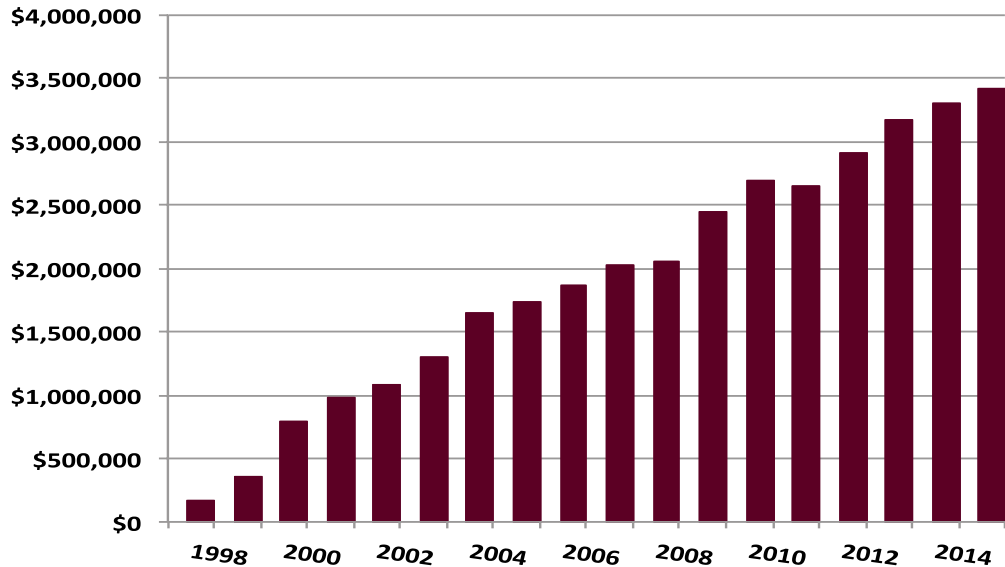
Each student's opportunity to pursue a degree, and the department's reputation for excellence are greatly enhanced by the financial support provided by CIAC members.

The George Seagraves Faculty Fellowship, an endowed matching fellowship, was added for faculty in the Department of Construction Science with a primary teaching and/or research focus on residential construction. Eligible faculty shall include all tenure and tenure-track faculty as well as instructional professors, without further regard to academic rank.

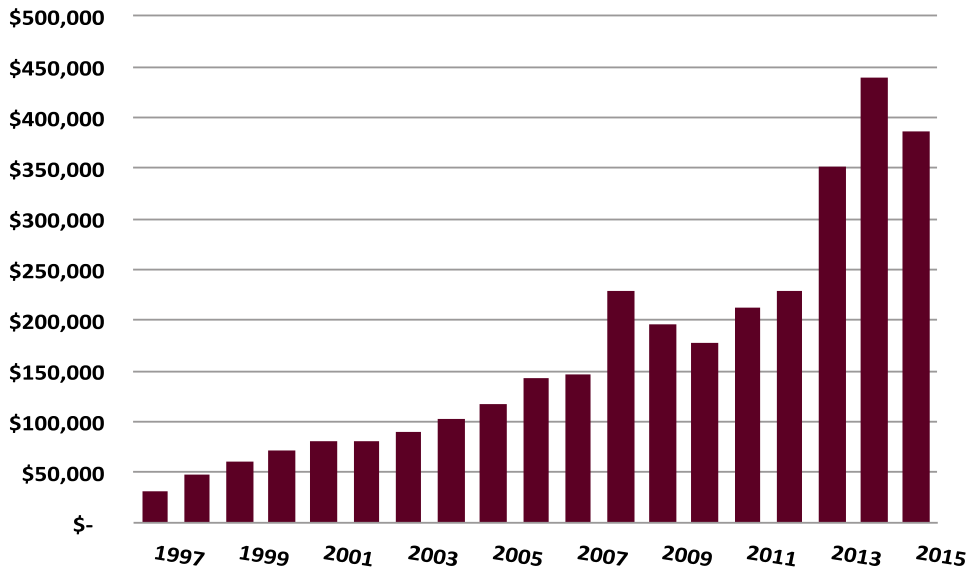


The market value of the Scholarship Endowment continues to grow with the more favorable economic climate in 2014 and 2015 and has doubled over the last ten years.

### SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT



### VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS



The number and average values of the individual student scholarships increased to 235 scholarships awarded in 2015. COSC students submit applications online for university, college, and department scholarships from CIAC members, external professional organizations, individuals and private companies. A scholarship committee made up of faculty members review and rank the applications. The award of individual scholarships is based on the ranking and the specified criteria set forth for the scholarship by the donor.

## Departmental Support

The public funding provided by the state of Texas is supplemented by CIAC budgeted funds for departmental support that provide for program enrichment and faculty development expenses for administrative supplies, equipment, travel, professional certifications and conference fees.

This funding provided by the CIAC has been very important in allowing faculty members to travel for the purpose of participation in professional organizations, presentation of technical papers, and continuing education.

The department's continued success in exceeding the university mandated targets for increased enrollment is due in large part to the funds provided in support of new student recruitment. Recruiting visits to community and junior colleges in the major population centers has aided in attracting more transfer students.

## CIAC Operations

The budgeted funds for CIAC operations are used for meeting expenses associated with the spring, summer and fall meetings. The spring and fall meetings are held in College Station. Summer informational luncheon meetings are held in Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Austin and Harlingen. Tailgate events are scheduled in conjunction with the fall full council meeting.

The increased revenue from membership fees in 2014 and 2015 allowed for the transfer of \$150,000

from the CIAC's Foundation Account to the CIAC Support Account that was established in 2009. At the end of 2015, the market value of the CIAC Support Fund was over \$280,000. The interest accrued from the CIAC Support Account is available income for the council's annual operating budget.

## Curriculum Committee

The curriculum committee, chaired by Carl McClenan of Joeris General Contractors, advanced the department's program assessment efforts by reviewing the department's assessment documents that address both the university as well as American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) student learning outcomes. The initial review of the student learning outcomes was for electronic based technology and structural analysis. An increased emphasis on the advancement of technology in the curriculum is an important industry need.

The curriculum committee continued its review of the department's program assessment at the fall 2014 by working on the student learning outcome for mechanical, electrical, and piping systems. The department's efforts to create more consistency between Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Systems I (COSC 325) and Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Systems II (COSC 326) with an increased focus on the application and installation of MEP systems were noted. The importance of the MEP topics is supported by the large percentage of a project cost that MEP systems represent. Breaking down the

MEP topics into separate HVAC, plumbing and electrical areas was discussed. There was a suggestion that all faculty should attend an MEP "boot camp".

During the fall 2015 meeting, the committee presented its work on the proposed Leadership Certificate program and made recommendations on topics to be covered in the four 1-hour class sessions at the junior or senior level, and other existing 300 and 400 level classes. A focus would be on development of soft skills such as conflict resolution and negotiation, building relationships, thinking outside the box, communication skills (both written and verbal), people management, and law, with the inclusion of a possible service project. A case study on a leader should also be considered.

## Development Committee

Chaired by Matt Summerville, Brandt, the Development Committee's efforts were directed toward increasing the program's visibility and awareness among a wider range of the industry through the summer informational luncheons that are annually hosted in Dallas, Houston, San Antonio and Austin. In 2015, an additional informational luncheon meeting was held in Harlingen, Texas with the assistance of the AGC of the Rio Grande Valley thus increasing the program outreach to this important region of the state. These "mini-CIAC" meetings help maintain personal contact with our industry partners, and update the members on the program's key

► *Continued on page 18*



## Texas A&M hosts Associated Schools of Construction

Construction science educators and graduate students from across the United States and throughout the world came to Texas A&M April 22-25, 2015 to discuss emerging technologies' effects on construction management practice and education at the Associated Schools of Construction's 51st Annual International Conference, hosted by Texas A&M and the Department of Construction Science.

The event attracted approximately 250 educators and graduate students, said Julian Kang, co-chairman of the conference and associate professor of construction science.

"The conference highlighted the research and teaching taking place in our department to construction educators from throughout the world," said Kang. The conference also showcased the newly renovated Francis Hall, new home of the Department of Construction Science, after it underwent a \$10 million renovation. Conference attendees also took tours of Kyle Field, which was undergoing a \$450 million renovation.

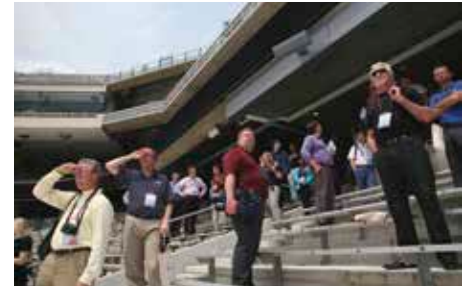
The ASC is a professional, interdisciplinary association whose members seek to develop and advance construction education. The construction managers, architects, engineers and other

professionals in other fields in the ASC believe that sharing ideas and knowledge inspires, guides and promotes excellence in construction curricula, teaching, research and service.

Workshops at the conference, led by Texas A&M construction science faculty, focused on the theme "Emerging Construction Technology" and investigated how technological tools — mobile devices, building information modeling, geographic information systems, surveying, software advancements and robotics — are poised to bring great changes to the construction industry, said Kang.

"We considered which emerging technologies managers want to use," said Kang, "how these technologies change procedures at the construction jobsite, and how we teach construction management to our students."

The conference included presentations of more than 100 peer-reviewed papers detailing research projects by construction faculty in the United States and abroad. Additionally, graduate student research was featured in oral and poster presentations and conference participants will hear from university and department officials and industry practitioners.



► *Continued from page 16*

program metrics and statistics.

An important achievement by the development committee at the fall 2014 meeting was the development guidelines for a “Company Day” event beginning with the spring 2015 semester. This new program enhanced an important benefit of CIAC membership by increasing member companies’ prior access to COSC student afforded by the increased meeting space provided in the renovated Francis Hall.

During the fall 2015 meeting, the committee presented its recommendations on increasing the number of matching endowed scholarships at the same current amount of \$10,000 in lieu of matching increases to existing endowed scholarships. The committee made recommendation for a special guest speaker with a construction industry focus at a global level with name recognition. A list of prospective speakers was provided.



**Link In!** Play an active role in the Texas A&M University construction science community by joining the department’s very successful LinkedIn group:

[www.linkedin.com/groups/1300187](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/1300187)

## Graduate Program Curriculum, Research & Studies Committee

The committee was chaired by Jeremy Stovall of Brookstone. At the April 2014 meeting, Professor Ben Bigelow gave an update on the progress of his CIAC research grant to develop an inventory of the industry’s research needs beginning with a survey of all CIAC members. Professor Boong Ryoo also updated the committee on his cloud computing research project that was in its implementation stage by working with construction companies on the Texas A&M campus.

The results of Professor Bigelow’s research was presented at the fall 2014 and a report issued based upon the results of a survey of 27 companies and 57 responses. The committee recommended the CIAC’s 2015 research funds be used to hire a consultant to train and assist faculty on obtaining research grant funding based upon the results of the survey. A motion was made and voted for approval by the full CIAC membership to fund a consultant contract for one year with an annual review and revision as needed.

During the fall 2015 meeting the committee presented its work on the research budget recommending the scope of the existing outside consulting contract be amended to provide for a review of grant submissions and funded at \$12,500. A call for research proposals will go out to the COSC faculty for the remaining \$12,500 funds in the 2016 budget with the focus to be on

topics identified in the research project conducted by Professor Ben Bigelow that are tied to industry needs.

## Membership Committee

The membership committee, chaired by various representatives from Balfour Beatty, addressed the career fair planning process to meet the challenge presented by the increasing size of the event and the high job offer acceptance of graduating seniors prior to the career fair. Younger students were encouraged to participate in the career fair events at an earlier stage of their academic studies to increase their knowledge of the various companies and their job opportunities.

At the fall 2014 meeting, the membership committee provided a review of the career fairs based upon the continued growth in size and participation in these important events while noting that the planning and execution of the career fairs are well done and the Brazos County Expo Center works well. Companies expressed a desire to receive resumes prior to the event. A motion was made and approved to invite the International Facilities Management Association, San Antonio Chapter as an associate member.

The committee ended 2015 with a recommended slate of three nominations for the future award of the Constructor Hall of Fame. Recommendations were also made to recognize those former students who worked on Kyle Field.

The committee presented Joe Horlen with nominations for committee chairs and executive committee officers.

## Department loses legendary leading lights

After building towering legacies in the Texas A&M Department of Construction Science and Texas building industry, three iconic department leaders passed away.

**Jim Smith**, who died in April 2015, served as head of the Department of Construction Science and founded the Construction Industry Advisory Council, which has played a multifaceted, critical role in Texas A&M construction education by advising department administrators and faculty, connecting with students looking for jobs or internships at departmental career fairs and providing financial support to the department. "Since CIAC's inception in 1998, builders have contributed more than \$13 million to the department for student scholarships, professorships and the renovation of Francis Hall," said Joe Horlen, head of the department. "Smith's creation is the largest advisory group in the nation, with more than 160 member companies eager to hire our graduates." Smith's talents in the classroom were recognized in 2012 with the Association of Former Students' Distinguished Achievement Award for teaching.

**James H. Marsh '51**, who died in April 2014, served as the first head of the De-



Former department heads assembled at the Spring 2014 scholarship and awards banquet. From left are Larry Grosse, Carol Claycamp, James Marsh, Joe Horlen and James C. Smith. Marsh passed away in April 2014 and Smith a year later.

partment of Construction Science from 1969 to 1981.

Marsh, who earned an architectural construction degree at Texas A&M in 1951, was one of the founding members of the Associated Schools of Construction, the American Council on Construction Education and the American Institute for Constructors.

During an accomplished career in the construction industry, Marsh invented the "lift shape" process for thin shell concrete construction used in park pavilions, such as the Medo Pavilion at the 1964-65 New York World's Fair and in Hensel Park at Texas A&M.

In his academic career, Marsh was presented with The Association of Former Students' Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching in 1971 and named professor emeritus by the College of Architecture in 1991 after 33 years of service.

In 1998, he was honored as an Outstand-

ing Alumnus of the college.

**Brice Hill '73**, who died in January 2015, was the first CIAC president. A member of the Dean's Advisory Council of the College of Architecture, Hill also served on Texas A&M's Vision 2020 Strategic Planning Committee, and the Champions' Council of the 12th Man Foundation.

After earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Building Construction at Texas A&M in 1973, Hill served in key positions for several prominent firms, including vice president of operations at Austin Commercial, executive vice president of the George Hyman Construction Company, chairman/CEO of Centex Construction Group and president of Constructors & Associates.

A board member in numerous industry associations, Hill was honored as an Outstanding Alumnus of the College of Architecture in 1998.

## Hall of Famers



The late James Marsh, former head of the Department of Construction Science, was inducted into the Constructor Hall of Fame Award at the department's 2014 awards banquet. He passed away later that month.



Stan Marek, CEO, Marek Brothers Systems, speaks at the spring 2015 banquet following his induction into the CIAC Constructor Hall of Fame. He is a CIAC founding member and past president.

## Awards

The Constructor Hall of Fame Award was established in 2001 to honor non-alumni who made a difference in the industry and helped advance the construction science program at Texas A&M. At the fall 2011 CIAC meeting, the CIAC voted to accept a membership committee's recommendation opening nominations to Texas A&M former students.

The 2014 Constructor Hall of Fame Award recipient was James "Jim" Marsh, the department head at Texas A&M from 1969 to 1981.

In 2015, the Constructor Hall of Fame Award went to Stan Marek, CEO of Marek Brothers. Stan is a founding and lifetime CIAC member and served as the CIAC president from 2004 to 2005. He has been instrumental in serving as a guest speaker, and creating one of the largest endowed matching scholarships in the department.

## Gene Murphree Awards



Sean O'Keefe, spring 2014



Wesley Francis, spring 2015



Collin Lane, fall 2015



Cameron Derouen, fall 2014

## Faculty Awards



Department head Joe Horlen, left receives the Fluor Outstanding Educator Award from student Stephen Mery at the Spring 2014 Banquet. Professor Sarel Lavy, above, right, earned Excellence in Scholarly Work and Research Awards for 2014 and 2015. He received the award from senior Eduardo Trejo.



## Outstanding Graduates

Outstanding graduate awards went to Sima Aliabbar, pictured above, left, with Professor Bob Segner at the Fall 2015 awards banquet; Di Ai, pictured above, right, with Professor Boong Ryoo at the spring 2014 banquet; and Carlos Velasco, pictured at left with Professor Sarel Lavy, far left, at the spring 2015 banquet. Yatindra Athivarapu, the fall 2014 honoree, is not pictured.



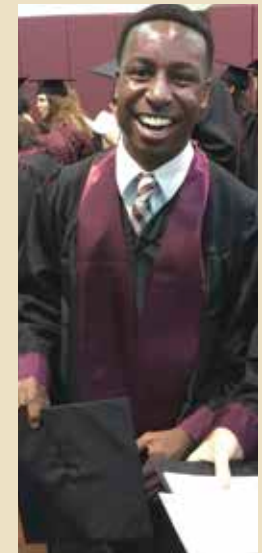
## Cumberland Craftsman Awards



Daniel Sanchez receives the Cumberland Craftsman Award from Professors Bob Segner and Joe Horlen at the department's spring 2014 banquet.



Paul Shaw, left, the fall 2014 Cumberland Craftsman Award winner at graduation.



Cumberland Craftsman Award winners William Michael Powell, left, spring 2015, and Trey Foster, right, fall 2015.

## Internships

Each graduate of the construction science program must complete a 15-week semester long professional internship during a fall or spring semester. Many of the students combine a summer work experience to gain further hands on experience. The success of the internship program is due in large part to the support of the CIAC members. During 2014 to 2015, CIAC members hired from 80% to 92% of all interns with the number of interns ranging from 78 to 130 a semester. The vast majority of students find their internship by participating in one of the career fairs that are held each semester. The internship is a 7-credit hour course and a designated writing-intensive class where the final letter grade earned is based totally on the required weekly reports that are graded for proper grammar and spelling as well as clarity and completeness. During 2014 and 2015, approximately 70% of all interns were given a job offer prior to graduation by their internship provider.

With the creation of a minor in facilities management, a new facilities management internship program was started for those needing hands on experience in operating, maintaining and repairing existing facilities.

## Study Abroad

The study abroad program included a ten-week long summer session in 2014 with a combined eighteen-week study abroad and internship in the spring

2015. The chance to learn and see the European construction industry in action while participating in a diverse cultural experience is the type of “high impact learning” that Texas A&M is seeking for its students.

In the summer 2014, twenty students toured construction sites and professional offices in London for three weeks before departing for Germany to see open mining operations among other cultural and construction sites. Visits with companies from Vienna, Austria were added. As a result of the program’s excellent history with the companies, the companies have expanded their presentations. Many of the companies have pictures of the study abroad students from A&M in many of their offices.

Professor Kim Carlson led the London segment with visits to the Olympic Stadium, Parliament, Westminster Abby, Hampton Court and Windsor Castle.

Professor Anne McGowan led the Germany segment with visits to the DHL Post Tower, Skywalk, Munich University, and Cologne Cathedral. The site visits included a 30 story building with glass floors and walls, and a self-contained hydro- cooling and heating system, a tunneling operation for a roadway, and strip mining operation.

In 2015, seven students spent an initial nine weeks in London and surrounding areas completing academic and cultural learning objectives before beginning their nine week British internships. The students toured the new U.S. Embassy under construction in the formerly gritty Nine Elms district

that was being revitalized on the south bank of the Thames River, and the historical preservation work being done at the College of Arms (circa 1555). Skanska facilitated the students with an inside look at the Cross Rail subway network – the largest construction project being undertaken in Europe. The students were also invited by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors to hear and personally visit with the CEO of the Crown Estate that previously was responsible for the planning and delivery of many of the venues constructed for the 2012 Olympic Games in London. During the second nine-weeks, students were placed with a variety of construction, construction-related and facility management firms throughout the United Kingdom. The students submitted weekly internship reports that captured the knowledge and skills applied and acquired from their experiences.

## Job Placement

The Department of Construction Science conducts the largest department-level career fairs of any program on the Texas A&M campus. Four career fairs are held each year with two of the events dedicated to members of the Construction Industry Advisory Council. Two smaller career fairs are hosted for non-CIAC members.

The total number of participating companies in the career fairs increased from 149 in spring 2014 to a steadily increasing record high of 169 companies in fall 2015.



CIAC members accounted for 83% of the industry participation in the career fairs.

The department is unique in requiring students to complete an internship, making students available during the 15-week spring and fall semesters. The required professional internship program in the construction science curriculum is highly dependent on the participation of our industry partners with Construction Industry Advisory Council members providing 92% of all professional internships during the fall 2015 semester. Hiring interns and providing them with an excellent internship experience is a proven staffing and recruiting strategy for CIAC members.

As a result of this strategy, CIAC member companies continue to be the primary employers of Texas A&M Construction Science graduates with over 80% of the reported accepted job offers upon graduation provided by CIAC members in fall 2015.

Job placement rates steadily increased as the state of the economy improved from 88% in spring 2014 to 93% for fall 2015. The increased placement rates were matched by increases in the average starting salaries with an average of \$ 59,212 being reported by fall 2015 graduates.

A summary of employment for 2014 and 2015 Bachelor of Science Construction Science graduates is provided in Attachment B, "Hiring Data," on page 38.



## Faculty Awards

Two faculty members of the Department of Construction Science captured back to back awards in 2014 and 2015 from the American Institute of Constructors (AIC) with the presentations of the prestigious W.A. Klinger Construction Education Award Klinger Award for exceptional teaching and service to **George Eustace**, industry relations coordinator, and **David Bilbo**, professor of construction science.

The AIC, which promotes industry professionalism and ethics, has annually presented the Klinger Award since 1976 to honor educators who have distinguished themselves, advanced the construction profession, their institution of learning and the industry.



**George Eustace**

Eustace was recognized for heading numerous initiatives, including a construction ethics contest, field trips and job fairs. Each semester, Eustace tasks students to become familiar with the AIC's Code of Ethics and identify ethical dilemmas in a scenario he prepares. In the exercise, students analyze the situation and recommended solutions to a panel of industry professionals, who evaluate the presentations.

Bilbo, a member of the Texas A&M faculty since 1979, Bilbo prepares students for rewarding careers



**David Bilbo**

in construction management. Promoted to associate professor in 1992 and full professor in 2000, Bilbo was the Clark Endowed Professor of Construction Science from 1998-2012. He specializes in emergency preparation and response, construction project management and administration, and industrial/technical education. A productive researcher for many years, in 2014, Bilbo contributed to projects examining integrated project delivery, female project managers' salaries, and legislation's effects on the construction economy, with results published in peer-reviewed academic journals.

## New Faculty

The number and depth of experience of the Construction Science Department faculty were increased significantly in 2014-2015 to meet the demands of an increase in student enrollment. A mix of non-tenure, tenure-track and adjunct faculty brought the diversity needed for field experience, technology and research.

The depth of construction experience on the faculty was enhanced by the addition of Larry Fickel and Gary Boldt as senior lecturers.

**Larry Fickel** earned a Bachelor of Science, Building Construction from Texas A&M University in 1981 before



**Larry Fickel**

beginning a 35 year career that has included progressive advancement from project engineer, project manager, superintendent and project executive. He served as the president of the Construction Industry Advisory Council from 2006 to 2007, after participation as a committee chair. He remained active in the CIAC as a past president on the CIAC executive committee. Mr. Fickel teaches project controls and serves as a judge of the department's ethics team competition.



**Gary Boldt**

**Gary Boldt** earned his Bachelor of Science, Building Construction from Texas A&M University in 1983. He ran a commercial construction business in San Antonio for 29 years prior to joining the COSC faculty. He was also involved in construction trade organizations, banking, insurance, and appraisal board. He teaches estimating and coaches the commercial building competition team.

The addition of Manish Dixit and Eric Jing Du as assistant professors addressed the department's need for tenure-track faculty with the talent and ability to advance the program's utilization of technology.

**Manish Dixit** earned a Bachelor of



**Manish Dixit**

Architecture from Jiwaji University in Gwalior, India in 1995 followed by a Master of Landscape Architecture from the School of Planning and Architecture in New Delhi, India, 1997, a Master of Science, Construction Management from Texas A&M in 2009, and a Ph.D. (Architecture, with emphasis on Construction Management), Texas A&M University in 2013. He was a member of the construction faculty at Sam Houston University prior to joining the COSC faculty. Dr. Dixit's research interests include life cycle energy and environmental modeling, green building materials, embodied energy modeling, zero-energy buildings, building information modeling (BIM), and facility performance assessment. He is also interested in developing Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) for BIM authoring tools. His research has been recognized globally through two best paper awards in international conferences and an increasing number of citations of his research papers. Dr. Dixit currently represents the United States as a National Participant in Annex 57 of the International Energy Agency (IEA). Annex 57 is an international research project focusing on the evaluation of embodied energy & carbon dioxide emissions for building construction. He teaches construction graphics and building information



**Eric Jin Du**

modeling. **Eric Jin Du** earned his Bachelor of Civil Engineering and Master of Science, Enterprise Management from Tianjin University and his PhD in Construction Management from Michigan State University. Prior to joining the COSC faculty, Dr. Du was on the construction faculty at University of Texas San Antonio. His research interests aim to understand the role of human factors in the design, construction and management of built environments. Particularly, he strives to investigate how the decision making processes and behaviors affect quality, sustainability and safety in complex projects. He teaches industrial capstone, information technology and building information modeling.



**Stephen Rodgers**

**Stephen Rodgers** is a graduate of Texas Tech University where he earned Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications and Juris Doctorate degrees. Before joining the faculty as a professor of practice, he maintained a trial law practice with the firm of Rodgers, Miller & Rodriguez in Bryan, Texas for over 35 years. Stephen Rodgers began his career on the faculty by leading the combined internship and study abroad program in the United Kingdom during the spring

2015 semester. He had served as a guest speaker in COSC classes on construction law before joining the faculty. He teaches the law classes and is the study abroad program coordinator.



**James Benham**

**James Benham** earned his Bachelor of Business Administration (Accounting) and Master of Science, Management Information Systems from Texas A&M University. During his final year at Texas A&M in 2001, James co-managed an internet services provider (ISP), providing dial-up Internet to over 4,000 users. He established JBKnowledge, Inc in Bryan, Texas that is a leading information technology development company for construction and insurance companies around the world.



**Ray Grisham**

He joined the faculty as a Guest Lecturing Professor in 2015. **Ray Grisham** earned his Bachelor of Arts from Texas A&M in 1969 followed by his Juris Doctorate from the University of Texas Law School in 1972. Ray enjoyed a lengthy law career specializing in family law, mediation, arbitration, estate planning, probate, guardianship and elder law and retired as a District Court Judge. He teaching in both COSC law classes.



## Students design, build 'tiny' homes

Miniature residences designed and built by Texas A&M students were showcased May 2015 at Rudder Plaza then transported to a master-planned development in Austin where they will provide affordable, sustainable housing for disabled, chronically homeless people.

The homes, both of which have less than 150 feet of living space, were designed as "tiny" houses, a broad term generally referring to residences 300 square feet or less. Advocates of the growing tiny house movement cite the advantages of the homes' sustainability, lower cost and simplified lifestyle.

Both homes include separate living and bedroom areas, plenty of multipurpose shelving, storage compartments and closet space. Because the village has communal facilities for cooking and bathing, the homes do not include kitchens or bathrooms.

The project began fall 2014 with a tiny homes design contest sponsored by the Cen-

ter for Housing and Urban Development.

The contest's two winning designs were refined by students at the beginning of a spring 2015 design/build course led by Ben Bigelow, assistant professor of construction science, and Gabriela Campagnol, assistant professor of architecture.

In early April, students began building the homes on two 6.9 x 18-foot trailers at the college's Automated Fabrication & Design Lab, aka the Architecture Ranch. The homes were built on trailers to facilitate their transportation to Austin.

"The students loved getting their hands on a real project and actually building something, seeing what they have designed come to life," said Bigelow. "They all got a firsthand taste of how long it takes to build a project and became acutely aware of the challenges in construction with weather delays and changes by designers."



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## Summary of employment for 2014–15 Bachelor of Science in Construction Science graduates

	SPRING 2014	SUMMER 2014	FALL 2014	TOTAL
NUMBER OF GRADUATES	86	23	50	164
NUMBER OF GRADUATES PROVIDING DATA	60	19	33	112
STARTING BASE SALARY *				
Maximum	\$ 80,000.	\$ 60,000.	\$ 87,500.	\$75,833.
Average	\$54,740.	\$ 51,821.	\$ 59,335.	\$55,299.
Minimum	\$ 45,000.	\$ 36,000.	\$ 44,300.	\$41,766.
	SPRING 2015	SUMMER 2015	FALL 2015	TOTAL
NUMBER OF GRADUATES	90	28	55	173
NUMBER OF GRADUATES PROVIDING DATA	50	13	42	105
STARTING BASE SALARY**				
Maximum	\$ 89,300.	\$ 70,000.	\$ 78,000.	\$ 79,100.
Average	\$ 59,411.	\$ 59,086.	\$ 59,212.	\$ 59,236.
Minimum	\$ 45,000.	\$ 48,000.	\$ 40,000.	\$ 44,333.

\* Information on starting salaries for all majors within the College of Architecture at Texas A&M University is available at: [careercenter.tamu.edu/guides/reports/WhoHiresMyMajor/ArchitectureIndex.cfm](http://careercenter.tamu.edu/guides/reports/WhoHiresMyMajor/ArchitectureIndex.cfm)



Ryan Day '12, a Land Development Project Manager with PulteGroup, leads a group of construction science students on a tour of a subdivision under con-

struction in suburban Harris County as part of the Department of Construction Science's fall 2015 field day excursions to construction sites around the state.



## TAMU Foundation Construction Industry Advisory Council 2014 Budget

January 1, 2014 – December 31, 2014`

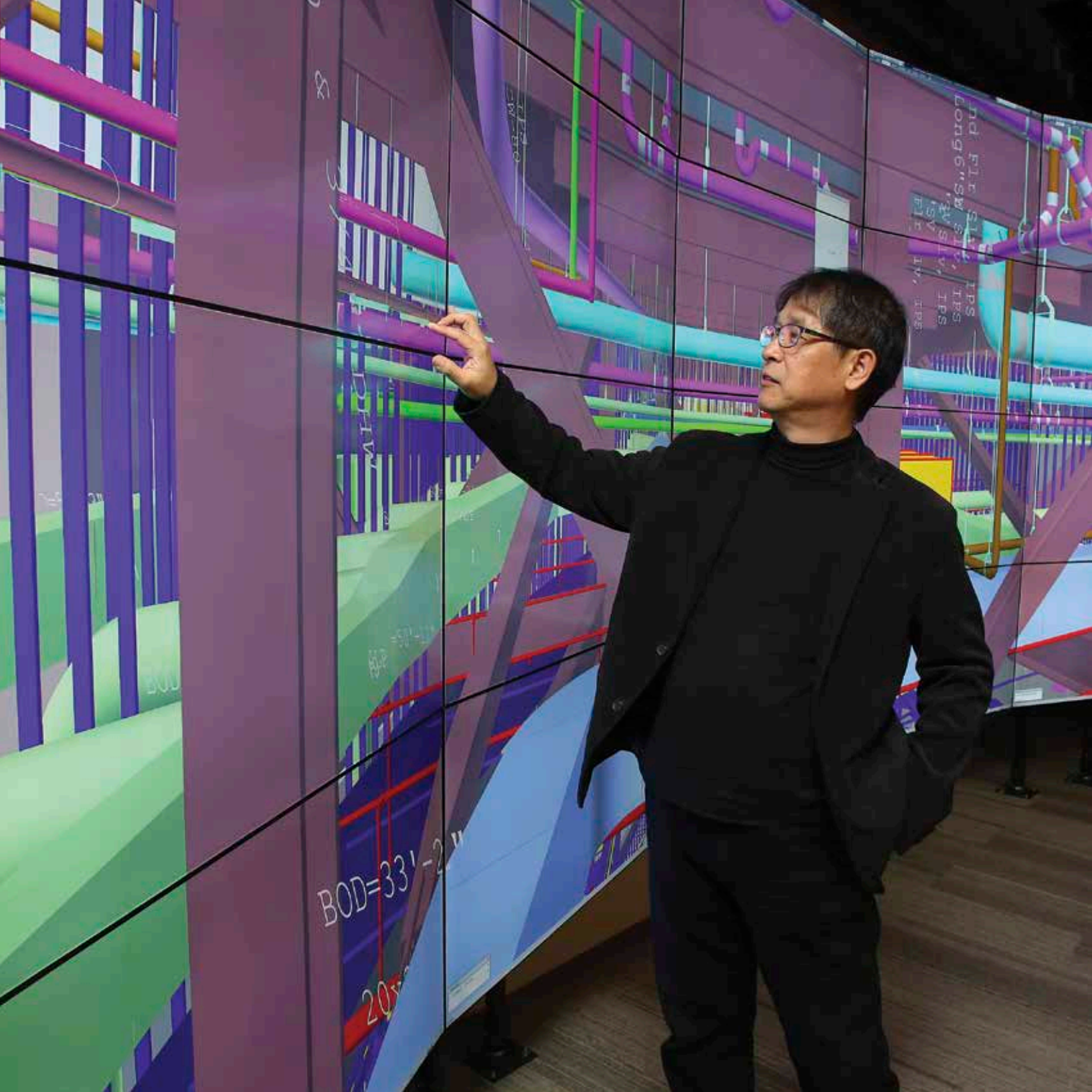
Retained Earnings (01/01/14) .....	\$ 79,326.00
Income	
Corporate Membership Dues .....	\$ 250,000.00
Individual Membership Dues .....	\$ 1,000.00
Interest .....	\$ 2,500.00
Interest Balance in CIAC Support Fund .....	\$ 4,400.00
Total Income .....	\$ 258,000.00
Total Available Funds .....	\$ 337,326.00
Expenses	
Student Competition (three teams) .....	\$ 6,000.00
Graduation Event .....	\$ 2,500.00
Annual Banquet .....	\$ 18,500.00
Research Studies .....	\$ 25,000.00
Individual Scholarship .....	\$ 40,000.00
Endowed Matching Scholarship .....	\$ 40,000.00
Program Enhancement .....	\$ 45,000.00
New Building Program .....	50,000.00
CIAC Meeting Expense .....	\$ 12,500.00
CIAC Endowment - CIAC Support Fund .....	\$ 75,000.00
AIC Certification Exam .....	\$ 2,500.00
Former Student Members Promo - Tailgate .....	\$ 3,000.00
Development Fee & Credit Card Collection Fee .....	\$ 12,550.00
Audit Fund .....	\$ 750.00
Total Expenses .....	\$ 333,300.00
Balance .....	\$ 4,026.00

# Construction Industry Advisory Council – 2015 Budget

## TAMU Foundation Construction Industry Advisory Council 2015 Budget

January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015

Retained Earnings (01/01/15) .....	\$ 130,561.00
Carry Over from CIAC Support .....	\$ 17,266.00
Income	
Corporate Membership Dues .....	\$ 337,500.00
Individual Membership Dues .....	\$ 500.00
Interest .....	\$ 1,800.00
Interest in CIAC Support Fund .....	\$ 4,320.00
Total Income .....	\$ 344,120.00
Total Available Funds .....	\$ 491,947.00
Expenses	
Student Competition (six Teams) .....	\$ 7,000.00
Graduation Event .....	\$ 3,000.00
Annual Banquet .....	\$ 22,000.00
Research Studies .....	\$ 25,000.00
Individual Scholarship & Student Recruitment Program .....	\$ 20,000.00
Endowed Matching Scholarship .....	\$ 100,000.00
Endowed Professorship .....	\$ 60,000.00
Program Enhancement .....	\$ 60,000.00
New Building Program .....	\$ 50,000.00
CIAC Meeting Expense .....	\$ 17,500.00
CIAC Endowment - CIAC Support Fund .....	\$ 75,000.00
AIC Certification Exam .....	\$ 2,500.00
Former Student Members Promo - Tailgate .....	\$ 6,000.00
Development Fee & Credit Card Collection Fee .....	\$ 16,900.00
Total Expenses .....	\$ 477,400.00
Balance .....	\$ 14,547.00



BOD=33'-2"

20'

nd Flr. Slab  
Long. Wall  
Short. Wall  
Stair  
Elev. 100'  
Elev. 101'  
Elev. 102'

M-F-C-I

0.15-M-1

8

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200

