In a “mini-mester” course patterned after Auburn University’s highly successful surveying camp, Texas A&M construction science students learn construction surveying techniques using tripods, grade rods, transits and total stations.

“The support of the Construction Industry Advisory Council is vital to the success of the construction science department. The department relies heavily on the CIAC members’ input into critical decisions it makes regarding the direction of the program and the education of our students. Jobs provided by CIAC members to our student interns and graduates form a basis of the high quality of our students and our unmatched reputation of producing excellent young professionals for the Construction Industry.”

— Joe Horlen, J.D. 
Department Head
Dear Colleagues,

First and foremost a few significant accomplishments of 2007 deserve special recognition. Congratulations to Joe Horlen who was selected as the new department head for our industry leading construction science department. A well deserved thank you goes out to Charles Graham for his years of service as our interim Department Head and to Dean Tom Regan for the selection of Joe and for keeping Charles in the Department as the Executive Associate Dean for the College.

2007 was a year that produced significant participation in our Construction Industry Advisory Council and its various subcommittees. We made some fiduciary improvements in the methods utilized to account for the spending of yours and your company's investments in the CIAC, the department and the students. In conjunction with the aforementioned we have implemented an annual audit by an independent accounting firm.

I encourage each of you to help continue to grow the CIAC which will in turn continue to grow the overall department. Enrollment is up and new faculty positions are being filled as you read this report. As I encouraged each of you last year, get involved and stay involved we need your help and support moving forward.

Finally, I wish to thank each of you for the opportunity to serve the construction science department and the Construction Industry Advisory Council. I benefited greatly from the time this experience allowed me to spend with each and every one of you. It was an honor to follow Stan Marek and it is equally an honor to hand the CIAC to Fred Raley and Jerry Hoog.

On behalf of the CIAC officers and members as well as the faculty and students, thank you for your continued guidance and support!

Larry W. Fickel ’81
President
Construction Industry Advisory Council

Objectives

The construction science department at Texas A&M University has continued to enjoy excellent support of dedicated construction professionals through their active participation in the Construction Industry Advisory Council (CIAC) in 2007.

The emergence of the CIAC in January 1, 1998 was a major milestone that advanced the early efforts of the professional advisory and development council by merging the needs and expectations of the construction industry with the academic training and expertise resident in the construction science department to form a strong partnership. Together, the open dialog and close coordination between the industry and the faculty have advanced the quality of the construction industry through the pursuit of the following objectives as set forth in the CIAC By-Laws:

1. Promote and improve the construction profession by education and development of construction knowledge.
2. Advance and support the highest quality faculty, educational facilities, and undergraduate and graduate programs for the students enrolled in the construction science department.
3. Provide liaison between the construction industry and the construction science department.
4. Develop and implement innovative programs that will benefit the construction science department, its students and the construction industry.
5. Offer advice and counsel through the active participation of the construction industry, and provide vision for the construction science department.

““The Construction Industry Advisory Council affords our department and our students many opportunities to interface with industry partners on current issues that are affecting the construction industry.”

— Steve Byrne
Executive Director
CIAC
The March 30, 2007 and October 26, 2007 CIAC meetings in College Station afforded an opportunity for the faculty and students to interact with leaders in the construction industry on many key issues of mutual concern. The round table discussions, student focus groups as well as the work of the Executive Committee and the standing subcommittees involved CIAC members, faculty and students working together to identify and respond to industry needs and expectations.

In the student focus group sessions, the students shared their academic and industry related experiences with CIAC members with the goal of enhancing their course work by identifying areas of improvement that would be mutually beneficial to the students and their future employers.

The state of the art within the construction industry has been advanced by the various construction science faculty research programs which are developing new technologies that offer tangible benefits to the industry in response to their most pressing needs in an ever changing design and build environment.

The joint efforts of the CIAC and the construction science department were instrumental to the restructuring of the Bachelor of Science program in response to a State of Texas mandate for 120 credit hour under-graduate programs for state funded colleges and universities. Working together, the department’s curriculum was tailored to the 120 credit hour requirement for graduation and accepted for approval by Texas A&M University for implementation in the Fall 2007 semester. As a result of this effort, the construction science department was able to field very competitive teams in the areas of residential, commercial and heavy highway construction. The hard work of these teams has served to strengthen the reputation of the department. The funding of numerous scholarships has made it possible for students to focus more fully on their assigned studies in recognition of their proven academic performance and strong potential for positions of leadership.

The CIAC is a major source of full-time employment as well as internships for the students within the construction science department. The CIAC, with the support of the department, sponsors career fairs during the Fall and Spring semesters that are reserved for CIAC members only. As a result, CIAC members have a distinct advantage when recruiting for interns as well as employees. The effective screening and matching of students for specific CIAC member needs have resulted in a high number of internships that lead to full employment with the member firms. The CIAC membership has increased as non-member firms have seen the benefits of participation in the dedicated career fairs.

Over the years, the CIAC has been a partner for the future with the construction science department by working to enhance the quality of an educational program that produces graduates who are prepared to assume their hard earned and deserved place among the finest representatives within the construction industry.

"CIAC has been a partner for the future with the construction science department by working to enhance the quality of an educational program that produces graduates who are prepared to assume their hard earned and deserved place among the finest representatives within the construction industry."
The CIAC is governed by a set of by-laws available on the construction science department’s web site at http://archone.tamu.edu/cosc/ciac.html. The Council conducts some of its affairs and business through standing subcommittees appointed by and from the members of its Executive Committee, CIAC’s governing body. The following subcommittees are appointed every two years.

1. Research and Studies: Research and studies to advance quality and industry innovation are among the CIAC’s objectives. The Council sets goals in this area with the input of research faculty members who are funded by and report to the CIAC on an annual basis. This subcommittee sets priorities for spending CIAC funds and selects faculty proposals for funding.

2. Budget: This subcommittee prepares the proposed annual budget for consideration by the Executive Committee and monitors expenditure of funds from the CIAC account to ensure that expenditures are in accordance with the approved budgets.

3. Membership: This subcommittee promotes and solicits CIAC memberships and manages the Council’s awards program which provides recognition for students, faculty, and individual and corporate members.

4. Curriculum: This subcommittee provides continuous review of the department's undergraduate and graduate curriculum and helps foster changes where needed to promote constant improvement.

5. Development: This subcommittee supports and promotes the fund-raising activities of the construction science department.

In addition, the Executive Committee may appoint a task force from time to time for special purposes.

Membership levels

The CIAC by-laws provide four categories of membership: corporate, emeritus, association, and individual.

Corporate Members “Partners for the Future” are industry sponsors who pay annual dues of $2500 per year. In turn, the companies are entitled to designate a representative of the corporation to participate in the Council's activities and to serve on the Executive Committee. Corporate Members are listed on pages 16 - 21.

Emeritus Members are a special category of membership that was approved by the Executive Committee to recognize very experienced individuals. These are members who have made extraordinary contributions to the construction industry, but who are retired from active participation in a corporation, and whose expertise and participation makes a valuable contribution to the CIAC. Emeritus membership is subject to approval by the Executive Committee. The member is invited and encouraged to participate in all council activities including Executive Committee meetings. Emeritus members do not pay dues, and are on-voting members of the Executive Committee. Emeritus members are listed on page 21.

Association Members are representatives of professional industry organizations (AGC, ABC, NAHB, etc.) that advise the CIAC and construction science program on current issues of importance to the construction industry. Association members, in deference to the other significant association contributions to the construction science program, are not required to pay dues, but may vote on Executive Committee issues. Associate members are listed on page 22.

Individual Members are construction industry representatives who choose to support the construction science program at Texas A&M University. Many are graduates of the program who elect to provide continuous support to the program through gifts of time and/or dollars. Individuals seeking CIAC membership must submit an application form which may be downloaded from http://archone.tamu.edu/cosc/ciac.html and submit the appropriate membership fee:

- Annual Membership $50
- Five-year Membership $200
- Lifetime Membership $500

Individual Members are listed on pages 21.

For additional membership information or to join, please contact the construction science department at 979-862-7345 or by mail at:

Department of Construction Science Industry Relations – CIAC 3137 TAMU College Station, TX 77843-3137

CIAC Web site:
http://archone.tamu.edu/cosc/ciac.html

Skip Coody, associate professor, receives the Best Educator Award from Charles Graham, interim department head.

Dorothy Shaw, with the Dallas AGC Chapter of QUION received special recognition for her service to industry and education at the 2007 Awards Banquet.


Department of Construction Science • College of Architecture • Texas A&M University
Pat Kiley of the Houston chapter AGC receives the Hall of Fame Award from Charles Graham, interim head of the Department of Construction Science as Larry Fickel, CIAC president looks on.

October 2007, students from the Department of Construction Science assisted with the construction of the Texas A&M College of Architecture’s solar home entry in the U.S. Department of Energy’s Solar Decathlon.

Budget and Development

An annual budget is approved each year at the fall meeting. A summary of budget activity for 2007 can be found on page 23.

Funding

The CIAC by-laws provide that CIAC generated funds be used for (1) student enrichment, (2) scholarships, (3) research and summer studies and (4) faculty development.

Student Enrichment

The CIAC funds support the student chapters of professional associations, student field trips to construction sites, and student competition teams. This past year each of the following student organizations received $1,000 from the council:

- Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC)
- Construction Management Association (CMA)
- Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA)
- Society of Women in Construction (SWIC)
- National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)
- American Institute of Constructors (AIC)
- Mechanical & Electrical Contractors Association (MECA)
- Associated General Contractors (AGC)

Scholarships

Scholarships are an important component of higher education that allow students to more fully participate in the academic process. Many good students are able to continue their studies due to the generosity of industry supporters, and their gratitude extends beyond graduation. Many of the current industry scholarship contributors were recipients of scholarship monies while students in the construction science department. The 2007 scholarship data bar is as follows:

The first bar graph (top, right) shows the pledged value of these endowed scholarships.

The second bar graph (bottom, right) depicts the phenomenal overall success of the scholarship program since the inception of the CIAC.

In 2007, 111 deserving students secured a total of over $146,000 in scholarships due to the generous support of the CIAC and the construction industry.
Research and Studies

David Myres, a graduate assistant under Dr. David Bibbo, researched “Youth’s Perception of the Construction Industry.” Myres identified and analyzed factors contributing to the preconceived notions of youth in regard to careers in the construction industry. The study examined, not only perceptions, but also the amount of information which contributes to those perceptions.

Data was collected and analyzed from different schools in the state of Texas in the spring semester of 2007.

Dr. Ifte Choudhury conducted research aimed at identifying and analyzing factors associated with the implementation of enterprise resource planning (ERP) in the construction industry. Ten case studies were made—five from the construction industry and five from non-construction industries. In addition to the case studies the professionals having relevant experience with ERP implementations in their respective industry were interviewed for their responses regarding their satisfaction with ERP in terms of contractor/vendor service, usefulness and user involvement.

These case studies and responses were used to identify the ERP implementation factors unique to the construction industry and to compare against non-construction industries. Conclusions drawn from the case studies indicate that selection of ERP software packages, commitment on the part of top management, and adequate training of personnel were among the major factors associated with successful implementation of the software in the construction industry.

Rajmohan Mishra a graduate student, worked with Dr. Mohammed Haque to conduct a research on “3D Virtual Constructions: Designer/Constructor’s Perspective.”

The objective of this research was to create a user-friendly 3D (2D + Time + Cost) model by adding the cost of project with reference to the time line so that the planners would be able to peg the cost control measures with the schedule. This 3D model will facilitate developing a more realistic approach to the whole construction process. This study demonstrated a structured method and a systematic approach to use databases and planners to develop 3D models without worrying about errors and software hitches.

Currently, the model is limited to preliminary planning as it lacks in establishing relationship with databases and/or servers. Further study can be conducted to find out methodology for linking SQL server for integrating different data and information such as resources, craft split analysis, craft requirement, lost-time accidents, cost of rework, weather report, delays and reasons etc. to prepare n-D models.

Awards Banquet

The 2007 Construction Science Awards Banquet was held on March 29th, 2007 at the College Station Hilton. This year was well attended by students, faculty, scholarship donors, and CIAC members. The speaker was Ken Simonson, Chief Economist with the Associated General Contractors of America. He told the group about economic leadership from Arlington, Virginia who spoke to the Associated General Contractors and CIAC members. The speaker was Ken Simonson, Chief Economist with the Associated General Contractors of America. He told the group about economic leadership from Arlington, Virginia who spoke to the Associated General Contractors and CIAC members.

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The awards ceremony was held in the Oakwood Ballroom and many donors were present to award over $145,000 to 111 very appreciative student recipients. Without our donors and industry support, many deserving young minds would never have the opportunity to study at Texas A&M University. With your support we are able to recruit and produce strong talent to contribute to our profession, and lead the industry into the future.

Awards were presented to Professor Skip Cody for Educator of the Year, and to Steve Byrne for Student Advocate of the Year. Steve was also recognized for his service as AIC President as well as Professor Bob Segner for his service as ACCE President. Professor Jim Smith was recognized for his award received for Outstanding Service to the Nation through the National Academy of Construction.

We look forward to another successful year and to honoring the industry. As a result, we are on course to grow our enrollment to meet industry demand. Doing so presents challenges however. We need additional space in order to elevate our program. After much discussion and consideration of options, it appears that a first course is a new home for construction science.

Texas A&M supports our growth and has allocated space on campus for a new building.

However, we must raise the funds necessary for the construction. We are exploring the feasibility of a capital campaign at this time. Our industry and former student support is exceptional and I believe we are capable of raising sufficient funds to build a new building.

You can call me at 979.458.3477 or contact me by email at jhorlen@tamu.edu. I pledge to work hard for the benefit of our students and the profession.

In all, 20 of these scholarships were competitively awarded, and all 20 students enrolled in the construction science program. These students were females and minority students among the top of their high school classes. Many of these scholarship funds are helping to impact our programs in these unique ways too.

The Fall 2007 semester’s enrollment of 641 undergraduate students and 98 masters students was the most ever in both programs. Freshman admissions were limited making the offering of all scholarships to students who had been offered admission to the Department of Construction Science.

Enrollment

It is an honor and privilege to have been selected as the Department Head. Texas A&M is one of the finest universities in the world, and our construction science department is the best. As a graduate student of AIC, it is a dream come true to return to service at my alma mater. We have 160 students, excellent faculty and staff, and unparalleled support from the industry.

During the next year we will face a number of challenges. Finding and retaining excellent faculty is one such challenge critical to the future of the department. The demand for faculty nationwide far surpasses the supply, so we must be aggressive in our recruiting in order to attract the best and brightest to our program.

The demand for our graduates is unprecedented. As a result, we are on course to grow our enrollment to meet industry demand. Doing so presents challenges however. We need additional space in order to elevate our program. After much discussion and consideration of options, it appears that a new building is a new home for construction science.

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Enrollment
Study Abroad Summer 2008

The summer of 2008 will be the very first time that a study abroad has been conducted expressly for construction science majors. The response among construction science majors has been very positive, indicating that our students are eager to experience opportunities outside the U.S. Our initial hope is that through this opportunity these young people will broaden their horizons and look at the possibility of employment with global companies.

The program will be based in London and Edinburgh, the government centers of both England and Scotland. The students will take law courses which satisfy their undergraduate curriculum requirements and in the process do a comparison and contrast of US with international law as it involves the construction industry. Students will enjoy and participate in cultural activities, and gain an unforgettable international perspective. Field trips will be conducted to important historical and cultural sites, including the Houses of Parliament, English Heritage Society, Considerate Contractor’s Scheme headquarters, and a visit to the 2012 Olympic site.

The program is being hosted by four different Construction Science entities. Thanks to Fluor, SKANSKA, KBR and Balfour Beatty, the students will be treated to job site and headquarters visits throughout the UK, as well as important historical and cultural sites. While in Scotland the students will be staying at the University of Edinburgh. While in Scotland the students will meet with the Aggie Club in Aberdeen, as well as attend a Highlands Game.

The students approved for this trip are all upper level, mostly junior and senior students, who will be graduating in 2008 or 2009. Our students overall are very hardworking and in high demand within the industry because of their comprehensive education, strong managerial skills, and solid values which means that those who choose to go abroad do so because of a true interest, as they are highly sought after in the domestic market. We typically have a 100% placement rate upon graduation, with students receiving multiple offers of employment.

Our traditional student in the construction science department has never traveled abroad, works his/her way through college, and has very little discretionary income to spend. According to the Texas A&M Study Abroad Office, the typical student in a UK study abroad program this summer will spend about $7000 (per student) to participate. The Construction Law Section of the State Bar of Texas has contributed $15,000 this year in scholarship monies and we have raised another $10,000 for scholarships for this trip so each student who applies will receive at least a $1000 scholarship towards this trip.

If you would like to see a day-by-day itinerary, please go to our website at www.ukcosclaw.wordpress.com. This summer it will be updated regularly with photos and information about the trip as it is in progress.

Construction science students to study abroad in the United Kingdom this summer.

New Faculty

Dr. Lucy Acquaye joins the construction science faculty as assistant professor. She holds a Ph.D. degree in Construction Management from University of Florida. She also holds Master of Science degree in Building Construction and Master of Arts degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the same university. Dr. Acquaye’s areas of research interest are in green buildings, sustainable construction, recycling and reuse of construction materials, affordable housing and construction materials.

The CIAC provided a $10,000 grant for the spring 2008 semester for research to develop a Sustainable Building Guide for Contractors. This guide will be based on the requirements of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) reference guides published by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). Dr. Acquaye conducts this research which involves examination of the requirements for each prerequisite and credit needed to achieve LEED accreditation for a building. Individual members in a project team responsible for each prerequisite and credit will be identified. The research will then focus on the prerequisite and credits for which the contractor is responsible. The activities required by the contractor to comply with LEED prerequisites and credits will be examined.

Research activities completed this semester include:

1. Acquisition of the list of all registered and certified LEED projects from the USGBC. This list will be examined to reveal the following information:
   a. The types of projects registering for LEED accreditation
   b. The types of owners for LEED registered projects
   c. The distribution of LEED projects in various states

2. Literature review of the leading green construction companies and volume of green construction project compared to non-green (conventional) construction.

3. Literature review of the LEED prerequisites and credits for which the contractor is responsible.

Research activities to be completed include:

4. Examination of successful LEED projects to determine the role of the contractor and the tasks performed in complying with LEED prerequisites and credits.

5. Survey of contractors involved in green building projects to highlight:
   a. The challenges they faced and solutions to overcoming them
   b. The lessons they learnt on green building projects and their future involvement in green projects
   c. The relationship between contractors and other team members in green projects.

6. Development of the green building guide for contractors to include:
   a. Description of LEED reference guides and the role of contractors
   b. LEED prerequisites and credits for the contractors and activities to meet compliance
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Aggie NAHB students excel in Florida

The Texas A&M Student Chapter of the National Association of Home Builders placed fourth out of over 30 schools competing at the International Builder Show in Orlando, Fla. The team, coached by faculty member Joe Horlen, placed second, nationally in the outstanding student chapter book competition.

Outstanding 2007 students

Construction science student Charlie Westmoreland, pictured at left with Charles Graham, interim head of the Department of Construction Science, received the 2007 Murphy AGC Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate student. Also receiving the award in 2007 were Tyrell Anderson (August) and Justine Goodman (December). The 2007 Cumberland Craftsman Awards went to John Paul Jones (May), Brandon Berdoll (August), and Ben Liggett (December). The 2007 Outstanding Graduate students were Shrinivas Jadh (May), Jonathan Allman (August) and Farzana Sultana (December).

Aggies place 2nd at regional AGC contest

The Texas A&M student commercial team (not pictured) placed second in regional competition sponsored by the Associated General Contractors of America in Dallas, Texas. The 2007 team was coached by faculty members Debra Ellis and Sally Morgan.

For CIAC members, the Career Fair presents a great opportunity to recruit A&M’s finest graduates before the rest of the industry. The CIAC Career Fair occurs once a semester in two separate sessions. CIAC members conduct interviews the first session, and non-CIAC companies fill in the second session. Having access to the first round of interviews with outstanding students is one of the biggest advantages of CIAC memberships.
TAMU Foundation Construction Industry Advisory Council, 2008 Budget (approved on October 26, 2007)


Retained Earnings – Foundation ........................................ $ 82,584.31
Retained Earnings – TAMU .............................................. $ 31,000.00

Income
Corporate Membership Dues ........................................... $ 235,000.00
Individual Membership Dues ........................................... $ 1,000.00
Interest ........................................................................... $ 5,000.00

Total Income Anticipated .................................................. $ 241,000.00

Total Available Funds ..................................................... $ 354,584.31

Expenses
Student Enrichment
Student Chapters .............................................................. $ 8,000.00
Student Competitions ....................................................... $ 20,000.00
Graduation Event ............................................................. $ 10,000.00
Annual Banquet ............................................................... $ 16,000.00
Research Studies .............................................................. $ 20,000.00

Student Scholarships
Individual Freshman ......................................................... $ 25,000.00
Endowed Matching ........................................................... $ 60,000.00
Study Abroad ................................................................. $ 5,000.00

Departmental Support
Program Enhancement ....................................................... $ 30,000.00
Faculty Development ....................................................... $ 20,000.00
New Building Feasibility Study ......................................... $ 20,000.00

CIAC Meeting Expenses ................................................... $ 7,500.00
CIAC Endowment ............................................................. $ 25,000.00

Development Fee ........................................................... $ 11,750.00

Total Expenses ................................................................. $ 328,250.00

Balance ............................................................................. $ 26,334.31

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Companies hiring Texas A&M construction science graduates

Austin Commercial ................................................. 2
Brookstone ................................................................. 3
D E Harvey Builders ............................................... 2
Hensel Phelps .............................................................. 2
J E Dunn ................................................................. 3
Kewit Energy .............................................................. 2
Lyda Swinerton Builders .............................................. 2
Mccarthy ............................................................... 2
Orion Marine Construction ........................................ 2
S&B ................................................................. 2
SpawGlass .............................................................. 6
The Hanover Company ............................................... 2
Turner Construction ................................................... 2
Vaughn Construction .................................................. 2

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** Some students did not provide hiring data.

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Companies hiring Texas A&M construction science graduates

Austin Commercial ................................................. 2
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D E Harvey Builders ............................................... 2
Hensel Phelps .............................................................. 2
J E Dunn ................................................................. 3
Kewit Energy .............................................................. 2
Lyda Swinerton Builders .............................................. 2
Mccarthy ............................................................... 2
Orion Marine Construction ........................................ 2
S&B ................................................................. 2
SpawGlass .............................................................. 6
The Hanover Company ............................................... 2
Turner Construction ................................................... 2
Vaughn Construction .................................................. 2

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Lyda Swinerton Builders .............................................. 2
Mccarthy ............................................................... 2
Orion Marine Construction ........................................ 2
S&B ................................................................. 2
SpawGlass .............................................................. 6
The Hanover Company ............................................... 2
Turner Construction ................................................... 2
Vaughn Construction .................................................. 2

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2007 Construction Science Graduates

Above: The construction science department staff keeps the department on course throughout the year.

At Right: Joe Horlen, head of the Department of Construction Science, bids farewell to longtime staff member Anne Eastwood at her August 2007 farewell party.