It has been almost five years since I became the Director of CIM Program. Our CIM program here at NJIT has increased more this semester and now 100 students strong making us ranked second amongst CIM four schools enrolment wise. Having Job, Co-op and internship placement averaged 100% is a wonderful opportunity for our students in today’s economy. I encourage the patrons to like our CIM NJIT Facebook page as we continuously post events, socials, dinners, meetings etc. that will update you with what our students are doing.

The American Concrete Institute (ACI) Student Chapter continues to add on to the networking for our CIM students, as our students attend ACI Dinners throughout the semester. Also giving our CIM students hands on perspective by attending and participating in competitions. ICRI Student Chapter has been accepted and is working on becoming an organization recognized by our school. I would like to thank the CIM students for their dedication and hard work, helping the CIM program to be more recognized as one of the successful programs at NJIT. Finally, I would also like to thank the national and the local patrons for helping and supporting our students. Without their great effort this program would not be where it stands.

CIM Alumni Class of 2010

I started my college career as a Civil Engineer major. After two years of college, I was approached by James Brown who was the program director of CIM at that time. He explained to me the course curriculum and the vast amount of opportunities the program presents. The main point that caught my attention was the 100% job placement upon graduation. I made the switch to the CIM program and never looked back. After James Brown resigned and program directors came and gone, Dr. Mahgoub came and took the program to the next level. He was able to set up weekly company socials, field trips, and internship opportunities for the students. After four years with the program, I graduated in 2010.

During my college career, I had an internship with Sika Admixtures in their Lyndhurst, NJ facility. I was in their quality control department testing many of their admixtures in their lab. Upon graduation, I was able to land a Quality Control position with Silvi Concrete. I was in charge of their quality control of their ready mix operation and their sand/stone quarries. It was a great opportunity and experience for my working career. I was then offered a position as a sales representative with Titan America and took it. I cover New Jersey and New York as a sales rep for fly ash and cement. I have been with the company for nearly four years. All these opportunities would not have been possible if it wasn’t for the CIM program. I thank the program, Dr. Mahgoub, and NJIT for these opportunities and I try to remain as an active role for the CIM program.
During the duration of the ICRI dinner event the general scope was to discuss building inspections and forms that needed to be filled out by professional engineers, and architects for buildings all over New York City. One of the Law’s that caused the most dialogue was the Local Law 11, which like Local Law 10 is meant to ensure the safety of the general public. Local Law 11 requires that a professional engineer or architect inspect a building every 5 years by a professional engineer or architect. One thing that enrages people in the industry is that the engineer and/or architect are held liable for five years in between inspections. What happens if a year after the inspection weather conditions alter the condition of the building? Shouldn’t the owner of the building be held liable? This conversation was held between contractors, architect, building inspectors, and a lawyer who were present to review the paper work and the language that is associated with the Local Law 11.


The ACI Fall 2014 Convention was held between October 26 to October 30 in Washington DC, where more than 1,850 industry leaders and guests from around the world were in attendance; joining colleagues for sessions, committee meetings, student competitions, personal awards, and networking, in addition to many social events such as the reputable Concrete Mixer. Numerous student teams were requested to partake in two dissimilar competitions at this year’s convention: The Mortar Workability tested students to produce a mortar mixture with optimal flowability and stability, and first place went to Texas State University, a sister CIM school.

The Egg Protection Device dared students to strategize and build the highest-impact-load resilient plain or strengthened concrete Egg Protection Device, and to study about concrete’s sustainable advantages associated to durability, impact resistance, and other real-life aspects; which an EPD simulates. The winner of this competition was a school from Mexico. NJIT CIM participated in both competitions and came close to the first three positions. The team included: David Williams, David Jaramillo, Eric Gedman, Grecia Olivas and Adrian Milewski. Chole Gray and Deepika Misra have also attended and helped the team.

Furthermore, aside from students participating in competitions, technical sessions and committee meetings, there were occasions to network including the Concrete Mixer, the Women in ACI Reception, and the Faculty Network Reception. The Students and Young Professional Networking was a possibility for experienced specialists to provide supervision to those just beginning in the industry, and respond to the questions of students. Students have learned a lot from this conference and started to prepare for the next one in Kansas, Missouri on April 12 to 16.
ICRI Conference November 12, 2014

On Wednesday, November 12, 2014, the ICRI Fall 2014 Convention took place in Kansas City, Missouri. As repair and restoration professionals, sometimes you work on smaller projects, and sometimes you are a part of a larger project. And then you have the Mega Projects. These Mega Projects range from extremely large structures, like stadiums to extraordinarily large in scope, like an entire water system. These types of projects encompass many of the things seen on multiple work sites which are all in the same project. As a student sitting in on technical meetings, we were able to learn a great deal from what some of the brightest minds in the industry have faced and how they were able to step up to the challenge. With attending the convention, the students were able not only to take advantage of the relationships they made with the other ICRI members around the country. We were able to gain many opportunities through networking, information, education, new knowledge and experience.

Our students were able to not only engage with the members on an educational level but a professional level as well. Michelle Ghanime, Yasmine Elrashidy, Walter Cevallos, and Luis Valadares were able to sit in on a few committee meetings and actually became committee members of the “Board and Strategic Vision and Plan Task Group.” This is such an exciting opportunity for ICRI as a whole to hear new ideas from the future and an even greater opportunity for our students at NJIT to get out there, share their ideas and possibly make them come to life.

Jacqueline Silvi (Corporate Recruiter) and Frank Flatch (Director of Human Resources/Corporate Council), from Silvi Group, spoke to the CIM students about the great opportunities the company has. Silvi offers ready mix concrete, sand, stone, cement, and port services in New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania. In addition, the students also saw a documentary of the single largest concrete pour in the history of the state of New Jersey that Silvi Concrete has undertaken. The pour was a 7,200 yard and was placed in Robbinsville, NJ. Silvi Group has been a CIM supporter since the very beginning and continue to invest their time and energy to see the program grow and succeed. Several CIM graduates are hired by Silvi. Many thanks to Silvi Group Company’s President, Larry Silvi, for letting CIM students have this great opportunity.

Silvi Concrete Social November 19, 2014

On Wednesday, November 19, 2014, CIM had its second social of the year that was attended by a record number of approximately 50 students. Guest speakers, Jacqueline Silvi (Corporate Recruiter) and Frank Flatch (Director of Human Resources/Corporate Council), from Silvi Group, spoke to the CIM students about the great opportunities the company has. Silvi offers ready mix concrete, sand, stone, cement, and port services in New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania. In addition, the students also saw a documentary of the single largest concrete pour in the history of the state of New Jersey that Silvi Concrete has undertaken. The pour was a 7,200 yard and was placed in Robbinsville, NJ. Silvi Group has been a CIM supporter since the very beginning and continue to invest their time and energy to see the program grow and succeed. Several CIM graduates are hired by Silvi. Many thanks to Silvi Group Company’s President, Larry Silvi, for letting CIM students have this great opportunity.

ACI Dinner November 20, 2014

On Tuesday, November 20, 2014, Dr. Mahgoub, the ACI Student Chapter advisor and nine ACI students had attended the NJ ACI Chapter Dinner event at Stage House restaurants in Scotch Plains, NJ. The students were sponsored by Mr. Allyn Luke with Civil and Environmental Engineering Department at NJIT, Weldon Materials, and Salomone Redi-Mix. The students enjoyed a wonderful presentation titled “Alternative Cementitious Material and Sustainable Concrete”. The presentation was given by Nick DeCristofaro, Chief Technology Officer of Solidia Technologies, Piscataway, NJ. The presentation covered how this particular alternative cementitious material is made and the environmentally friendly aspects of its production compared to typical cement. The speaker also touched on the chemical composition of this new technology and how it reacts to perform in a similar fashion to concrete at a very fast curing rate. The attendants also learnt about the durability and strength of testing that was performed at both universities and private testing laboratories. As usual; the students had a great opportunity to network with the top people of the industry. Finally, ACI Student Chapter would like to thank Mr. Mark Wierciszewski, the President of NJ ACI Chapter and Mrs. Dianne Johnston, the Executive Director of NJ ACI Chapter for allowing the students to have such experience.
NCE Career Day December 5, 2014

Friday, December 5, 2014, was an exceptional day for the CIM program! NJIT’s Newark College of Engineering (NCE) Career Day took place with an unprecedented attendance of nearly 1000 high school students from over 50 schools throughout the state of New Jersey. It was an excellent opportunity to showcase the CIM program to a mass group. Mohamed Mohamed, a CIM senior student, was summoned to deliver six 15 minute presentations back to back while five CIM student volunteers, Lauren Rose, Ali Fardos, Gabriel Garcia, Makar Ibrahim, Premnath Hosein, and Walter Cevallos, assisted with the distribution of CIM brochures and information as well as capturing terrific photographs of the event. Dr. Ronald Rockland, the Department of Engineering Technology Chair had given a talk introducing Engineering Technology. In addition to presenting an overview of CIM, a pervious concrete demonstration was performed including actual running water flowing through the voids via a pump! This was a great event to continue to work hard and spread the awareness of CIM in the high school setting. Interested student were urged to provide contact information to receive further CIM program details. After the student presentations, we headed to the campus center atrium to network with the high school’s administrators, counselors, and teachers and also provide them with a packet of CIM information. As a result of this fruitful event, we have been offered numerous opportunities to visit new high schools to promote the CIM program.

ICRI Holiday Party December 11, 2014

On Thursday, December 11, 2014, the CIM program indorsed a number of the board members of the ICRI student chapter to attend the 6th Annual ICRI Holiday Party of the Metro New York ICRI Chapter (ICRI-NY) at Ruth’s Chris Steak House in Manhattan, NY. It was a wonderful occasion to give students an opportunity to socialize more internally with the chapter that helped recognize the student chapter that we behold today. The CIM program is becoming widely recognized through these social events with more familiarity of what our program offers our students. The ICRI chapter gathered together as a goal to share their knowledge and expertise around with others which was collectively shared among our students.

The Students had the opportunity to intersperse and meet several different people of different positions within the chapter including the current and future chapter presidents. Along with the bi-annual conventions that ICRI holds, these social events allow our students to be introduced to chapter members and take note of the strong acquaintances. This was the perfect time of year to pause and enjoy catching up with friends and colleagues and reflect on the past year and look ahead to 2015. ICRI-NY is the local chapter of ICRI International, an association of construction industry professionals devoted to the proper repair and restoration of concrete and other structures. The CIM Students were accompanied by Professor David Hawes. Among the attendees were Mr. Anlee Orama, former CIM Specialist, and Narguis Benyamin, CIM 2014 Graduate.

CIM events are publicly available to be viewed on the NJIT CIM Flickr and now Facebook. Upon entering the Flickr or Facebook page you will have access to the photo stream and summaries of the most recent events as well as being able to open specific CIM events categorized in dates. Photographs and summaries are continually uploaded.
CIM Main Event

North East Patrons Meeting
NJIT Atrium Newark, New Jersey
December 10, 2014

On Wednesday, December 10, 2014 the NJIT CIM program hosted the Fall Bi-Annual Northeast Patrons meeting in the Atrium at the NJIT campus center. The meeting is designed to provide a fruitful venue for our supporting Patrons to personally visit NJIT and learn about what the CIM program is achieving and how they can become involved and engage with the students. Attending the meeting were our distinguished CIM Local Patrons, CIM graduates and students, NJIT Administration, and special guests. Dr. Mohamed Mahgoub, CIM Program Director is exceedingly grateful for all sincere supporters.

Our NE Patrons Board of Directors that hosted the event includes Chairperson Jamie Gentoso, Larry Silvi, Bill Layton, and Mike Gentoso. They work arduously to secure a vibrant Patrons group and support the CIM program and its students. We look forward to the growth of the Patrons group as our student enrollment is also increasing (95 students). More job opportunities will be required to continue the 100% job placement achievement we currently have. Also Mr. Eugene Martineau, the Executive Director of the CIM National Steering Committee was among the attendance and he gave a short talk about the effort that NSC does to promote concrete industry.

Every Patrons meeting is enhanced with the presentations of our excellent students and graduates. Five CIM students presented their work and experience; their work included going to Alcatraz for restoration of the oldest prison in the US history as well as participating in building a concrete rig competition in United Kingdom. The quality of the work of our students is evident to all our Patrons. We were honored to have with us Dr. Joel Bloom, NJIT President, Dr. Fadi Deek, NJIT Provost, Dr. Moshe Kam, Dean of the NCE, Vincent Lombardo, Director of Development for NCE, Dr. Taha Marhaba, Chairman of Civil and Environmental Engineering Department and Dr. Ronald Rockland, Chairman of Engineering Technology Department. Many more notable NJIT faculty and staff attended the event.

The NJIT CIM program is becoming widely recognized in the university. With time, the CIM program has proven itself to be successful in many aspects. The students are happy, they get jobs, and they love what they do. Speaking of jobs, we coordinated a CIM job fair immediately after the meeting to give an opportunity to some of our Patrons to interview our students for internships and full-time jobs. Over 30 students interviewed with multiple companies and we are looking forward to making the job fair a tradition at the Patrons meeting. Companies that interviewed included Sika Corporation, Silvi Group, Weldon Materials, Vector Construction, Hyde Concrete, Jersey Precast, Solidia Technologies, Beyond Concrete, and Chaney Enterprises. In addition, many other companies took the time to network with the students.

We would like to give special thanks to Edna Randolph, Assistant to Chair of Engineering Technology, and Marcia Eddings, Administrative Assistant of Engineering Technology for coordinating the event preparations and food catering. Once again we thank everyone that made this extraordinary event possible and we look forward to seeing each and every one of you including many more in our next Patrons meeting which will take place on May 4th, 2015 from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm in the NJIT Campus Center Atrium.
2015 Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 3-6, 2015
World of Concrete
Las Vegas, Nevada

February 18, 2015
Vector Construction Social
Newark, New Jersey

February 21, 2015
Patrons Wine Dinner
New York City, New York

February 25-27, 2015
ACI Strategic Development Council
St. Louis, Missouri

April 12-16, 2015
ACI Conference
Kansas City, Missouri

March 25-27, 2015
ICRI Conference
New York City, New York

May 4, 2015
NE Patrons Meeting
Newark, New Jersey

May 7-8, 2015
CIM National Steering Committee
Newark, New Jersey

May 11-15, 2015
NRMCA Sustainability Conference
Miami, Florida

About Newark College of Engineering

The Newark College of Engineering is one of the oldest and largest professional engineering schools in the United States. NCE offers 13 undergraduate degree programs, 16 master’s and 10 doctoral degree programs. Undergraduate enrollment is more than 2,500, and more than 1,100 students enrolled in graduate studies. The 150-member faculty includes engineers and scholars who are widely recognized in their fields.

Dr. Mohamed Mahgoub
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2012-2013 CIM Annual Report

Every year, Brian Gallagher, CIM Marketing Committee Chairman, along with Amy Numbers, Vice President of Operations & ROI for Constructive Communication, Inc, make a great effort producing the CIM Annual Report.

"The CIM Annual Report is a summary of all of the great efforts, achievements and accomplishments of each CIM institution, faculty, staff, Patrons, and National Steering Committee," said Gallagher. "Every year I am more impressed by what is accomplished by the CIM program."

Please visit the link below to learn about the CIM program in a National level!