

# SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

# GROUNDBREAKER



SUMMER 2016

## 50th Anniversary: Distinguished Constructors Honored



*SOCM Founders Daniel Dupree and Thurman Potts*

In 1966 the Council of Associated General Contractors, Louisiana Chapter, appointed a special committee to work with NLU (later ULM) President George Walker to investigate the wisdom of creating a Building Construction program here.

Dr. Walker visited a few existing programs, finding they had limited curricula and low enrollment. He advised the Council that Northeast was uniquely positioned to serve the construction industry (then the largest segment of the national economy) and the public.

The BS degree in Building Construction was approved on March 26, 1966, and



AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR  
CONSTRUCTION EDUCATION

ACCREDITED 40 YEARS

program was off to a fantastic start!

### Constructor of the Year Dr. Dan Dupree

Dr. Daniel Dupree oversaw the formation of the Department of Construction and hired the first department head, Thurman Potts, in 1966.

Dr. Dupree attended Louisiana Tech, graduating with a BS in mathematics. After serving in the US Air Force he returned to school, earning an MS and a PhD in math from Auburn University, then becoming a professor. Later he worked for NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center for five years before moving to Monroe's NLU (ULM), where he served as department head of mathematics and then Dean of the College until his retirement in 1988. From 1989 to 2004,

quickly grew to be a leader among similar university programs. Under the leadership of Dr. Daniel Dupree, Dean of the School of Pure and Applied Sciences, and Mr. Thurman Potts, Professor and Head of the Construction Department, the

Dr. Dupree was the Executive Vice President of the American Council of Construction Education (ACCE). Congratulations to Dr. Dan Dupree for being selected as a 2016 Constructor of the Year.

### Distinguished Constructor Thurman Potts

Our founding director, Mr. Thurman Potts, served as a Marine in the Pacific during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart in 1944.

He earned his bachelor's degree in architecture at Kansas State University and his master's at the University of Nebraska, after which he worked as an architect for twenty years, culminating in establishing his own firm.

In 1966 Mr. Potts began leading NLU's construction program, which became the first nationally (ACCE) accredited program in 1976.

Mr. Potts is an NLU (ULM) Professor Emeritus. He is a founding member of AIC and named the organization. The Industry Advisory Council has established the Thurman Potts Endowed Professorship and a program enhancement endowment in his name.

AC & CPC  
CERTIFICATION  
20 YEARS



University of  
**LOUISIANA**  
Monroe

ULM Construction Management Program  
College of Business and Social Sciences, Hemphill 100  
700 University Avenue, Monroe, LA 71209



Mr. Don Beach is presented with his Constructor of the Year plaque by Mr. John Hunter, president of Steel Fabricators of Monroe. Beach founded the company and hired Hunter right out of NLU.

## 2016 Distinguished Constructor of the Year Mr. Don Beach

Don Beach, along with his wife Fran, has donated \$200,000 (half the needed total) toward the new School of Construction Management Entrance Hall; thus, at the 50th Anniversary celebration, ULM President Nick Bruno announced that the hall will be named the *Don Beach Entry Hall*.

But that is far from the extent of this man's involvement and influence upon the School. After getting his civil engineering degree from LSU and then working in Lafayette, he moved to Monroe, where he started Beach and Company, later named Beach Steel Erectors, Inc. While becoming the main steel erector in the northern half of the state, he also became a friend of the NLU (ULM) School of Construction.

In 1973 Beach began Steel Fabricators of Monroe, later expanding into the general contracting realm by reactivating a dormant company, Mega Corporation. Its premier project was to build the Construction Auditorium.

Don Beach then started a non-union erection firm called Ranger Erectors, Inc., as a subsidiary of Steel Fabricators of Monroe. Eventually he sold all his companies to company employees—an apt example of how he always gave back to the people that helped to make him a success.

Beach, a lifetime member of the School's Industry Advisory Council, has won numerous awards including the Kitty Degree Lifetime Business Achievement Award.

*Congratulations, Mr. Don Beach, Constructor of the Year.*



Mr. Laurence Favalora is the 2016 Alumnus of the Year. Pictured here at the 50th anniversary celebration with Favalora is Mr. Charles Poole, Favalora's roommate at NLU.

## 2016 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Mr. Laurence P. Favalora

*Dedicated* is the appropriate word to describe this longtime member of the Industry Advisory Council, advisor to various administrations of ULM and its School of Construction Management, entrepreneur, Certified Professional Constructor of the American Institute of Constructors, active member of church and civic groups, and NLU (ULM) construction graduate.

Born in Metairie, Louisiana, Favalora earned his BS in Building Construction from NLU (ULM) in 1973. Even before graduating, he worked summers as a carpenter for a local home-builder, later becoming a project engineer and then estimator/project manager. From 1981-84 he was vice president of Hammond Construction Division of Scheyd, Inc.

Becoming an entrepreneur had long been a dream of his, so in 1984 Favalora started Favalora Constructors, Inc., along with real estate development companies Favalora Properties, LLC, and Jean Lafitte Landing, LLC.

*Congratulations to Mr. Laurence P. Favalora, Alumnus of the Year.*

*Constructor of the Year and Alumnus of the Year awards are selected by the Industry Advisory Council each year. Nominations for 2016 awards are now being accepted.*

*The Industry Advisory Council has also committed four years' funds for paying the assistant to the director of the School, as of April 4, 2016. Ms. Deborah DeNardin has accepted the position.*

# 50th Anniversary Celebration Sponsors

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In memory of  
**John L. McInnis**



Associate Constructor  
**Nathan Borne**



2015 AC Meredith  
**Scelfo**



Associate Constructor  
**Christian Lamb**

## Three Students Become Associate Constructors

Spring 2016 graduates were just the second group from ULM's School of CM to take the required preparatory course and Associate Constructor exam.

**Nathan Borne, Christian Ridgewell Lamb and Tyler Binkley** (not pictured) are the three who scored well enough to join December 2015 graduate **Meredith Scelfo** as Associate Constructors.

## April 8, 2016: ULM School of Construction Management 50th Anniversary Celebration



Dear NLU/ULM School of CM Supporter:

The Industry Advisory Council (IAC) has created a Strategic Plan titled "2020 Vision" that identifies objectives for 2016-2020, to enhance the Construction Management student's education and to increase enrollment. In order to achieve these goals, the IAC, along with the School of Construction Management director, believes the complex needs improvements. These are broken down into phases, based on the order of desired completion. Financial contributions are needed to bring these projects to reality. Below is an overview of the IAC projects completed and the project funds needed:

**Phase I—Classroom Renovation—*project completed by IAC***

Four classrooms were totally renovated, including new carpeting, paint, blinds, furniture and new cooling units. New media technology, including Smart Boards, was installed.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
Remodel	\$90,000 by IAC	\$0
Media Tech	\$86,400 by Contractor's Education Trust Fund	\$0

**Phase II—Don Beach Entry Hall**

This phase will allow an area for "Recognition" walls, a reception area, the Director's office/conference room, and the Administrative Assistant's area.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
Entry Hall	\$200,000—Don & Fran Beach \$50,000—Nabholz Construction	\$175,480
Furniture for Hall	\$0	\$60,000

**Phase III - Display Walls in the Don Beach Entry Hall**

The recognition walls will display the SOCM's Endowed Scholarships, a Constructor Hall of Fame, Alumni Recognition, Constructor Certification and other special recognition.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
Recognition Displays	\$0	\$83,000

**Phase IV – Renovation of Mechanical Systems, Rest Rooms**

This original building is in need of new mechanical systems, replacement of ceiling tiles, updated bathroom facilities, offices and refurbishing of the terrazzo.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
Renovation	\$0	\$700,000

**Long-Term Project – High Bay Construction Practices Lab**

This project will create a 2-story-high bay enclosed Construction Practices laboratory, including a Materials and Soils Lab and classrooms.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
High Bay project	\$0	\$3,000,000



School of Construction Management  
College of Business & Social Sciences  
University of Louisiana Monroe  
700 University Avenue  
Monroe, LA 71209-9270

**Long-Term Project – Auditorium Remodel**

Reconfigure the current seating to maximize seating and update media technology.

<u>Project's Goal</u>	<u>Funds Received</u>	<u>Funds Needed</u>
Auditorium	\$0	\$250,000

We appreciate your support. If you have any questions or if you would like to make a contribution, please contact Ed Brayton at 318-342-1871 or [brayton@ulm.edu](mailto:brayton@ulm.edu)

Sincerely,

Don Greenland, IAC President  
Nabholz Construction

Ed Brayton, Director  
ULM School of Construction Management

University of  
**LOUISIANA**  
Monroe