

# ORANGE & BLUEPRINTS

M.E. RINKER, SR. SCHOOL of BUILDING CONSTRUCTION  
COLLEGE OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION and PLANNING  
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Volume 69 Issue 2

Fall 2005



This newsletter  
is sponsored by:



# A Message From



**Dr. Jay Stein**



**Dr. Abdol Chini  
Director**

After 19 years of serving in various administrative positions, 16 at the University of Florida, I decided to resign as Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning effective at the conclusion of the Summer 2005 semester. Although I have greatly enjoyed administration, I look forward to returning to the faculty and having the opportunity to be more closely involved with students, research and - most important - my family. I will, however, continue in my position as director of the new Center for Health and the Built Environment.

I would like to take this occasion to thank our Rinker School faculty and staff for all their contributions to the School and to DCP in the six years that I have served as dean. I continue to be amazed and impressed by the dedication of our people to the education of our students, to service to the community, and to the advancement of knowledge in the construction profession through research and scholarship.

I also wish to thank all of you - the alumni, professionals and the BCN Executive Committee - for your incredible support of our mission. I have never found a more devoted group of people who are so passionate about our programs. You clearly make the difference in the quality and educational experience of our students.

A Search Committee will soon be formed by the President and Provost of the University of Florida to conduct a national search to hire the next dean of the college. I encourage you to be constructively involved in the search and to express your views as the process moves forward. It is critical to the college and the school that we find the right person to provide leadership in the ensuing years. I am confident that the school is in good hands with the strong leadership of Dr. Chini.

In closing, I would like to express my regrets about the passing of Chuck Perry in Spring 2005. Chuck and his wife Nancy have been very generous supporters of the school, but far more important is the loss of an absolutely fine person whom we all will miss greatly.

I look forward to working with all of you in the future.

The 2004-2005 academic year was an exciting and productive year for the University of Florida's M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction. We graduated 116 students with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Building Construction, seven with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Fire and Emergency Services, 12 with the degree of Master of Science in Building Construction, 10 with the degree of Master in Building Construction, and three with a Ph.D. degree. Thanks to the generous support of our alumni and friends, the Rinker Hall building and furnishing campaign that started in 1990 was successfully completed and allowed us to properly furnish our offices and laboratories. We also created the Charles R. Perry Program for Craft Awareness to educate, with hands-on-experience, our students in the work of subcontractors, master craft, and trades people.

This past academic year, we had a strong pool of applicants from which to select from. More than 150 qualified students applied for admission to the Fall 2005 semester, but only the top 60 students were admitted to the program. The incoming students have an average pre-BCN GPA of 3.28 and an average SAT score of 1242. Job placement for BCN graduates has been extremely successful, with both on-campus recruitment and average entry-level salary increasing. We had over 110 companies represented at the Spring 2005 BCN Career Fair in the O'Connell Center to recruit both full-time employees and interns.

Other exciting news includes the formation of the BCN alumni regional clubs. The regional clubs are formed to foster and enhance the relationship between the Rinker School, its alumni and friends, and to support the School's mission of teaching, research and service. Three regional clubs have been formed (Tampa Bay, Jacksonville, Palm Beach), two have scheduled their first meeting to be held in August/September (Gainesville/Ocala, Miami/Ft. Lauderdale), and four are to be formed soon (Orlando, Ft. Myers, Pensacola, Atlanta).

This year is the School's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we are

continued on page 27

# Orange&Blueprints

*a bi-annual publication*

## Table of contents

Rinker's 70th Anniversary...4

AIA Award...5

Fluor Program for Construction Safety...6

Powell Center for Construction and Environment...6

Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing...7

Australian Exchange Program...7

BCN Events...8-9

Charles R. Perry...10

Construction Hall of Fame...11

Sponsorships...12

Professor-for-a-day...13

Student Organizations...14-17

Alumni News...18-19

BCN Alumni Regional Clubs...20

Distinguished Alumnus Award...21

William A. Pinto...21

Friends and Donors...22

BCN Advisory Board EXCOM...23

Faculty News...24-25

Brick Paver...26

Advisory Council...27

University of Florida

M.E. Rinker, Sr.

School of Building Construction

Interim Dean – College of Design, Construction and Planning

**Professor Anthony Dasta**

Director – M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction

**Dr. Abdol Chini**

Associate Director and Director of Undergraduate Programs

**Dr. Robert Cox**

Director of Graduate and Distance Education Programs

**Dr. Raymond Issa**

*Center Directors*

Center for Collective Protection

**Dr. Kevin Grosskopf**

Powell Center for Construction and Environment

**Dr. Charles Kibert**

Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing

**Dr. Robert Stroh**

*Program Directors*

Fluor Program For Construction Safety

**Dr. Jimmie Hinze**

**M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction**

**304 Rinker Hall**

**PO Box 115703**

**Gainesville, FL 32611-5703**

**Phone: 352-273-1150**

**Fax: 352-392-9606**

**www.bcn.ufl.edu**

**Editor**

**Stacey Rosenberg**

**sirosen@ufl.edu**

**A special thanks to Lia Nielsen and Paul Wiseman for their contributions**

**SPONSOR:**



## BCN Homecoming Bar-B-Q



Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 8, 2005, during homecoming at the University of Florida in Gainesville. The Gators are scheduled to play Mississippi State. Plan to stop at Rinker Hall at 9:00 am for some great food, a tour of the new building, and to visit with alumni. Special thanks to **Burkhardt Construction** for sponsoring the Bar-B-Q.

### Homecoming Events:

**9:00 - 10:30 am**

**10:30 - 11:30 am**

**11:30 am – 2:00 pm**

**9:00 am – 2:00 pm**

**BCN Advisory Council Review of the BCN Curriculum**

**Honoring 2004 inductees for the BCN Construction Hall of Fame**

**Bar-B-Q**

**Tour of Rinker Hall**

## **Rinker School's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

This year, 2005, is the Rinker School's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we are planning to celebrate with banquets throughout the state for alumni and industry supporters. The purpose of these gatherings is to promote the School and its initiatives, to raise additional funds for a new endowed professorship and to celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni of all ages in a social setting that we can all enjoy.

The UF Tampa Bay BCN Gator Club members are planning this "gala" type event to be held in Tampa at The Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Their region includes alumni in Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Polk, Pasco, Hernando, Sumter and Hardee counties. The evening will include a cocktail reception followed by a dinner program headlined by Dr. Chini and the Rinker School's faculty

and staff. Approximately 75% of the funds collected for this celebration will be returned to the Rinker School to fund the endowed professorship being considered.

All sponsors of 10-person tables (\$2500 per table) will be recognized in the program for the evening, endowed professorship plaque that will be installed in Rinker Hall, and in the School's newsletter (Orange & Blueprints). Formal invitations will be mailed out in early August and individual seats will be offered to all alumni and friends at non-reserved tables for a \$150 per seat donation. This is going to be an exciting event and a time for all BCN alumni to celebrate accomplishments made possible by the foundation they received at The University of Florida. The Tampa banquet is the first of the 8 regional celebrations and they plan to set the benchmark high for others to follow.

### **Attention Tampa Area Alumni**

#### **The Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club**

requests your attendance at

**The Rinker School's  
70th Anniversary Banquet  
and fundraiser for**

**The 70th Anniversary Endowed Professorship**

The event is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2005 at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay Hotel. The cocktail reception starts at 6:30 p.m. with dinner and program starting at 7:30 p.m. Invitations will be sent out to the Tampa area alumni in August. If you would like more information about the Tampa Bay Region UF BCN Gator Club, additional information on the banquet, or would like to sponsor a table; please contact Robert Angle at: [rpa@angle-schmid.com](mailto:rpa@angle-schmid.com)

We would like to thank the Tampa area companies below, who have graciously agreed to sponsor tables as of July 29, 2005.

APG Electric, Inc.  
Angle & Schmid, Inc.  
BCH Mechanical, Inc.  
Batson-Cook Construction  
Bollenback Builders  
Bovis Lend Lease  
Brandon Construction  
Centex Construction  
Clark Construction Group, LLC  
Diaz Fritz Isabel General Contractors  
Flagler Construction Equipment  
Hardin Construction  
Henkelman Construction, Inc.  
Irwin Contracting, Inc.  
Kalemeris Construction, Inc.  
Kearney Construction Co., Inc.

Marco Bay Construction  
Mathews Construction  
Nelson Construction  
Opus South Corporation  
Paul J. Sierra Construction, Inc.  
R.R. Simmons Construction Corp.  
Rinker Materials  
Ruden, McCloskey, Smith, Schuster & Russell PA  
Skanska USA Building  
Springer Peterson Roofing & Sheet Metal, Inc.  
Suncoast Auto Builders, Inc.  
Tappouni Mechanical Services, Inc.  
The Beck Group  
Turner Construction Company  
W.G. Mills, Inc.  
Wehr Constructors, Inc.

## Rinker Hall Receives National Award

Rinker Hall was recently selected by the American Institute of Architects and its Committee on the Environment as a Top Green Project for 2005, one of eight selected nationally. All of the selected projects significantly addressed environmental challenges with designs that integrated architecture, technology, and natural systems.

Rinker Hall, along with the other chosen projects and their architects, were acknowledged this past May at the AIA National Convention in Las Vegas. Randy Croxton of Croxton Collaborative Architects, the architect for the project, accepted the award on behalf of his firm and the projects partner firm, Gould Evans Associates.

In May 2004, Rinker Hall received a gold rating, from the U.S. Green Building Council, a national standard for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings.

Rinker Hall's success has resulted in UF adopting a policy that all future buildings be designed and built according to LEED standards.

Rinker Hall was the first LEED Gold rated building in the state of Florida and the 26th in the United States.

The technological innovation used in the construction of the building minimized the amount of construction waste produced and maximized energy efficiency. It uses 55 percent less energy than typical buildings of its size and its future operation will be more environmentally friendly.



## Dean Stein Resigns

The Rinker School was surprised this Spring semester by the resignation of Dean Jay Stein. He has served as the Dean of the College of Design, Construction and Planning for the past six years. His last official day as the Dean was August 6. Among his most notable accomplishments in support of the College are the following:

- Led a 5-year College Capital Campaign raising \$27 million
- Led an Initiative to change the name of the College from Architecture to Design, Construction and Planning
- Guided the adoption of the new college Tenure and Promotion guidelines
- Contributed to increased levels of funded research in the College
- Helped create multiple international activities
- Initiated the DCP strategic plan and constitution process

Dean Stein has been instrumental in supporting some of the significant accomplishments of the School in the past six years. He played a strong role in the creation of Charles R. Perry Crafts Awareness Program. It was through the strong support of Dean Stein that the construction of Rinker Hall, the University's first LEED certified building, was completed.

We wish Dean Stein well during his sabbatical year. Professor Anthony Dasta will serve as the interim dean as the national search for a new dean is conducted.

## **Fluor Program for Construction Safety**

contact: Dr. Jimmie Hinze [hinze@ufl.edu](mailto:hinze@ufl.edu)

This past April, the Fluor Program for Construction Safety provided training for nearly thirty Fluor health, safety and environmental (HSE) personnel. This was a more advanced class than the classes that had been offered to Fluor in the past. The safety materials that were presented represented “best practices” as identified through recent research studies conducted at the Rinker School. The health materials provided basic information on the infection processes and also on a number of other health issues that are of particular importance to the construction industry. The environmental materials helped acquaint the Fluor HSE leaders with basic information on sustainability. The five-day class was taught primarily by Dr. Jimmie Hinze and Dr. Charles Kibert. Some Fluor personnel also presented some of the course materials. In general, the class has been regarded as very successful and we look forward to offering this class to other Fluor personnel in the future.

Program Outstanding Student in Construction Safety for the spring semester. Jimmy excelled in the class and led his team in the development of a safety program for a local contractor. This award also acknowledges Fluor’s commitment to construction safety. We are grateful to Fluor, recently identified as the largest construction firm in the United States, for its dedication to safety and for making this distinguished award possible.



Fluor health, safety and environmental personnel during the Fluor training class

At the BCN graduation banquet held this year on April 28, Jimmy Terpening was recognized as the Fluor

## **BCN Faculty learn more about Safety**

Rinker Hall was the site of an OSHA 500 class December 9-10 and 15-16. This four-day class was offered by John Beaudry, a safety professional from Ocala. With the class being held at Rinker Hall, most of the BCN faculty were able to attend. The class helped to get the faculty acquainted with current construction safety issues. Completion of the class also entitled the faculty members to teach safety to others

and to issue either 10-hour or 30-hour OSHA cards to those who attend their classes. In the Rinker School, Dr. Jimmie Hinze issues the 30-hour OSHA cards to students who complete the Construction Safety class, a required undergraduate class, provided they also satisfy specific criteria as outlined by OSHA. We would like to thank John Beaudry for offering this class and allowing our faculty to have this great opportunity.

## **Powell Center for Construction and Environment**

contact: Dr. Charles Kibert [ckibert@ufl.edu](mailto:ckibert@ufl.edu)

With rising energy costs and concerns about building health increasing, high performance buildings designed and built to address these issues are becoming more important. The Powell Center has been at the center of the development of standards and approaches to produce this next generation of buildings and is organizing an international conference for September 2006 on this rapidly emerging concept. *Rethinking Sustainable Construction 2006* (RSC06) will be held in Sarasota at the Ritz-Carleton Hotel with the objective of developing a roadmap to the future high performance

building that addresses design, construction, products, tools, standards, and policy. A growing number of new doctoral students are opting to focus their studies on the subject of high performance buildings and at present the Powell Center has five doctoral students: Jim Sullivan, John Dryden, Luke Nicholson, Bilge Celik, and Ryan Parrish. These future PhD’s are working on a diverse range of issues: building economics, indoor environmental quality, water and wastewater, building materials, building deconstruction, and construction waste recycling.

## Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing

contact: Dr. Robert Stroh stroh@ufl.edu

The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing has teamed with the University of South Florida and with Florida A&M University to establish a University Partnership Office in Tampa. The primary objective of the partnership is to bring together the expertise of the three universities to serve the housing and community development needs of Tampa. Two active projects are:

**Tampa Housing Authority** - The University Partnership research team is currently performing an economic impact analysis of the Tampa Housing Authority's Belmont Heights Estates HOPE VI development. Located in East Tampa, the Belmont Heights Estates development is a new, mixed income community built on the site of demolished public housing. The Partnership's work with the housing authority includes analyzing the impact of the new development on property values in the surrounding neighborhood, changing demographics, the impact upon neighborhood businesses, and features of community design.



Tampa Housing Authority's Belmont Heights Estates HOPE VI development

**University Area Community Development Corporation (UACDC)** - The Partnership is working with the UADC as a long term evaluation partner for the UACDC's Anti-Crime Programming efforts. This project includes extensive demographic and housing data analysis, GIS neighborhood mapping, a Community Atlas, and evaluation of the multiple programs initiated by the UACDC as part of its anti-crime efforts.



University Area Community Development Corporation project

## Australian Exchange Program

contact: Dr. Charles Kibert ckibert@ufl.edu

The Rinker School conducts an exchange of students each semester with the Building Construction and Economics Department of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) in Melbourne, on the southern coast of Australia. During the Spring 2005 semester, eight BCN students attended courses in Melbourne while the same number of RMIT students attended classes in Gainesville. The program is an outgrowth of a long-standing relationship between the Rinker School and RMIT that started in 1994 with the visits of faculty from each university and collaboration on research projects. BCN students normally attend RMIT in the

first semester of their senior year and have the opportunity not only to experience another educational system, but also to see Australia and other countries such as New Zealand and Fiji on the way to and from Australia. Demand on the part of BCN students is high and the result is a very competitive atmosphere for the limited number of slots available each semester. Charles Kibert is the BCN faculty member who coordinates the program for the University of Florida and Ian Eilenberg fulfills this role at RMIT. Information about the program can be found at <http://web.dcp.ufl.edu/ckibert> by clicking on RMIT Exchange.

# Germany Exchange Program

contact: Dr. Jimmie Hinze hinze@ufl.edu

This past May, eleven students participated in the three-week Germany exchange program. The students were hosted by various German students, so they were literally immersed in the German culture. The students learned about the German customs, history, governmental system, and a variety of other topics as they visited construction sites of various types. They also visited tourist points of interest in Berlin, Potsdam, Dessau, and Dresden, along with some very interesting construction sites. This year, the students also made a one-day visit to Hamburg where a tour guide explained many fascinating aspects of the development and growth of this interesting city. The students were accompanied by Drs. Jimmie Hinze and Kevin Grosskopf.



Students learning about new technology: a jackhammer that absorbs vibratory shocks during operation.

Students learning about new technology: cutting steel with battery-powered steel shears.



## Spring 2005 BCN Career Fair

The Spring 2005 Career Fair was held on February 8<sup>th</sup> at the O'Connell Center. With over 110 companies in attendance, it was our largest recruitment gathering to date. Firms in attendance were diverse, ranging from such international giants as Skanska and Fluor, to regional and strong Rinker School supporters J. Raymond Company and Current Builders.

more. "It certainly is a seller's market," one Rinker student commented. Statistically, Rinker graduates receive an average of three job offers, and the school boasts a 100% job placement rate. Internships before graduation are also very popular, with over 40% of graduates accepting jobs from firms they've worked for before.

Students came prepared with impressive resumes and companies came prepared to hire. "I've met a lot of fine talent here today," said Steve Masucci of Dooley Mack Constructors. Many of the companies were looking to hire two or three students, some quite a few

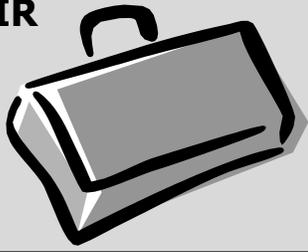
Preceding the fair was a Recruiters Reception held at Emerson Alumni Hall. This event provides the recruiters an opportunity to meet with the BCN faculty and staff. Approximately 35-40 recruiters attended the reception.



### THE BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CAREER FAIR

October 11, 2005      9:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
Stephen C. O'Connell Center

For more information, visit our website at:  
[www.bcn.ufl.edu](http://www.bcn.ufl.edu) (click on Job Placement)



## Welcome Reception

The Rinker School welcomed new students to the Building Construction School with a dinner reception on January 6th. The dinner, which was sponsored by **The Weitz Company**, was held at Emerson Alumni Hall. New undergraduate and graduate students mingled with returning students, faculty and staff.

Representatives from The Weitz Company gave a presentation, detailing their firm's divisions and projects. In a nod to the sunny day pastimes of Florida, they highlighted their golf course design and construction department.

Later at the dinner, faculty members spoke about the numerous programs offered by BCN, while

representatives from each of the student organizations described their upcoming events for the semester. Students who had been awarded scholarships for the 2004-2005 academic year were also recognized. At the close of the event new students to the program were given an upbeat send-off to begin their classes and future construction careers.



## Graduation Dinner



The evening of April 28<sup>th</sup> proved to be one of food, fun, and fond memories as the Spring 2005 graduating class, along with their families, friends and BCN faculty and staff, gathered at the Paramount Resort and Conference Center for a send off dinner. Dr. Chini

opened the evening by welcoming students and their loved ones. Following dinner, awards, both formal and informal, were presented to faculty and students.

The evening closed with each student recognizing their family members and recounting favorite memories of their time in the Rinker School. Some were funny, others tearful, but the general consensus was that the Rinker School is a great place to be.

On the morning of April 29<sup>th</sup>, students, faculty and family gathered at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts to support the Spring 2005 College of Design, Construction & Planning graduating class as they received their diplomas. The Rinker School announced the graduation of 64 students with Bachelor degrees and another 16 with Masters. We would also like to congratulate Caesar Abi Shdid, Aiyin Jiang, and Haiyan Xie on the completion of their Ph.D. Degrees.

## Commencement

The Commencement attendees were treated to speeches from J. Bernard Machen, President of the

University and Norman L. Koonce, Executive VP and CEO of the American Institute of Architects. Rinker's own Jimmy Terpening was selected as the student speaker. He gave a thoughtful speech extolling the virtues of hard work and dedication, while still leaving time for a little fun. Jimmy was also the recipient of numerous academic and personal achievement awards.

We at the Rinker School wish our newest graduates the best of luck as they embark on their new careers or next level of education.



## BCN Mourns the Passing of a Dear Friend



Charles R. "Chuck" Perry passed away on May 10 while he was on a vacation with his wife in Dresden, Germany. He was 71.

Chuck Perry grew up poor in Winter Park and hitchhiked his way to Gainesville in 1953 to attend the University of Florida. He left UF to serve in the U.S. Navy, but he came back to Gainesville, and in 1960, he graduated from the building construction program.

Chuck opened Charles Perry Construction in 1968, and since then has built hundreds of buildings throughout Gainesville. Chuck's partners and associates noted that fairness and honesty permeated every project he completed. Some of those most recent projects at UF included Emerson Alumni Hall and the expansion of Ben Hill Griffin Stadium.

Chuck served on a number of boards and community groups, including the advisory board for the Rinker School of Building Construction. Chuck and his wife Nancy have made generous donations to several entities at UF, including the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, the Florida Museum of Natural

History and the UF Alumni Association. President Bernie Machen said, "The legacy of his tremendous generosity will live on for generations, and our campus is steeped in it."

Last year Chuck committed \$2 million to the Rinker School to fund the Charles R. Perry Program for Crafts Awareness and to build an addition onto the existing Rinker Hall to house the program. This is a project that Chuck had hoped would educate students about building trades such as plumbing, masonry and welding. Indeed Chuck's respect for the crafts people in the industry really set him apart. He felt that construction managers got all the credit and respect, while the ones who were actually putting the buildings together got none.

We at the Rinker School would like to send our deepest sympathies to his wife and family and would like them to know he will never be forgotten.



## A Friend We Will Miss



Professor Victor F. Spruill died December 31<sup>st</sup> in Houston, Texas after an extended illness. He was 79. Mr. Spruill was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He received his Civil Engineering Degree from the University of Missouri at Rolla, was a registered Professional Engineer. He was a retired Lieutenant Colonel in the US Army Corps. of Engineers.

In the fall of 1980, two weeks before classes were scheduled to start, a full-time visiting professor who had agreed to teach that academic year said he received a better offer and walked. Professor Spruill had just completed a project in Jacksonville when he agreed to join the faculty to fill the teaching void.

Not only was he an excellent teacher, but he was the Executive Secretary of a statewide construction research program called the Building Construction Industry Advisory Committee (BCIAC), and wrote a comprehensive policy and procedures manual for BCIAC.

Survivors include his wife Harriet Spruill, son David, daughter Mary Ellen "Amanda" Jost and four grandchildren.

Thank you, Victor, for your significant contributions to the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction.

# BCN Construction Hall of Fame

It is our pleasure to announce that Lance S. Frankham and J. Stephen "Steve" Powell, Jr. were selected as the 2004 inductees for the BCN Construction Hall of Fame. Mr. Frankham and his wife Susie were in attendance during the College of Design, Construction and Planning's Award Ceremony in April, where he received his commemorative shadowbox plaque. Another ceremony is scheduled in conjunction with the UF Homecoming events and the BCN Advisory Council's meeting on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. During that ceremony both Mr. Frankham and Mr. Powell will have their bronze plaques on the Construction Hall of Fame wall unveiled.



**Lance S. Frankham** graduated from the University of Florida in 1964 with a degree in Building Construction. Since graduating he has distinguished

himself in the engineering and construction industry with over 30 years of diversified experience. He has extensive international business experience including work throughout Europe, the Middle East, the Far East, and North and South America. With his broad background with both owners and contractors, he has a depth of knowledge and appreciation for all of the business dynamics of the industry. His work history includes 20 years with the Fluor Corporation and their

subsidiaries, serving as President, CEO and Chairman of the Board for Natkin Group, as well as advising numerous corporations and organizations. His strong organizational skills, corporate and project leadership, as well as a commitment to quality have provided him a very successful career within the industry.



Upon graduating from the University of Florida in 1953 with a Building Construction degree **Steve Powell** and his brother became partners in the family business, and until recently, he was president of the Powell Brothers Barge Terminal Inc., a Fort Lauderdale based company. The company built bridges for the Florida

East Coast Railroad and along the Alligator Alley highway, as well as the bridge from Nassau to Paradise Island in the Bahamas. One prominent success of Mr. Powell's efforts has been in aiding the development of Broward County and the Port Everglades seaport. During the Fall 2004 Commencement Ceremony, Steve was honored as a University of Florida Distinguished Alumnus for his exceptional professional and personal accomplishments. Steve and his wife, Carol, have been generous supporters of the University, the College of DCP, and the Rinker School, where they helped fund the Powell Center for Construction and Environment.

## BCN CONSTRUCTION HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

1982	Ed Proefke; W. W. "Bill" Gay	1994	Joel Buzbee; E. E. Gene Simmons
1983	Charles Perry; Thorne Auchter	1995	No Inductees this year
1984	Dan Whiteman; Pete Mathews	1996	No Inductees this year
1985	Vincent Burkhardt, Sr.; Loys Johnson	1997	Curtis Culver; William A. Pinto
1986	Marshall E. Rinker; Jon Crabtree	1998	Preston Haskell; Jim Kalameris
1987	Frank Hubbard; Milton Wood	1999	Brisbane Brown, Jr.
1988	Thomas Baker; Roy T. Dye	2000	Charles Denny
1989	Ed Parker; Harry Touby	2001	No Inductees this year
1990	John Koelemij; John T. McCormic	2002	No Inductees this year
1991	Edward Flom; P. Scott Linder	2003	Jess Childre; James A. Cummings
1992	Ronald Morricks; Armand Mouw	2004	Lance S. Frankham; J. Stephen Powell, Jr.
1993	Theodore Crom; F. E. Booker		

# SPONSORSHIPS

The School does have a limited budget, and there are many activities and items for which we could certainly use your financial assistance. In return for your underwriting of these activities/items, we would provide appropriate publicity about your support. In the case of events, we would be pleased to have a company representative attend the event and say a few words on behalf of your firm. For the newsletter, we would include a prominent credit on the front page of the Newsletter. The following is a list of events and their approximate cost to us for which your support would be very beneficial to the School and its students:

## Available Event Sponsorships

Graduation Dinner	Fall 2005/Spring 2006	\$3,000 each
Welcome Reception	Fall 2006	\$5,000
Graduate Student Reception	Spring 2006	\$1,000
Homecoming Bar-B-Que	Fall 2006	\$3,000

## Future Event Sponsors

Welcome Reception (Fall 2005)	Charles Perry Construction
Homecoming Bar-B-Que (2005)	Burkhardt Construction
Graduate Student Reception (Fall 2005)	Turner Construction
Welcome Reception (Spring 2006)	James A. Cummings
BCN Newsletter (Spring 2006)	Hardin Construction
BCN Newsletter (Fall 2006)	Stiles Corporation
NAHB Competition (Spring 2006)	BCBE Construction

## Past Event Sponsors - Special thanks to our past event sponsors.

### Rinker School Event Name

Management Team (1998 - present)  
 Design-Build Team (2002-present)  
 NAHB Competition, January 2003  
 NAHB Competition, January 2004  
 NAHB Competition, January 2005  
 Graduation Dinner (Fall 1999)  
 Graduation Dinner (Fall 2000)  
 Graduation Dinner (Spring 2001)  
 Graduation Dinner (Fall 2003)  
 Graduation Dinner (Spring 2004)  
 Graduation Dinner (Fall 2004)  
 Welcome Reception (Spring 2001)  
 Welcome Reception (Fall 2001)  
 Welcome Reception (Spring 2002)  
 Welcome Reception (Fall 2002)  
 Welcome Reception (Spring 2003)  
 Welcome Reception (Fall 2003)  
 Welcome Reception (Spring 2004)  
 Welcome Reception (Fall 2004)  
 Welcome Reception (Spring 2005)  
 Homecoming Bar-B-Que (2004)  
 BCN Newsletter (Fall 2001)  
 BCN Newsletter (Spring 2002)  
 BCN Newsletter (Fall 2002)  
 BCN Newsletter (Fall 2003)  
 BCN Newsletter (Spring 2004)  
 BCN Newsletter (Fall 2004)  
 BCN Newsletter (Spring 2005)  
 BCN Newsletter (Fall 2005)  
 Graduate Student Reception (Fall 2000)  
 Plaques and Trophies (2003)

### Sponsor

Centex-Rodgers  
 Haskel Company  
 London Bay Homes  
 Centex Homes  
 BCBE Construction  
 Beck Group  
 Brasfield & Gorrie  
 Hensel Phelps  
 Current Builders  
 Rinker Materials  
 James A. Cummings  
 Weitz Company  
 Brasfield & Gorrie  
 Fluor Corp.  
 Turner Construction  
 Weitz Company  
 Fluor Corp.  
 Brasfield & Gorrie  
 Current Builders  
 Weitz Company  
 Brasfield & Gorrie  
 Hardin Construction  
 Hardin Construction  
 Hardin/ Prof. Gunby  
 James A. Cummings  
 James A. Cummings  
 Hardin Construction  
 Stiles Corporation  
 James A. Cummings  
 Ajax Construction  
 Charles Perry

If you need additional information please contact Dr. Abdol Chini (chini@ufl.edu).

# Professor-for-a-day

Each spring semester, the Rinker School offers industry members an opportunity to be a “Professor -for-a-Day.” BCN professors are asked to invite guest speakers to their classes to discuss current issues in their fields of interest. The two-day program which took place on February 9-10, allowed students to receive an inside look into the construction industry.

If you are interested in being a “Professor-for-a-Day” or would like additional information, please contact Dr. Abdol Chini at [chini@ufl.edu](mailto:chini@ufl.edu). If you are interested in a particular course, you may contact that professor directly.

- Guest Speakers**
- Brice Miller**  
Clancy & Theys
- Jim Tharp**  
Tharp Plumbing Systems
- Lt. Jim Troiano**  
Alachua County Sheriff’s Office
- Joe Knabel**  
BCBE Construction Company
- Dan Whiteman**  
Coastal Construction
- Ishmael S. Rentz**  
SL Construction & Remodeling, Inc.
- Matt Webster**  
Charles Perry Construction
- Troy Lauramoore**  
Charles Perry Construction
- Michael Harstad**  
The Weitz Company



Dr. Richard Smailes, Brice Miller and Dr. Robert Cox



Dr. Brisbane Brown and Dr. Dan Whiteman



Dr. Jimmie Hinze, Lt. Jim Troiano and Dr. Robert Cox



Dr. Abdol Chini and Matt Webster



Professor Michael Cook and Joe Knabel



Dr. Walter E. Dukes and Ishmael S. Rentz



Dr. Abdol Chini and Michael Harstad

## Sigma Lambda Chi

Sigma Lambda Chi further demonstrated its commitment to the University and to the community by actively participating in service projects throughout the spring semester. In addition to the members and initiates donating time to tutor students in Statics and Steel Design, the honor society provided Rinker Hall Plans at discounted rates and participated in three service projects. Service work included a local neighborhood cleanup in January, a Rinker Hall service project in

February, and a joint venture with other student organizations in April to paint the East Gainesville Boys & Girl's Club. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, SLX enthusiastically welcomed the following new members: Douglas Bily, Justin Bolding, Mike Chae, Nicholas Dublin, Jace Force, Jacob Harders, Jared Landa, Scott Leiti, Julie Lipsitz, Derek Markham, Ryan McIntyre, Matthew Morey, Evan Oates, Alison Radcliffe, Rafael Semidey, Michael Tilghman, and Enrique Villavicencio. Congratulations!



### Editorial Note

In the last newsletter, Volume 69 Issue 1 for the Rinker Field Trip article, the Project Manager for "Brickell on the River" was listed as being Pete Saunders. That was incorrect. Mr. Saunders is a general manager

for Rinker Materials. **Andrew Miller** should have been the Project Manager listed for that project. We apologize to Mr. Miller for the mishap and thank him for allowing the students to visit the site.

### Steel Design Field Trip

Students from Dr. Ajay Shanker's Steel Design class were given the opportunity to get up close and personal with the material they were studying, when they visited two local steel companies on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>.

The first, Gerdau-Ameristeel in Baldwin, is a rebar manufacturing facility. Students, wearing hardhats, safety glasses, and earplugs, toured the massive facility with company engineers. They viewed the entire production process, from the arrival of scrap metal, to smelting, pulling, and the finished product. The tour guides explained the various types and methods for making rebar, detailed safety features, and described what it was like to work at such a facility.

Later in the day, students visited Whitley Steel in Starke, a vastly different facility. Whitley is a steel fabricator, and in the absence of smelters and white hot metal, they had machines that could slice and punch right through steel I-beams and W-shapes. At this facility, the steel beams arrived ready to be cut and punched to order for local contractors.

We would like to thank **Gerdau-Ameristeel and Whitley Steel** for allowing our students the opportunity to tour their facilities.



## National Association of Women In Construction

Whether buying tools or using them, NAWIC's UF chapter finished off the academic year with a great semester. One of the highlights was a Tomboy Tool party held just for members at Rinker Hall. Thanks go to consultants Betsy Lieberman of Bradenton and Karole Sloan of Tampa for driving up to show off the line of especially-for-women tools ([www.tomboytools.com](http://www.tomboytools.com)). Speaking of women using tools, NAWIC members helped staff Alachua Habitat for Humanity's Women Build Auction in January. Congrats to Cindy Holt and her daughters - their Habitat Women Build home was completed and dedicated in April. Guest speakers at NAWIC's spring meetings included Cathy Underhill, project manager for Centex during Rinker Hall construction, and Dave Newport, director of Greening UF. Newport dispensed timely interview advice in preparation for the BCN Career Fair. He and Faculty Adviser Dr. Raymond Issa even conducted one-on-one mock interviews with them. And a second thank you to Dr. Issa, but especially Mrs. Issa,

for hosting a wonderful and delicious end-of-the-year banquet for all of them at their home. Good luck to the new officers of NAWIC: President Jennifer Escobar, Vice-President Jessica Ligator, Treasurer Stacy Diavolitsis, Secretary Aimee Haines, and Historian Beth Glover.



## BCN College Council

New student leadership in the Rinker School of Building Construction has breathed fresh life into the college council and transformed it into an ambitious organization of determined members. In just one year, the BCN College Council, under the direction of president John Nickels, has grown into a 23-member board representing undergraduate and graduate BCN students as well as all nine student organizations. They have a new constitution, bylaws and a plan for improving student life within their school.

The progress of the council in rebuilding itself was recognized in April by the University of Florida Board of College Councils as being the most improved for the 2004-2005 school year out of 20 university college councils.

Nickels, his new board members and faculty advisor Dr. Richard Smailes worked closely to develop a two-phase strategy for rebuilding the council during the last school year. The council's rediscovery phase was realized with the help of Rinker School's Director Dr. Abdol Chini and its Director of Graduate and Distance Education Programs Dr. Raymond Issa. With the help of the Rinker School's administration and the council board, a new constitution and set of bylaws were written and a strong vision for the future of the council was established.

Tapping into one of the Rinker School's most valuable resources, its alumni, will make the mission of the council much more useful to students in building construction. Bringing alumni to the school to speak on campus and provide field trips to their jobsites will enhance the learning experience and will be a major thrust in the council's activities, Nickels said.

As awareness and participation within the council grows, Nickels hopes it will become a greater resource, especially for new students, in providing educational support and resources to the students not just in the Rinker School but throughout the DCP family.

The BCN College Council is the umbrella organization for all BCN student clubs. Last year, the council was involved in community service projects, including Habitat for Humanity home building projects and repair projects for the homes of elderly persons in the community.

UF college councils provide academic and financial support for student activities, such as bringing guest speakers, paying for travel to conferences and funding special projects. The college councils are funded by UF Student Government.

## Associated Builders and Contractors

Four Rinker School students from the ABC Student Chapter were recognized with Awards of Excellence by the ABC Florida Gulf Coast Chapter at their prestigious ceremony on April 8<sup>th</sup> in Tampa. The event, which was attended by more than 500 people, honored all of the ABC Gulf Coast Chapter Excellence in Construction Awards for projects in the greater Tampa area.

The students were selected based on academics, civic involvement, student chapter participation, and school activities. This year's awards were presented to:

- Matt Widamier**, Award of Excellence Winner (May 2005 graduate)
- Phil Whitehill**, Award of Excellence 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (May 2005 graduate)
- Casey Wilson**, Award of Excellence 3<sup>rd</sup> Place (May 2005 graduate)
- Andrew Nieman**, Award of Merit (S2)



Each of the students have demonstrated leadership by taking an active role in making the ABC Student

chapter a success. These students were heavily involved in community service projects, club outings, and ABC Gulf Coast Chapter meetings.

**Congratulations to all of them.**

The annual ABC student-contractor golf tournament was another success in March 2005. The event was held at Ironwood Golf Course and had more than 120 golfers participating.

The event provides a great opportunity for students and contractors to network in a casual, yet competitive, environment. This year's event also provided a venue for the Student Chapter to raise money for the Brendan Dobbins Search Fund. Participants and the student chapter pulled together to contribute \$1000 towards the search for the missing Australian exchange student.

**The Winning Team was:**

Jon and Dave Lowman (DRL Construction), Sean Gardner and Robert Gosnell



## National Association of Home Builders

This spring semester, the Student Chapter of the NAHB sent 12 student members to the International Builder's Show in Orlando. The trip in January was made possible by contributions from both KB Homes and Pulte Homes. In March, the NAHB and the AGC hosted a barbeque for the students of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction.

The barbeque was a well received break from the daily routine for the students. Future plans for the Student Chapter of the NAHB include a trip to Pulte Homes in Orlando, for the Fall 2005 semester. We would like to thank all of you who support the Student Chapter of the NAHB. Without your support, the NAHB would be unable to perform as it has.

## Construction Management Association of America

The CMAA is an organization that promotes construction management as a method of building as opposed to the traditional contractors/owner relationship. This semester the UF CMAA chapter has had multiple meetings with guest speakers who gave insight, through their experience in the construction industry. Additionally,

the club went to Tampa, on a chartered trip to see URS, which currently owns the largest construction site in Florida. This trip also entailed lunch and a visit to the construction of an upscale condominium. On a social level, CMAA has had a breakfast and a Jai-Alai social for members and potential members.

## Residential Management Team

Every year the National Association of Home Builders, in conjunction with their convention, holds a national competition for and among those universities and colleges that offer degrees in construction. This year's residential competition was held in Orlando, Florida. The project selected for this year's competition was an actual residential community development located on the coast in South Carolina.

The team spent many hours performing quantity takeoff, pricing, and developing the presentation package. Their efforts were supported by the advisory team members: Mr. Joe Knabel, VP, BCBE Construction Co., Naples, Florida and by Dr. Rick Smailes and Professor Michael Cook.

Team members included Michelle Junkin, Josh Spalten,

Phil Whitehill, Matt Widmaier, Mark Williams and Casey Wilson. The strategy selected by this year's team was not the typical Power Point presentation, but more of an informal negotiation, face-to-face panel discussion; a strategy that proved to be quite effective.

The team finished 9<sup>th</sup> in the national competition out of 43 participating teams. With such a great finish they are all looking forward with much anticipation to next year's competition.

The team would like to thank **BCBE (Boran Craig Barber Engle Construction Co., Inc.)** for sponsoring this year's team, as well as agreeing to sponsor them again next year when the competition will again be held in Orlando.

## Associated General Contractors

The Associated General Contractors had a very active Spring Semester. During the semester, speakers were brought in from M.M. Parish, Habitat for Humanity, The College Resource Center at UF, and Masonry Contractors to speak to our 75 active members. AGC also put on two Bar-B-Ques for the BCN faculty, staff and students during lunch. With the support of Mike Cairns (Treasurer), AGC participated in the Extravacanza food drive which took place at the Oaks Mall. AGC was honored with the most cans submitted. Before the BCN Career Fair, a resume reviewer was brought in as a service to the students.

Another important function of the Associated General Contractors club is to provide an opportunity for all BCN students to socialize. This past semester AGC club sponsored four socials and also strengthened its ties with the National AGC organization and with local companies. Jeff Lang (President) was able to obtain financial support from the National Organization as well as a club banner.

Plans for the fall semester include more career fair assistance, guest speakers and BCN socials.

## Community Service

During each semester, you will always find Dr. Leon Wetherington working on many community service projects. These range from painting and fixing up individual homes to helping non-profit companies with fix-up projects. One of the projects that was worked on during this past spring semester was painting the Ronald McDonald House in Gainesville.

This was a project that lasted a few weekends and included UF faculty, staff and students from different departments. Included in that were many of our very own BCN students. Thank you everyone who participated in all of the projects that took place over the past semester.



# Alumni NEWS

## 1960

**Larry Myers** is the Legislative Assistant for Rep. Aaron Bean, District 12, Florida House of Representatives. District 12 represents Nassau, Baker, Bradford, Clay, Duval and Union Counties.

## 1964

**Gary Bruehler** and his wife Carol remain busy with their tennis, golf and their wealth of projects. Their son Gregory and his family have recently moved back to Texas from Alaska and their daughter Lori, who is a Navy nurse will soon be stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas.

## 1973

**Steve Johns** went to work with Centex Rooney in South Florida after graduating and continued there until 1986. At that time he co-founded C.G. Chase Construction Co. where he remained until 2003. He is now back in Gainesville and enjoying retired life with his wife Sandy.

## 1975

**Fred Seidell III** is currently the Senior Pre-Construction Manager with W.G. Yates and Sons Construction Company. He has been developing a Model in MC<sup>2</sup> to do a lot of bids on Overseas State Department (OBO) projects in the summer.

## 1976

**Timothy Davis** is Vice President of Smoot Companies. He is responsible for the Columbus Public Schools Projects consisting of seven segments over a 10-year span with a budget of \$1.7 billion.

**August Huber** is the Director of Professional Services for The Atlantic Group. August has two children, the 24-year-old daughter will be receiving her Master's in Nursing Administration from Vanderbilt in August. She will then be a First Lieutenant in the Air Force. The 21-year-old is a junior in Electrical Engineering at Arizona State.

**Rich Turnipseed** has been the VP of Sales and Large Projects for Comark Building Systems, Inc. in Dallas, TX for the past 5 years. They build prefabricated structures for Education, Medical, Military and Commercial markets.

## 1979

**Col. Josuelito Worrell** is the director of the engineering support directorate for the Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency. He was recently selected by the Society of American Military Engineers officials to receive the society's president's medal.

## 1981

**Mike Kaufman** is the owner and CEO of Kaufman Lynn General Contractors located in Boca Raton, FL. They are in their

16th year of business. They were voted Business of the Year in '03 by the South Florida Business Journal and were voted Runner-Up for '05.

## 1982

**Tom Maurer** was promoted to Purchasing Manager for Turner Construction Company for North and Central Florida.

## 1984

**Pete Pace** has joined Joe Smith, an '83 BCN grad., as a partner of J.F. Smith Building Contractors. He will be Vice President and Division Manager of the commercial construction group.

## 1986

**J. Matthew Ulch** is President and Founder of Lighthouse Construction Services Inc. in Delray Beach. They offer Construction Mgt., Owners Representation and a wide array of Pre-Construction Services. He has two sons.

## 1987

**Todd Andrew** is founder and president of Andrew General Contractors (AGC) in Orlando. Founded in 1996, AGC has worked on a variety of projects including restaurant venues, newspaper facilities, banking centers, educational buildings and manufacturing plants. He currently resides in Winter Park with his wife Sandy and their three children.

## 1990

**Amy Rahn** started her own real estate company in Atlanta two years ago and now has over 60 agents. She has won seven Professionalism awards from the Home Builders Association for home building and marketing. She recently got married in Hobe Sound, FL.

## 1991

**Darrell North** is the Vice President of Construction with Waterford Companies in Venice, FL. The position oversees all aspects of the mid and high rise condominium construction and development division. He currently resides in the Venice area with his wife, daughter and son.

## 1992

**Eric Baumgarten** recently completed the Grand Ballroom and Kitchen projects at the Mar-a-Lago Country Club in Palm Beach, FL for Donald Trump. He currently lives in Port St. Lucie, FL with his wife Angela and their three children.

**Jeffrey Kalish** has worked for numerous companies since graduation, but now owns his own construction company named JFK Construction, Inc. dba San Marino Concrete Wall.

**Barry Ozer** was recently promoted to WW Sales Operation Manager of the B2B ibm.com division. He has also started a

side business named 535s Sport Optics. It is an eyewear company dedicated to help improve sports performance. Along with that, Barry and his wife Kerri have adopted three children and are finalizing the adoption on another little girl.

## 1994

**Mark Kraft** has accepted a Project Management position with The Morganti Group, Inc. in their Orlando Office. His wife Tamara and his son Evan will be joining him in relocating to the Orlando area.

## 1995

**Rich Shannon** was recently promoted to Account Manager for Williams Company in Orlando, FL. He has been with the Williams Company for 10 years and is managing construction operations for retail and industrial clients. He and his wife Andi have one son Kellen.

## 1996

**Heather Crandall-Vallier** recently became a Purchasing Agent for Pulte Homes in Jacksonville, FL after returning from her maternity leave. Her husband Tom and daughter Sierra were very excited to welcome Mia Jade into the world in December.

## 1997

**Terry Lilling** is currently a Project Manager for Catalfumo Construction, Ltd. out of Palm Beach Gardens, FL. He is the lead PM on a \$35 million project for Palm Beach County Capital Improvements Division called "Palm Beach County Operations & Support Center." He resides in Boynton Beach with his wife Colleen.

## 1998

**Frank Cava** currently works for Ryan Homes in the Washington, DC area. He has been to every International Builders' Show since 1998 as a recruiter for them and a judge for Residential Construction Competitions since 2003.

## 2000

**Matt Dennis** has worked for Tesar Homes, Inc., a small custom homebuilder in Sarasota, FL since January 2002. The company specializes in large custom waterfront homes. He has been married to Emily since April 2001 and they are expecting their first child in October.

**Evan Roseblatt** was married in November 2003 to another Gator Alumni. They currently reside in Boca Raton, FL. He has begun working as a Pre-Construction Manager with a full-service real estate development company in South Florida. He is also enrolled in FAU taking classes to receive an MBA with a specialization in Real Estate.

The Class of Dec. 1995 is gathering for a 10-year reunion at the Homecoming game, October 8th. All BCN Dec '95 graduates please contact **Jenessa Myers** at [jmyers@gatorconstruct.com](mailto:jmyers@gatorconstruct.com) for information.

**Paul Gips** from the class of 1956 is working on putting together a 50-year reunion. All '56 graduates please contact Paul at [zaveess@aol.com](mailto:zaveess@aol.com)

## Let us Know!!!

Tell us about any job appointments, announcements, new contact information, etc.

E-mail: **Stacey Rosenberg** at [sirosen@ufl.edu](mailto:sirosen@ufl.edu).

## Update Your Contact Information

The Rinker School uses the UF Alumni Association's database for distribution of the Orange & Blueprints Newsletter and for the BCN Regional Club mailings. If you are not receiving these mailings, have recently graduated, or have moved; please update your information with the UF Alumni Association. You may contact them by using the contact information or link below.

UF Alumni Association  
1938 W. University Avenue  
Gainesville, FL 32603  
(352) 392-1905  
(888) 352-5866  
[ufalum@uff.ufl.edu](mailto:ufalum@uff.ufl.edu)

Bio Web site  
<https://www.ufalumni.ufl.edu/interact/BioUpdate/SecureBioUpdate.asp>

The bio web site goes directly to the UF Alumni Biographical department and is checked every day the foundation is open.

## BCN Alumni Regional Clubs

The Rinker School of Building Construction has graduated over 5200 undergraduates, 700 Masters, and 30 Ph.D. students. The School has decided to form BCN Alumni Regional Clubs to foster and enhance the relationship between the School, its alumni and friends, and to support the School's mission of teaching, research and service. The idea of forming BCN Regional Clubs was first suggested by Diaz Frietz Isabel Group of Tampa in August 2003. They followed their suggestion by sending a survey questionnaire to about 150 BCN Alumni in Tampa area. The results of the survey showed a strong interest among the BCN alumni to form a BCN club. Major goals/objectives of a BCN club identified by the respondents were:

- o Fundraising to Benefit the School
- o Fellowship of Alumni
- o Social Interaction
- o Share the Great Gator Spirit
- o Communication of Information  
(industry news, trends, employment)
- o CEU Credits /Educational Benefits  
(job experiences, seminars, lecturers)

Eight BCN Clubs have been or are in the process of being formed in Florida, as well as one in Atlanta, GA. The first meeting of the UF Tampa Bay BCN Gator Club was held on February 3, 2005. About 60 BCN alumni attended and selected five members for the Club's Board of Directors (Bob Angle, Jeff Nelson, Wayne Roberts, Jr., David Rubin, and Jeff Schiller). The Board members have met several times so far and drafted the club's by-laws, held the second meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup> and are planning the third meeting of the Club for August 11. Their plan is to meet quarterly and have a guest speaker from the School at least once or twice

a year to provide an update of the School's progress and needs. In addition, they are planning to have continuing education courses taught by the School's faculty.

The Jacksonville BCN Club had its first meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>. More than 30 BCN alumni attended and selected their Board of Directors (Patrick Madigan, Marko Milich, Lucas Morris, Paul Stern, Erik Sharpe, and Ray Varas). Erik Sharpe and Jennifer Baldwin of Brasfield and Gorrie organized the event.

The Palm Beach BCN Alumni Club met on July 7<sup>th</sup> with approximately 45 in attendance. They plan to meet again toward the end of August to select their Board Members. Vince Burkhardt, President, and Sarah Burkhardt, Director of Development, for Burkhardt Construction organized the event.

Breck Weingart of Charles Perry Construction and Kim Stanley of PPI Construction Management, Inc. have organized a meeting for the Gainesville/Ocala BCN Alumni for August 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8 pm at Emerson Alumni Hall on the UF Campus.

The first meeting of the Miami/Ft Lauderdale BCN Alumni has been scheduled for September 13 from 4 to 7 pm at Rinker FEC quarry in Miami. Steve Palmer of Stiles Corp. and John Bennett of Rinker Materials are organizing the event.

The Rinker School would like to invite you to join one of the BCN Regional Alumni Clubs. To learn more about the BCN Clubs, please contact one of the Regional Coordinators below.

### BCN Regional Clubs Coordinator Contact Information

**North Central (Gainesville):** Breck Weingart, President, Charles Perry Construction, breck@perryconstruction.com  
**Northeast (Jacksonville):** Erik Sharpe, Operations Manager, Brasfield and Gorrie, ESharpe@BrasfieldGorrie.com  
**Central West (Tampa):** Bob Angle, President, Angle & Schmid, Inc., rpa@angle-schmid.com  
**Central (Orlando):** John Sofarelli, President, J. Raymond Construction Corp., jsfarelli@jray.com  
**Southwest (Ft. Meyers):** John Gooding, President, Deerbrook, Inc, john@deerbrookinc.com  
**Southeast (West Palm):** Vince Burkhardt, President, Burkhardt Construction, Inc. vince@burkhardtconstruction.com  
**Southeast (Miami/Ft. Lauderdale):** Steve Palmer, COO, Stiles Corporation, stevep@stiles.com and John Bennett, General Manager Sales, Rinker Materials, JFBennett@Rinker.com  
**Atlanta:** Bill Pinto, President and COO, Hardin Construction Company, Bpinto@hardinconstruction.com

We are currently looking for a volunteer to coordinate the formation of a BCN club in the Northwest Region. If you are interested please contact Dr. Abdol Chini, chini@ufl.edu.

## BCN Distinguished Alumnus Award

This award is given annually to a graduate of the School who has graduated a minimum of ten (10) years prior to the award. The Nominee must have distinguished himself/herself since graduation in a construction field and have demonstrated consistent support of the School since graduation. The Nominee's recognition may be on a local, regional, national, or international basis. The award is presented during the Spring College of Design, Construction and Planning Awards Ceremony.

The 2005 BCN Distinguished Alumnus is Harley Miller. Harley graduated from the University of Florida in 1969 with a degree in Building Construction. He worked as an estimator and project manager for Frank J. Rooney for four years before founding Miller Construction Company in 1973 with his brother Tom. Miller Construction Company is considered a premier design/builder and general contractor in South Florida.

As the President, Harley has helped manage the growth of Miller Construction Company. Recent projects such as Airbus Flight Training Facility, Riverside Hotel and the NBC 6 Broadcast Facility can be added to the over 400 commercial and residential facilities that Miller Construction Company has constructed in Florida.

Harley currently serves on the Executive Committee of the Advisory Board for the School of Building Construction. He also serves on several other construction and real estate related boards. A past President of, and continues to serve on the Board of Directors for NAIOP (National Association of Industrial and Office Properties) as well as a past President and continuing Director of the Board for the CASF (Construction Association of South Florida) since 1990.

Harley has been married to his wife, Susan, for 27 years and has two sons, Harley and Jesse, who are graduates of the University of Florida.

### 2005 Distinguished Alumnus

**Harley W. Miller**



To nominate someone for the 2006 BCN Distinguished Alumnus Award please contact: Dr. Jimmie Hinze, 304 RNK, PO Box 115703 Gainesville, FL 32611 (hinze@dcp.ufl.edu).

## William A. "Bill" Pinto

William Pinto became the 16th recipient of the Golden Hammer Award on Friday, May 27. The award was presented by The Atlanta Chapters of The American Society of Professional Estimators and Professional Construction Estimators Association. This award honors Bill's dedication to construction excellence, his active support of the industry and his community involvement.

Bill graduated from the University of Florida with both bachelor's and master's degrees in building construction before joining Hardin Construction Company in 1974. After 31 years, he is still with Hardin and is the President and Chief Operating Officer. In 1998 he was inducted into the Rinker School's Construction Hall of Fame. He is an Emeritus member of the BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee.





*Thank you to all who donated to the M.E. Rinker, Sr.  
School of Building Construction General Fund (1/1/05-7/31/05)*

**1957**  
Mr. Myron L. Corets

**1965**  
Tayler M. Boyd, Jr.

**1973**  
Raymond J. Kearney, Jr.  
Karl E. Weis

**1974**  
Mr. George A. Olsen

**1976**  
William R. Cesey, Jr.

**1978**  
Mark Michael Mazina

**1981**  
Col. Darrall R. Henderson  
Mark A. Phillips

**1982**  
Mr. Arthur C. Higginbotham

**1983**  
Alan C. Miller

**1985**  
William P. Byrne  
Frank R. Trabold

**1986**  
Charles A. Congdon, Jr.

**1989**  
James B. Clark  
Wayne E. Wadsworth

**1991**  
Mr. Scott A. Mello

**1993**  
Robert S. DeMartino

**1996**  
Mr. Timothy J. Sergenian

**1997**  
Adam C. Bolton

**1998**  
Bryan M. Sanetz  
John T. Sewell, Jr.

**2001**  
Danny Grant, Jr.  
Hector E. Valdez

**2005**  
John R. Strid

**Other**  
Eric H. Palmer  
ExxonMobil Foundation

**Donations from  
Construction Companies:**  
A2 Group, Inc.  
Anderson Const. Co. of N. FL  
Bechtel Foundation  
Clark Const. Group, Inc.  
Hager Construction Co.  
James A. Cummings, Inc.  
Kalemeris Construction, Inc.  
Morgan Co., Inc.  
Rychris Contracting Co., Inc.  
Fluor Foundation  
Weitz Company

**Earn your Master's degree via the Internet!**

Looking to move up in your career ...

**Build**  
your career online with the  
**Master of International  
Construction Management**

A program delivered to you at  
any pace, any place and any time.

For more information visit us at  
[www.bcn.ufl.edu/scm](http://www.bcn.ufl.edu/scm)  
[raymond-issa@ufl.edu](mailto:raymond-issa@ufl.edu)  
**352-273-1181**

Our on-campus programs include  
MBC/MSBC  
and Ph.D.

**RINKER e xec**

## Spring BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee Meeting

The Spring BCN Advisory Council Executive Committee meeting was held on April 15, 2005 at the Orlando Airport Hyatt. Members present included: Vincent Burkhardt (Chair), Steve Palmer (Vice Chair), Robert Angle, John Bennett, Curtis Culver, Rick Derrer, Lance Frankham, Sidney Jordan, John McIntyre, Bill Morthland, Bill Pinto, Chip Reid, Erik Sharpe, Darrell Smith, John Sofarelli, Dan Whiteman, Don Whyte, Abdol Chini, Robert Cox, and Marcia Bourdon.

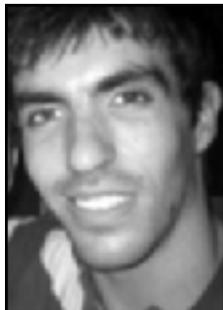
A major decision made at this meeting was the creation and establishment of the BCN Regional Alumni Clubs (see the BCN Alumni Club article on page 20). The group also decided to continue to have its Spring meeting at the Orlando Airport Hyatt. The next EXCOM meeting is scheduled in conjunction with the UF Homecoming events for Friday October 7<sup>th</sup> at Rinker Hall from 8:00 am – noon.

## Leadership and Management Seminars: An Invitation

BCN seniors are required to take several construction management courses, among them BCN 4712, Managing Construction Operations. This course includes exposure of students to ethics and leadership issues. The instructor, Dr. Charles Kibert, is inviting leaders from the construction industry to provide these seniors the benefit of their experience in leading and managing construction companies plus their experiences in handling ethical issues. It is hoped that these guest

lectures will be compiled into a series of case studies for use in improving the teaching of leadership and management in the Rinker School. The class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays during the Fall semester at 8:30 am. The Tuesday class consists of two 50-minute periods, with a single 50-minute period on Thursday. Dr. Kibert can be contacted at 352-273-1189 or via email at [ckibert@ufl.edu](mailto:ckibert@ufl.edu).

### Brendan Dobbins



The Rinker School was saddened to hear that the remains found on a beach in Costa Rica on June 11, 2005 have been confirmed to be those of Brendan Dobbins, an Australian exchange student who was attending classes during the Spring 2005 semester.

Along with several of his Australian and American friends, Brendan was visiting Costa Rica on spring break when he disappeared the evening prior to his

scheduled return flight to Florida. Brendan was last seen early in the morning of March 4, 2005.

Rinker School students, staff, and faculty raised about \$7,000 in funds to assist the family in their 3-month search for Brendan. A memorial or scholarship is being considered to remember Brendan.

The alumni, faculty, staff, and students of the Rinker School are saddened by Brendan's death and would like to express our deep condolences to the Dobbins family for the loss of their son.

# Faculty

## news and appointments

**Dr. Robert Cox** was named one of five inaugural members of the University of Florida's new Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars. Founded by former Provost David Colburn, the Academy of Distinguished Teaching Scholars will create an interdisciplinary cadre of pedagogical experts to enhance teaching and learning throughout the university. The Teaching Scholars program was conceived in August 2004 as a means of rewarding and utilizing the most adept and effective educators on campus to enhance teaching and learning at the University of Florida.

In the first year, five scholars were selected, based on the following criteria:

- Is committed to the belief that superior teaching and research go hand-in-hand.
- Has a very high level of experience and a history of success in the classroom that goes well beyond excellent student evaluations.
- Has a strong desire to assist colleagues at all levels in effective teaching and learning strategies.

Five additional scholars will be appointed each year for the next two years until the first set of scholars rotate out and the process begins again.

The five inaugural Teaching Scholars for 2005 are:

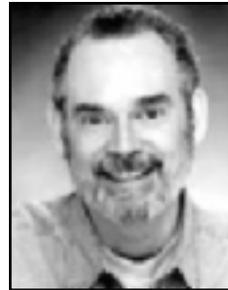
Laurence Alexander (Journalism & Communications), Robert Cox (Design, Construction & Planning), Gail Kauwell (IFAS), Michael Olexa (Agriculture & Life Sciences) and Robert Ray (Liberal Arts & Sciences).

These outstanding educators have demonstrated sustained innovation and commitment to teaching throughout their careers. They also have articulated their vision for promoting excellence across campus to the faculty committee that reviewed nominees to the Academy.



### Richard Smailes

Received Excellence in Teaching Award



The graduating seniors selected Dr. Richard Smailes as the recipient of the Teaching Excellence Award for the Spring 2005 semester. Dr. Smailes teaches courses in Construction Planning and Control and Construction Management.

### Leon Wetherington, Mike Cook and Kevin Grosskopf

Received Teaching Awards

Junior I students, Junior II students and Senior I students selected the most outstanding and dedicated professor for the Spring 2005 semester. Junior I students selected Dr. Leon Wetherington who taught Construction Techniques-Superstructures. Junior II students selected Professor Michael Cook who taught Estimating I and Senior I students selected Dr. Kevin Grosskopf who taught Construction Financing.



Dr. Leon  
Wetherington



Professor  
Mike Cook



Dr. Kevin  
Grosskopf

## BCN Says Farewell to Two Faculty Members



This past spring, **Dr. Kwaku Tenah** taught his last class in the Rinker School. He decided that this past year would be his last year as a faculty member. He will now devote all of his efforts to his pastoral duties at the Lighthouse Evangelistic Pentecostal Church. Dr. Tenah joined the Rinker faculty in January 1991. He came to the United States from Ghana in 1973 when he was enrolled in the master's program at Stanford University (he was a classmate of Dr. Jimmie Hinze). He also received his Engineers Degree from Stanford. He then enrolled at Texas A&M University where he earned his doctoral degree and where he taught for a number of years. He also taught at the University of Kansas. Dr. Tenah was a valued faculty member as he was versatile in his talents, being willing and capable of teaching both the management and structures courses. We will miss him and wish him the very best as he continues to serve his church, and hopefully, have more time to spend with his family.



After nearly 20 years, **Dr. Marc T. Smith** is leaving the University of Florida and his Associate Director position with the Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing. Marc joined the UF College of Business in the Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate Department in August 1986 after receiving his Ph. D. in Economics from Ohio State University. He joined the Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing as Associate Director in May 1993. Marc is adept at proposal writing and generated over \$1.5 million in funded research plus another \$500,000 for a HUD-sponsored Community Outreach Partnership Center. He played a lead role in the establishment of the Residential Construction Management program within the traditional Building Construction Management curriculum. He led the effort to establish the University Partnership Office in Tampa where the UF-Shimberg Center works in

cooperation with the University of South Florida and Florida A&M in a shared office space. The objective of the partnership is to draw upon the special talents of each of the three universities to improve housing opportunities and to stimulate community development in the Tampa area.

Marc has resigned effective August 15 and has accepted a tenured faculty position in the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin – Madison where he will serve as the state housing policy specialist.

We wish Marc and Sallie the very best and remind them that they are in for some very cold winter weather!

### BCN Welcomes a New Faculty Member



**Esther Obonyo** joins the Rinker faculty as an Assistant Professor. Esther received her bachelor's degree in Building Economics (Quantity Surveying) from University of Nairobi in Kenya and a master's degree in Architectural Technology from the University of Nottingham in the UK. She holds a doctoral degree from Loughborough University. Her research focus is in the area of Construction Informatics and Business Improvement.

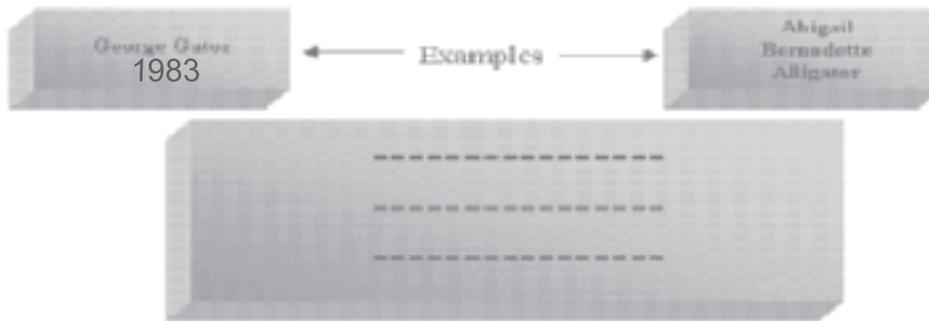
Esther joins Florida from the UK where she has been working in Business Improvement and Innovations for a subsidiary company of the Balfour Beatty Group. Prior to that, she worked as a Research Engineer for a construction IT company. Before moving to the UK, she was working for an American Construction Company in Kenya as a Cost Engineer/Project Manager. She has also worked with Quantity Surveying Consultancy firms in Kenya.



## Help Build the Future with the BCN Brick Paver Campaign!

Want to have your name in Rinker Hall, the new home of the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction? Buy a brick paver, support your school, and have your name etched in stone for the world to see!

The 4" x 8" brick pavers are available to students, alumni and friends for \$125.00. There is a 3-line limit, with a 16-character limit per line. Each space, period or other such punctuation is considered a character.



**Please make checks payable to U.F. Foundation. Do NOT send cash.  
Be sure to note BCN in the Memo Line.**

Send checks to: University of Florida  
M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction  
304 Rinker Hall  
PO Box 115703  
Gainesville, FL 32611

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Bricks Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_



Chini, continued from page 2

planning to celebrate with banquets throughout the state for alumni and industry supporters. The purpose of these gatherings is to promote the School and its initiatives, to raise additional funds for a new endowed professorship and to celebrate the accomplishments of our alumni in a social setting that we can all enjoy. The Tampa Bay banquet is the first of the eight regional celebrations and will be held in Tampa at the Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay on September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Tampa Bay club plans to set the benchmark high for others to follow.

The sad news this past May was the passing of Chuck Perry, a BCN Construction Hall of Fame inductee and a dear friend and supporter of the school. I would like to send my deepest sympathy to his wife Nancy and other family members.

Once again, I would like to thank our generous alumni and benefactors for providing us the funding to properly furnish Rinker Hall. Your support is essential for us to maintain the high quality of our program.

The M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction is honored to have an active Advisory Council whose members, both individual and corporate, serve as an important source of advice and support for the School. The Advisory Council is an opportunity for you and your company to form a strong liaison with the School. In this way, we can be assured that our program is current and meets the ever-changing needs of the construction industry. We hope you will consider becoming a member of the Advisory Council for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction.

HERE IS MY GIFT FOR THE M.E. RINKER, SR. SCHOOL OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

My gift in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is made to the **University of Florida Foundation** for the M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction  
**Be sure to put BCN in the Memo Line**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the appropriate block:

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP in the BCN Advisory Council

- \$100 Certificate
- \$300 Plaque
- \$500
- \$2000 - includes membership in the University President's Council

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP in the BCN Advisory Council

- \$300 Plaque
- \$500

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please send gifts to 304 Rinker Hall, PO Box 115703  
Gainesville, FL 32611**



UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA

College of Design, Construction and Planning  
M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction  
304 Rinker Hall  
PO Box 115703  
Gainesville, FL 32611-5703

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
GAINESVILLE FL  
PERMIT NO 94

# JAMES A. CUMMINGS, INC.

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER • DESIGN BUILDER • GENERAL CONTRACTOR

**Our commitment to excellence has  
made us a leader in the building industry.**

*James A. Cummings, Inc. is a proud supporter of the University of Florida's  
M.E. Rinker, Sr. School of Building Construction*



*Florida Atlantic University  
Parking Garage*



*Florida International University  
Health and Life Sciences Building*



*Village of City Shoppers  
Village 550*

**FT. LAUDERDALE**  
(954) 733-4211

**WEST PALM BEACH**  
(561) 666-1982

**ORLANDO**  
(321) 938-0583

[www.jamesacummings.com](http://www.jamesacummings.com) • [info@jamesacummings.com](mailto:info@jamesacummings.com)

