# M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction ORANGE BUILDEDUCTION & PLANNING





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#### M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction

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#### Message to alumni ....

In an effort to reduce the cost of this publication, please let Kim Stanley (kimms@ufl. edu) know if you receive duplicate copies of this newsletter.

Information Modeling

#### Front cover photographs:

Top left:	Tampa Gator BCN Alumni Golf Tournament
Top center:	Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Golf Tournament
Far right:	Whitley Steel Visitors
Bottom left:	Spring 2010 Welcome Reception
Bottom center:	Distinguished Alumnus
Bottom:	White Hat Ceremony for Fall 2011 graduates

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# SHOW YOUR RINKER SCHOOL PRIDE

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BCN Coffee Mug \$5



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BCN Polo Shirts (S, M, X, XL, XXL) Blue and White \$30

### A Message From ... .

#### Dr. Christopher Silver, Dean



Hola! Greetings from Madrid (although when you read this, I will have long since returned from Spain). As you may know, for the past two years, a large team of students, mostly from the College of Design, Construction and Planning (but also including Engineering, Journalism and Communications and Business Administration) conceived, designed, built and then shipped to Spain an entry in the Solar Decathlon Europe 2010. I traveled to Madrid for the opening of the competition (June 18) to cheer on the team, to see the other 16 competitors, and to demonstrate that the entire university community is behind this am-

bitious learning project. BCN professors Robert Ries (the UF team leader), Jim Sullivan, and Russ Walters joined with architecture professors Mark McGlothlin and Bradley Walters, interior design professor Maruja Torres-Antonini and public relations professor Deanna Pelfrey to guide UF's student team.

Having heard that our containers arrived in Spain on time and had been brought to the pre-construction site as planned, I expected to see the completed house when I arrived the day before the competition started. But when I arrived, the entire team was working at a breakneck pace on virtually every aspect of house. Because of glitches with the local transporters, the UF team lost three precious days of on-site assembly time. And according to the competition deadline, all inspections had to be completed by 10 p.m. THAT NIGHT. Because the Florida team was not alone, all teams were given an additional 24 hours to complete their inspections – minus the four-hour opening ceremony and a group greeting of some dignitaries, including Spain's prince. This meant all-nighters on Wednesday and Thursday since the doors would open for visitors and competition would begin promptly on Friday at 11:00 a.m.

Looking around at the house, I noticed there was still much to do: the deck wasn't completed, the landscaping was off in a remote spot, there was plumbing and electrical work to complete, the furnishings were still in boxes, the delicate lattice work was being fashioned to the body. Would the team finish in time?

The answer was a resounding "yes," and the result was remarkable – an elegant, fully functioning solar-powered home. Having had the chance to visit the entries of all 17 participants – and exercising no bias – ours was the best overall. In fact, we finished first in two categories: communication and social awareness and in the "fan choice" category (with a little help from The Gator Nation). Our eighth place finish overall was impressive for a first-time entry.

But the most impressive component, our real victory, was the teamwork by the students and faculty, drawn from different professions and levels of expertise; they worked together with amazing precision and dedication. In our efforts to better integrate the design and construction fields through our professional education, the Solar Decathlon Europe competition showed how and why this is so important. The house is back in Gainesville and will be on display at the UF Solar Energy Park, so when you visit you can see firsthand just how great it is. It reflects the great teamwork, dedication and spirit of DCP faculty, students, alumni and friends who supported this project and the college.

#### Dr. Abdol Chini, Director



The 2009-2010 academic year was a record year for the Rinker School in terms of degrees awarded. We graduated 140 students with Bachelor's, 57 with Master's and 6 with Doctorate degrees. In addition to teaching and advising, the BCN faculty members have all been busy pursuing their research, publishing findings, attending professional conferences and securing external funds for research. They published more than 70 articles, made 33 national and international presentations, wrote 50 research proposals, and received close to \$1.5 million in research funding.

Another exciting news item is the renewal of the BCN program's accreditation by the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE). A team from ACCE visited the UF campus on October 24-27, 2009. The team members were pleased with the quality of the program and recommended the renewal of accreditation for another six years. The ACCE Board of Trustees approved this recommendation and applauded the UF construction program for having a flawless re-accreditation visit. The Visiting Team cited the high level of support the BCN program receives from the construction industry and its advisory council as a major strength of the program.

BCN faculty Dr. Robert Ries led the UF Team that participated in the Solar Decathlon competition that took place in Madrid, Spain in June 2010. The team that included two more BCN faculty (Jim Sullivan and Russ Walters) and about 30 BCN students brought together students and faculty from across the university with the expertise needed to build a 800-sf self-sufficient solar home with viability in today's market. UF was selected as one of only two American universities to compete in the events. The UF team's house received the most online votes to win the Public Choice Award, Web. It also placed 1st in the Communications and Social Awareness contest, 2nd in the Energy Balance category, and overall placed 8th of 17 universities from around the world.

Our students and faculty should also be recognized for their achievements in the national student competitions. The BIM team ranked 2nd and the LEED and ABC teams ranked 3rd. Congratulations to the team members and their faculty coaches, Dr. Issa, Dr. Sullivan, and Professor Cook.

We were successful in hiring Dr. Russell Walters to fill the William G. Lassiter and Aneice R. Lassiter Endowed Professorship position. Russ earned his Ph.D. in 1993 from the University of Florida in the field of Electrical Engineering. After graduation he joined a construction firm, working as an estimator, and later, a project manager. He is also a licensed engineer in Florida and Illinois and a LEED accredited professional. He will teach Electrical Systems and Building Information Modeling courses.

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Dr. Jimmie Hinze as the Director of Master's Programs effective July 1, 2010. Dr. Hinze has been the chair of the Research and Graduate Program Committee since 2005 and has supervised graduate committee of more than 65 Master's and PhD students since 1996. I am confident that the BCN Master's programs will continue to excel under his leadership. I would like to thank Dr. Raymond Issa for his many years of dedication and service to the Rinker School's graduate and distance education programs.

Thanks to all of you for your continued support and participation to make the Rinker School the truly outstanding institution it has become.

### **BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee**

The Rinker School is committed to excellence in teaching, research and service in and for the construction industry. The objectives of the BCN Advisory Council are to provide proactive input to the curricula of the Rinker School to ensure they address current industry practices and standards; advance and support the highest quality faculty, educational facilities, and undergraduate and graduate programs for the students enrolled in the Rinker School; provide liaison between the construction industry and the Rinker School; and offer advice, counsel and vision to the Rinker School.

The BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee (ExCOM) held its bi-annual meeting on April 16, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Orlando International Airport.

Present for the April 16th meeting were Bob Angle, John Bennett, Lynne Capece, Abdol Chini, Curtis Culver, Rick Derrer, Lance Frankham, John Gooding, Dale Hedrick, Raymond Issa, Sid Jordan, John McIntyre, Bill Morthland, Jeff Nelson, Pete Pace, Steve Palmer, Charles Reid, Domenic Scorpio, John Sofarelli, Ray Southern, Robert Springer, Kim Stanley, Wayne Wadsworth, Karl Watson, Jr., and Louie Wise.

The Rinker School would like to express our deepest appreciation to newly elected ExCOM emeritus member John McIntyre for his dedication and support of the Rinker School throughout his years of service as an ExCOM member.



ExCOM members John McIntyre (left to right), Robert Springer, Bob Angle, Jeff Nelson, John Gooding, Pete Pace, Lance Frankham, Curtis Culver, Wayne Wadsworth, Abdol Chini, Charles Reid, and John Sofarelli at the Advisory Council Executive Committee meeting in Orlando.



Plaque presented to John McIntyre for his service to the Executive Committee.

### A Message to BCN Alumni from the Executive Committee....

As a way to improve communications to all of the BCN Alumni, the BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee (ExCOM) recently discussed and agreed to provide a brief update summarizing the activities and decisions of the EXCOM. This brief update will be published in the Orange & Blueprints Newsletter and posted to each of the BCN Regional Club websites.

As a result of a recent Industry Advisory Board (IAB) review attended by Chip Reid, chair of the EXCOM, and Dr. Chini, a committee will revisit some of the current by-laws for possible changes to improve our program. Some items for consideration may include current board diversity; more interaction between students, the EXCOM, and BCN College Council; conducting exit surveys from students to solicit feedback on the program; hall of fame for students and faculty; and having the EXCOM meet once a year with the Dean and Provost.

The usage of social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, will be implemented to increase and improve communications with alumni. All future DCP functions, regardless of location, will be communicated to our entire BCN alumni on file. A similar process will be utilized for BCN alumni regional club events that may be of interest to other areas, i.e. golf tournaments, fishing tournaments, etc. In the near future, we hope to have another section in each of the Alumni Club websites with events like these from other regions as well. Regional club locations include Tampa, Jacksonville, West Palm, Gainesville/Ocala, Miami/Ft Lauderdale, Orlando, Atlanta and Ft. Myers.

The Curriculum Sub-Committee is planning a review of the graduate courses and is requesting that each member of the EXCOM submit candidates from their company who have received a master's degree from BCN in order to participate in this review.

The Industry Sub-Committee suggested that the Employer Survey be sent out by paper and electronic format to gain more feedback and that BCN locate an "Industry Champion" at each company to make sure the survey is completed and returned to the School. Kim Stanley is to identify an "Industry Champion" at each company. Kim Stanley will also look into creating a database, other than the one maintained by the Alumni Association, to include alumni and company information.

In order to increase and improve communications with all BCN Alumni, websites are being created for all regional alumni clubs that are also linked to the UF BCN website.

The EXCOM committee will review the newsletter to provide feedback. A survey will be created to go out with the next newsletter to gain feedback on the preference of the alumni on the content of the newsletter as well as paper vs. electronic format.

### Meet John Gooding, BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee Member

John Gooding is President of Deerbrook, Inc., headquartered in Bonita Springs, Florida. Deerbrook was incorporated in the state of Florida as a General Contractor in 1996 with emphasis on luxury residential and light commercial construction. The firm's principal market is Southwest Florida.

John graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's degree in building construction. He began his construction career as a Project Manager with D. Garrett Construction in Naples, Florida. Other notable affiliations were with Kraft Construction and Boran Craig Barber Construction, Inc., two of the area's most respected construction firms. Through these firms, John gained valuable experience as Project Manager for various projects including community clubhouses, churches, banking facilities, and several high-rise condominium projects in Naples and Marco Island. John was promoted to President of Deerbrook in 2002 after six years of proven leadership navigating the company from its infancy to one of the premier luxury home builders in Southwest Florida. His leadership, strong interpersonal skills and expertise in coordinating efforts across varied agencies and personalities has resulted in a growing community of satisfied customers. John has served as a BCN Advisory Council EXCOM Member for two years and is honored to serve with such an elite group of construction professionals. His goals are to raise awareness of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction in Southwest Florida. There is a substantial group of BCN grads in Collier, Lee and Charlotte counties that can become more involved in guiding the future curriculum and supporting the increasing financial needs of the School.



John's interests outside the office include fishing, gardening and travel. He has been involved with the local chapters of the Coastal Conservation Association, Tropical Fruit and Native Plant Societies. John is a die-hard Gator fan and can be found attending Gator home games. His son is currently attending the University of Florida majoring in Landscape Architecture.

### 2010 Distinguished Alumnus

The distinguished alumnus award is given annually to a graduate of the Rinker School who has graduated a minimum of ten years prior to the award, has distinguished himself/herself in a construction field, and has demonstrated consistent support of the Rinker School. The 2010 Distinguished Alumnus is David J. Schmit.

Dave Schmit received his Bachelor of Building Construction in Spring 1983 and his Master of Science in Building Construction in Fall 1983 from the University of Florida. While at the School, he was President of the BCN College Council, President of the Sigma Lambda Chi Construction Honorary Society, and was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honorary and Golden Key International Honor Society. Dave was selected to receive the Spring 1983 BCN Leadership Award and the Spring 1983 BCN Scholar Award.

Dave was selected for this honor as distinguished alumnus because of his continued success in the construction industry. While with U.S. Home Corporation, he developed a production model for rapid build custom homes. As President of Colony Homes he developed an integrated system for managing the home building process that became known as CHAMPS (Colony Homes Applied Management Process) which was later recognized as the first truly integrated database that tied sales orders completed by on site sales agents to purchase orders utilized by trade partners and construction managers under a real-time scheduling system. In 2003, Dave founded and became President of Marathon Land Company, which develops high impact communities in and around the Atlanta market. Dave has built over 10,000 homes during his home building career.

Dave displays continued support of the Rinker School by returning each semester to lecture to the BCN students, being a



founding member of the Atlanta UF BCN Alumni Club, organizing a 25th year reunion of BCN classmates in 2008, being a member of the Florida Blue Key and providing financial support. Exemplifying great leadership in his community, Dave has been involved with various charities including serving as Vice-Chairman of Habitat for Humanity of North Central Georgia, Board Member of the Rotary Club of Roswell, and coaching many youth baseball teams.

Constantly making a difference in the construction industry and community, we are proud that Dave is an alumnus of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction.

### Alumni in Higher Education.

Professor James F. Goddard received his master's degree in building construction from the University of Florida in 1972. He currently is a Professor and Program Coordinator for the Construction Science and Management program at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas.

Professor Goddard has taught courses in basic construction layout, soils and site quantity surveying, construction methods, scheduling, heavy construction specialties, and construction safety. He has been an Authorized OSHA Instructor for nearly 30 years. Professor Goddard has served on numerous department, college, and university committees, chairing many of those groups. He currently serves as the Chair of the Course and Curriculum Committee for the KSU College of Engineering and several university task force groups.

Professor Goddard served as advisor for the Kansas State AGC Student Chapter, advisor for the Pi Chapter of Sigma Lambda Chi for 36 years, and advisor for the program's participation in the College of Engineering's Open House Competition for 30 years. The program won or placed in the top 3 within the college 26 of the 30 years. Professor Goddard coaches a student team annually in the Heavy/Highway Division of the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC) Region IV Construction Management Competition. His teams have won the regional competition several times.

Professor Goddard has served the educational and professional associations in many capacities. He has held each of the international officer positions in Sigma Lambda Chi International Construction Honor Society, served on the Board of Directors of the American

### **Outstanding Young Alumnus Award**

The University of Florida Alumni Association established an award to recognize Gators who have distinguished themselves in business, community or service and are age 40 and younger. The following alumni were selected by the College of Design, Construction and Planning over the past few years. They were



Domenic Scorpio, BCN 1998, was one of the 2006 recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Domenic is currently vice-president of PPI Construction Management, Inc. in Gainesville, FL.



Sean DeMartino, BCN 1993, was one of the 2008 recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Sean is currently Senior Vice President of Operations in the Orlando Office of Balfour Beatty.



Rob Maphis, BCN 1993, was one of the 2009 recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Rob is currently vice president/ branch manager for James A. Cummings Construction Orlando Office. Institute of Constructors, served as a member of the Exam Writing Committee of the Construction Certification Commission, and has held each of the national officer positions in the Associated Schools of Construction at least once.

Professor Goddard has also served the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) as the Chair of the Guidance Committee, Chair of

Standards Committee, Chair of the Training Committee, served as a member of the Accreditation Committee, and many task force assignments. He has been the primary trainer for the Visitor in Training sessions for many years. He has served as the Visiting Team Chair for many accreditation team visits to other universities over the past 16 years. Currently, Professor Goddard is the Vice-President/President Elect of ACCE and will become President in the summer of 2011.

Professor Goddard has been nominated for many awards through the years for teaching and advising. He received the Outstanding Educator Award from the Associated Schools of Construction in 2000. He has received the Outstanding Advisor Award several times within his department. He was recently selected to receive the Robert R. and Lila L. Snell Distinguished Career Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. This award is selected based upon student input, full professor support from both within and outside the department, alumni recommendations, and reviews from peers.

honored in April during the Orange & Blue weekend activities at a breakfast, and then invited to the annual barbeque before the Orange & Blue game as well as being a guest in the President's Box during the game.



Louie Wise III, BCN 1994, was one of the 2007 recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Louie is president of Climate Control Mechanical Services, Inc. in Ocala, FL.



Erik Sharpe, BCN 1995, was one of the 2008 recipients of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award. Erik is currently Operations Manager for the Brasfield & Gorrie Jacksonville division.

Congratulations to these outstanding alumni! You make BCN proud!



### Alumni In the News

**Frank Kendrick**, BCN 1989, and **Timothy Jackson**, BCN 1989, are on the cover of the March issue of Black Enterprise. The article "How We Grew Our Business Using Technology" is the feature of the issue.



Company COO, Timothy Jackson notes that "NuJak uses technology to plan and manage construction projects timely and efficiently. We use project management software to track our projects to mitigate delays, save time and reduce costs."

Founder and CEO, Frank Kendrick added "We have always been on the cutting edge of technology and will continue to strive to exceed our client's expectations."

NuJak, teamed with Skanska USA, were recently selected to build the new University of South Florida Polytechnic Campus signature building designed by the world renowned Santiago Calatrava. This will be the first campus in the world built from the ground up in the 21st century. Cutting-edge technology that is currently not being used on any other college campus in the world will make this structure a hallmark in the academic community. The campus will be located at the epicenter of the Florida High Tech Corridor.

NuJak Companies is a full-service construction and commercial real estate company serving the state of Florida. The company expertise lies in three primary disciplines: construction, property management and real estate development.

The company was recognized by the INC Magazine Fast 5000, Tampa Bay Business Journal 8th fastest growing, privately held company in the Tampa Bay area and the 10th Largest Minority Company. **Dale R. Hedrick**, BCN 1980, President, Hedrick Brothers Construction was honored as a recipient of the Palm Beach Ultimate CEO Award 2010 for setting the standard in the corporate community, including civic leadership and charitable contributions.

Dale R. Hedrick is also a graduate of Forest Hill High School District of Palm Beach County, and was recently honored as a finalist in the Business/Legal category for the Education Foundation of Palm Beach



County's inaugural Distinguished Alumni Award. The Award was created to honor alumni who are noted in their field of endeavor or recognized for their expertise and good works by their peers and others. These alumni must have graduated from or been enrolled, for a majority of years, in a Palm Beach County public school, and must have distinguished themselves through achievement, service or contributions to society either locally or to the broader community.

Michelle Forte Young, BCN 1997, CGC, LEED AP and President of FORTE YOUNG INC., is honored in Orlando Business Journal's "Forty Under 40" – the class of 2010. It is a competition that recognizes the top 40 business professionals in Orlando under the age of 40. Michelle says, "You can be honest and successful at the same time." FORTE YOUNG INC. is an Orlando-based general contracting/construction management company established in 2007. www. forteyounginc.com





Jeff Monaldi, BCN 1986, is a Senior Project Controls Analyst for ASRC Aerospace/NASA. Jeff sent in this photo and is standing between engines #2 and #3 of the space shuttle Atlantis. Jeff stated that as soon as he learned of this opportunity, he planned to wear his UF shirt.



(l-r) BCN Alumni Trent Swartz (BCN 2006) of Charles Perry Construction and Mary Thompson (BCN 1996) of Ajax Building Corporation were judges for the Capstone Course taught by Dr. Rick Smailes.

### **BCN** and Law

The featured article of this Orange & Blueprint newsletter edition is on BCN graduates who also have or are obtaining their law degree. Please find on the following pages some of these individuals.

Mitch Albaugh, BCN 1974, graduated from the UF College of Law in 1979. His unique career has included hands-on experience in nearly every aspect of construction disputes, including 8 years in the construction industry as an estimator (1974 -1976), the on-site claims manager for St. Johns River Power Park, a municipally-owned \$1.8 billion power plant project located in Jacksonville (1985-1988), and general counsel and in-house litigator for



Matthews Construction, a Tampa general contractor

(1989-1992). In addition, Mitch spent 2 years as a claims consultant with Wagner Hohns Inglis, a national construction claims consulting firm (1983-1985), and 2 years with Florida Department of Transportation litigating multi-million dollar highway construction claims (2003-2005). In 2005, Mitch teamed up with former UF Levin College of Law school classmate, Scott Clark, to form Clark & Albaugh, LLP, in Winter Park.

In 2007, Mitch was certified by the Florida Bar as one of only 193 construction law specialists in Florida (223, as of August 2009). Board certification is the highest level of recognition by the Florida Bar of an attorney's competency and experience and recognizes an attorney's special knowledge, skills and proficiency in a specific area of law, as well as his professionalism and ethics. As a Board Certified Construction Lawyer, Mitch has developed an in-depth knowledge of the issues involved in construction-related disputes.



Alterraon (Al) Phillips, BCN 1999, returned to Orlando after graduation and went on to work for a national architectural firm in their construction administration department. A few years later, Al relocated to West Palm Beach and while continuing to work, he attended Nova Southeastern Shepard Broad Law School evening program. Here he obtained his Juris Doctrine Degree in the Spring of 2007. Al is in West Palm Beach, FL where he is still active in the construction industry by oversee-

ing the construction administration department for a local architectural firm and managing/operating his personal company (Phillips & James Construction Consulting Firm). In addition to being on the building side of the industry, he is also a practicing attorney.

Al is an Associate with Cousins Law Firm, P.A. out of West Palm Beach, FL. He is currently listed by Martindale Hubbell as one of the 2010 Preeminent Attorneys. Areas of Practice include Construction, ADA, Real Estate, Foreclosure Defense, and Landlord/Tenant Law. Al is a Florida Certified Building Contractor and a member of the Florida Bar and American Bar Association.

John Yiasemdies, BCN 1996, went to work for Centex after graduation and worked there until 2001 when he went to work in Washington DC for Hill International for a year. He then returned to school and to obtain a law degree from University of Maryland School of Law where he graduated in 2005 and passed the Maryland Bar later that year. He is now working for Warner Construction Consultants in Rockville, MD, (just outside of Washington, DC) as an Executive Consultant and as their Associate General Counsel. They perform dispute resolution, scheduling, and



project management services for the construction industry. He works projects in the U.S. and abroad, most recently in Dubai, UAE where he spent nearly all of 2008 and part of 2009.



Ryan Stringfellow, BCN 2006, went to work after graduation as a Superintendent on an interior, commercial build-out for Central Florida Dream Builders, Inc. Additionally, he subcontracted as a Project Manager for Schmid Construction & Development, working on a commercial shell. Both projects were completed (timely) in April and May of 2007, respectively.

He began working toward his law degree in August 2007 from the Cumberland School of Law; and, in August 2008, he started his master's in business administration from the Brock School of Business. He graduated with a J.D./MBA in May of this year, having earned the following distinctions: Judge Abraham Caruthers Teaching Fellowship, Articles Editor of the American Journal of Trial Advocacy, Chair of the Cordell Hull Speakers Forum, Senior Member of the Cumberland Trial Advocacy Board, Member of the Cumberland National Mediation Team, Member of the Dean's Graduate Student Advisory Board, Beta Gamma Sigma and four-time Scholar of Merit. Ryan has accepted an Associate position with the Nashville, TN, law firm Morgan & Akins, PLLC, with the goal of developing a construction and employment practice to complement their superb worker's compensation practice.

Greg Martin, BCN 1987, is a shareholder in the law firm of Gregory S. Martin & Associates, P.A. in Maitland, FL. Earning his J.D. in 1990 from UF, he has limited his practice to representing those in the construction industry since 1993. Greg's practice has included representation of owners, developers, general contractors, subcontractors and design professionals, nationally and internationally, in both state and federal court as well as various administrative proceedings and arbitration. He has been recognized in Chambers and Partners as a Leader in Construction,



Super Lawyers<sup>®</sup> – Construction (Florida and Corporate Counsel Edition), Best Lawyers® - Construction and Orlando's Top Lawyers. He is also AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell. Greg is also a Certified Circuit Court Mediator by the Florida Supreme Court; a member of the AAA Commercial Panel of Neutrals; and a LEED® Green Associate.



Bruce Norris, BCN 1990, gained construction industry experience working for engineering firms both before and after graduation from BCN. That experience led him to pursue a legal career. Since graduating from law school, Mr. Norris has devoted his entire legal career to the practice of construction law. He is a founding member of the law firm Kirwin Norris, established in 1997 as a boutique construction law firm. The firm's primary goal is to assist clients in the timely completion of finan-

cially successful construction projects. To this end, Bruce has represented all parties within the construction industry.

Mr. Norris has been recognized by Chambers & Partners as one of America's Leading Lawyers for Florida Construction Law, by Super Lawyers® for Florida Construction Law, by Best Lawyers® in America for Construction Law, and Orlando's Top Lawyers for Construction Law. Bruce is also among the inaugural certification class of attorneys to be Board Certified in Construction Law by the Florida Supreme Court.

### BCN and Law



**Gerald F. Richman**, BCN 1962, graduated with honors first in his class. He had planned to get a masters in business administration from Harvard or Wharton upon graduation but because of the construction of the Berlin Wall in 1961 when he was in ROTC and because he had planned to be deferred from his assignment to the Army Corps of Engineers to attend graduate school, all the deferments were denied. By chance, when he took the aptitude test for graduate study in business to apply to Harvard and Wharton, he had also taken the law school aptitude test

and sent the scores to the University of Florida. The Dean of the law school told Mr. Richman of a new scholarship program at the University of Florida to encourage those who did well on the LSAT to attend the university rather than to go to the Ivy schools out of state. The Army then had a policy that despite the Berlin Wall, a deferment could be granted for a one-time only scholarship offer. Not really intending to be a lawyer, Mr. Richman applied for the scholarship, was accepted, entered an accelerated program at law school (2 years and 4 months) did exceptionally well, serving as Executive Editor of the Law Review, Chancellor of the Honor Court, and Captain of the Moot Court Team where he was selected as best oralist both by the Florida Supreme Court and the Southeastern United States Competition, and co-authored the winning National Brief in New York. He then clerked for a federal judge, served as a Judge Advocate in Washington D.C., and Korea. He also worked as a presidential aide at the White House, and joined his current law firm now known as Richman Greer, P.A., with offices in Miami and West Palm Beach, where he is President and Senior Shareholder. During the course of his career, besides being involved extensively in condominium and construction litigation as well as anti-trust securities, breach of contract and numerous other civil and commercial litigation areas, he has also served as President of the Florida Bar (1984-1985) and is currently in the American College of Trial Lawyers, International Society of Barristers, and is a National Board Member and Co-Chairman of the International Issues Committee of the American Board of Trial Advocacy where he is currently involved in planning and participating in a jury trial demonstration in Japan and Korea scheduled for November of this year.



**Frank Hild**, BCN 2007, is an associate in the law firm of Gregory S. Martin & Associates, P.A. in Maitland, FL. Frank earned his J.D. in 1999 from UF and for the next seven years successfully practiced first insurance law and then private criminal defense and commercial law. In 2005 Frank entered the BCN Master's Program, working a 12-week internship on a hospital construction project in Colorado and completing a thesis in construction litigation case studies in 2007. Since 2007 Frank has limited his practice

to representing those in the construction industry and has experience that includes a 4-week trial representing contractor claims on a bridge project in the Mid-Atlantic, a 10-week jury trial representing contractor claims on a light rail project in Southern California and, currently, in discovery representing contractor claims on utility improvements at a West Coast port facility.

**Bryan Capps,** BCN 1989, received his bachelor's degree from the University of Florida School of Building Construction in 1989, the same day he received his law degree from Florida's College of Law. Mr. Capps had previously received a bachelor's in English, also from Florida. In 2004, Mr. Capps established The Construction Law Firm, dedicated exclusively to construction litigation and attendant appeals in Florida and around the United States. His practice has run the gamut of construction cases, including design professional liability, construction defect cases,



and contractor claims, both in prosecution and defense, arising from projects public and private, large and small. Mr. Capps was among the inaugural class of attorneys to be Board Certified in construction law by the Florida Bar. In March 2010, he joined the Kirwin Norris, P.A. law firm as a Partner, continuing his dedication to the practice of construction law.

Daniel R. Zorrilla, BCN 2000 - After graduating from the University of Florida in 2000, Dan Zorrilla started working as an Assistant Project Manager with Suffolk Construction Company in West Palm Beach. In 2005, he relocated to Tampa as a Project Manager for Hardin Construction on a \$28 million condominium. While managing construction projects, he realized that the part of his job that he loved most was drafting and negotiating contracts, writing letters



and compiling and negotiating claims, so he decided to apply to law school. Stetson University College of Law accepted him into their parttime program and he began evening classes in August 2008. While at Stetson, he has been working full time researching and writing expert reports for construction claims. Having a construction background has helped him obtain a summer associate position at Trenam Kemker, a nationally recognized law firm in Tampa with a strong Construction Law and Government Contracting practice group. He plans to graduate in May 2011, pass the bar and begin his second career as a construction attorney.



**Chip Bachara**, BCN 1982, also graduated from Mercer University with a law degree in 1986. He knew from an early age that he would follow his father into the building business and enrolled at UF in 1978 with sights set on a degree in building construction. He has great memories of his years in the BCN program including: searching test banks for Professor Gunby's Construction Materials exam, suffering through HVAC class with a severe case of mono, spending late nights in Matherly Hall with a

study group trying to figure out statics, and, of course, "surveying" the hill above Broward Beach. Upon returning to Jacksonville, he sought every opportunity to focus his practice on construction law. After 23 years of practice, he has been fortunate to have succeeded in his goal of a specializing in construction law and have been honored by being selected to the Best Lawyers in America, Florida Trend's Legal Elite and Florida Super Lawyers. Chip is also Board Certified by The Florida Bar as a Construction Law Specialist. On his firms' website, you will find a special section devoted to the BCN hardhat that he had while in school. See www.bacharagroup.com and look for "Hardhat Story."

Sean M. Dillon, BCN 1992, is a Senior Partner with the construction law / litigation firm Moye, O'Brien, O'Rourke, Pickert & Dillon, LLP, based in Maitland, Florida, but handling matters throughout Florida, throughout the U.S., and internationally. Sean obtained his Juris Doctor degree from the University of Florida in 1995, spent two years with a small construction litigation firm in Gainesville, and then joined his current firm in 1997. Sean's practice involves representing general contractors, subcontrac-



tors, design professionals and owners in all aspects of the construction industry, from procurement to claim development / defense of claims, and in all forms of dispute resolution (mediation, arbitration, dispute review boards and litigation before state and federal courts as well as administrative tribunals). Before graduating from BCN, Sean spent approximately four years in the field working for a custom home builder and for various trade contractors. Since graduating from law school, he has been a guest lecturer for the Rinker School's graduate construction law class and has conducted training seminars for certified contractors' continuing education classes, contractors' trade associations and client organizations. Sean has been recognized as a Leader in Construction Law in The Client's Guide published by Chambers & Partners.

### Alumni Updates

**Robert Claudy, BCN 1957** – Bob is excited to report that his granddaughter, Chelsea, was admitted into the University of Florida.

**Rodney L. Kincaid, BCN 1958** – Rodney is President of Kincaid Construction Company in Winter Park, FL. He stated that he became concerned about the disinterest of contractors as it related to on-site storm water management and wanted to know more about the program, so he enrolled in a two-day seminar conducted by Florida Department of Environmental Protection and became a qualified storm water management inspector. He reports that he learned a lot about the importance of participating in this effort and how to do so and recommends this program to all general contractors.

**Richard Fisher, BCN 1967** – Rich works as a Senior Project Manager for Jacobs Engineering performing CM for various projects in Washington, DC, Mississippi and Florida. One of his most notable projects was the restoration of Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington.

**C. Rex Scott, BCN 1974** – Rex is currently Executive Vice President of Sales for Plycem USA in Alpharetta, GA. Rex is responsible for the Sales and Distribution of Plycem Fiber Cement Exterior Trim for the U.S. and Canada.

**Todd Andrew, BCN 1987** – Todd is President of Andrew General Contractors, Inc. and was recently invited to participate as the General Contractor partner on a design/build team called "Integrated Project Deliver." IPD, LLC was contracted by Orlando Utilities Commission to provide design/ build services for a new dedicated Chilled Water Plant for the new Amway Center.

**David Wagie, BCN 1985** - David received his MBA from UF in 1987. In July of this year, he obtained his Certified Residential Contractor license (CRC1330369) and with his wife Marie, who he married in May 2009, they have started their own business Faith Builders, LLC in Boyton Beach, FL.

Scott McCarthy, BCN 1992 - Scott recently organized a master schedule for Con Edison Co. of New York. Con Edison's Smart Grid program is a

#### Message to alumni....

To consistently bring the top students into the BCN program, the School actively recruits students. You could participate in this recruitment by volunteering to speak at your local high schools or colleges at various fairs that they have. If you would be interested in doing this, please contact Sallie Schattner at sallieas@ufl. edu or (352) 273-1180.



BCN Alumni recruiting students at the Orange County Construction Career Day event in April (I-r) Carlton Daley, BCN 1992, State of Florida, Department of Transportation; Eric Kleinzweig, BCN 2009, The Lane Construction Corporation; Rachael Henley, BCN 2009, Kiewit Construction; and Heath Strickland, BCN 2008, Granite Construction

#### Attention Class of 2000

A 10-year reunion is being planned for Homecoming Weekend, October 15-17, 2010. More information will be mailed soon. If you want to assist in organizing this event or want more information please contact:

#### Jennifer McAlister jennifer@ndcconstruction.com 941.737.3473

2-part effort funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, including implementation of existing technologies, and an R & D component to develop, test and demonstrate new technologies. The Smart Grid's purpose is to advance energy conservation, improve responsiveness to weather events and other hazards, and add green energy to the current grid. He worked on the master schedule for the R & D component, which involved several information technology companies, including Boeing. He has been working under contract for Con Edison as a scheduler since 2008, tracking infrastructure replacement programs for Substation Operations (SSO). Next Spring he plans to continue his studies at UF by pursuing a master's degree in Sustainable Construction (SC) online.

Sean M. Dillon, BCN 1992 – Sean's law firm recently changed its name to Moye, O'Brien, O'Rourke, Pickert & Dillon, LLP. Sean's practice focuses on construction law / litigation and is based in Maitland, FL, though he handles matters throughout Florida, throughout the U.S., and internationally. His firm is one of only thirteen law firms in the U.S. to achieve a nationwide ranking for its Construction Practice in The Client's Guide published by Chambers & Partners. Sean lives in the Windermere area with his wife of 15 years, Lisa, and their three children – Sean, Jr. (14), J. Tyler (10) and Brooke (5). He can be reached at sdillon@moopd.com.

**Tim Dickson, BCN 1996** - Tim is currently working as a Preconstruction Manager for BE&K Building Group in Orlando. Currently working on projects in Miami, Tampa, and also a project for UF in Orlando at the Lake Nona medical city. Tim earned an MBA at UF in 2002. Previously he worked nationwide for The Stellar Group of Jacksonville managing and developing industrial and process utilities-related projects. Tim and his wife, Shannon (UF 1996), have three children.

**Jennifer McAlister, BCN 2000** – Jennifer McAlister, LEED AP BD+C, is a Project Manager for NDC Construction Company in Bradenton, FL, where she has worked for the last 9 years. Her most recent project is the \$18M Palmetto Elementary School for the School District of Manatee County. In addition to her role at NDC, Jennifer is a mother to 2 ½ year old identical twin daughters, Kaitlyn and Jaidyn and is on the Board of Directors for the Gulf Coast Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council.

Matt Hendry, BCN 2001 – In 2009, Matt started his own commercial general contracting firm in San Diego called MLH Contracting, Inc. MLH offers services to both the tenant improvement market and new construction market. Matt is married to Amy and they are expecting their first child in October.

**Brandon Leske, BCN 2002** - Brandon started a general contracting business in 2008. Hybrid Construction focuses on commercial renovations and REO/Foreclosure property preservation. They are based out of and service the Tampa Bay area.

**Kyle Burton, BCN 2005** - Kyle has joined The Walt Disney World Company as a Project Manager and is currently working multiple jobs at the Magic Kingdom. He says "I love working at Disney, I finally found a place where people smile and laugh as much as I do." Kyle and his wife Sara have a beautiful baby girl named Brooke.

### Alumni Updates, cont.

**Jonah Barth, BCN 2007** – Jonah recently completed the Embassy Suites in Savannah, GA, while he was working with D&D Construction Services. He just accepted a new position as project manager for G&K Home Solutions in Little Rock, AR.

**Robert Taylor, BCN 2007** – Robert is working as an estimator for Management Resource Systems in NC and obtained his Florida Building Contractors license. Robert and his wife, Katie, were just married and went to Rome for their honeymoon.

**Bert Van der Meer, BCN 2007** – Bert is with Holder Construction Company and recently moved to Washington, DC to work on a Performing Arts Center at Bowie State University.

**Dan Casale, BCN 2008** – Dan is currently working as a BIM Engineer for DPR Construction in San Francisco, CA.

**Charles Norville, BCN 2008** - Since graduation, Charles has been working on international assignments for Fluor with their Energy and Chemicals business line. He is currently working in the Middle East at Saudi Kayan Petrochemical Facility as a Field Engineer / System Lead with primary focus on mechanical completion and subsequent start up of the de-NOx and de-SOx pollution control devices for the plant's steam generation utilities. He has also served as a lecturer in Professor Cook's classes discussing the topics of challenges and opportunities facing large EPC companies with an aging work force, and an evolving energy market facing their clients.

**Cassidy Resnick, BCN 2008** - Cassidy received her master's degree of arts in international business from UF in 2009. In March 2010, she began working for Clark Construction in Newport Beach, CA. She currently

### **Generations of BCN cont'd**

works as an estimator in their Costa Mesa office on pre-construction for Stanford Hospital, a \$850 million LEED hospital project.

**Shaughn Hill, BCN 2009** – In the Fall, Shaughn will begin law school at Florida State University.

**Carlos Lorenzo, BCN 2009** - Carlos went to work for Balfour Beatty Construction after graduation on \$65 million student housing project which is part of a three-phase infrastructure improvement plan for Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. After six months, Carlos has proven himself to be a valuable asset to the project team and was awarded "Employee of the Month" for June 2010.

BCN Alumni working for Batson-Cook Construction in their Jacksonville Office. (1-r)

Thad Blinn, BCN 1997 - Thad has been with Batson-Cook for 13 years and is married with two children.

Evender Spradlin, BCN 1996 - Evender has been with Batson-Cook for 14 years and is married with two children.



Chris Shepard, BCN 1997 - Chris received both his bachelor's (1997) and master's (1998) degrees at BCN. He has been with Batson-Cook for 3 years and is married with one child.

Andy Hipp, BCN 2000 - Andy has been with Batson-Cook for 10 years and is married with two children.

There have been many father & son, father & daughter, etc., generations that have graduated from the Rinker School of Building Construction. Some have provided photos and an article of their experience. If you were not included so far and would like to submit an article for the next edition, please contact Kim Stanley at kimms@ufl.edu.



T.J., Matt, and Sid Jordan

The Jordans represent three generations at UF Rinker School of Building Construction, consisting of Joseph Thomas (T.J.) as the patriarch, Sid and Matt.

T.J. pioneered the way in the 50's graduating in 1959, the same year Sid was born in Alachua General Hospital. Sid followed his father, who graduated in the BCN class of 1981.

The latest edition to the BCN tradition is Matt who received his undergraduate degree from UF in Finance this past May. Matt is entering the class of Fall 2010 to earn his master's degree at Rinker and is interning with Clark Construction in Tampa at CENTCOM Headquarters at Mac Dill Air Force Base this Summer.

Before starting his own firm, T.J. Jordan, Inc, T.J. worked for Lamont/Shimberg in Tampa. The Shimberg's are none other than the same family that funded "The Shimberg Center for Housing Studies" here at UF. For the past 50 years, T.J. has been a General Contractor specializing in residential construction in Tampa and throughout Central Florida. Sid followed in his dad's footsteps graduating in 1981. He took his father's advice and entered commercial construction starting with Federal Construction after graduation. After stints at Enterprise Building Construction and Brown & Root, he settled with Clark Construction Group in 1993. He is now the CEO of the Northern/ Southern Division which comprises the region east of the Rockies and manages over \$2 billion annually. Sid is the immediate past chair of the EXCOM Committee and is active with the Tampa Bay Gator BCN Alumni Club.

The Jordans have a passion for all things Gators and can be found at each home football and basketball game. Other activities enjoyed by the family include anything outdoors especially hunting, fishing, trail bike riding and tennis. The Jordans are surrounded by other Gators in the family including T.J.'s wife Mary Lou, her son D.R., Sid's wife Donna (who was a scholarship tennis player for the #2 nationally ranked Gators ) and their son Bill.

T.J. and Sid welcome Matt along with the new generation of BCN graduates into the greatest fraternity that collectively comprise the industry's leaders in construction.

### **BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates**

The Tampa Bay BCN Gators and Title Sponsor, Clark Construction Group, LLC hosted their 5th Annual Golf Fundraiser at The St. Petersburg Country Club on Thursday, May 13, 2010. Dr. Abdol Chini, Professor Mike Cook, Kim Stanley and Jennifer Mashburn made the trip from Gainesville to participate in the golf scramble. "Albert" also traveled to the event this year for group photos with all 27 foursomes during the registration and pre-event lunch.

Prior to the awards presentation at the reception sponsored by David Nelson Construction Co., Dr. Chini addressed the group with updates on the latest happenings at the Rinker School and thanked all of the participating sponsors for their support.

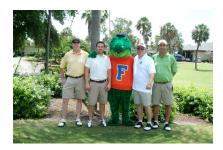


The Tappouni Mechanical Team won first place (l-r) Paul Tappouni, Adam Davidson (Stan Weaver & Co), Don Reagan (Lassiter Ware), Campbell Caldwell (WG Mills)

Paul Tappouni, Adam Davidson, Don Reagan, and Campbell Caldwell representing the Tappouni Mechanical Team took the First Place Trophies this year. The teams from Clark Construction and David Nelson Construction Co. were the second and third place winners. The Men's and Women's Long Drive winners were John Gabler and Debbie DeFoe, and Scott Pippin won the Closest to the Pin prize. Jeff Brase won The Able Body Putting Contest.

The Silent Auction and Raffle included several golf foursome packages; some with one and two night stays at the resorts, golf equipment, Gator sportswear and gear, contractor tools and equipment, dinner gift certificates and a special "Gatorized" flatscreen TV donated by local businesses.

The Tampa Bay BCN Gators wish to thank St. Petersburg Country Club for their extra effort to make this tournament a success and all the volunteers who planned and assisted the fundraiser which this year provided over \$21,000 to benefit the Rinker School. The club is grateful to all of the Sponsors and each of the following firms for their generous contributions:



David Nelson Construction's team: (l-r) David Vekasi, Brian Symanski, Jeff Nelson, and George Gomes



Harry Wolfersberger, Springer-Peterson Roofing & Sheet Metal; (I-r) Don Springer, Springer-Peterson Roofing & Sheet Metal; Albert; Jay Gabler (BCN 1984) of Dagasa Construction-Tampa; and John Gabler, Dagasa Construction-Tampa.

#### **Bull Gator & Team Sponsors:**

Baker Concrete Bovis Lend Lease Brandon Construction Company Charles Perry Construction, Inc. Control Systems Specialists, Inc. Crossroads Construction Co. Florida Rock Industries Gerdau Ameristeel Hardin Construction Henkelman Construction Inc. Hunt Construction Group, Inc. KHS&S Contractors Kiewit Southern Mill-Rite Woodworking Co., Inc. NDC Construction Painters on Demand Power Design Quality Fabrication & Supply SEMA Springer Peterson Roofing & Sheetmetal Tappouni Mechanical Truant Construction Universal Fire Systems

#### **Hole Sponsors:**

Bouchard Insurance Clark Construction Group LLC Cutler & Associates David Nelson Construction Co. Dealership Solutions Diaz Fritz Isabel Gerdau Ameristeel Hawkins Construction Nielson, Wojtowicz, Neu Painters on Demand Peninsular Mechanical Proefke Construction Quality Fabrication & Supply Sierra Construction Company Stan Weaver & Company Tappouni Mechanical The Murray Company Zurich Insurance

#### Auction, Raffle, and Gift Sponsors:

Airco Golf Course Bardmoor Golf & Tennis Club Cyprus Run Golf Club Green Links Golf Resort & Conf. Center Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club Isla Del Sol Yacht & Country Club Lake Jovita Golf & Country Club Mark Bostick Golf Course Pebble Creek Golf Club Riverhills Country Club St. Petersburg Country Club The Bayou Club The Plantation Inn Golf Resort & Spa Able Body Labor Bascom's Chop House Courtside Grille David Nelson Construction Co. Dew Luxury Motor Cars Gator Boosters Gator Haven Heads and Tails Home Depot Jim & Slim's Tool Supply Ker's Winghouse Mister Car Wash MP Direct/Suntime Mugs 'N Jugs Rountable Concepts **RSC** Rentals Smith & Casady Inc. Springer Peterson Roofing & Sheetmetal White Cap Supply

The Tampa Bay BCN Club will host the 3rd Annual Fishing Tournament on Friday, October 22, 2010 For more information, please visit the website www.UFBCNTampaAlumni.com

### **BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates**

The Central Florida Gator BCN Club continues to be a great organization for UF construction professionals who live and work in Central Florida. Continuing on the momentum of previous successful years, the Club has grown to more than 135 registered members. The Club has been active in hosting social networking events, communicating about the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction and providing significant support for the School and its professorship endowment fund.

The Central Florida Gator BCN Club is very proud to continue its tradition of supporting the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction. The Club's major fundraising event this year was the Annual Golf Tournament, which was held on April 14, 2010 at Orange County National Golf Course. Over 40 industry owners, consultants, general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers provided sponsorship and support. This year's major sponsor was The Calic Group, a leading consulting, design and construction support. A full field of 144 golfers played the tournament, which was followed by dinner, a raffle and a silent auction that included numerous Gators memorabilia. Many thanks to all who participated in this very successful event, which raised over \$42,000 for the School!

In addition to the Golf Tournament, the Club has held more of its Gator Gathering networking socials, including an event at Gators Dockside on June 10, 2010. As usual, this social included great food, drinks and prizes. Dr. Chini also attended the social, during which he provided an update of happenings at the School and accepted the Club's "BIG CHECK" contribution.

Thanks to the Club board members who continue to dedicate their time and talents towards the organization's success:

Sean DeMartino – Balfour Beatty (Past President) Jim Ellspermann – Brasfield & Gorrie Art Higginbotham – Walt Disney Imagineering Rob Maphis – James A. Cummings, Inc. (President) Tom Maurer – Turner Construction Brice Miller – ECS Florida, LLC Pete Pace – Clancy & Theys John Sofarelli – J. Raymond Coby Welch – Wal-Mark Contracting

Much appreciation to those who helped with the golf tournament and who continue to work tirelessly for other Club events. Special thanks to Angelique Kinker and Mackenzie Arnold of James A. Cummings, Inc., and Jennifer Donahoe, Jes-



Ben Rogers, Clancy & Theys; Jeff Mock, Clancy & Theys; Chris Silver, Dean of the UF College of Design, Construction & Planning; and Pete Pace (BCN 1984), Clancy & Theys.



Bobby Stima, Manning Building Supply; Mike Eidelberg, Shell Systems; Ken Blumbeck, BCN 1997; and Brice Miller (BCN 2002) with ECS Florida, LLC.



Michael Penney, Michael Penney Insurance; Tom Borgia, J. Raymond Construction; John Sofarelli (BCN 1981), J. Raymond Construction; and Paul Graham, J. Raymond Construction.



James A. Cummings, Inc. representatives Travis Kolbjornson (BCN 2007), Shane Burnsed, Trevor Prigg (BCN 2001) stand with Professor Mike Cook.

sica Bergeron, and Teri Johnson of J. Raymond. Also thanks to Kim Stanley from the School for her continued support and help to spread the word about the Club's events.



Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club presents Dr. Abdol Chini with \$42,000 check!

Correspondence for all BCN Club future events are sent via e-mail, so remember to update your email\address on the UF Alumni website. https://www.ufalumni. ufl.edu/contact/bioupdate.aspx and to see a listing of each club's website address visit http://www. bcn.ufl.edu/dcp\_alumni/regional\_ clubs.shtml



### **BCN Alumni Regional Club Updates**

#### Southwest Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club

The first ever Southwest Florida Gator BCN Club Fishing Tournament took place Saturday, July 17, 2010 at the beautiful Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club in Naples. The tournament was a "catch and release" event with the longest total length of four fish, two snook and two redfish, taking first prize. A fifty/fifty "Calcutta," for those anglers who were confident enough in their skills to place \$100 in the pot. The tournament started at 7:00 a.m. Boats had to be back at the dock by 3:30PM. Fish sandwiches, hamburgers and french fries were served during the judging of the team results and awards ceremony. Over twenty raffle prizes were drawn for including cast nets and other fishing tackle, Rinker School "Goodie" bags, and Pinnacle Vodka gift baskets. A captain's meeting to introduce the teams and explain the rules preceded the tournament on Friday evening. There was a special appearance at the Captain's Meeting by Lynne Capece, the Director of Development and Alumni Relations for the UF College of Design, Construction and Planning. Lynne briefed the attendees on the fund raising goals at the Rinker School of Building Construction and thanked the tournament participants and sponsors for their support.



Chris McEachern (BCN 2004) and Mike Richardson (BCN 1997)

Everyone enjoyed a great day of fun, sun and fishing at the tournament thanks to the efforts of the SWFL Gator BCN Club Fishing Tournament Committee which included Tournament Director, Tim Rushing, Mike Wagner, Tim Kelly, Chris McEachern and John Gooding. The event could not have happened without the hard work of Shore Captain Mike Richardson and his crew. This two-day

event was truly a first class affair that allowed BCN alumni and other locals in the construction industry to socialize and network while at the same time raising money for the Rinker School. While the total funds raised has not yet been tallied, we would like to thank the sponsors that donated to the fishing tournament. Those sponsors are:

#### **Gator Sponsor:**

Andersen Windows/Florida Wood Window and Door (Tom Mizwa and Dan Shannon)

#### **Shirt Sponsor:**

Alpha-Omega Construction (Mike Wagner, Jr.)

#### **Rule Stick Sponsor:**

Roetzel & Andress (Mark Huling and Carlo Zampogna)

#### Site Host:

Hamilton Harbor Yacht Club

#### **Beverage Sponsors:**

Deerbrook, Inc. (John Gooding) TR Rushing Construction (Tim Rushing) Nature's Blueprint/Team Evolution Outdoors (Steve Hall) Pelican Larry's Raw Bar (Jeff Walbert)

#### **Raffle Sponsors:**

Tall Tales Bait and Tackle (Mike<br/>Larko)John Gooding (BCN 1<br/>time on a sandbar.Calusa Cast Nets (Buster)The Fan Depot (Jim and Justin Avery)Kensington Golf and Country Club (Corey McDonough)The Clay Place (Jim Rice)Pinnacle Vodka (Paul Skiera)



Weigh-in with Captain Bob Wasno, Tim Rushing (BCN 1992) and Kelsey Workinger



Team Deerbrook with Bob Allyn and John Gooding (BCN 1984) spends a little time on a sandbar.

#### North Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club

The North Central Florida Gator BCN Alumni Club hosted a social in March at the Swamp Restaurant. Almost 30 alumni gathered to socialize before the Gator basketball team played Vanderbilt at the O'Connell Center. The Club hosted its 4th Annual Sporting Clays Tournament on April 16, 2010. The sponsors of this event were W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractors and Burgess & Dudley Electrical Contractors.



BCN Alumni & club members are catching up on things with the BCN office staff at the Swamp social.



Central Florida Drywall places 1st at the tournament. (1-r) Bob Harding, Scott Siemens (BCN 1981), Ken Tenney (BCN 1975) and Ruben Ramos



Scherer Construction Team (l-r) Robert Walpole, Marty Wynkoop, Stan Given, and Doug Wilcox (BCN 1989)

### **Lessons Learned**

written by Rodney Kincaid, President of Kincaid Construction

When I received my BCN degree in June of 1958, I thought I knew it all, but 52 years later, I look back and realize how foolish that opinion was. Two things of significant importance were missing from my early construction knowledge.... the importance of accounting and marketing. To be knowledgeable about estimating and organizing your office



and field operation is important, but creating your accounting information to provide you critical information about your financial success or failure is absolutely vital. Such information will inform you as to whether you are bidding correctly or not, whether you are fiscally responsible with the monies your company is acquiring and provides you the opportunity to correct any such problems before they seriously damage your company. Secondly, and of equal importance, is your marketing program. Contractors tend to create

The Bonds of BCN

For some students, alumni and faculty, it's BCN for life. So often, meaningful bonds and relationships begin within the halls of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction that change lives and last a lifetime. This past year, BCN had an example of this significant friendship.

Last December, beloved faculty member Dr. Brisbane Brown was diagnosed with cancer and began undergoing treatments. Many concerned alumni have called and sent Dr. Brown letters of encouragement, including Dave Schmit (BCN 1983) and Jeff Charlotte (BCN 1983). Dave and Jeff, who come back each year to be guest lecturers for Dr. Brown's classes, jumped at the chance to see him and have continued to track his progress and visit numerous times over the past few months.

### Whitley Steel Learning Tree Dedication -

Whitley Steel Company is proud of its relationship with the University of Florida. They provide a tour of their facility each semester for the students. Most recently, they donated "The Learning Tree" which provides examples of possible steel connection details for the students educational purposes. On March 15, 2010, representatives from Whitley Steel visited Rinker Hall to see the completed project.

Whitley Steel Co., Inc. was started by Mr. John Whitley in 1973 and has steadily grown to become one of the premier fabricators in Florida. Whitley Steel remains family owned and is currently under the direction of Robert Whitley, President.

Whitley Steel is an A.I.S.C. (American Institute of Steel Construction) certified steel fabrication company located on Hwy 301 S. in Clay County, Florida. Their 23-acre facility consists of a fabrication shop, paint bay and administrative offices. relationships with their clients during the construction stage, but at the conclusion of the project, they fail to continue the relationship. It costs much less to build for a former client that to build for firsttime clients, also your former clients can be your best source for future work if you only stay in touch and ask them to help you find new construction opportunities. Creating a newsletter to email to your former clients, potential clients, architects and engineers can help you keep your name in front of them and develop opportunities for new work. If you are contemplating the start of your own construction company, make sure you put these two programs into your operation on day one for long-term success.

If you would like to submit an article for the "Lessons Learned" section of the newsletter, please contact Kim Stanley at kimms@ufl.edu.



Dave Schmit (BCN 1983), Dr. Brisbane Brown, and Jeff Charlotte (BCN 1983)

Their annual production has been up to 8,000 tons of structural steel with a workforce as high as 103 employees. Whitley Steel provides a complete package of steel construction services, including detailing, shop fabrication and field erection.



Dr. Paul Oppenheim; Dr. Ajay Shanker; Touan Plante, Whitley Steel; Dr. Abdol Chini; Ronnie Rauch, Whitley Steel; Robert Whitley, Whitley Steel; and Ron Vann, Whitley Steel

### Sponsorships

### **Opportunities to help**

The Rinker School has a limited budget, and there are many activities and items for which we could certainly use your financial assistance. In return for your underwriting of these activities/items, we would provide appropriate publicity about your support.

In the case of events, we would be pleased to have a company representative attend the event and say a few words on behalf of your firm. For the Newsletter, we would include a prominent credit on the back page of the Newsletter.

The following is a list of events and their approximate cost to us for which your support would be very beneficial to the Rinker School and its students:

Available Event Sponsorships				
Graduation Dinner	Fall 2010	\$3,500		
NAHB Competition	Spring 2011	\$5,000		
BCN Newsletter	Spring 2011	\$8,000		
BIM Competition Team	Spring 2011	\$7,000		
Welcome Reception	Fall 2011	\$6,000		
LEED Competition Team	Spring 2012	\$5,000		
Homecoming BBQ	Fall 2012	\$3,500		

#### Previous Two Year's Sponsors

Special thanks to our past event sponsors.

Commercial Team (1998 - present) -Balfour Beatty Design-Build Team (2002-present) -Haskell Company Heavy/Civil Team (2006-present) – Nelson Construction

ABC Competition Team Spring 2009-ANF Group and Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of ABC Spring 2010-ANF Group, Inc., Tri-City Electric Co., Inc., Lotspeich Co. of Florida, Inc., William R. Nash, Inc., and ABC Fla. <u>NAHB Competition Team</u> 2009 - Paul & Laura Dickert 2010 - National Housing Endowment and Paul & Laura Dickert

<u>LEED Competition Team</u> Spring 2009 - Holder Construction Spring 2010 - James A. Cummings

<u>BIM Competition Team</u> Spring 2009 - Current Builders Spring 2010 - Turner Construction

<u>Graduation Dinner</u> Spring 2009 - James A. Cummings Fall 2009 - The Shaw Group

#### **Future Event Sponsors**

Welcome ReceptionFall 2010Clancy & TheysSpring 2011Hardin Construction

Homecoming BBQFall 2010Hawkins ConstructionFall 2011Current Builders

Graduation Dinner Spring 2011 Balfour Beatty

LEED Competition Spring 2011 Clancy & Theys

#### If you need additional information, please contact Dr. Abdol Chini (chini@ufl.edu).

<u>Welcome Reception</u> Spring 2009 - Hardin Construction Fall 2009 - Holder Construction Spring 2010 - Brasfield & Gorrie

Homecoming BBQ 2008 - Weitz Golf 2009 - Brasfield & Gorrie

<u>BCN Newsletter</u> Spring 2009 - Hawkins Construction Fall 2009 - Clancy & Theys Construction Spring 2010 - Clark Construction

<u>Graduate Student Reception</u> Spring 2008 - Clark Construction Spring 2009 - Clancy & Theys

### Thank You

Gulf Coast Chapter

Thank you to all who donated to the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction General Fund (January - July 2010):

<u>1951</u>

Morton H. Parks

#### <u>1952</u>

James G. Foster, Jr.

<u>1955</u> Paul C. Gips

<u>1957</u> Robert L. Claudy, Jr. Myron L. Corets

1958 Nelson Romero

<u>1962</u>

Samuel P. Mitchell, Jr. William H. Squires <u>1966</u> John R. Kiker III John M. McMahon

<u>1967</u> Robert P. Angle

<u>1970</u> William G. Fischer

<u>1972</u> David T. Smith

<u>1973</u> Herman L. Fagley, Jr. Robert E. Broxton Robert W. Caldwell III <u>1974</u> William A. Pinto

<u>1975</u> Lawrence S. Northup

1979 Robert D. Clark George W. McGonagill

1981 Thomas N. Yianilos Scott B. Siemens Paul S. Goodwin

<u>1983</u> Scott A. Varga William M. Coyne 1984 Andrew J. Morog

<u>1985</u> William P. Byrne

<u>1987</u> Michael S. Goldman

<u>1991</u> Gregory D. Kimmelman

**1992** Kurt A. Ewoldt Thomas E. Finnegan

1994 Charles M. Wells <u>1996</u> Timothy J. Sergenian

<u>2001</u> Gregory A. Pope, Jr.

2003 Michael J. Morette

<u>Friends</u> Lynn S. Billingsley William M. Wing Megan M. Baptist

<u>Corporations</u> Clark Construction Group CEMEX Foundation, Inc.

### Advisory Council

Please

The M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction is honored to have an active Advisory Council whose members, both individual and corporate, serve as an important source of advice and support for the School. Advisory Council is an opportunity for you and your company to form a strong liaison with the School. In this way, we can be assured that our program is current and meets the ever-changing needs of the construction industry. We hope you will consider becoming a member of the Advisory Council for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction.

	HERE IS MY GIFT FOR THE M.E. RINKER, SR. SCHOOL OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION					
	My gift in	My gift in the amount of \$ is made to the University of Florida Foundation for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction <b>Be sure to put BCN in the Memo Line</b>				
lease check the appropriate block: Individual Membership		Corporate Membership				
		\$100 Certificate		\$300 Mounted certificate plus BCN tumbler		
		\$300 Mounted Certificate plus BCN tumbler		\$1,000 Plaque		
		\$2,000 includes membership in the University President's Council		\$2,000 includes membership in the University President's Council		
Name						
Address						
City		State	Zip			

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date Please send gifts to 304 Rinker Hall, PO Box 115703, Gainesville, Florida 32611

#### Help Build the Future with the BCN Brick Paver Campaign!

Want to have your name in Rinker Hall, the home of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction? Buy a brick paver, support your School, and have your name etched in stone for the world to see! The 4" x 8" brick pavers are available to students, alumni and friends for \$125.00. There is a 3-line limit, with a 16-character limit per line. Each space, period or other such punctuation is considered a character. Visit www.bcn.ufl.edu/brick for more information.

Please make checks payable to UF Foundation. Do NOT send cash. Be sure to note BCN Brick Campaign in the Memo Line. Please send checks to 304 Rinker Hall, PO Box 115703, Gainesville, Florida 32611

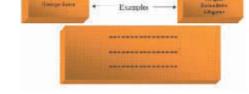
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City:\_\_\_\_\_State:\_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bricks Ordered:\_\_\_\_



Total Amount Enclosed:\_\_\_\_\_

# Rinker School — Major Donor Companies

#### Major Donors as of December, 2009

#### Gold (\$100K or more in last 10 years)

Baker Concrete Balfour Beatty CEMEX USA Clark Construction Group Fluor Foundation Holder Construction J. Raymond Construction

#### Silver (\$50K or more in last 10 years)

Angle & Schmid Brasfield & Gorrie Charles Perry Construction Current Builders of Florida Haskell Company James A. Cummings, Inc. McIntyre Elwell & Strammer GC Miller Construction Inc. Stiles Corporation

#### Bronze (\$10K or more in last 3 years)

ANF Group Inc. Bergelectric Inc. Burkhardt Construction CCK Construction Services Clancy & Theys David Nelson Construction Gerdau Ameristeel Hardin Construction Hawkins Construction Inc. Hedrick Brothers Hypower Inc. Kiewit MDI Construction LLC Nash Inc. PPI Construction Management Scherer Construction & Engin. of Central Fl. Skanska USA Building Inc. Springer Peterson Roofing & Sheet Metal Suffolk Construction **TGSV** Enterprises Turner Construction Co. Vulcan Materials Company

#### WAYS TO GIVE

If you are interested in exploring the different ways that you can contribute to the Rinker School, please contact Lynne Capece, Director of Development at lcapece@dcp.ufl.edu or (352) 392-4836 x314.



### Endowments ——

#### **<u>Rinker Fellowship for International Student Exchange</u>**

The Marshall E. Rinker, Sr. Foundation, Inc. recently pledged \$750,000 in consideration of its abiding interest in the University and the Rinker School. This fund is known as The Rinker Fellow-ship for International Student Exchange and the spendable income from the fund will be used to support fellowship to students at the Rinker School who participate in the international student exchange programs with Australia, Germany, Hong Kong, Singapore and other countries with which the Rinker School may establish a student exchange program in the future.

#### The Bill and Linda Pinto Visiting

#### Professorship in Building Construction

Bill Pinto, BCN 1973 (BBC) and BCN 1974 (MBC), and his wife, Linda, recently pledged a gift of \$250,000 as part of their estate planning documents. The spendable income from the fund will be used to support a visiting professorship at the Rinker School, to be filled by an individual who is a building construction industry professional. Bill and Linda made this gift in consideration of their abiding interest in and love for the University and the Rinker School.





#### The Charles P. Reid Endowment

Chip Reid, BCN 1975, has pledged a gift of \$200,000 as part of his estate planning documents. The spendable income from the fund will be used to support scholarships, fellowships and student competitions at the discretion of the Rinker School Director. Chip made this gift in consideration of his abiding interest in and love for the University.



Jon, Elizabeth and Jodi Kurtis at Elizabeth's graduation from the University of Florida.

#### The Jonathan B. and Jodi J. Kurtis Scholarship/

#### Fellowship Endowment

Jonathan B. Kurtis, BCN 1978, and his wife, Jodi, recently established a \$100,000 life insurance policy naming the UF Foundation as beneficiary. The spendable income from the fund will be used to support scholarships and fellowships in the discretion of the Rinker School Director. Jon stated that "Not only did I meet my wife at UF and our daughter received both her undergraduate and graduate degrees there, but UF and the School of Building Construction gave me a foundation of learning and experience that enabled me to excel in my field. My professional success is due in part to this foundation and we wanted to make this bequest in recognition of that. Jodi, Elizabeth and I hope that our contribution helps the School continue building foundations for the future leaders of our industry and our society for generations to come."

### **Spring 2010 Welcome Reception**

The M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction hosted its Spring 2010 Welcome Reception at the Paramount Hotel on January 14, 2010 with more than 150 in attendance. The newest Junior 1's and graduate students eagerly listened to the overall message of the event: to embrace and take part in the School's many academic, professional and networking offerings. Dr. Abdol Chini, Director of the School, listed the many opportunities in which students may take part, such as student competitions, exchange programs and student organizations and urged students to "get involved in as many activities as possible."

Several faculty and the BCN College Council president welcomed the incoming students at a newly created "White Hard Hat Ceremony" into the BCN family and the construction field.





BRASFIELD GORRIE GENERAL CONTRACTORS

A special thanks to **Brasfield & Gorrie** for sponsoring the Homecoming BBQ.



Brasfield & Gorrie representatives Josh Johnston (BCN 2005) (l-r), Katie Zellmer and Betsy Markham (BCN 2009) with Dr. Abdol Chini

### Spring 2010 Career Fair

The Rinker School held its Spring Career Fair on February 16, 2010, at the O'Connell Center. The career fair was attended by more than 50 companies and approximately 340 students and visitors. Many pre-BCN students attended the fair looking for internships, as well as alumni and students from other schools within the College and other building construction programs in Florida. The next career fair will be in the Fall, on October 12th, 2010. For more information on sponsoring or attending the career fair, please contact the job placement office at (352) 273-1187.



Holder Construction representative, Bob Campbell (BCN 1999) and Amy Norman (BCN 2004).

#### The Building Construction Career Fair

October 12, 2010 9:00 am - 1:30 pm Stephen C. O'Connell Center



For more information, visit our website at: www.bcn.ufl.edu (click on job placement, recruiter information)

ALUMNI JOB PLACEMENT - If you are looking for a job, information about our Career Fair or job placement services, please visit our website at: www.bcn.ufl.edu and then click on Job Placement.



Baker Concrete representative, Mark Mehalovich talks with BCN student Scott McClain.



Turner Construction representative, Tom Mauer (BCN 1982) speaks with a BCN student.

### **BCN Graduation Dinner –**



BCN held its graduation dinner on April 30, 2010, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at J. Reitz Union Rion Ballroom. Over 180 graduates, family and BCN faculty attended this event to celebrate the graduation of another group of BCN students.

Dr. Abdol Chini presented the "Nancy V. Perry Teaching Excellence Award" to Dr. Paul Oppenheim. Graduating senior, Bradley Stone was awarded a plaque for "Outstanding Scholarship" and the "Fluor Program Outstanding Student in Construction Safety" award. Alyce Anderson was presented with the "Outstanding Leadership" award.

Dr. Rick Smailes presented awards for BCN 4787C - Construction Capstone projects. Catherine Woodworth received the Spring 2010 "Best Overall Capstone Project" and Justin Dean received the "Most Innovative Capstone Project."

BCN Alumus David Schmit was presented with the 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Award from the Rinker School.



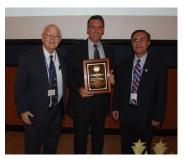
Bradley Stone receives the Outstanding Scholarship plaque from Dr. Chini.



Dr. Chini (I-r) presents Dr. Paul Oppenheim with the Nancy V. Perry Teaching Excellence Award. BCN College Council President Alyce Anderson and Dr. Charles Kibert were on the selection committee for the award.



Alyce Anderson receives the Outstanding Leadership plaque from Dr. Chini.



Dr. Brisbane Brown, 2010 Distinguished Alumnus Recipient David Schmit (BCN 1983), and Dr. Abdol Chini.

### Spring 2010 Commencement



BCN faculty member, Dr. Robert Ries receives the 2009-2010 College of Design, Construction and Planning International Educator of the Year Award (junior faculty).



The College of Design, Construction and Planning hosted its graduation on May 1, 2010, at 5 p.m. at the Curtis M. Phillips Center for Performing Arts for its students graduating in Spring 2010.

BCN faculty member, Dr. Robert Ries received the 2009-2010 College of Design, Construction and Planning International Educator of the Year Award (junior faculty).

BCN student Allison Stanley received the 2010 College of Design, Construction and Planning Student Leadership and Service Award.



BCN Student Allison Stanley receives the 2010 College of Design, Construction and Planning Student Leadership and Service Award.

### **Student Internship Experiences**

Matt Vanture, Senior 1 BCN Student - This summer I was given an opportunity to work with Hardin Construction Company in their Orlando office. Hardin is ranked among the 400 Top Contractors



and 100 Top CM-at-Risk Firms in the Nation. I was able to work in all of their BIM endeavors on one of their newest projects, Disney's Art of Animation Resort, as well as some future projects. This was an incredible opportunity for me as it gave me a chance to really put the things I have been studying to work. I also worked

of seeing more of the business development side of our industry. I learned a tremendous amount about our industry and overall, the opportunity was very rewarding for me and my education.

Stacy Myers, Junior 2 BCN Student - This summer I had a great opportunity to intern with Culpepper Construction Company in Tallahassee, Fl. I was assigned to work on Wildwoods Hall Phase II, which is a CM job that will be completed in the fall of 2011. Wildwoods Hall is an upscale apartment style dorm for FSU. With this project being in the very beginning stages of construction it allowed me to experience the site work and beginning stages of going vertical with



BCN Stacy Myers stands with (l-r) Project Manager Ted Brodley (BCN 1996) and David Lollie who is the superintendent on the FSU Wildwood Halls Phase II Dorm Room job site.

the columns and slabs. Throughout the summer I learned how to review submittals, submit RFI's, estimate and schedule. Since this job was a CM project I was able to take part in the process of bidding out the different CSI divisions for the project along with reviewing the scopes of work with the subcontractors once they were elected for the job. Through all of these opportunities and my knowledge of the business and techniques of construction I believe that I am better prepared for my career in construction once I graduate from the University of Florida.

with their estimating team and had the privilege Ryan Gleason, Senior 2 BCN student - Internships are a vital part of the building construction learning experience. They are excellent opportunities to apply book knowledge, utilize networking, presentation, and communication skills, and gain real world experience. I have been blessed to have interned



for both McCarthy Building Companies and Turner Construction. During the fall semester of 2008, I accepted an offer for an 8 month co-op internship with McCarthy Building based in Atlanta, GA. My duties included processing RFI's, maintaining as-built drawings, conducting daily safety orientation briefs, and conducting safety walks. In late spring 2010, I accepted a summer internship as an assistant safety manager for Turner Construction's Atlanta Business Unit. My job required me to travel to many jobsites in the Atlanta area to assist the onsite safety managers in their pursuit of a zero accident safety culture. My daily responsibilities included conducting safety orientations, equipment and tool inspections, fall protection inspections, educating workers, and ensuring Turner's safety policy was strictly adhered to.

### Mandatory Construction Certification Test for BCN Students -

The University of Florida approved the adoption of a mandatory constructor certification test for the building construction senior class. This test, given every November and March, has already been adopted by many of the accredited construction management programs nationwide. While we would like every senior to pass this test, we will not require that they obtain a passing grade to graduate, only that they complete the 8-hour exam for associate constructor (AC). This two-level national test was created by the American Institute of Constructors (AIC) as one means of setting high standards for the skills, knowledge, education and conduct of certified constructors. AIC also was one of the founders of the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) which is the national accreditation organization for all construction management programs.

The AC examination is the first of two 8-hour exams in the sequence to take the certified professional constructor (CPC) exam once the student has worked five years for a construction company. The AC exam will cost each student \$155 to take it the first time. The AC exam covers all the topics students of a four-year construction management program should have learned during their studies. This exam also assists in the program assessment that is required under ACCE accreditation guidelines. Once the students' results are calculated, our program will receive a report showing the topic areas where our students show both strong and weak performance. In addition, the students' results will be used to measure the extent the student learning outcomes have been achieved for each individual student, which is a requirement of the Academic Learning Compact Project and facilitates SACS accreditation requirements.

The AC and CPC are both supported by all national construction industry associations. With the support of the construction industry associations, state agencies, and recently the Army Corps of Engineers, they will only become more important in the future. By the University of Florida approving the implementation of this mandatory requirement, it will give our construction students a strong foundation for their future careers in this industry.

We are also pleased to report that 39 out of 44 senior BCN students who took the AIC Fundamentals of Construction test to become a Certified Professional Constructor passed the exam in May. The national passing rate for 1132 students who took the test was 62% and our program's passing rate was 89%.

### **Guest Lecturers** -

**BCN 3224-Construction Techniques** Calvin Helitzer, Gryphon Contractors Don Beers, Masonry Association of Florida Tim Campbell, Painter Masonry Bryan Light, Brick Industry Association

#### BCN 3735-Constr. Safety, Health & Env.

Andrew Wasiniak, Walbridge Ryan Little, Bovis LendLease Nick Napolitano, Bovis LendLease Rick Wade, Baker Concrete Scott Mims, Turner Construction Jesse Belknap, Skanska Construction John Beaudry, Safety & Risk Mgmt. Solutions

#### BCN 4712C-Ldrshp. & Mgmt. in Constr. Rex Kirby, Suffolk (Florida Division) Domenic Scorpio, PPI Const. Mgmt.



Calvin Helitzer of Gryphon Construction and Dr. Jim Sullivan

# Industry Focus Group

In our ongoing effort to maintain the quality and relevance of BCN's course offerings, an Industry Focus Group met on February 15th to review the BCN 4787 Capstone courses (Commercial and Heavy/Highway). The focus group included Pete Pace, Clancy & Theys; Scott Lyons, Hardin Construction; Jeff Nelson, David Nelson Construction; Tim Good, The Haskell Company; Travis Kolbjornsen, James A. Cummings Construction; Matt Webster, PPI/CPC; Jay Langston, Clark Construction; Mike Neumann, Balfour Beatty Construction; Fred Henderson, Brasfield & Gorrie; and Bob Campbell, Holder Construction as well as the course instructors, Drs. Rick Smailes and Ed Minchin.



Dr. Charles Kibert, Rex Kirby of Suffolk Construction and Dr. Abdol Chini.

**BCN 4905-Building Info. Modeling** David Epps, Holder Construction

#### **BCN 4423-Temporary Structures**

Robert D. Pavel, Gate Precast Company Brian Griffis, Gate Precast Company Glen Switzer, Gate Precast Company Brian K. Needham, Cornerstone Constr. Services Justin Thomas, PERI Formwork Systems, Inc. Peter Scott, PERI Formwork Systems, Inc.

**BCN 4720-Construction Project Scheduling** Dr. J. Gordon Davis, Georgia Tech (CASCAD-e scheduling software)

#### **BCN 4510-Mechanical Systems**

Tony Chaves, Tharp Plumbing Jim Tharp, Tharp Plumbing Rob Boyer, Fair Mechanical Eric Lindquist, Brasfield & Gorrie



Dr. Abdol Chini with Gary Vargas of Balfour Beatty Construction.



Nick Napolitano and Ryan Little of Bovis give a lecture to Dr. Jimmie Hinze's Safety class.

All aspects of the courses were reviewed and discussed in terms of both content and delivery. There was consensus on the goals and outcomes, and numerous ideas on revising specific assignments and inclusion of new material. Several of the suggestions have already been implemented in the Summer A Semester such as working in two-person teams, and fewer but more in-depth presentations. Further benchmarking of new concepts will continue into the Fall and Spring including a new green/LEED section, an overall master project schedule, and writing subcontracts.

### **Field Trips**

Jeff Lajza (BCN 1998) who serves as the Project Manager for PPI Construction Management invited the Comprehensive Estimating graduate class to visit the UF Southwest Recreation Center Expansion project being built by PPI on southwest of UF campus. The visit took place on February 24, 2010. Aaron Rogers, PPI superintendent, provided a comprehensive tour of the building and highlighted the interesting features of the project. The Southwest Recreation Center Expansion included 40,000 sq. ft. of new space and 8,300 sq. ft. of renovated space. The project is expected to earn a Gold LEED certification.

Special thanks go to Jeff Lajza and Aaron Rogers for coordinating the field trip and providing a guided tour of the project.



### **Student Organizations**

The <u>Student Chapter of</u> <u>the Construction Management Association of</u> <u>America</u> at the University of Florida is a student run organization established by the West Central Florida Chapter of CMAA. The faculty advisor for CMAA is Professor Michael Cook. Some of the planned CMAA events for the 2010-2011 school year: Lecture series by industry professionals, site visits



CMAA Student Group took field trip to Tampa International Airport's Terminal Runway & Ground Support Facilities Addition Project

throughout Florida, Gainesville Adopt-a-street cleanups, Florida Football Tailgates, Bowling Social, and others to be announced.

#### The AGC Student Chap-

ter has been very busy this past semester helping our members get involved the community, bringing in guest speakers from the industry, and allowing students to network amongst themselves. We have especially been stressing the importance of community service and are very proud to have completed two rewarding projects. In the Fall, we performed a two



The AGC Student Chapter performed a community service project at Big Brothers Big Sisters in Gainesville.

day project at the Tacachale Assisted Living Community in which we re-framed a rotted wall of a chicken coup with pressure treated lumber. The project was a great hands-on learning experience, and we were excited to preserve the chickens home for years to come. This past Spring, we have been working with the Big Brothers Big Sisters office in Gainesville where we re-painted their outdoor sign and performed some landscaping. We were also grateful to bring in Mike Little, Executive V.P. of Moss & Associates, who gave an interesting presentation in which he discussed his company's expertise, interesting projects he's encountered during his career, and his advice for students in the current industry conditions.

#### Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC):

The student chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) had a very full and successful semester. Ron Whalen and Chris Kreifels of BE&K, Chris McAdams of MC Construction Inc., and Rick Lentz of Cutler Associates imparted their wisdom on different keys to success in the construction industry. ABC's annual golf tournament was a huge success this year, joining 60 students and contractors for a fun day of golf, while networking and raising funds for the organization. The Florida Gulf Coast Chapter of ABC was also gracious enough to host a Student-Contractor Social at their office which allowed students to meet construction professionals from the Tampa Bay area.

The National Association of Women in Construction\_UF\_Chapter was established in 2001. The key goals of the organization are networking, community involvement, hosting guest speakers and workshops, assisting with job placement, and educating and familiarizing members with the construction industry. They joined the local professional chapter in volunteering to help a



Back Row (l-r): Allison Stanley, Kelly McLaughlin, Dana Shaut, Dr. Issa, Tiffany Herring, Stacy Meyers, Rachael McKercher; Front Row (l-r): Stephanie Flores, Savannah Sawyer, Phoebe Biddison, Alex Roeder

local homeowner with home repairs as well as participated in this year's Project Makeover at Lake Forest Elementary School, where they helped improve the campus by painting murals, landscaping, and putting in a baseball diamond. The group also hosted guest speaker Kara Sutton, President of Sutton Family Homes & Management Consulting, Inc. in April. They enjoyed the opportunity to hear first hand what it's like to own a business and be a woman in the industry. The group celebrated the end of the year with a social dinner party at Faculty Advisor, Dr. Issa's house, where they recognized graduating seniors and made plans for next year.



DBIA Members (l-r) Catherine Woodworth, Matt Vanture, Michael Rubin, Jared Pritz, Kris Sawicki, Patrick Bynum, and Philip Rhea

#### <u>Design-Build\_Institute\_of</u> <u>America (DBIA):</u>

DBIA University of Florida Student Chapter is dedicated to promoting widespread and successful utilization of the design-build project delivery method in shaping the built environment. To accomplish this goal, we are committed to fostering interdisciplinary education and communication to integrated facilities delivery at the University level.

The DBIA student chapter held the second annual Orange and Blue Tailgate in front of Rinker on April 10th, 2010. Over 60 people attended and enjoyed tailgate games, good food and some good ole fashion Gator football.

Jordan Clark, Tristan Lowry, Douglas Wilcox, BCN 1989) of Scherer Construction, and Nate Coker at ABC Student Golf Tournament in Gainesville.



### **Student Competition Teams**

#### Building Information Modeling (BIM) Competition Team

In February, the BIM Competition Team participated in the ASC National BIM Competition in Sparks, Nevada for only the second time. In the months leading up to the competition a team of undergraduate students were put together and trained in all aspects of BIM. Wei Wu, Brittany Giel, and Dr. Olbina led the training efforts, with Coach Dr. Issa keeping everything together and relevant to what is going on in the industry. The project was the Transbay Transit Center located in San Francisco. Captain Allison Stanley led the scheduling efforts for the project and kept the team organized throughout the competition and presentation. Catherine Woodworth and Matt Vanture led the virtual modeling efforts of the project and produced some of the best models seen in the competition. Steven Glascott was the estimator for the project and handled his duties and pressure very well. Brett Hunter was in charge of quality control for the project and was able to find numerous quality issues that needed to be addressed. William Allison put together an accurate

#### Construction Management Competition Team

In February 2010, the UF Construction Management Team traveled to San Diego, California to participate in a national student competition hosted by the Associated Builders and Contractors at their annual convention. Twenty-two teams from universities around the country assembled in San Diego to compete. Each team had four members taking on fictitious roles for the project, a hotel in downtown San Diego. The team consisted of: Marisa McGough- Project Manager, Omar Benyounes- Superintendent, Ray Southern- Pre Construction Manger, and Brando Fetzek- Safety Director. Nathan Coker, Stephanie Flores, and Scott Foss-Kilburn were shadows. The team received a set of plans and instructions for the project one month before the competition. All team members worked diligently in order to prepare a proposal consisting of an estimate, schedule, safety plan, LEED scorecard, and site utilization plan.

#### Residential Construction Management Competition Team

The Residential Construction Management Team traveled to Las Vegas in January to present their project proposal at the National Association of Homebuilders annual meeting and International Builder's Show. The project consisted of 88 single-family homes built to the National Green Building Standard in Corsicana, Texas. The team posted another top ten finish by placing 8th out of 39 teams.

#### LEED Competition Team

Dr. Jim Sullivan coached the 2010 ASC National LEED team this year for the February 2010 competition in Reno, NV. The team took home third place out of 17 teams! This year's focus was on LEED for Healthcare for which the students did a great job balancing USGBC requirements for certification and a patient first design and construction program. The Team would like to thank **James A Cummings, Inc.** for sponsoring this year's team. The team would like to thank Travis Kolbjornsen and Rob Maphis of James A. Cummings, Inc., Orlando's office for their support. Prior to the competition Cummings invited the team to a one day seminar on LEED strategies. Kristy Walson, from TLC, also provided

steel takeoff for the project. After a fantastic presentation and one of the best the judges had seen, the team was awarded 2nd place! It was a great finish to a very rewarding and difficult journey. A special thanks needs to be given to **Turner Construction Company**, who sponsored the competition team and helped the team in a precompetition presentation.



Team Members: (Back l-r) Matthew Vanture, Steven Glascott, Brett Hunter, Dr. Raymond Issa (Front l-r): Catherine Woodworth, Allison Stanley, and William Allison

The UF team received third place in the national competition! All the hard work had finally paid off. The team's presence at the competition was all made possible by the sponsorship of **ANF Group**, **Tri-City Electric Co.**, **Lotspeich Co. of Florida**, **William R. Nash, and the ABC Florida Gulf Coast Chapter**. Their financial and professional support contributed greatly to the team's success in this educational experience.



Construction Management Team Members are (I-r) Scott Foss-Kilburn, Brando Fetzek, Omar Benyounes, Marisa McGough, Stephanie Flores, and Ray C Southern.



Residential Team Members are (front row l-r) Stefan Bird, Paul King, Brett Smith (back row l-r) Dr. Richard Smailes, Michael Woolcombe-Clark, Stephen Loy and Alyce Anderson

insights during the seminar. This year team consisted of Jeanna Haynes (captain), Rachel Moore, Matt Angiulli, Kin Chan, Kimberly Thibault, and Zach Norrington.



LEED Competition Team Members (l-r) Kim Thibault, Matt Angiulli, Rachel Moore, Kin Chan, Jeanna Haynes, Zach Norrington

### **Student Exchange Programs**

#### Hong Kong



Hong Kong Exchange Students Han Yu (l-r), yik Ting "Annabel" Cheung stand with Dr. Abdol Chini in front of Rinker Hall.

Yik Ting (Annabel) Cheung and Han Yu were the exchange students from Hong Kong Polytechnic University who were at the Rinker School during the Spring 2010 semester.

Of his experience at UF, Han stated "that he has seen great professors in the Rinker School and the students here were so friendly". Han also reported that "the memory of studying at UF will last forever in his mind."

Annabel commented that "she likes the learning atmosphere at BCN. All the professors and students are very

friendly and helpful. The lectures here can be very interactive and interesting even in a pretty large class, unlike in Hong Kong, most of the time it's just the professors speaking." BCN students Justin LaPaille (BCN Senior 1) and Mert Buyukkerdes (BCN Senior 2) spent the Spring 2010 semester at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Justin comments that his student exchange experience "became less about 'student' and more about 'exchange.' Immersed within a collection of students from 20 different countries, it was inevitable to come across new ways of thinking and living. What at first seemed to be insurmountable differences between us



Hong Kong Polytechnical associate professor, Dr. Patrick S.W. Fong (l-r) stand with UF Rinker School exchange students, Justin LaPaille and Mert Buyukkardes with Dr. Geoffrey Shen, Head of the Department.

Royal Melbourne Institute of

Technology (RMIT) sent three

of their students for the exchange

program - Isabel Marianne Ley,

Leon Droukman, and Jack Da-

perience "My time at UF and

Rinker Hall was wonderful and

one of the best things I have ever

undertaken. The subjects that I

ex-

Isabel commented on her

turned out to be the basis of many of the deep relationships formed."

Living in a hub like Hong Kong also allowed for many traveling opportunities, of which I and many others took advantage. As for school, I found my classmates to be very friendly and welcoming as the transition into a new learning environment was seamless."



Vijay Baldeo, BCN Junior I student comments that "my semester abroad in Australia has been invaluable to my growth not only as a student but also as an individual. It is an experience filled with challenges and adventures, and there is no substitute for living in Melbourne and studying here as well. I've learned a lot about the country, the people, their culture and it has been enlightening. There was definitely a challenge in moving away from Florida and the United States for six months, leaving friends and family behind, to start from fresh in a new country where no one knows you and vice versa. It is amazing how many people you meet, but it was rather entertaining when I got stopped on the street while wearing a Florida Gator sweatshirt by both Gators and Seminoles! It was also pretty cool seeing someone wearing a Tebow jersey in Sydney! Over all, studying in Melbourne is alright but it is the trips, friends, experiences, travelling the coast, and the people you meet along the way from all over the world that made this trip an experience of a lifetime."



Vijay Baldeo, BCN Junior I student, shows his Gator spirit in Australia at the Sydney Opera House



Australian RMIT exchange students

took here were really well planned and I learned a lot through the enthusiasm that all the professors had for their respective subjects.

vis.

Leon stated that "My semester at Rinker and UF was one of the greatest and most eye opening experiences of my life! Everyone was extremely friendly, all my classes were very well conducted and the professors were knowledgeable, enthusiastic and very approachable.

Jack Davis reports that he "had a great time within the Rinker School. I had a top lecturer in Rick Fobair. He could relate all of the topics being taught to real life situations."

#### **Germany**

This year, six students participated in the Germany Exchange Program. The program is considerably revised from the past as it is now organized through the College of Architecture at the Hochschule Ostwestfalen-Lippe in Detmold, Germany. The program continues to be a three-week program. It was a cold May in Germany, but the students still enjoyed every aspect of the program. The program took the students to Dusseldorf, Hamburg, Berlin, Potsdam, Dessau, Dresden, Prague and many smaller cities. Topics of study included safety, sustainability, photovoltaics, restoration, preservation, architecture, and many other topics of interest.



Chasica Smith, Joseph Roberts Jr., Alexander Motola, Dr. Jimmie Hinze, Brandon Gallagher, Shannon Spencer, and Savannah Sawyer

### DCP and UF Alums design for Haiti

Dr. Jim Sullivan and Ph.D. Student Everett Henderson took on the challenge presented by the Dean of DCP and Dean of the College of Public Health to put together a design/construction team to develop plans for the rebuilding of the Macombre School in Haiti. Along with engineering support from Bob Priolo and Adam Higgins of Alan Gerwig & Associates, Inc., Wellington, Florida, the team has moved from an initial charette in February, for which faculty and staff from the College of Public Health and the Pastor of the School, Obinson Joseph, took part, to finished design by the end of June. Dr. Sullivan and Everett considered this opportunity a blessing and look forward to phased construction of this project. Mr. Edsel Redden (http://hopeforthekids.org/) has worked in conjunction with IFAS to support nutrition programs for this school and is the key contact with regard to donations and support. The team would also like to thank Jim Howell for his architectural insights.



Everett Henderson, Jim Sullivan, Bob Priolo, and Adam Higgins at an appreciation BBQ at the College of Public Health

### An African Research Experience

Drs. Esther Obonyo and Robert Ries kicked off the third summer program for the NSF supported International Research Experiences for students on May 24th. The students are being mentored in at the University of Nairobi in Kenya by Prof Patts Odira (Dean College of Engineering) and Dr Zablon Oonge (Professor of Civil



and Construction Engineering). The program's focus has been on the use of sustainable construction technologies.

Students were given the chance to visit the country side, less than an hour from the city of Nairobi, and learned detailed lessons on topics such as fluoride removal, stabilized soil blocks, and solar pumping for bore holes.



Front row (l-r) Dr. Zablon Oonge, University of Nairobi; Kathryn Fredrick, BCN Graduate Student; Dr. Esther Obonyo, BCN Faculty; Alex Cosgrove, Purdue University. Back row (l-r) Steve Schaenzer, Michigan Tech; and Mike Mazer, UF Civil Engineering Student

### 2010 Homecoming BBQ Announcement



Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 16, 2010 for homecoming at the University of Florida in Gainesville. The Gators are scheduled to play Mississippi State University. Plan to stop at Rinker Hall at 10:00 a.m. for some great food, a tour of Rinker Hall, the Charles R. Perry construction Yard and to visit with fellow alumni.

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. 9:30 - 2:00 p.m. BCN Advisory Council Review of the BCN Curriculum 2010 Construction Hall of Fame Induction BBQ Tour of Rinker Hall and Charles R. Perry Construction Yard

Time subject to change as game time changes.

### Solar Decathlon at UF: A Year Later

The first global competition of its kind, Solar Decathlon Europe 2010 united 17 universities around the world with a common goal: to build a self-sufficient solar home with viability in today's market. By competing in 10 categories ranging from solar energy systems to communications, students were challenged to push the limits of conventional design and address contemporary energy issues with inventive solutions. The competition took place in Madrid, Spain, June 18-28. The UF team led by Dr. Robert Ries of the Rinker School of Building Construction designed and built a house that includes elements from historic Florida houses for a back-to-basics approach to energy conservation. The house combines basic design strategies from the Florida Cracker house with advanced technological systems to create an innovative approach to sustainable living.



Rather than traditionally installed on a flat roof, cylindrical solar collectors are integrated into the building skin to contribute to solar powgeneration er while providing shade and visual privacy. The cylindrical design

of the Solyndra panel allows light to hit every part of the tube. The team mounted the panels on a highly reflective surface to maximize sun absorption from the back.

The house's versatility is demonstrated in its "kit of parts" assembly. This allows the buyer to customize their house according to what features ("parts") and materials would be most advantageous for their location. Three sets of low emissivity, insulated glass doors on the north façade admit an abundance of light without increasing the heat absorbed by the house. All the appliances were chosen with the highest energy performance in mind. A single drawer dishwasher that uses half the energy of a conventional model and a high efficiency washer brings clothes to a nearly dry state eliminating the need for a traditional dryer. The frame contains the living spaces with walls and ceiling made of SIPs—Structural Insulated Panels— which have very high thermal insulation properties, contribute additional structural strength, and are relatively inexpensive. The house consumes less power than is produced by the solar panels. This results in a positive energy balance, allowing for the remaining energy to be sold back to the grid.

The UF team's house received the most online votes to win the Public Choice Award, Web. It also placed first in the Communications and Social Awareness contest, second in the Energy Balance category, and overall placed eighth.

#### UF's European Solar Decathlon House



#### Special Thanks to Solar Decathlon Sponsors

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Clark Construction Group Rinker Endowment Funds

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For a complete list of sponsors please visit the teams website: http://solardecathlon.ufl.edu/the-sponsors/

### Welcome to BCN



**Dr. Russell Walters** joined the Rinker School faculty as a lecturer this fall. He learned the construction business in Illinois working in the family's contracting business. Having developed a passion for the construction business, he attended college with the goal of becoming a licensed engineer, earning a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the University of Florida in 1993. He joined the faculty at Iowa State University in 2000, and continued to teach their prior to joining the

Rinker School. He holds a professional engineering license in both Illinois and Florida, and is a LEED accredited professional. During his tenure in industry, he directed construction projects in water and water treatment, and in power generation facilities. Dr. Walters has completed several research projects in the areas project management and construction technology.

Lorie Drewke joined the Rinker School as Administrator for the Fire & Emergency Services program in early May. She obtained her Bachelor of Geology degree from the University of Pennsylvania. At the Rinker School, Lorie will be responsible for coordination of the bachelor and certificate programs, recruiting students, and administration of student records for FES. She is a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member of Alachua County.



Lorie has lived in Gainesville for the past 12 years and has a 15-year old daughter who is a volunteer for the UF Natural History Museum and City of Gainesville Morningside Nature Center.

In appreciation of

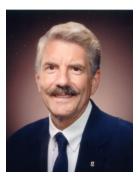
**Dr. Raymond Issa** has provided 11 years of dedicated service to the graduate education mission of the Rinker School. This service includes serving as the Director of the Graduate and Distance Education programs (1999-2007) and Director of Master's programs (2007-2010). Under his leadership, the enrollment of doctoral and masters students in the Rinker School increased by more than 200%. His energetic service and noteworthy contributions are truly appreciated. Thank you, Dr. Issa, for



all that you do for the School. Dr. Issa will serve as the Director of the Center for Advanced Construction Information Modeling, a center he found in January 2010.

### Fond Farewell —

**Chuck Smeby** arrived at UF under unusual circumstances. The fire service in Florida wanted to give fire fighters the opportunity to



receive a bachelor's degree, and so the State Fire Marshal paid Smeby to create and teach the Fire and Emergency Services classes. Later, the university hired him full-time to run the online degree program, which offers students the opportunity to study administration, leadership and management in three major areas of emergency services: Fire, Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Management. Smeby's favorite course to teach was Fire and Emergency Public

Policy and Administration. "I wrote a textbook for it," Smeby said, referring to Fire & Emergency Services Administration, published

by Jones & Bartlett Publishers in 2006. "I know it really well and see a lot of value in it." Video phone technology has made teaching Internet courses even more enjoyable for Smeby, since it allows him more face-to-face interaction with his students. While he officially retired May 15, thanks to technology, Smeby will continue teaching online classes.



Chuck Smeby is presented a plaque for his service by Dr. Abdol Chini at the Spring 2010 Graduation Dinner.

### **Rinker Scholar Award**.

**Glenda K. Mayo** is the fourth recipient of the Rinker Scholar Award. Professor Mayo served as the Associate Director of Construction Planning for the Department of Architectural and Engineering Services at the University of West Florida until 2006, when she joined the College of Professionals Studies as the Coordinator and primary faculty member for the Building Construction Program at UWF. She has an M.S. in Administration and a B.S. in Industrial Technology, both with concentrations in areas of construction. She currently serves on



the Pensacola Chapter boards for the Construction Specifications Institute as well as the Northern Gulf Coast U.S. Green Building Council. Work experience includes both public and private sectors of the construction industry. Her planned area of interest and research is in Building Information Modeling (BIM).

Established in 2005 by a generous gift from the Marshall E. Rinker, Sr. Foundation, Inc., this \$1 million endowment supports fellowship awards to Associated Schools of Construction faculty members pursuing a Ph.D. in construction management at UF.

### Faculty & Staff News



Dr. Jimmie Hinze wrote a book with Jason Smith entitled Construction Management: Subcontractor Scopes. This book was recently released by CRC Press. In addition, he attended the CIB World Congress where he presented two papers, entitled "The Effect Of Illuminance On Task Performance " and "A Model For Implementing Focused Safety Initiatives" in Melbourne, Australia. He also gave a presentation at the Hoch-Schule Ostwestfalen-Lippe entitled "Con-

struction Education in the United States" in Detmold, Germany.

Dr. Hinze received a training grant from OSHA and recently received a notice of award for a safety research project with the Construction Industry Institute.



Dr. Raymond Issa and Dr. Svetlana Olbina presented three papers at the International Conference for Computing in Civil and Building Engineering (ICCCBE 2010). The conference was held from June 29, 2010 until July 2, 2010 in Nottingham, United Kingdom: 1) "Factors influencing the adoption of building information modeling in the AEC industry" with Rui Lui, 2) "Return on investment analysis for building information modeling in construction" with Britt-

ney Giel, and 3) "A web-based on-demand information extraction system for building information models" with Le Zhang.



A multi-disciplinary research team consisting of prominent leaders from the residential industry and researchers from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln and the University of Florida has been selected by the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) to complete a research project, titled Building Energy Efficient Homes for America (BEEHA). This research project intends to explore and deliver a total solution for the

Building America program by: 1) identify existing energy efficiency measures and develop advanced measures; 2) test and validate measures; 3) install measures in homes and communities; 4) address barriers and potential risks associated with installation of measures in new homes as well as existing homes; and 5) train and educate homeowners and building professionals for a broad deployment of energy efficiency measures. The project will start in September 2010 and should be completed by December 2014 with total budget of between \$1.5 and \$7.5 million depending on the team's performance. The UF team will be led by Dr. Abdol Chini and includes Drs. Charles Kibert, Paul Oppenheim, Robert Ries, Jim Sullivan, Russ Walters from the Rinker School and Dr. Pierce Jones. Director of the Program for Resource Efficient Communities (PREC), an interdisciplinary, entrepreneurial group at the University of Florida. The industry partners from Florida are Barry Rutenberg and Associates, G.W. Robinson Homes, and Tommy Williams Homes.

Dr. Jim Sullivan has been awarded a Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Grant to develop tools for Construction & Demolition material diversion. The tools will help contractors and C&D landfills work to meet immediate project goals for waste diversion as well as support the overall state mandate to divert 75% of the total waste stream by 2020.





Dr. Esther Obonyo received an NSF award in collaboration with Drs. Matthew Jelacic (PI) and Bernard Amadei of University of Colorado at Denver to host a workshop for advancing research in Compressed Bricks Research.

She published the following journal papers: 1) An Agent-based Intelligent Virtual Learning Environment for Construction Management in Journal of Construction

Innovation: Information, Process, Management; 2) Towards Agent-Augmented Ontologies for Educational VDC Applications in Journal of ITcon; 3) Enhancing Performance: A Case Study of the Effects of Employee Coaching in Construction Practice in Journal of Construction Management and Economics (With Alexis McGuffin). She also presented papers at: 1) The International Conference on Computing in Civil and Building Engineering - 2010 and The XVII EG-ICE Workshop on Intelligent Computing in Engineering, 2) International Conference on Innovation in AEC and; 3) the Sixth International Symposium on Polymides and Other High Temperature/ High Performance Polymers: Synthesis, Characterization and Applications (with J. Iroh and W. Zhang).

### Congratulations to -



Dr. Robert Ries



Dr. Edward Minchin

We are pleased to report that the UF Board of Trustees approved the request for tenure from Dr. Ed Minchin and Dr. Robert Ries in their meeting on Friday, June 11th. President Machen also approved request for promotion to associate professor for Dr. Ries and senior lecturer for Dr. Rick Smailes.

Congratulations to Dr. Edward Minchin and Dr. Robert Ries

for getting tenure and Dr. Ries and Dr. Smailes for their promotions.



Dr. Rick Smailes

### The Charles R. Perry Construction Yard - Craft Awareness -

Perry Yard activities continue to be supported by contractors, product associations, and alums from around the state. This past spring labs focused on tool training, masonry and brick structures, tilt-up, and steel erection. This coming year Dr. Sullivan is working with members of the executive board to develop a post-tensioning lab.

















#### William Gunby, BCN 1953

William R. Gunby, Jr. passed away on February 2, 2010. Bill graduated from the UF Building Construction undergraduate program in 1953 and his MBA from Stetson. He later returned to teach at the School from 1973-1990. During that time he served a term as President of the Associated Schools of Construction.

In 1974 Bill was chosen to teach the materials course. This was a lower division course that was essentially used to recruit students into the construction program. Bill was instrumental in helping the program grow. In 1978, Bill Gunby was selected as one of 17 UF "Teachers of the Year".

One of his former students has this memory that he wanted to share about Professor Bill Gunby's class:

I will never forget the day when professor Bill Gunby (in his typical boat shoes and no socks) opened up our class discussion with "I am going to show you how to develop a project where you can walk away with million dollars in your pocket and \$100,000 per year for life (I also recall him driving his point home with the fact that you would make the kind of money where you could "take Farrah Fawcett to Paris" if you wanted to). He then walked us through the entire financial model for developing an apartment complex from scratch where the end result was pocketing the one million dollars, retaining ownership, and having an

#### David Huffman, BCN 1995

Dave graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelors in Fire Protection Engineering. He obtained his masters degree from BCN in 1995. He acted as a consultant for the Florida State Marshall's Office through an assistantship with BCN. His research work was aimed at producing a paradigm shift in the education program for the Florida Fire Service. As a result of this initiative, a baccalaureate and graduate degree program in Fire and Emergency Services Man-



agement has been produced within the University

of Florida through the auspices of the Florida State Fire College.

Dave also worked for the City of Gainesville as Assistant Fire Chief for Technical Services, City of Ft. Lauderdale Fire-Rescue and Building Department, consultant to ASE, Inc., and as Chief Risk Officer of Integrated Risk Decisions. Dave passed away December 19, 2009.

#### John Edward Provinsky, BCN 1967

John passed away on January 14, 2010 after a battle with cancer. John served in the US Army with a tour of duty in Vietnam. He retired as a Lt. Colonel in the US Army Reserves. His professional career included 25 years as a project manager with Batson Cook Company.



He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Carol Petrey Provinsky, and two daughters Lisa and Stephanie.

#### Stuart Lynch, BCN 1957

After graduation, Stuart served in Korea in the Air Weather Service before working in construction management. He was a member of Sigma Lambda Chi.



He is survived by his wife, Billye and sons, Stuart and Van. Stuart passed away on September 28, 2009 after a battle with cancer. income stream of \$100,000 per year for life. Then, right when he had our undivided attention, with our jaws all hanging down in amazement at the opportunity, he said "NOW....I am going to show you how to do the exact same project and LOSE YOUR A\$\$".....whereby he proceeded to go step by step through the entire process identifying every potential risk and exposure and how you could lose everything in the process. He was so convincing on the possibility of either extreme happening, combined with his attention getting delivery,



we all walked out of class that day with a full appreciation for both the extreme risk and extreme opportunity that the real estate development process can consist of. I don't think any of us after that day would ever take at face value someone 'selling' us on a great deal or real estate investment without a healthy amount of skepticism to ferret out all of the possible risks before taking it on. It was a great lesson taught with enthusiasm and a heavy dose of reality, and a lesson that I valued highly that has also served me well over the years. Written by Steve Palmer, CEO of Stiles in Miami FL

Professor Gunby is survived by his wife Jackie. He will be greatly missed by faculty and alumni of the Rinker School.

#### Bruce Meeks, BCN 1956

After graduation, Bruce was employed by Bell South Telephone Co. to work in the Outside Plant Engineering Department and ended his career in Inventory & Costs Engineering. He worked for Bell South for 31 years in Orlando, Cocoa, Jacksonville and Atlanta.



Before his passing, Bruce retired to Blairsville GA with his wife, Carolyn where he continued to enjoy his love of the outdoors while hunting and fishing. Bruce passed away on January 14, 2010.

#### Russell Minardi, BCN 1955

Russell passed away October 2, 2009. He graduated from the University of Florida, earning degrees in building construction and architecture. At UF, he partnered in tennis with Billy Poe, former Tampa mayor, winning the intramural tennis championship. Russ so loved UF that in 1969, he was instrumental in changing the football uniforms. His slogan was, "Go Gators, Shed the Blues." To this day, the orange helmet remains a significant part of the uniform. Russ served in the U.S. Marine Corps, achieving the rank of captain. He prac-



ticed architecture in Tampa, with homes featured in "Southern Living" and "House Beautiful," and he received a national award from "House and Home." He was commissioned by former mayor, Dick Greco, to design the Tampa Public Library in Ybor City and was also the architect for the Tampa Dog Track. Russ truly lived a full, adventurous life. Even at 76, he could be found cruising around town on his scooter, making friends with the locals, and of course, lying about his age. "Of all his achievements, he will be most remembered for being a wonderful, loving father and grand-father, who always made us laugh." In his own words, he wrote, "The good feeling is having a supportive family and to have been a part of so many positive things. And to my last breath it will always be ' Go Gators and thank you God for a good ride.'



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