Design-build team qualifies for nationals

After a dramatic win at regionals, the team representing Sacramento State’s student chapter of the Design-Build Institute of America is headed to Las Vegas as one of the three finalists in DBIA’s national design-build competition.

“Not only did Sac State win the Western Pacific Region, but when the points were totaled for all nine regions, we were the top team in the nation,” says Karen Lee Hansen, a Construction Management professor and faculty advisor to the student chapter.

“This win gives further national recognition to Sacramento State’s Department of Construction Management – the students, alumni, faculty, staff and industry supporters – and reinforces the department’s quest to offer the best Construction Management education in the United States.”

On Nov. 5, Sacramento State students Javier Mederos, Neil Devlin, Nick Staykow and Alyssa Zayas will go head-to-head with teams from Auburn University and Colorado State University as they defend their design and construction plans before a jury of industry veterans at DBIA’s 20th annual Design-Build Conference and Expo.

Design-build is an increasingly popular project-delivery system used by the construction industry.

“The students are competing in a way that follows very closely the process that actual firms use to win projects,” says Hansen. “Sac State came in first (at regionals) based on a request for qualifications (RFQ). The second phase of the competition, which is going on now and will culminate with the ‘interview’ presentation to the panel of judges, is based on a request for proposal (RFP). The entire competition involves two phases of the same project.”

DBIA’s national design-build student competition attracted 40 teams from 29 universities. They put into practice the design-build theory they’re learning in school. The challenge was to develop a design and a construction plan for a $29 million, 80,000-square-foot residence hall.
A national jury selected nine regional winners in the first phase of competition, based on plans they submitted remotely. The jury then “short-listed” three teams, including Sacramento State, to travel to Las Vegas for the final round.

For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Office of Public Affairs at (916) 278-6156. – Dixie Reid

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