



SPRING/SUMMER 2018

Industry Advisory Council Honors Award Recipients

Constructor of the Year: Mr. Don Greenland III



At the April 20 Construction Industry Advisory Council awards luncheon, IAC Board Member Richard Nelson was honored to present Don Greenland (left) with his award as the Constructor of the Year. Greenland is the chief operating officer of Arkansas-based Nabholz Construction Corporation, an ENR top-400 general contractor with 1,000+ employees in five states.

A graduate of Stuttgart High School and the University of Louisiana Monroe (then Northeast Louisiana University) with a BS in Construction Management, Greenland is past president of the IAC and continues to serve on its board.

Greenland serves on numerous professional and non-profit boards, and has been married to his college sweetheart Angela since 1983. He is a semi-professional musician and enjoys church work.



Distinguished Alumnus of the Year: Mr. Robert Billeaud

Robert "Popie" Billeaud (left), owner and president of J.B. Mouton, was named Alumnus of the Year at the annual IAC awards luncheon, receiving his trophy from Richard Nelson. Billeaud has served as a member of the IAC Advisory Board since its founding and also served as president of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors in 2002-2003.

Ownership of J.B. Mouton is a family affair, beginning with its founder (Billeaud's grandfather) and continuing through his uncles and then his father, and soon-to-be transferred to his son, Stuart Billeaud—the 5th-generation owner. The company has grown through public-sector, commercial, medical, and other specialized building.

Billeaud is active in the community, shepherding several boards and initiatives for private schools, the YMCA, and the chamber of commerce.

Recipient of Special Recognition Award: Mr. Ken Naquin

A resident of Baton Rouge and graduate of Louisiana State University's Construction Management program, Ken Naquin has been an invaluable asset for the ULM School of Construction Management. As a four-decade associate of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors (Louisiana AGC), now CEO, he has been instrumental in raising over a quarter million dollars for the ULM SoCM in the past three years.

Naquin proposed legislation to enable the Louisiana licensing board to collect a fee for higher education. This fee has supported the renovation and upgrades of multimedia SoCM classrooms and offices at ULM, including the creation of the Construction Management Practices Laboratory.

A registered lobbyist, Naquin serves on the LSU School of Construction Industry Advisory Council, as well as participating in the Job Challenge Program and the Laborers Training Fund. He also contributes to many local and church-related interests in Baton Rouge.



Naquin (right) is pictured here receiving his award from Dr. Ed Brayton, director of the ULM SoCM.

SoCM students enjoyed networking at the Construction Industry Advisory Council Awards Luncheon.



SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR THE 2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

The students of ULM's School of Construction Management are extremely fortunate that alumni, faculty, industry leaders, and families have been very generous in donating funds for endowed scholarships. This past year's scholarship winners were as follows:

2017-2018 SCHOLARSHIPS	SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS SCHOLARSHIPS	
Thurman Potts Scholarship	Abigail Antis
Fred C. Culpepper Scholarship	Andrew Clay
Ranie Terral Scholarship	Skylar Whitmore and Donovan Stewart
ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS	
A.C. Breckenridge Memorial	Justin Robinson
Don A. Baxter Endowment	Sarah Carmouche
Bill Gilbert Endowment	Luke Wilson
John E. Baugh Endowment	David Jett
J. Hilton Heard Endowment	Hein Ngo
Hollis Graham Endowment	(unfunded)
David Geissler Memorial	Alyssa Biggar and Daniel Eskew
JDE SOCM Senior Scholarship	Zoe Poole and Skylar Whitmore
John Ball Scholarship	Caitlyn Mills
Cecil K. Carter, Jr. Scholarship	Andrew Clay
Lamar E. Rogers, Sr, Memorial Scholarship	Austin Beck
Hurvie Moak Scholarship	Nathaniel Navarro
Matt Hattaway Endowed Scholarship	(unfunded)
Bob Brooks School of Real Estate & Insurance Scholarship	Ariana Martinez Castillo and Bryce Bordelon
Kathleen & Bill Eason Endowment Memorial	Nathaniel Navarro
Home Builders Association of NOLA	Donavan L. Stewart and Luke K. Magee
NON-FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP	
Ouachita Joint Utility Council Scholarship	Abigail Antis



Ann Bloxom Smith has been added to the SoCM team as a communication consultant, contacting prospective and present students, planning events, producing newsletters, and communicating with alumni and industry leaders.

SoCM Hosts Open House for Prospective Students and Families, April 14, 2018



Associate Constructors: Fall 2017 Exam



Justin Robinson



Alyssa Biggar



Daniel Eskew



Hayden Cassels



Ryan Jameson

Not pictured:

Joshua Greer

Associate Constructors: Spring 2018 Exam



Hall Caples



Austin Joiner



Brayden Glasgow

Not pictured:

Nathaniel Navarro



Bryce Bordelon



Carlos Romero



Harrison Heim



Luke Wilson



Will Zeigler

Congratulations to our newest Associate Constructors!

All graduating seniors in ULM's School of Construction Management now take the exam qualifying them as Associate Constructors under the American Institute of Constructors. These students passed their examinations!



Greetings NLU/ULM CM Alumni:

This issue features 2017-2018 student scholarship award winners, student Associate Constructor recipients, the Industry Advisory Council's Constructor of the Year and Alumnus of the Year, and a Special Recognition Award from ULM's SoCM.

Also, Greg Smith, an SoCM faculty member, has been recruiting all year long at high schools in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi. His efforts have resulted in increasing our prospective incoming student data base from 154 students (admissions data) to 554 prospective students. Greg's efforts have helped us immensely with enrollment. We also added Ann Bloxom Smith to our recruiting efforts. She is responsible for helping students on a regular basis as a personal contact for prospective students seeking information about the School.

Ann also organized an open house to allow students and parents to come see the CM program, ask questions, and have some free Louisiana food. Our attendance was good, especially for a first effort, so we have decided to make this a twice-a-year event. I also want to thank Dr. Ron Berry, Debbi DeNardin, Don Colegrove, Jerry Madden, Ann, and Greg for attending the Saturday event. In addition, thanks to our IAC members and alumni Trent Livingston, Steve Traxler, and John Gentry for taking time out on a Saturday to attend. In 2013, before I was the Director, we were at 94 students; in 2016, we were at 158 students; and in 2017 we were at 152 students. Enrollment has been stagnant lately; thus our efforts to attract new students.

Another issue that affects enrollment, according to ULM President Dr. Bruno, is that "the Louisiana Legislature has failed to pass a bill that would provide stable funding for higher education." Dr. Bruno also stated, "As the Legislature left it, higher education could be cut catastrophically, with an additional default on 30% of the TOPS promise to students if not addressed. This cut equates to an extra \$1,736 that our TOPS students would have to pay next year. TOPS was a promise created by the Legislature and awarded to students who met the criteria." This unstable situation has been going on for the past ten years.

Now for the good news: we have a record number of contractors seeking our graduates, and in fall 2018 we already have three contractors who have set up times to make presentations to our students and then interview them in the CM complex. More good news: the CM program was rated #6 in the nation as one of the "50 Best Value Schools for Construction Management" as listed by BestValueSchools.com.

If you are interested in coming to campus to make a presentation and interview students, our complex is available

Monday-Thursday evenings for presentations, with interviews during the day. Please contact me at brayton@ulm.edu or 318-342-1871 or Debbi at ddenardin@ulm.edu or 318-342-1860.

Finally, currently all our capital outlay funding comes from generous donors such as Don Beach, Steel Fabricators of Monroe, Nabholz Construction, and the Licensing Fee Fund that is disbursed by the IAC. This has funded the renovations of

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classrooms and offices. In addition, the Contractor Education Trust Fund (CETF) has funded the 41 computer replacements and the Smartboards in the classroom. Also, Dr. Bruno funded the replacement of our air conditioning system.

Still, the School of Construction Management is in the midst of creating a capital outlay marketing campaign for completing the Atrium project that will display our endowed scholarships. This marketing display will have nine areas set aside for contractors' logos at \$20,000 each and another sixteen areas set aside for logos at \$10,000 each. In addition, the ping pong area, the student lounge, and a classroom are going for \$50,000 each. We also have other opportunities available: the auditorium for \$250,000 and the 2-story high bay construction practices area for \$3 million. If you are interested in any of these opportunities to support the SoCM, please contact me.

Clearly, our CM alumni and industry supporters are crucial to the continued success of the program, and we appreciate you.

Sincerely,

Ed Brayton, Director
ULM School of Construction Management



University of
LOUISIANA
Monroe