2019 PNW ASCE/AISC CONFERENCE – A HUGE SUCCESS!

Saint Martin’s University hosted the 2019 PNW ASCE/AISC Conference, regional civil engineering competitions, the weekend of April 12-14. The event drew over 400 students from 20 universities and colleges across the states of Alaska, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Washington, and the province of British Columbia. It was the culmination of years of careful planning and coordination by a team of students, faculty, Saint Martin’s staff, and community leaders. Student teams vied against each other in the concrete canoe competition, held out at Lacey’s Long Lake. They also competed in technical paper presentations, environmental engineering challenges, a surveying competition, and the steel bridge construction challenge.

Photos are available for anyone to see at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1IGeGFnMfwoOeLzHP7E7TVW9um2qXRq?usp=sharing


Enjoy!  READ MORE
**CHINA PROGRAMS**

Saint Martin's University has two joint programs in China: North China Institute of Aerospace Engineering (NCIAE) and Zheijiang Tongji College of Science and Technology (ZTCS&T). On January 22, 2019 our campus had a visit from a delegation from Tongji to solidify this specific program. We will accept Civil Engineering students at Tongji College in the joint program beginning in Fall 2019. Also in Fall 2019, Tongji plans to send visiting faculty members to Saint Martin's for three-month visits to begin collaborations with SMU partner faculty for team teaching. Tongji faculty will observe our classes and begin course planning with SMU faculty. In May 2020 and May 2021, SMU faculty will travel to China for three weeks to team teach Civil Engineering courses.

For the NCIAE partnership, Saint Martin's will be sending the following faculty to teach mathematics, physics, and engineering courses from May 16-June 7: School of Engineering’s Dr. David Olwell (Dean of HIMSE), Dr. Corrie Walton-Macaulay (CE), Dr. Shawn Duan (Chair, ME), Dr. Rico Picone (ME/MME) and College of Arts & Science’s Dr. Cameron Sweet (Mathematics) and Stephen Parker (Physics). We wish them all a safe and productive adventure!

**SAINT MARTIN’S WINS NATIONAL BIG BEAM AGAIN!**

A team of Saint Martin's students won first place in the national 2018 Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI) Big Beam Competition. PCI’s 2018 Big Beam Competition included entries from colleges and universities across the U.S. This is the second consecutive year that Saint Martin’s students have placed first in this competition. The beam was constructed with the help of the team’s sponsor Concrete Technology Corporation (CTC) of Tacoma. Dr. Jill Walsh, assistant professor of civil engineering, served as the team’s advisor. Team members included captains Joel Rodgers and Jarad Roschi, and Luis Camacho Placencia, Turner Kreman, Carthney Laukon, Jesse San Nicholas, Tyler Sloan, and Chase Weeks. They were recognized on February 28, 2019 at the PCI Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. [READ MORE](#)

**ENGINEERING BANQUET AND AWARENESS DAY**

Our 67th Annual Engineering Banquet was held on February 22, 2019. This annual event celebrates members of our professional engineering community and societies, and Saint Martin’s students, alumni, faculty and staff. We hosted 115 attendees at this fun and informative event. This year's keynote speaker was Jeff Peacock, President and CEO of Parametrix, a major civil engineering firm company founded by Waite Dalrymple, a current member of Saint Martin's Board of Directors.

On February 27, 2019, The Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering hosted over 150 students from eight high schools for Engineering Awareness Day. They started the morning with a brief orientation from Dean David Olwell, including these remarks, “Our engineering school is where we form engineers. We teach them and test them on the body of knowledge, we require engineering ethics instruction, we prepare students for licensure exams, and we model and teach about the duty to the public.” Then the students were put into smaller groups and toured through six of eight stations where they saw demonstrations in areas including environmental, robotics, gaming, concrete testing, and computer-aided design.
ASCE REGIONS 8 & 9 WORKSHOP FOR STUDENT CHAPTER LEADERS
Dr. Jill Walsh and five HIMSE students; Hanna Hoffman, Sarah Howsden, Jillian Leonard, Victoriya Polishchuk, and Tyler Sloan attended the ASCE Regions 8 and 9 Workshop for Student Chapter Leaders (WSCL) in Honolulu, HI, March 8-9. The WSCL was just one part of the Multi-Regional Leadership Conference, providing an incredible opportunity for members of all levels to network with ASCE leadership and attend leadership seminars and workshops to ensure chapter success. The conference hosted over 400 attendees from 10 states.

COFFEE CHAT WITH INTERNATIONAL HIMSE STUDENTS
The Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering (HIMSE) and Office of International Programs and Development (OIPD) hosts a Coffee Chat at the beginning of every semester for our HIMSE international students. The most recent event was on January 31, 2019. Lan Le, OIPD Program Assistant, noted, “The Office of International Programs and Development hosts activities that encourage cultural exchange and help foster cultural diversity. Every year we welcome students from around the world. We’ve partnered with the School of Engineering in hosting a Coffee Chat event at the beginning of every semester for returning and new students, deans, faculty, and administrators to socialize over refreshments (coffee (US/Arabic/Turkish), dates, pastries, and fruit.). This event celebrates and shows our appreciation to international students in the School of Engineering and diversity that they bring to our entire community.”

TWO HIMSE STUDENTS MAKE GNAC ALL ACADEMIC TEAM
In early February 2019, the Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) comprised of eleven regional universities, announced their 2018-19 Men’s Basketball All-Academic Team. To qualify for this honor, a student-athlete must be of sophomore standing or greater, must be in their second season at the nominating institution and have a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or greater. The Saint Martin’s students who qualified for the 2018-19 team are shown below with HIMSE students highlighted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAINT MARTIN’S</th>
<th>Academic Major</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>GPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rhett Baerlocher</td>
<td>Elementary Education</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tavian Henderson</td>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>So.</td>
<td>3.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kazuma Lane</td>
<td>Civil Engineering</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>3.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Mathews</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Sr.</td>
<td>3.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Of note, Kazuma Lane (HIMSE-CE) and Rhett Baerlocher (CEC) have been so honored for the past three consecutive years! READ MORE

MATTHEW HANCOCK AWARDED NSF SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIP
Mathew Hancock, Saint Martin’s Computer Science major, was awarded a highly-competitive NSF Summer Research Internship at Texas A & M-Corpus Christi. For the next three months, Mathew will learn about research, graduate studies, and be engaged in a research project. The host institution (through NSF) pays the students travel expenses, airfare, and a stipend. At the internship’s end, he is required to publish a research paper. Mathew has a 3.9 GPA and did the Running Start program prior to transferring to Saint Martin’s.
DEAN’S LIST – FALL 2018

Students with a GPA of at least 3.5, who took a full-time load and did not drop any classes, are placed on the Dean’s List. Only 3% of our engineering and computer science students earned a perfect 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2018 semester and are highlighted in red below. On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering, we salute your academic accomplishment and wish you continued success in your studies and future endeavors. We are all very proud of your scholarly achievements!

Abdulrahman Aljadani, CS
Ibrahim Aljadani, CS
Robert Allen, ME
Abdullah Atamimi, ME
Gabriel Alvarado, CS
Braden Baker, CS
Raj Bhetwal, CS
Dominique Marie Bornilla, CS
Hannah Briley, CE
Zachariah Brincken, ME
Jarrell Brown, CS
Rachel Burk, CS
Luis Camacho Plasencia, CE
Chad Campbell, ME
Seth Carl, ME
Christopher Carlisle, ME
Edgar Casitas, IT
Eric Coday, ME
Frances G. Constantino, CE
Adam Crain, IT
Violet Cunningham, ME
Julia Cutright, CS
Alec Dryden, ME
Lee Duan, ME
Jacob Eaton, ME
Zachary Eaton, CS
Mark Englert, CE
Trevor Engstrom, IT
Marcelino Figueroa, ME
Keevan Forbes-Kashani, CE
Kendra Francis, CS
Trevor Frisby, ME
Abdullah Gharab, CS
Anthony Guerrero, CE
Jacob Gustafson, CE
Rebecca Hall, CS
Trevor Hammond, CS
Matthew Hancock, CS
Tavian Henderson, IT
Devon Hensper, ME
Hanna Hoffman, CE
Sarah Howsden, CE
Brianna Huhmann, ME
Tanner Inouye, ME
Randall Johnson, ME
Russell Larsen, CE
Rocky Lightfoot, CE
Alex Lulpuyak, CE
Madison Lyon, CE
Augustine Maddox, CS
Dylar Maertens, ME
Salma Mala, CS
Jessica Martin, CE
Enrique Martinez, CE
Oscar Martin-Garcia, ME
Justin McArthur, CE
John McCarthy, CS
Amanda McMahon, CS
Brandon Metra, ME
Omar Moreno-Flores, ME
Lawrence Newcomer, ME
Samuel Nilsen, ME
Gandeel NIRaula, ME
Emery Norwood, CE
Jordan Parker, ME
John Pham, CE
Alessandra Portaro Garcia, ME
Terry Reynolds, ME
Patrick Ross, CE
Realani Angelina Rulona, ME
Joshua Schulz, CS
Gennaro Scotto Rodriguez, ME
Ranele Lyn Serrano, ME
Hans Shaffer, CE
Griffin Small, ME
Eric Smith, ME
Morgan Smith, ME
Conner Snow, ME
Jacob Sousse, CS
David Stride, CE
Megan Taylor, ME
Mathew Thomas, ME
Alexander Tilton, ME
Bogdan Tkachov, ME
Matthew Torrey, ME
Evan Tran, ME
Benjamin Wadowski, ME
Syed Wahidi, CS
Ben Warner, ME
Dane Webb, ME
Colton Winters, ME
Parker Woolworth, ME
Ethan Worden, CS
Ian Yadao, ME

PI TAU SIGMA SPRING INDUCTION

The mechanical engineering honor society, Pi Tau Sigma, held their Spring Induction Ceremony on March 26, 2019. Fourteen new members were inducted at this Tuesday event, with three more inducted in a smaller ceremony on Friday the 29th. Dr. Daniel Einstein, Faculty Advisor, and Dean David Olwell gave brief remarks and the candidates were inducted into the society by Violet Cunningham (president) and Conner Snow (vice president).
CYBERSECURITY CLUB COMPETES IN PRCCDC
Saint Martin's Cybersecurity Club members participated March 22-24 in the Pacific Rim Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition at Highline Community College. Our team took 9th place out of 14 participating universities and colleges. The "Cyber Saints" team that competed consisted of the following individuals: Reggie Grant, Salma Mala, Rachel Burk, Kristi Lee, Gabriel Alvarado, Juan Avila, and Matthew Hancock. Per club faculty advisor, Mr. Mark Wright, "A lot of learning took place in the two full days of competition with a hands on lessons in "Blue Team" defending of DNS, Web, Active Directory, and E-mail servers, keeping them up and running. Team members learned Palo Alto Firewall skills, OS/App hardening and exploit patching, customer service skills answering "irritated" customer support phone calls, completing technical documents "exploits", and uploading those at specific intervals. READ MORE

FACULTY NOTES – NOTED FACULTY

DR. FLORALIZA BORNASAL HONORED
Floraliza Bornasal '09, Ph.D., assistant professor of civil engineering at Saint Martin's, has been selected as one of 15 emerging scholars for 2019 by Diverse: Issues In Higher Education. The magazine has been recognizing an interdisciplinary group of minority scholars for their research, teaching and scholarly contributions since 2002, and selects the honorees from hundreds of nominations made by peers in the field and department chairs. Diverse: Issues In Higher Education is a source of news, information and commentary on the full range of issues concerning diversity in American higher education.

"When I first heard about the recognition, I felt both honored and humbled," Bornasal said. "I tend to put my head down and just focus on doing the work, so when other people acknowledge my effort, it tends to be a little shocking to me. After the shock subsided, I felt just really grateful to be able to share such an honor with my colleagues from around the country."

"Dr. Bornasal is an exceptional scholar, teacher, and mentor," said Dave Olwell, Ph.D., dean of the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering. "She enriches the entire Saint Martin's community, and is particularly inspirational to our student body in all its diversity. We are very blessed by her many contributions." READ MORE

Ms. Shelbie Davis and students, Jordan Parker and Eric Coday took a trip out to H2O Jet in Tumwater in February. The company specializes in water jets and has a 6-axis water jet that cuts thick metals and other materials. The water jet (behind them in the photo) cuts at 90,000 psi, and the water velocity is 3x the speed of sound (~2300 mph)! Jordan and Eric needed a circle cut out of thick aluminum for their senior design project. An SMU ME/MEM alum, Lars Jorgensen, works as an engineer at H2O Jet. He cut the aluminum slab for the students and gave the group a tour of the facility. READ MORE
Shelbie, Dr. Robert Bode, and Dr. Razvan ‘Alex’ Mezei volunteered to judge at the Aspire Middle School (formerly North Thurston Challenge Academy) Science Fair on March 7, 2019. The science fair was for gifted and highly capable students to prepare them for the South Sound Regional Science Fair. They spent the evening reviewing display boards and listening to student project presentations. June Dhamers, Aspire’s science teacher, reached out and requested their participation.

Dr. Razvan ‘Alex’ Mezei’s paper “Teaching an Introductory Programming Course to Non-Computer Science Majors using SageMath” was accepted by the Turkish Journal of Mathematics and Computer Science for publication. Dr. Mezei volunteered to be a judge at the Feb. 7th Carter Elementary School STEM Fair. On Feb. 22, 2019, Dr. Mezei presented to his fellow SMU faculty members at the Friday Faculty Lunch Talk series on “A Journey into an Open Source World”. On Feb. 27, he attended the 4th SPLICE Workshop in Minneapolis, “CS Education Infrastructure for All II: Enabling the Change. On Feb. 28, he was the Chair of Paper Session 1F: Process and Performance at the SIGCSE Symposium, also in Minneapolis. On March 7, Dr. Mezei volunteered as a judge at Challenge Academy Science Fair 2019 for the Aspire Middle School Highly Capable Program. Also joining him in judging were SMU’s Dr. Robert Bode and Ms. Shelbie Davis. A very eventful semester for Dr. Mezei!

Dr. Rico Picone brought the excitement of robotics challenges to Saint Martin’s University last December and January 2019. The December event was the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology (FIRST) FTC Interleague competition, which challenged teams of grades 7-12, to design, build, program, and operate robots. Hundreds of students and guests packed the Marcus Pavilion and Worthington Conference Center where head-to-head challenges were enjoyed by all! The second robotics affair was held the morning of Saturday, January 5th in the Worthington and was a FIRST Robotics Kickoff event. READ MORE

Dr. Jill Walsh attended the Transportation Research Board’s (TRB) Annual Meeting January 12-17 and co-presented a poster with colleagues from both the Washington and Oregon Departments of Transportation; DeWayne Wilson and Micaylla O’Leary respectively. The poster was titled “Concrete Substructure Deterioration Rates” and is shown at the event in photo at left circled in red.
**CALENDAR AND EVENTS**

May 27, Monday  
Memorial Day Holiday  
(campus closed)

May 28, Tuesday  
Summer Session (00/01) Begins

Jul 4, Thursday  
Independence Day Holiday  
(campus closed)

Jul 6, Saturday  
Summer 01 Session Ends

Jul 8, Monday  
Summer 02 Session Begins

Aug 17, Saturday  
Summer 00/02 Sessions End

**ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS**

Our alumni hold a special place in our minds and hearts! We want to hear from you and recognize your achievements in life and in your careers! Please send us your story and/or a photo with a caption. Email your items to us at: **SMUHIMSEAlumni@stmartin.edu**

We look forward to recognizing you in a future *Cornerstone* issue!

**DEAN’S CORNER**

As you read through the spring newsletter, you should have gotten a sense of what continues to make the Hal and Inge Marcus School of Engineering distinctive: outstanding, committed faculty; wonderful students; and programs that are both academically excellent and grounded in the Benedictine charism.

This was particularly on display this spring as our students organized and led the 2019 Pacific Northwest regional civil engineering competitions. Supported by the indefatigable **Dr. Jill Walsh**, students from across the engineering and computer science programs, as well as the business and CAS programs, came together to execute a flawless event. I do hope that you can read the article and see the video the Olympian ran (link on first page). **Hanna Hoffman ’21**, **Victoriya Polishchuck ’20**, and **Sarah Howsden ’19** showed the power of students to tackle large, complex problems and pull off a resounding success. I cannot overstate how proud I am of them, and their schoolmates, and the entire Saint Martin’s team that came together to make this happen. Their hospitality, respect, stewardship, and strong sense of community were evident to all.

I leave shortly for almost a month in China, where I will be teaching at our partner school, the North China Institute of Aerospace Engineering, along with five other SMU faculty. This is a partnership that has been carefully nurtured by **Dr. Shawn Duan**, **Dr. Dintie Mahamah**, and **Ms. Josephine Yung** of our international programs over the last few years, and which now is bearing fruit. Look for more details in upcoming newsletters.

HIMSE also welcomed a delegation from Tong Ji University near Shanghai this spring. SMU and Tong Ji have signed an exchange program for civil engineering, similar to the one with NCIAE for mechanical engineering. **Dr. Dave Olwell**, **Dr. Shawn Duan**, and **Dr. Corrie Walton-Macaulay** will visit their campus in June. Arrangements are being finalized to host three Tong Ji faculty next fall at SMU, with one in the computer science department. This new partnership is expected to significantly increase and diversify international enrollment in HIMSE.
I remain grateful to the Engineering Advisory Board and to our alumni for their continuing support of our programs. Let me offer two examples.

First, at the suggestion of Dr. George Parker ’71, we have been building a chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers at Saint Martin’s over the last two years. This chapter, now advised by Dr. Walton-Macaulay, sent three students to the national convention in Detroit this spring, with the generous help of ASSMU, Boeing, and Dr. George Parker ’71. All three students received multiple job offers. Of the 15,000 attendees, Boeing made offers to only 150 students, and all three SMU students received one – a testament to the quality of our students and programs.

Second, our endowed support continuous to make a positive difference in our programs and in the lives of our students. The Zaverl endowment has allowed us to concentrate this year on renovating our lab complex by attending to long deferred maintenance of equipment. The EAB Dean’s endowment championed by Mr. Brian Ziegler ’79 and supported by so many alumni allowed me to reach out last fall to a student who left campus in 2016 one year short of his mechanical engineering degree and to bring him back to complete it this spring. His story is a heartwarming testament to the multi-generational sense of community in HIMSE, and the love and caring that our alumni feel for our current students.

The Lacey MakerSpace is set to open late June. LMS has hired a full-time manager (Mr. Joseph Anderson) and continues to approach full operational status. Aiden Hunter ’19 has been an active work-study student helping open the LMS. HIMSE and LMS have arranged a highly discounted student membership for engineering students, effectively making the LMS an outsourced low-cost extension of our lab complex.

With Provost Kate Boyle’s approval, HIMSE and Microsoft have committed to an expanded MSSA offering for calendar year 2020, with eight cohorts now planned. The MSSA at SMU continues to be the national flagship program and the most successful. This spring the number of program graduates approached 500, and we will exceed that total in our July graduation. Ms. Carol Hedly and Mr. Thomas Dawkins are the leads at Microsoft, and we continue to be grateful to be their Washington state partner. We are together changing lives of our veterans dramatically for the better!

You can be very proud of the many good things occurring daily here at Saint Martin’s in our engineering and computer science program. I hope that you will stop by my office if you are near campus, and allow me to personally say thank you and to show you what is being accomplished.

God bless you this summer, and look for our commencement news in the early July edition of Cornerstone!

And if you have suggestions to improve this newsletter or story ideas, please send them along to: engineering@stmartin.edu.

Thank you, and with best wishes,

David H. Olwell, Ph.D., Dean
Hal & Inge Marcus School of Engineering