

RAM BUILT NEWS



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CM Cares Begins Its Second Year

Barely pausing for breath following its vastly successful inaugural year, the CM Cares initiative is charging forward with six new projects to undertake in the spring 2012 semester. Twenty-one students are enrolled in the Construction Leadership course and poised to take the lead on the projects, and several construction companies have already signed up as sponsors of each.

Once again, a couple local community organizations will benefit from the knowledge and commitment of CSU's CM students. Crossroads Safehouse, a domestic violence shelter located in Fort Collins, requires a stairwell enclosure designed and built by CM student volunteers. Also receiving assistance is My Heroes, LLC, a therapeutic riding program that expanded to the CSU Equine Sciences department in 2011. Volunteers will construct a ramp to assist wheelchair and special needs riders with mounting and dismounting horses.

Members of the local community who applied for assistance from the CM Cares initiative will also receive support. One such member is Carol Joy Collins, a survivor of the 1997 Spring Creek flood who hung on for dear life as her trailer in the Johnson Center Mobile Home Park floated away in the flood waters. Collins

became a first-time homeowner in September 2011, but received a notice from Larimer County that her covered porch, built by the previous homeowner, was not built to code. Due to limited resources, she sought assistance from CM Cares to help her pull a permit and reconstruct the enclosure so that it meets code standards.

Two family-based projects will assist two disabled children with home modifications to improve quality of life and accessibility. The Kennedy Project will assist the family of a 5-year-old boy in Fort Collins with severe epilepsy by building a ramp into their home and some assistive step stools. And the Nick Project will aid the family of a 16-year-old boy in Loveland with Coraelia de Lange Syndrome with a ramp and the widening of the driveway for easier access to their home.

The sixth project involves the building of sustainable music stands for Bennett Elementary School in Fort Collins. Students in the CM service-learning course, Applied Sustainable Project Delivery, will work with alternative high school students from Centennial High School to construct the stands for supporting and storing music instruments used at the school.

Fundraising and volunteer

recruiting for each project have already begun! For more information on the CM Cares program, visit our website at www.cm.cahs.colostate.edu/cm_cares.



Carol Joy Collins (center) with her project's team (L-R): Ryan Trujillo, Tyler Rue, Danny Kalb and Brandon Jensen



Nick of Nick's Project riding Roper at the Hearts & Horses program

**Colorado
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COLLEGE OF APPLIED HUMAN SCIENCES
Department of Construction Management

Costa Rica Course Incorporates Sustainable Building

In January 2012, eleven students from Colorado State University traveled to Costa Rica to join eight architecture students and two recent engineering graduates from the University of Costa Rica for a 10-day study abroad course on sustainable building. Sustainable Design and Construction was co-taught by CM assistant professor Caroline Clevenger, Interior Design professor Katharine Leigh, and University of Costa Rica professor of Architecture, Alejandro Ugarte.

The students from CSU, which included eight from the Department of Construction Management and three from the Department of Design and Merchandising, experienced cross-cultural experiential learning in three different locations and climates across the Costa Rican landscape: Palo Verde (dry forest), Guanacastes (Pacific coastline), and Monte Verde (cloud forest). According to Clevenger, "The course provides a rich, integrated opportunity for students from multiple disciplines and with multiple native languages to

work closely together and develop a personal mission agenda, develop project design solutions incorporating sustainable practices, and engage in group problem-solving focused on sustainable technologies."

This year, instructors collaborated to add a service-learning component to the course. The project, selected at the suggestion of the local Red Cross, engaged the students and faculty in repairing and constructing school chairs and desks at General Tomas Guardia Gutierrez Elementary School in Bagaces, Costa Rica. The students worked diligently together in one long and extremely successful day to craft 24 chairs and 25 desks, including the construction of additional components for the school to build another 14 of each in the future. They were supplied with only three sheets of plywood, two cans of paint, a borrowed drill and scroll saw, and limited access to the local hardware store, yet they managed to exceed their construction goal by 240 percent.



The students in the Costa Rica study abroad course stand proudly next to the desks they built over the course of one day.

Course participants returned from the trip with a great sense of accomplishment and learning. "This was the most rewarding day's work in which I have participated in many years," wrote one CSU student. "Working with a group of eager peers in a situation that was complicated and challenging, I was impressed over and over with the seriousness and focus shown by the Costa Rican and US work teams!" A Costa Rican student added that, "this experience gave us students the knowledge and

opportunity to be closer to the school in Bagaces and to the real world of Costa Rican education. It was rewarding work and we knew we were doing something good!"

And the success of the course has continued beyond the last day in class. "The experience has already transcended the classroom with follow-up meetings to create on-going support to this school and, for one participant, the opportunity to be commissioned to create three green schools in Costa Rica," said Clevenger.

ABC Students Attend Dessert Auction

The Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) student chapter started the semester by attending the annual ABC board installation dinner and dessert auction on January 19 at the Red Lion Hotel in Denver. Proceeds from the auction benefit the CSU ABC chapter and competition team, as well as the ABC Bob Piper Scholarship. "The auction was a chance for us

to represent the CSU construction management program and network with industry companies," said CSU ABC member, Stephenie Beal. Twenty-nine companies attended the auction, including representatives of FCI Constructors, Inc.; Mortenson Construction; Hensel Phelps Construction Company; and Milender

White. This year's auction raised \$8,650. "Not only did we raise a lot of money," said Beal, "but we got to eat some amazing cakes!"



Quinton Cavil, Stephenie Beal and Max Finster pose with one of the cakes auctioned in Denver

Bohemian Foundation Awards Grant to CM Faculty

In December 2011, CM faculty members Mehmet Ozbek and Caroline Clevenger were awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Bohemian Foundation for their proposal entitled "Building Social Sustainability Through Service-Learning." The project builds upon previous award-winning efforts in their newly developed experimental course, Applied Sustainable Project Delivery, in which CSU students collaborate with local alternative high school students to construct service projects. Last year the students constructed two

large doghouses for the Great Dane Rescue Mission. This year's project will involve construction of twelve music stands to support and store musical instruments used by the students at Bennett Elementary School.

Community need for the project was identified through the application process to the CM Cares program, the department initiative involved in community service projects. The grant will partially fund this year's project by supporting two teaching assistants, as well as

engaging the support of a local designer, Dustin Kalanick of Unless Design, a design collaborative focused on engaging and educating sustainable communities through design. CSU CM students will continue to work closely with the students in the building trades shop class at Centennial High School, just as they did in the previous year. Clevenger and Ozbek are excited by the achievements of the students and community partners as well as the growing momentum of service-learning throughout the CM department.



Strong Presents at TRB Annual Meeting

CM faculty member Kelly Strong presented the final report on the pilot training and project workshop materials for the Strategic Highway Renewal Program Phase 2 (SHRP2) Project R-10 on effective project management strategies for complex projects at the 91st Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board of the National Academies in Washington, D.C., on January 22. The objective of the project is to provide transportation agencies with tools for developing innovative yet effective project

management strategies to accelerate sound decision-making during rapid renewal projects on the nation's highways. The program developed by the researchers involves an expansion of current project management theory, bringing many more factors into the project managers' realm of control than had traditionally been included. "Feedback from the six pilot workshops has been favorable," said Strong, "so we anticipate continuing the application of these concepts on two demonstration projects, and

adding two more training sessions."

Congress created SHRP2 to address the challenges of moving people and goods efficiently and safely on the nation's highways. The United States highway system is aging and needs to be repaired while people move on and live near it, so the focus of SHRP2 is to address the need to complete highway projects quickly with long-lasting results and with minimal disruption to the community.



CM Student Organizations Host Social Event

CM students from freshman level all the way to seniors crowded into the Industrial Sciences Lab building on January 31 for a social event hosted by all the CM student organizations. Attendees

had the opportunity to chat with members of the eleven student clubs within the CM program and learn more about memberships, activities, and other advantages to joining. The

large number of attendees encouraged organization leaders to expect increased membership applications and greater success with organization-sponsored events in the coming year.



Upcoming Events

Spring 2012 Career Fair

The Career Fair for spring 2012 will take place on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM at the Hilton on Prospect Avenue in Fort Collins.

Spring 2012 PADB Meeting

The PADB Meeting for the spring 2012 semester is scheduled for Thursday, March 29, 2012 at 1:30 PM in room 221 Guggenheim Hall on the CSU campus. We look forward to seeing our PADB members there!

2012 Senior Photo

Attention CM seniors graduating in spring, summer, or fall of 2012!

The 2012 Senior Photo is scheduled for Thursday, April 12, 2012 at 3:30 PM on the steps of the Administration Building. Along with the Senior Photo, pre-registration for your personalized Ram Built hard hats will also begin. Be sure to watch your e-mail for further details.

CM Golf Classic

The annual CM Golf Classic is set for Friday, April 27, 2012 at the SouthRidge Golf Course in Fort Collins. Shotgun tee time is 8:00 AM. For more information, contact Andi Lewis at lwandi3@rams.colostate.edu or Zach Belsey at zbelsey@gmail.com.

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