Construction Management team is national champ

Sacramento State has won the 2013 national design-build student competition at the Design-Build Institute of America’s conference in Las Vegas. The award was announced early Wednesday, Nov. 6.


Their win was based on an outstanding 38-page written response to a request for qualifications (RFQ) and a request for proposal (RFP), as well as a 50-minute oral presentation for the design and construction of a five-story residence hall at the College of William and Mary. The teams made their presentations to a diverse group of upper-level professionals, including builders, engineers and architects.

Only three of 40 student teams representing universities and colleges across the country were invited to compete in Las Vegas.

“These students, their professors and industrial advisors bring tremendous pride and distinction to the entire College of Engineering and Computer Science and our University,” says Emir José Macari, the ECS dean. “The CM Department is only one year old (after being a program for 40 years) and has had outstanding results.”

Sac State’s student chapter of DBIA was founded four years ago with a $25,000 grant from the Charles Pankow Foundation. The grant also allowed Karen Lee Hansen, a Construction Management professor, to earn the Designated Design-Build Professional certification. She serves as the chapter’s faculty advisor.

The national DBIA championship comes on the heels of the team’s big win at the 2013 Associated Schools of Construction’s inaugural Healthcare Preconstruction Competition, held last month in Chicago.

That team, made up of students Zayas (also one of the DBIA champs), Mark Oliveira, Preston Tziouvaras, Kim Braga, Rob Clark and Nate Boyer, went up against seven universities and earned 95 of a possible 100 points. The nearest competitors were Purdue University (86.8 points) and Auburn University (86.4 points.)
“We have had very talented students come through the CM program in the past few years, with more than 40 trophies to prove their abilities on the regional and national levels,” says department Chair Mikael Anderson. “This year has been especially rewarding, with the two recent national champ recognitions coming off our best-of-record six wins at the Associated Schools of Construction competition earlier this year.

“The faculty, industry coaches and many supporters couldn’t be prouder than we are today.”

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

Sacramento State is making a difference in California’s Capital Region and beyond. We offer a life-changing opportunity for our 28,000 students, preparing them to be leaders in their professions and communities. Our professors are known for their dedication to great teaching. And our location in the capital of the nation’s most populous state allows students to pursue unique internships and research.

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