The Department of Engineering Technology is very excited to announce that it has received a $57,000 grant from Commercial Metals Company, CMC, to help fund steel-related research projects and the addition of a hot rolling mill in the foundry and heat treatment lab. This generous donation will allow Texas State to produce new types of advanced high strength steels that are only achievable through the hot rolling process. Acquisition of this capability will also greatly enhance the educational programs at Texas State as well as provide for undergraduate and graduate steel-related research projects. The rolling mill has now been purchased and we expect to add this capability to the foundry and heat treatment lab during the 2016 spring semester. The department is very proud of our collaborative relationship with CMC Steel, and we thank them for their generous donation to the department.

In September Commercial Metals Company presented a check for $57,000 to Dr. Bartlett to purchase a hot rolling mill and help fund undergraduate and graduate steel research projects at Texas State.
KUDOS

Engineering Technology faculty honored during 2015 Fall Convocation

Vedaraman Sriraman named Minnie Stevens Piper Professor for 2015

Vedaraman Sriraman, a professor in the Department of Engineering Technology at Texas State University, has been named Piper Professor for 2015 by the Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation. Piper Foundation honorees are chosen by committee members who look for well-rounded, outgoing teachers, devoted to their profession who have made a special impact on their students and the community.

Sriraman adds his Piper Professor designation to a list of prestigious accolades including the Texas State Everette Swinney Teaching Award (2014), the Texas State Distinguished Professor Award (2013), the Texas Association of Schools of Engineering Technology Distinguished Service Award (2004), the Texas State Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching (2000), the National Association of Industrial Technology’s Outstanding Industrial Technology Professor Award (1998) and the Texas State Alumni Association Outstanding Teaching Award of Honor (1996).

A reception in his honor was held on September 22nd at President Trauth’s home. Dr. Trauth bestowed a beautifully framed resolution from The Texas State University System Board of Regents.

A member of the Texas State faculty since 1991, Sriraman began as an assistant professor in the Department of Technology and has since held the titles of associate professor, professor and University Distinguished Professor. He developed program proposals that resulted in the establishment of the industrial engineering, electrical engineering and concrete industry management undergraduate degrees at Texas State. He has served as the chair of the Department of Engineering Technology and as an assistant dean in the College of Science. Sriraman has served as the faculty advisor to the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, the Society of Women Engineers and the American Foundry Society.

Awards Presented for 30 Years of Service

At the 2015 Covocation, Dr. Gene Bourgeois, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, recognized faculty members with 30, 35 and 40 Years of Service here at Texas State University. Dr. Andy H. Batey, Jr. received recognition for his 30 years of service. The department of Engineering Technology recognized Dr. Batey, department chair, at the August faculty meeting. Dr. Batey received his 30 year pin and certificate at a luncheon held by President Trauth.

Engineering Technology Faculty Members Awarded Tenure and Promotion

At the 2015 Covocation, Dr. Gene Bourgeois, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, recognized faculty members earning tenure and promotion. Dr. Trauth congratulated faculty members within the Department of Engineering Technology receiving both tenure and promotion, including Dr. Farhad Ameri, Dr. Yoo Jae Kim and Dr. Byoung Hee You. Each were promoted from assistant professor to associate professor. Congratulations to all!
KUDOS

Bruce and Gloria Ingram
Donate to New Science and Engineering Building

In President Trauth’s convocation speech she announced that two longtime supporters and partners, stepped forward with very generous gifts to help fund what the Legislature did not toward the new science and engineering building. The longtime friends and multimillion dollar supporters, Drs. Bruce and Gloria Ingram, and the company they founded, Ingram Readymix, gave $7.1 million toward constructing and equipping research facilities for the new engineering and science building.

Roy F. Mitte Renovations

This phased renovation project will soon be completed. Approximately $2.7 million in HEF has been spent on renovations to existing offices, classrooms, labs, and storage spaces for the science and engineering programs housed in the building. The reconfiguration of space in the Roy F. Mitte building will result in better utilization of the space.

New Science and Engineering Building

In President Trauth’s convocation speech she announced that the new science and engineering academic building has been a high priority for a number of years. The university was thrilled when the Legislature authorized bonds last spring for higher education construction for the first time since 2006. The process of hiring architects and construction companies has begun. Design development documents are expected to be presented to The Texas State University System Board of Regents in May 2016. Three to six months after that, construction will begin. And this project will take about three years to complete. The Engineering and Science Building will be built in San Marcos at the corner of Woods and Comanche streets. This building will include more than 122,000 gross square feet and include spaces for the rapidly growing Ingram School of Engineering and provide space for a new program in civil and environmental engineering, as well as much needed additional research space for biology faculty. A combination of bonded HEF revenue, tuition revenue bonds, and matched gift funds will provide approximately $107 million for this building.

Structures Lab

Approximately $6 million in HEF dollars will fund the construction of a large structures testing and research lab at STAR Park for academic programs in the College of Science and Engineering, including the planned new program in civil and environmental engineering.

STAR Park, which isn’t quite 3 years old, is undergoing an expansion that will add 16,000 square feet to the facility. This project comes on the heels of a buildout of the last 6,000 square feet of lab and office space that was just completed this summer. That means the research park will have gone from 14,000 square feet when it opened in November 2012 to 36,000 square feet when the expansion is completed in the summer of 2016. And two-thirds of the most recently built space is already taken. The park, where we grow and commercialize technology startups, continues to shine a light on research partnerships with our faculty. These partnerships not only benefit our university, but also benefit San Marcos and Central Texas.

Congratulations to
Dr. Batey and Carla Collins

The faculty and staff within the Department of Engineering Technology wish to congratulate Dr. Andy Batey and Carla Collins on their marriage in 2014.

Congratulations to
Tae-Kyung Kim for
Winning Austin Aquarium Art Contest

Dr. Yoo Jae Kim’s son, Tae-Kyung Kim won the Austin Aquarium Art Contest and received $1,000. He is attending seventh grade at West Ridge Middle School in Austin. Over the summer he participated in the Austin Aquarium Art Contest. He won first place and received a $1,000 scholarship and an Aquarium family annual pass.
For the third semester in a row the Construction and Concrete Industry Job Fair sold out to the capacity of the LBJ Student Center Ballroom. In attendance were 67 employers and 297 students. The Job Fair was held from 1-4 p.m. on Thursday, October 1, 2015. Employers are given a chance to interview students for summer jobs, internships and full-time employment. Prior to the start of the fair, employers received lunch and a brief update of the two programs by Construction Science and Management Director Dr. Winek, and Concrete Industry Management Program Director Dr. Schemmel. Construction Student Association (CSA) and American Concrete Institute (ACI) Student Chapter Officers made brief presentations.

The cost of the job fair is currently $300 per employer with about $150 per employer coming back to a special department fund. This money is used to fund events, supplement faculty and student travel to conferences, and purchase necessary supplies and equipment. Money from this fund continues to be used to send student competition teams to the ABC Competition during the Fall and the NAHB Competition in Las Vegas in January.

It is interesting to note that the Construction and Concrete Industry Job Fair, which is held specifically for the 392 CSM majors and 52 CIM majors, has one of the highest employer to student ratios of any of the job fairs held on campus.
Cade Humphries

Mr. Cade Humphries has many years of construction experience in the field and office and is excited about bringing his knowledge and experience with him into the classroom. He has earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree through the Texas State University Department of Industrial Technology Program and is currently working toward an M.B.A. at the McCoy Business School. Cade was very active as a CSA leader during his time as an undergraduate at Texas State and is thrilled to see the progress the students have made since then.

Tamara Tarbox

Ms. Tamara Tarbox began teaching TECH 3364 in August 2015. She completed an M.S.T. in industrial technology at Texas State University in 2010 and has over 12 years of experience in quality assurance/quality control in the medical device and pharmaceutical industries. Tamara enjoys hiking, camping, and traveling, and can’t wait to visit Italy next summer.

Bryan Kent

Bryan has 17 years of experience in the commercial construction industry with seven of those years on the Texas State campus building projects ranging from parking garages to student housing complexes. He has an M.B.A. from St. Edward's University and a construction science degree from Texas A&M University. In his free time he enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife and kids. Bryan is currently a Project Executive for DPR Construction.

Yvette Propeck

Miss Yvette Propeck is from El Paso, Texas, and has worked for the Department of Engineering Technology since spring 2013. She is majoring in health information management and will be graduating spring 2016.

Garth “Ben” Reese

Mr. Ben Reese joined the faculty in Fall 2015 as adjunct faculty. Mr. Reese brings six years of industry experience to the department, working as a professional engineer for companies in Utah and Texas. Giving technical support to quality assurance inspectors, Ben has participated in large and small, infrastructure, private, and commercial projects. Ben earned both his bachelor's and master's degree from Brigham Young University in civil and environmental engineering. In addition to his adjunct duties, he currently also works with Raba Kistner, based out of San Antonio, for their construction inspection group and their pavement design/geotechnical group. He is the current president of the San Antonio ACI Chapter.

Mr. Reese is married to his sweetheart, and together they are raising four wonderful children. Three boys keep the house lively while the daughter has him wrapped around her finger. Long walks, a good book, movies, and the occasional bike ride take up what little free time is not spent in the yard either working or playing with the kids.

Morgan Bradford

Morgan Bradford joined the Department of Engineering Technology in August 2015 as a student worker. Morgan is an elementary education major, who is also pursuing dance outside of school. Morgan is also very active in her sorority, Sigma Phi Lambda: Sisters for the Lord. When Morgan graduates she plans to move to New York City to make a difference in an underdeveloped school system there and pursue her biggest dream of dancing on Broadway.
**Maker Space Research**

Dr. Kimberly Talley, PE (Co-PI) and Dr. Vedaraman Sriraman (Co-PI) along with Dr. Araceli Ortiz (PI) and Dr. Shauanna Smith (Co-PI) were recently awarded a three-year, $299,778 Research in Engineering Education (REE) grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The grant, which is titled “The Engineering Education Maker Identity Project,” has three main aims: 1) to discover key concepts and principles that particularly enable a more diverse group of students to leverage creativity and innovation toward success in engineering careers; 2) to discover specific learning models that involve both STEM university students and pre-service teachers in order to develop teamwork, self-efficacy, communication, and identity formation in the maker environment; and 3) to validate instruments to measure the impact of such programs on students’ self-efficacy, communication, and identity formation. The grant will study issues relating to the effects of maker spaces as novel learning environments on engineering learning and how these spaces may best leverage the real-world experiences of students, such as prior work on the ranch, farm, construction, home or military as pathways to engineering.

This study, and the previously awarded NSF IUSE (Improving Undergraduate STEM Education) grant, “Collaborative Research: University Maker Spaces: Discovery, Optimization, and Measurement of Impacts” (Dr. Kimberly Talley, PE (PI), Dr. Araceli Ortiz (Co-PI), and Dr. Shauanna Smith (Co-PI)), will study students in Bobcat Made, a new university-wide maker space housed in the LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research. Maker spaces are places where people can gather to create, invent, and learn; often creatively solving problems with tools that they might not have at home. In the university setting, Bobcat Made (located in ASBN 214) is available to Texas State students to work on personal or school projects (currently for free!). Bobcat Made is also an example of cross-disciplinary collaboration as the room is provided by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, but the equipment is owned by the Department of Engineering Technology! The space is equipped with a laser engraver, 2D vinyl cutter, 3D printer, desktop CNC milling machine, embroidery machine, and four computer workstations. The equipment selection was intentionally a mixture of industrial- (e.g., the desktop CNC mill) and craft- (e.g., the embroidery machine) oriented in order to build upon the wide range of previous making experiences of the student body. The various research studies include the implantation of nationally identified best practices at Texas State, and that research may result in additional equipment acquisitions. This maker space also provides seating for 24 students at worktables, a couch, whiteboard, and a wall of cabinets with whiteboard finish. Bobcat Made is in a soft-opening phase this fall with the regular open use hours planned for Spring 2016. If you want to learn more or get involved in Bobcat Made, contact Dr. Talley (kgt5@txstate.edu), who is senior research fellow and maker space co-director of the LBJ Institute for STEM Education and Research.

**Working Group 5.7 Advances in Production Management Systems**

Dr. Ameri organized a workshop on Open Cloud Computing Architecture for Smart Manufacturing and Cyber Physical Production Systems in Tokyo, Japan, in September 2015. The other members of the organization committee were coming from institutions such as NIST, Penn State, Postech, Korea, BIBA, and Germany. The objective of the workshop was to incubate research issues, research direction, and gaps in existing standards related to the use of cloud computing to enable smart manufacturing and cyber physical production systems. This includes the use of service-oriented architecture, IoT and big data analytics to revolutionize production planning and controls. Also, in the IFIP Working Group meeting in Tokyo, Dr. Ameri was nominated and selected as a new member of the IFIP Working Group 5.7, Advances in Production Management Systems (APMS). IFIP Working Group 5.7 belongs to the Technical Committee 5 of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP). Dr. Ameri will work with the group to organize international conferences and workshops related to the mission of the working group.
9th Undergraduate Research Conference

CIM student Zachary Schroeder presented his research at the ninth Annual Undergraduate Research Conference and Honors Thesis Forum sponsored by the honors college on April 22 - 24, 2015. His presentation was titled: “Recycled Glass: An Alternative Fine Aggregate in Mortar for Environmental Sustainability.” Dr. Kim was serving as student advisor.

Abstract: http://www.txstate.edu/honors/involvement/events/urc/2015-schedule.html

Renewable Energy Research & Education Training Program 2015

Dr. Kim, PE, LEED AP served as instructor of a weeklong Renewable Energy Research & Education Training Program from May 18-22, 2015, for faculty from minority colleges in Texas. The participants were recruited from Coastal Bend College, South Texas Junior College and Alamo College in San Antonio as part of REENERGIZE: Attraction, Recruitment, and Retention of Students in STEM Programs, a three-year project awarded $613,000 by the U.S. Department of Education’s Minority Science and Engineering Improvement Program.

Zero Gravity Research Experiment with NASA and Space Dynamics Laboratory

Over the summer Dr. Anthony Torres and his research team completed two zero-gravity experiments in partnership with NASA and the Space Dynamics Laboratory. Dr. Torres specializes in material characterization through novel experimental design and testing. His zero-gravity material studies cover a real-time crystallization study of Infrared fiber optic glass. His research has impacts on the telecommunication industry and the medical industry through improved fiber optic lasers for surgery applications. Dr. Torres received a $286,000 grant from the Space Dynamics Lab to complete this study at the Reduced Gravity Office of NASA in Houston, Texas. Dr. Torres’ research team consisted of Mr. Reuben Barr, a graduate student in the Engineering Technology Department, and the department’s two laboratory technicians, Mr. Shane Arabie and Mr. Ted Cera. Both Shane and Ted helped Dr. Torres fabricate and test the zero-gravity payload that was flown and operated in zero-gravity and hyper-gravity conditions. Dr. Torres has numerous publications on the effect of gravity on material production, and he hopes to continue to bring exciting and impactful research to the Engineering Technology Department at Texas State University.

The first trip Shane Arabie and graduate Student Reuben Barr completed the experiment with Dr. Torres. The second trip included Shane Arabie and Ted Cera. Dr. Jeff Ganley from the Air Force Research Laboratory was the government sponsor and scientific advisor. The gentlemen in the blue flight suits are the NASA flight handlers.
Dr. Kim’s Students Tour Wiss Janney Elstner Associates Material Lab

Texas State University Students in Dr. Kim’s Senior Lab Class toured WJE Material Lab on September 1, 2015, in Cedar Park.

CSA students had a great turnout for the October 2, 2015, Moore Street Housing Jobsite Tour. A big thanks to Spawglass for having us out!

ASME Student Chapter Hosts Autodesk Representative

On October 8, 2015, the Texas State ASME Student Chapter invited Mr. Philip Cox from Autodesk to speak at a chapter meeting. Mr. Cox is an Application Engineer who is interested in increasing student involvement with Autodesk. Autodesk has a networking program, “Autodesk Student Expert,” where students can join and participate in an online community. Members are encouraged to share their work, help answer questions, and recruit their friends to join. Students who are highly active can earn certifications and be invited to workshops.

Mr. Cox informed the attendees that Autodesk has recently opened up licenses on some software including their new modeling software Fusion 360. Fusion 360 was recently released by Autodesk, and with it comes the “Design for Autodesk” challenge. Students who sign up and use Fusion 360 can design and upload a 3D model of a 15-part assembly. After uploading and being accepted, students are rewarded with a gift card for their participation. Mr. Cox plans to hold a future workshop where he can further demonstrate the capabilities of Fusion 360.
Current CSA students, along with several past presidents and an organization advisor, came to the rescue of one of our own faculty members during the Memorial Day Weekend Flood of May 24, 2015.

Dr. Cassandrea Hager’s family took a considerable hit during the devastating flooding and required a huge effort to remove all damaged furniture, appliances, clothing, bedding, sheetrock, insulation, paneling and flood debris.

Without hesitation, the CSA students quickly organized, registered with county and city officials, and mobilized their forces to tackle the daunting flood recovery effort. Because our students work smarter, not harder, they came to the site with skid-steer loader, gardencart, wheelbarrows, rakes, shovels and chainsaw. Ryan Ayotte brought his Bobcat and furnished the fuel to operate his equipment. This job could not have been done as easily without this Bobcat.

CSA Continues with Ramp Builds

CSA continues to promote community service through its partnership with Texas Ramps and CTMC to provide ramps for citizens in need around the San Marcos area. CSA Community Service Committee Chair Shaun Roark would like to thank everyone who came out for the latest ramp builds. The October 3, 2015, and October 10, 2015, builds were a great success. CSA would like to extend a huge thank-you to Bob Gardner with Texas Ramps for providing the opportunity to give back to the community.

CSA Helps with Wimberley Flood Relief

October 3, 2015, ramp build.
American Concrete Institute
ACI Student Chapter

2015-2016 OFFICERS:
President: Cole Pilgrim
Vice President: Braden Byrd
Treasurer: Lance Cain
Secretary: Amanda Amaya

The Texas State ACI student chapter started the year off with an actual bang by hosting its second annual sporting clay tournament in late August. Participation by both industry professionals and students created excellent networking opportunities, and everyone enjoyed shooting their 100 rounds out at the National Shooting Complex. The funds raised go toward funding travel opportunities for ACI members and the chapter’s general operating expenses.

The chapter’s first job site tour of the Circuit of the Americas was quite a unique experience, with students being given the opportunity to learn what goes into creating a massive Formula 1 race track and venue space, not to mention watching some high-end cars take test runs on the track. The first ACI member meeting presented Chris Lechner of the Precast Concrete Manufacturer’s Association of Texas to give students some insight into the future of the precast concrete industry, and Osburn Contractors hosted a concrete social at Plucker’s here in San Marcos.

The year has started off great for the ACI Student Chapter at Texas State, with plenty of opportunities for students to get involved. Another member meeting and plant tour is scheduled for October, and the student team that will be competing at the ACI National Conference in Denver is already working on their pervious concrete research. Onwards and upwards!

AFS Student Chapter News

On September 18, 2015, AFS students accompanied by Dr. Laura Bartlett attended the AFS Texas Chapter meeting and the Rangers baseball game at the Globe Life Park in Arlington Texas. Students that attended this event were Ged Hemingway, Riazur Rahman, and Mario Campos. Although the Rangers did not win against the Seattle Mariners, all of the students had a great time and were able to network with future employers in an informal setting. The AFS Texas Chapter has been enormously supportive of our metalcasting program at Texas State and we thank them for their time and generosity. We would like to especially thank Mr. Johnny Hill and Martin Foundry for financial support and for sponsoring our students to attend this meeting.
Over the past year, AFS Texas Chapter has hosted a number of Open Foundry days in an effort to increase awareness of the metalcasting industry. Texas State students and faculty are invited to join in the fun as AFS student members operate the foundry in Roy F. Mitte building and create a variety of cast parts. Those who participate can create foam cutouts for lost-foam castings and can watch the whole metalcasting process from start to finish. In addition to Open Foundry days, Dr. Laura Bartlett has been responsible for orchestrating our annual Texas State Steel Day, where representatives from various steel and metalcasting companies set up in the Quad and give every student on campus a chance to network and discover career opportunities.

Within the next year, AFS student members will have a chance to compete and present research projects at Materials Science and Technology conference, network with potential employers at College Industry Conference in Chicago, and tour various steel and metalcasting facilities, such as CMC Steel in Seguin, Texas, Oil City Iron Works in Corsicana, Texas, and East Jordan Ironworks in Ardmore, Oklahoma. AFS and Material Advantage also plan to host the next Texas State Steel Day on November 4, and will be holding more Open Foundry Days throughout the year. Watch for your chance to join in and create a casting of your original design in our education and research foundry!

In May 2015 Material Advantage Chair Sabra Serino and member Ged Hemingway attended AISTech in Cleveland OH. Sabra Serino, took first prize in the AISTech 2015 Undergraduate Presentation Contest for her work during an internship at CMC entitled “Inclusion Analysis and Process Improvement during Non-steady State Casting Conditions.”

**AFS and Material Advantage Students Attend AISTech in Cleveland, Ohio**

Material Advantage Chairman Sabra Serino and member Ged Hemingway attended AISTech in Cleveland Ohio. AISTech is the largest steel manufacturing technical conference in the world. The students were very excited to attend this conference and thankful to the AIST Foundation for funding their travel expenses and accommodations. Both students serving as session monitors were amazed at the number of attendees at the event and the numerous networking opportunities available for students at the conference.

Sabra Serino took first prize and $1,500 in the AISTech 2015 Undergraduate Presentation Contest for her work during an internship at CMC entitled “Inclusion Analysis and Process Improvement during Non-steady State Casting Conditions.” Sabra’s achievement has gained her campus-wide recognition from the provost and the dean of the College of Science and Engineering. In the fall 2015 Sabra was featured as a Texas State “Rising Star” on the university website: www.txstate.edu/rising-stars/sabra-serino

When asked about her experience at AISTech, Sabra had the following to say: “This year’s AISTech was the first that I have attended. I enjoyed my time at the conference immensely. The highlight of my time at the conference was participating in the student presentation contest and watching other emerging leaders in the contest. I am thankful for the opportunity to present the work I’ve done on an international scale, and because of that experience I am even more excited for my future career in the steel industry. The exhibit was absolutely amazing and well organized, the staff members were very helpful, and I was able to talk to any industry leader and openly ask questions. The AISTech conference is definitely a highlight in my academic career, and I look forward to attending future events as a steel industry employee.”
2015-2016 ASME Officers
Chair: Sean Moore
Vice Chair: Devanda Lek
Treasurer: Juan Gomez
Secretary: Sean Syring
Faculty Advisor:
Dr. Byoung Hee You

ASME Student Chapter

The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) is the principal society for mechanical engineers in the world. A primary goal is the advancement of engineering through teaching, publication, codes and standards, and interdisciplinary research. At Texas State University, the goal of the student chapter is to serve as a stepping stone for engineering students who are entering the vast field of mechanical engineering.

ASME Student Chapter Activities

Four members will represent Texas State University at the ASME 2015 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition (IMECE) this November 2015. Mr. Sean Moore, the Chair, will present his research on the fabrication of micro-lens arrays. Mr. Juan Gomez, the Treasurer, will discuss the microfabrication of interconnection structures for microfluidic devices. Dr. Byoung Hee You will serve as a session chair and organizer for the track of Design and Fabrication Analysis, Processes, and Technology for Micro and Nano Devices and Systems. IMECE is the largest interdisciplinary and most prestigious Mechanical Engineering research conference in the world. IMECE 2015 will take place in Houston, TX and will be attended by leaders in industry, academia, and research from around the world.

Currently, ASME at Texas State University has vacancies for officer positions for the spring semester. Interested candidates or interested potential members should contact drl68@txstate.edu for more information.

ASME International Design Engineering Technical Conference (IDETC)

Peyman Yazdizadeh Shotorbani, a graduate research assistant in the Engineering Informatics Research Group, presented his research paper at ASME International Design Engineering Technical Conference (IDETC) in Boston in August 2015. His paper titled, “A Text Mining Technique for Manufacturing Supplier Classification” was accepted “with honors” to be published in the conference proceedings. IDETC is the flagship conference in Engineering Design and Computers and Information in Engineering designed to showcase cutting edge research and accomplishments in these fields. Peyman's research will significantly improve the intelligence of search engines in online sourcing platforms. He is planning to submit a journal paper to the ASME Journal of Computing and Information Systems in Engineering.

Alolika Mukhopadhyay, a former graduate research assistant in the Engineering Informatics Research Group, joined the Ph.D. program in the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering at Northeastern University. Alolika graduated in summer 2015 and completed her master's thesis under the supervision of Dr. Ameri. At Northeastern, her Ph.D. project focuses on translating nanoscale 3D printing technology to enable oral preparation of poorly soluble drugs. The novel drug 3D nano-printing process, developed at the NSF Center for High Rate Nano-manufacturing, is important because it will enable oral administration of various promising drug candidates that currently can only be given intravenously. This will increase patient compliance and decrease the time and cost involved in therapy, while enhancing drug safety from the development-to-patient process. The project will result in a proof-of-concept for an entirely new drug nano-printing technology for controlled and effective delivery of poorly soluble drugs via oral administration. We wish Alolika best of luck in her new endeavor.
Currently, student competition teams are preparing for the ABC Construction Management Competition hosted on November 7-11 in San Diego, California, and the NAHB Residential Construction Management Competition hosted on January 19-21 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Both teams will be putting together proposals on real-life projects, of which they will present to a panel of judges.

On November 7th, CSA will be hosting its annual Homecoming Tailgate, inviting all students, faculty, staff and alumni to attend. The tailgate will take place between 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and is located in the East Bobcat Stadium parking lot.

The Construction Student Association (CSA) has kicked off the 2015-2016 school year strong, already having more than 120 student members. So far, they have hosted multiple guest speakers, a jobsite tour of the Moore Street Housing Complex, two tailgates, and two ramp builds in the San Marcos community. With several more events and workshops planned this semester, the CSA continues to offer students great opportunities to learn and network outside of the classroom.
INTERNSHIP TECH 2190 MAKES ITS DEBUT

The long awaited class, TECH 2190 Internship, was offered in summer 2015. See the charts below for the modifications made to TECH 4390 that created TECH 2190 as well as the number of students that participated in both this last summer.

Meetings to prepare for the internship happen in October, February, and at the end of the spring semester. Each meeting has a different focus with October stressing networking, February reviewing the application forms each student needs to submit by the April 1 deadline, and the final meeting reviewing forms used during the internship. Note that students must submit an application, have it reviewed, and receive approval to take these courses. All forms can be located on the Engineering Technology website at http://www.txstate.edu/technology/student-resources/internship. Contact BJ Spencer at bjspencer@txstate.edu for more details.
Dr. Schemmel is very happy to report that the official count for our fall 2015 freshmen class is 18! While this might not seem like a big number to some, it’s huge for the CIM program at Texas State. This is the largest incoming class in the short history of CIM at Texas State. Overall, we now have a total of 52 CIM students, which is up slightly from the 44 students in the program last fall. It is anticipated that another 5 or so new students will join us in January for the spring 2016 semester. If this prediction is correct, we will be nearing 25 new students for the 2015-2016 academic year. It is hoped that we will grow from this level of enrollment to around 150 CIM students in the program. For now, let’s all celebrate our success. In doing so, thanks to everyone, including our students, staff, faculty and industry supporters who helped spread the word about CIM at Texas State. THANK YOU to all and please continue your efforts.

If you haven’t been to RF Mitte recently, I invite you to stop by and check out the newly equipped and reconfigured CIM concrete lab.

Our sincerest appreciation to Dr. Ash Kotwal (new Ph.D.), Shane Arabie, Ted Cera, and everyone else who contributed to the cleanup and reorganization over the summer. It was a big effort, and there are still a few items to address. However, there is now much more floor space available to the students for mixing and testing concrete. In addition, we now have four complete sets of concrete field testing equipment. With time, everyone should find that the lab functions in a very efficient and functional manner.

It hasn’t been all work since the last report. The ACI and CIM students started the fall semester off with a bang by hosting the 2nd Annual ACI Skeet Shoot fundraiser. With only a few days after returning to campus to take care of last-minute details, the students did another outstanding job with this event. Everyone is already looking forward to next year. By the way, you can mark your calendars now for Friday, September 9, 2016, at the National Shooting Range in San Antonio for the Third Annual ACI Skeet Shoot. In addition to the skeet shoot, a few CIM students had the opportunity to take a behind-the-scenes tour of the Formula 1 race track, Circuit of the Americas (COTA), in Austin. They were able to visit the top of COTA’s signature tour as well as stand on the podium in the winners circle.

One of the focal points for the 2015-2016 academic year is an increased visibility of our students and faculty at local, regional, and national events. Things got off to a bit of a slow start in the fall as a system was put in place on TRACS for students to apply to attend events. Going forward, there should be a noticeable increase in our presence at ACI, International Concrete Repair Institute (ICRI), National Association of Women In Construction (NAWIC), and the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA) chapter meetings and other events. Students and faculty have already attended events such as the ICRI Austin chapter, ICRI Dallas chapter, ICRI Convention, NRMCA ConcreteWorks (right), American Association of Concrete Contractors (ASCC) Convention, and National Precast Concrete Association (NPCA) Convention (above left).

We continue to have outstanding support from industry with guest speakers for various classes. Mr. Jim Sorg from Structural, Mr. Greg Elliott from BMH Systems, Mr. Al Mikolas from Baker Concrete, and Dr. Earl Ingram from Ingram Ready Mix have all spoken to one or more CIM classes.

Lastly, on October 6-7, 2015, the CIM National Steering Committee (NSC) held a Board Meeting and CIM program update on the Texas State University campus. The NSC Executive Committee, members of the NSC Board, Patrons from each institution, and the four university Program Directors all participated in the two-day event. Special guests for dinner on October 6 and the Board Meeting on October 7 included President Denise Trauth, Provost Gene Bourgeois, and Mr. Fernando Conejo, Veterans Education Coordinator for the Texas Veterans Commission.

The next NSC Board Meeting and program update is scheduled for the World of Concrete in Las Vegas, February 1-5, 2016. I hope to see many of you there.
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

September 12, 2015

Dear Texas State Construction Student Association,

We want to express our thanks and gratitude to the Texas State Construction Student Association members whose volunteer spirit helped our family recover from the 2015 Memorial Day Weekend historic Blanco River flood. The week after the river flooded our home and deposited some 2 feet of mud inside the house, along with a 5-1/2 foot water mark, this amazing group of college students showed up and worked tirelessly in the heat and mud removing the huge amounts of debris from our yard. It is depressing enough to find your home and its contents destroyed, but to look outside and see the belongings from other destroyed homes piled in mass is truly sad. There is enough to do inside your own home to recover, and then to know you will have to attack the outside piles also - well, it is overwhelming. Thus, we feel truly blessed these wonderful young men and women took on this challenging task. By the first week, the debris that did not belong to us was removed to dumpsters across the road. The first weekend after the flood, the CSA group showed up in mass and cleared our home’s contents along with sheetrock, insulation, and paneling. Again the working conditions were difficult - hot, muddy, and challenging. Because of the group’s efforts, family members were able to keep the faith and momentum going.

A special thanks to current CSA President Trevor Lundgren, who organized the relief effort along with Chase Jones and past CSA Presidents Ben Keillor and Russell Hall. After we discovered Ben Keillor and his wife, Rebekah, were spending their first wedding anniversary working at our damaged home, we were truly moved by their generosity. Breanne Lundgren also came with her husband, Trevor, to help with the cleanup.

Chase Jones showed up on three separate occasions during the week to clear debris. Ryan Ayotte brought his Bobcat and furnished the fuel to operate his equipment. We couldn’t have done this job as easily without this Bobcat. Others who donated their time and efforts included CSA Faculty Advisor Mr. Vivek Sharma, Senior Lecturer Dr. Cassandrea Hager, Trevor Broussard, Shaun Roark and current CSA Secretary Karima Baqclounes.

Three months after the flood destroyed the interior of our home, we have made great strides in recovery. We are able to stay in the home while we continue repairs. These young men and women are our heroes who came in when we were in desperate need of assistance, and “they saved the day.”

Here are a few before and after photos of our home.

With sincere appreciation,
Wayne and Roxanne Tiner
200 Hub Drive, Wimberley, Texas