A Message from Dr. Callahan - Department Head

Another busy and successful school year is coming to an end!

I am impressed by the many accomplishments and achievements by our students over the last year. From service activities and student competitions to internships and excellent job offers, I am proud of the TCM students and faculty. This May, we will be saying good-bye to another graduating class, and as always, we wish those graduates the very best. Some of the highlights of this past year are listed below:

- Students and faculty members participated in the Kansas City iBuild event in April.
- The Construction Club toured jobsites in the Kansas City area as a part of the iBuild trip.
- A Mechanical Engineering Technology program was approved and has begun accepting students. Fall admissions numbers for this program look very good.
- Construction Management students competed in several divisions at the ASC regional competition in Nebraska City last October. The Commercial team took first place in their division.
- The department hosted the MSU Boy Scouts of America Merit Badge University event last fall. Students, faculty, and volunteers from the community helped to make that event a great success.

Congratulations to those of you graduating this May. As is tradition, we will hold the departmental graduation reception and Hard Hat ceremony just prior to graduation on Friday, May 15th. The reception will be held from 2:30-3:30 PM in Kemper Hall 116 with the Hard Hat Ceremony at 3:00 PM. This is a great way to share the day with your family and friends so please plan to attend.

Further details concerning departmental news and events are listed below.

Dr. Neal Callahan
Department Head
Dr. Dianne Slattery and Dr. Kerry Slattery Announce Retirement

Drs. Dianne and Kerry Slattery have announced their retirement as of the end of this school year. Although we would like for them to stay with us longer, we greatly appreciate their many contributions to the department and wish them well as they move to their farm in Illinois full-time. Here are a few of the many activities and services the Slattery’s have contributed toward the success of the TCM Department and their disciplines:

Dr. Dianne Slattery has been very active in the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE) which is the accrediting organization for the Construction Management Program. She has served on the Board of Trustees for ACCE since 2007, and has also been a visiting team member for accreditation site visits. Dr. Slattery has recently been a Principal Investigator for funded research projects with the Illinois Department of Transportation and the National Science Foundation. Dr. Slattery has also been active with the Ozark Chapter of the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers and has been a leader in the annual MSU Boy Scouts of America Merit Badge University event.

Dr. Kerry Slattery currently serves as a Visiting Team Chair for ACCE which is a great service to construction education. Dr. Slattery has been a Principal Investigator on several funded research projects recently for the Illinois Department of Transportation including an effort to develop “An Expert Systems Approach to Highway Construction Scheduling.” He has also served on the Partners in Education Committee and the Teaching Aid Review Committee for the American Institute of Steel Construction, and has been a reviewer for several construction related journals.

The Slattery’s many contributions to teaching at Missouri State along with their service and research activities will be greatly missed; however we do hope to see them from time-to-time as they continue to collaborate with us on special projects and events. Best wishes to both Dr. Dianne Slattery and Dr. Kerry Slattery as they embark on this new adventure!

Students Present Dr. Richard Gebken with Outstanding Faculty Award

Students aren’t the only ones earning some much-deserved recognition at the end of this semester. On May 8, College of Business Faculty and Staff Awards were given out at the All COB Spring Meeting. Nominations are made through essays submitted by any COB student, and the COB Student Leadership Council selects the recipient. The criterion for selection is a faculty member who contributes to student success in a profound, meaningful way. The award was presented by Construction Management student, Brayden Sweeter, who had nothing but praise for Dr. Gebken as he shared a few words about the impact he has made in the lives of his students. Congratulations, Dr. Gebken! It is an honor to have you in the TCM Department.
Students and Faculty Participate in the 2015 Kansas City iBuild Event

The MSU Construction Club traveled to Kansas City in April to volunteer at iBuild, a construction education event for more than 1,400 middle and high school students. Approximately 30 students and several TCM faculty members volunteered at the event hosted by the National Institute for Construction Excellence. The TCM bridge building activity was a highlight for the event as groups of students competed to see who could assemble a 20-foot long PVC bridge the quickest.

During the trip, the Construction Club students also visited four project sites in the KC Metro area including Murray Company’s Golden Valley Memorial Hospital project, JE Dunn’s East Patrol Police Station project, McGown Gordon’s Kansas City Power & Light Training and Education Center project, and MW Builders’ Village Cooperative project.

Facility Management Students Tour Several Sites in the Kansas City Area

Members of the Missouri State International Facility Management Association traveled to Kansas City in March and April. Students toured the Kansas City International Airport, Boulevard Brewing Company, and Kansas City Convention Center. Some of the highlights of the trips included attending a Kansas City IFMA meeting, an all-access tour of the airport, participating in a facility audit, and great barbeque.

Chelsea West Wins Top College of Business Award

Congratulations to Chelsea West for winning the College of Business Joseph Daniel Delp Award. This is one of the top two awards issued by the entire college. This award is given to a graduating senior who has shown outstanding achievement, industry and desire through goal setting, self-support through work beyond studies, trust worthiness, leadership, and perseverance. Students are nominated for this award by a College of Business Department Head or Program Director. Nominees are required to write a one page essay as to how they fulfill the award criteria. The recipient of this award is selected by the Dean and Associate Deans. This award is an honor for Chelsea and the entire department.

The Department of Technology and Construction Management provides a student achievement award each year. The Gimbel Achievement Award is given to an outstanding TCM student and comes with a cash payment from the Gimbel endowment. The 2014-2015 Gimbel Achievement Award recipient is Chelsea West. Congratulations, Chelsea, for receiving both of these awards!
New Mechanical Engineering Technology Degree Program Off to a Fast Start

In August, Missouri State University approved the request of the TCM Department to offer a degree program in Mechanical Engineering Technology. The 2014-2015 academic year was a recruiting period for the new program, and the first cohort will arrive on campus next August. Recruiting efforts have been extremely successful, resulting in a first cohort of approximately 60 students. The new MET program appears to be off to a fast start, and has been very well received by potential employers.

IFMA Scholarships for Facility Management Students

The International Facility Management Association Foundation’s 2015 Scholarship Program has been launched. They are awarding approximately $150,000 in funding this year! Scholarships range from $1,500 to $5,000. Scholarship winners are required (paid by the IFMA Foundation Scholarship Sponsors) to attend the IFMA World Workplace in Denver, Colorado on October 7-9, 2015.

The deadline to apply is May 31st, 2015.

There have been some modifications to this year's application, so applicants can take time to read through the application requirements at the following link:


Job Opportunities

Students are encouraged to review the department's digital signage displays in both Kemper and Glass Halls. Also, many job openings are reposted on Twitter so you can browse the details on the go.

Follow @TCMJOBS for the most up-to-date career and internship opportunities!

Stay in the Know