During the last week of March, six construction engineering management (CEM) students in the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America student chapter traveled to Puerto Rico with 26 others from eight Oregon State University colleges. Working in conjunction with Puerto Rico’s land grant university, University of Puerto Rico Mayagüez, the group performed service projects in areas that directly benefited those living under difficult conditions after the devastating hurricane of September 2017.

Prior to the trip, Oregon State representatives and Mayagüez officials worked closely with the Segunda Unidad Bernaldo Mendez Jimenez school in the northwest city of San Sebastián to create a service learning plan that would benefit local students.

San Sebastian is also the hometown of Ingrid Arocho, assistant professor of construction engineering, who accompanied the OSU students on the trip.

“The students learned about the construction industry in a different geographical area that can be affected by both hurricanes and earthquakes,” said Arocho. “But I think the most impactful part was meeting a community in need, learning directly about their requirements, and using resources to help.”

“We ended up gutting an entire classroom roof – the wooden framing was badly deteriorated and we felt it was unsafe,” said Alex Park, CEM senior, who participated in the trip. “But we still got done ahead of schedule and under budget.”

The service learning trip was supported by AGC Oregon-Columbia Chapter Foundation member companies and other sponsors, including Andersen Construction, EC Company, Gerding Builders, Knife River, Perlo Construction, Yorke & Curtis, Mortenson Construction, and Q&D Construction.

“Our student chapter is always looking for ways to get involved with communities in need; it’s a core part of our mission,” said Alex Park, CEM senior, “We wanted to be able to contribute in ways we were trained.”

“This is an experience that will influence the students both personally and professionally throughout their careers,” said Arocho.
PARTNERS BUILD PROGRAMS

Our partners make an impact. Thank you to the members of the CEM Partner Program, which supports scholarships, student learning experiences and travel, innovative curriculum development, research start-ups, lab enhancements, and more. Learn about the CEM Partner Program at cce.oregonstate.edu/cem-partner.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

At the Transportation Research Board 97th Annual Meeting, Ellie Simpson, Hisham Jashami, Zach Barlow, and Scott Logan-Deeter earned second place nationally in the Traffic Control Device Challenge; Alireza Mostafizi received the PacTrans 2017 Michael Kyte Student of the Year award; and Kayla Fleskes received the PacTrans Student of the Year award.

At the ASC Regions 6 & 7 2018 Student Competition, the OSU mixed use team took first place, and the project management and mechanical teams earned third place finishes. Additionally, Aaron Bowen received first place in alternate team, Michael Jones best presenter in the alternates competition, Ryan Wager best presenter in the mechanical competition, Jack Powers best presenter in the pre construction competition, and Dallas Thompson best presenter in the electrical competition.

Awarded to only a few chapters nationally, the OSU ASCE Student Chapter received a 2018 Letter of Recognition for Community Service from ASCE for its exemplary community service benefiting others outside of their ASCE Student Chapter.

ENGINEERING OUT LOUD

How does culture influence engineering design? In the recent episode of the Engineering Out Loud podcast, hear how seniors Gavin Bennett and Amy Salisbury incorporated their research on the culture of Ethiopia into the design of a structure, an irrigation system, and a restroom.

engineeringoutloud.oregonstate.edu
CCE RECEIVES WOMEN IN BUILD AWARD

Build magazine announced the School of Civil and Construction Engineering (CCE) in Oregon State University’s College of Engineering as a winner of the 2017 Women in Build Awards.

In announcing the awards, Build magazine describes the build industry as traditionally male dominated, but in recent years’ women have come to the forefront, working hard to create innovative projects.

“We were pleased to learn that CCE has been selected for this award, as it recognizes the hard work of our faculty and staff in recruiting and retaining a more diverse community,” said Jason Weiss, head of the School of Civil and Construction Engineering and the Miles Lowell and Margaret Watt Edwards Distinguished Chair in Engineering.

“CCE has been fortunate to have strong support from the College of Engineering and OSU ADVANCE — a program aimed at increasing the participation and advancement of women in science and engineering — and we have been able to hire exceptional faculty as the program has grown substantially over the last decade.”

An outcome of this growth can be seen in a three-fold increase in the female faculty in CCE as compared to four years ago. Recent hires include Erica Fischer, assistant professor of structural engineering, Jihye Park, assistant professor of geomatics, and Yelda Turkan, assistant professor of construction engineering management. In fall 2018, Meagan Wengrove will join the faculty as an assistant professor of coastal and ocean engineering and Barbara Simpson as an assistant professor structural engineering.

Discussing the awards, Jessie Wilson, coordinator, commented: “The awards are designed to reward women who … work tirelessly to ensure the built environment meets society’s needs.”

CONTRACTORS NIGHT 2018

Held at Reser Stadium, the 47th annual Contractors Night hosted 400 guests and featured presentations from Ronald Fedrick, chairman and chief executive officer of Nova Group Inc. and chairman of the Trustees of the Beavers Charitable Trust, and Matthew L. Garrett, director of the Oregon Department of Transportation. Additionally, School Head Jason Weiss introduced the Complex for Resilient Infrastructure and Safety (CRIS), a revolutionary new 40,000 square-foot facility, which will further enable groundbreaking research. With the goal of developing major improvements in worker safety, the lab will provide a virtual construction environment that replicates real-world jobsites and more. Learn more and view a video on CRIS at cce.oregonstate.edu/CRIS.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT
CHASE SIMPSON

M.S. Student, Geomatics

WHY OREGON STATE?

I originally came to Oregon State University to complete my B.S. in Civil Engineering because of its prestigious reputation as one of the top engineering programs in the country and its location in the beautiful Pacific Northwest. I stayed here to complete my master’s degree because of the fantastic faculty and the numerous advanced technologies and resources the school provides.

HOW DID YOU BECOME INTERESTED IN GEOMATICS?

Internships where I did a lot of surveying using traditional technologies, such as total stations, and GPS, sparked my interest in geomatics. Then, during my undergraduate studies here at OSU, I became more interested in the field of geomatics and was introduced to our geomatics faculty and their research using terrestrial/mobile lidar scanners and UAVs. It’s a very interesting time to be in this field as the technology is evolving quickly.

DESCRIBE YOUR RESEARCH.

Most of my research is focused on using Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) as a data-acquisition platform for civil engineering applications. The main project I have been working on lately is integrating a small scanning laser and a GNSS-aided inertial navigation system onto a large octocopter for monitoring and detection of special features in transportation networks. The information could then be utilized to aid decisions concerning emergency response, clearance, and parking.
UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 19, 2018
AISC T.R. HIGGINS LECTURE
Towards an Integrated Fracture-control Plan for Steel Bridges
Robert J. Connor, 2018 AISC T.R. Higgins Lecturer
Professor of Civil Engineering, Purdue University

FACULTY HONORS

Professor Emeritus Hal Pritchett received the AGC Hal Pritchett Distinguished Service Award. The award, which was created by AGC Oregon Columbia Chapter President Brian Gray of Knife River and the chapter Executive Committee, is presented to an individual who embodies the attributes of Professor Pritchett. This individual's loyalty, passion, and lifetime of distinguished leadership and service to the construction industry helps to shape generations of construction professionals for years to come.

David Hurwitz, associate professor of transportation engineering was named the OSU Honors College Thomas and Margaret Meehan Eminent Mentor and received the OSU Outreach and Engagement Award for Excellence.

Matt Evans, associate professor of geotechnical engineering was named the Associate Editor of the Year by the ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering.

Burkan Isgor, professor of infrastructure materials was named the Fellow of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering.

Keith Kaufman, Knife River, faculty advisor was named the Prestress 2018 PCI Fellow.

Jason Weiss, head of the School of Civil and Construction Engineering, Miles Lowell and Margaret Watt Edwards Distinguished Chair in Engineering, Director of the Kiewit Center for Infrastructure and Transportation Research received the American Concrete Institute 2018 Robert E. Philleo Award.

BEAVERS BUILD
View alumni stories on Facebook.
The Franklin High School project by Skanska USA featured seven CCE alumni and involved a 287,000-square-foot renovation with historical components and approximately 144,000-square-feet of new construction. It included a new stand-alone gymnasium, performing arts center with 497-seat theater, student commons, cafeteria, and industrial technology building.

Follow us on Facebook to learn how CCE alumni are building a better world.

facebook.com/OregonStateCCE