Industry connections are the heartbeat of Construction Engineering Management (CEM) at the University of Arizona. Industry partnerships provide leverage that impact construction students and the construction industry. The CEM Endowment was launched this year with a gift from UA alum Dave and Dede Areghini. This forward looking gift from Dave and Dede will help put Arizona engineers in the forefront of constructing our future infrastructure. Their $50,000 gift is being given over 5 years. The CEM Endowment goal is $5 million. Please let me know if you are interested in learning more about giving a one-time or multi-year gift to the CEM endowment.

Other Fall highlights include:

- AGC and DBIA chapter activities at UA,
- CEM taking flight: Drones in engineering and construction
- Heavy civil and design-build teams for ASC Reno,
- Industry speakers and site visits,
- TAKE 5 lunches,
- UA Rise Together, mentoring for women in civil & construction engineering.

**AGC and DBIA Chapters at UA**

The Associated General Contractors (AGC) and the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA) UA chapters are supported by Arizona Builders Alliance and the Western Pacific Region of DBIA. The UA chapters met monthly with great industry speakers this fall including Tim Bee (ABA), Michele Bettini (ATB), Ian McDowell (Sundt), Bob Martinez (Granite), Wesley Skelley and Matt O’Brien (Sundt). Students participated in the ATB fall dinner, the ABA fall dinner, and the ABA annual workday at St. Luke’s Home on December 7 (photo: Will Vail, Hector Garavito, Drew Jenkins). What color are we painting? Mauve-elope of course.
CEM Taking Flight: Drones in Engineering & Construction

Recently, a number of our alumni have told me about their experiences of obtaining pilot’s licenses and using drones in their work. This triggered an initiative to introduce a learning module about drones in engineering and construction in *CE381 Construction Engineering Management*. Industry partners were recruited to help with this initiative including UA alum Jose Aguilar (WSP), Troy Ballard (Phantom Aerial), and Dean Miller and Eric Cylwik (Sundt). We brainstormed and prepared three sessions of content including an overview of drone applications in engineering and construction, a flight demonstration, and hands-on use of DroneDeploy software. Students loved the experience and were challenged to think about how to employ technology in new ways in construction.

Heavy Civil and Design-Build Teams for ASC-Reno

Industry drives the construction competitions hosted by the *Associated Schools of Construction (ASC)* in Reno, NV. From forming competition problems to judging, from coaching to financial support, industry is integral to it all. We are grateful to the companies listed who are financially supporting our heavy civil and design-build teams. We need additional sponsors to help cover the $10,000 cost per team for flights and hotel. Please let me know if you would like to contribute to the sponsorship of the U of A teams. A special thanks to our heavy civil team coaches from Granite Construction (Jake Buckley, Paul Preston, and Herb Tiffany) and our design-build team coach from Sundt (Ian McDowell).
Industry Speakers
Some amazing speakers interacted with our students in our construction classes this fall.

Industry speakers
- Andy North, Borderland – construction equipment for earthwork and trenching
- Ron Stuff, Sundt – managing contracts with subcontractors
- Javier De Echavarri, ADOSH – construction safety
- Ryan Byars and Billy Farris, Holder – site logistics
- Jose Aguilar, WSP, Troy Ballard, Phantom Aerial, Dean Miller, Sundt – drones in engineering and construction
- Jack Gordon, Gervasio & Associates – construction renovations
- Ralph Banks, U of A Planning, Design and Construction, Jory Hancock, U of A School of Dance, Moises Paiewonsky, U of A School of Music – owner perspective on design-build performing arts spaces
- Mike Carrell and Sarah Neisch, Kiewit – construction cost management
- James Johnson, Alina Vo, Isaac Gilles (Hensel Phelps) – concrete takeoff and estimating
- Chris DeYoung (JB Steel) – estimating for steel construction
- Mike Goodwin (Climatec) – estimating for control systems
- Rebecca Mirsky (Boise State University) – estimating for formwork and falsework
- Bob Martinez, Arnold Neave, Brian Reitmeyer (Granite) – estimating for earthwork
- Fred Knapp, Mireya Ramirez, Jake Pombier (Core) along with Lorenzo Hernandez (Dirtworks), Nick Gardner (Progressive Roofing), and Wayne Eggman (Akowski Masonry) provided guidance in estimating a fire station

Industry Site Visits
Our industry partners provided some great site visits.

Construction site visits
- La Estancia subdivision (KE&G)
- U of A Student Success District (Sundt)
- U of A Skaggs Pharmacy (DPR)
- TEP substation (Ashton)

Corporate Program Partners:

Ashton*Borderland*Granite*KE&G*Sundt

Henry George Mackintosh Foundation
**TAKE 5 – Industry/Student Lunches**

Good things happen when you put students around a lunch table with construction industry professionals. We call it TAKE 5. This fall Sundt (Travis McCarthy and Steve Schmitt with five students in the photo), Southwest Gas, KE&G, Ashton, GLHN, and Climatec all hosted TAKE 5 lunches for our students on campus. Let me know if you are interested in hosting a TAKE 5 lunch in the future.

**UA Rise Together Mentoring**

This initiative seeks to provide an industry mentor to every female student in civil and construction engineering who wants one. This fall 20 women at U of A have signed up for this program. Students and mentors meet monthly to discuss work, school, and life. Once a semester, students and mentors gather for a social and networking opportunity. This fall, Laurie Roden, Field Services Group President with HDR, shared about her career journey and decisions along the way. Sundt provided the venue at their Tucson office and Southwest Gas sponsored the dinner.

**Thank you**

Your involvement and gifts are making an impact on students and the construction industry. Thank you for your partnership.

Sincerely,

**Dean Papajohn**

Dean Papajohn, PE, PhD
Associate Professor of Practice
Civil & Architectural Engineering and Mechanics
*December 30, 2019*

**Giving**

You can give online at [Give Today](#) or checks can be written to the UA Foundation and sent to:

*Therese Lane, Civil Engineering, 1209 E. Second St., Tucson, AZ 85721-0072.*

Please designate your gift for either *CAEM Construction Engineering Management General Fund* (for current operating expenses) or *CAEM Construction Engineering Management Endowment* (for building a sustainable funding source for CEM). Automatic monthly or one time gifts can be set up.