


# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



ENR's Annual  
 ACE Mentor  
Yearbook 2010



## Letter from the Chairman



**Dr. Charles H. Thornton**  
Founder  
ACE Mentor Program

**Leading architecture, engineering and construction companies, mentors, sponsors and thousands of high school students already know that the ACE Mentor Program is making a difference—and now the rest of the industry will believe it too thanks to a recent industry survey.**

The 2010 ACE Alumni Survey of students who graduated from ACE between 2003-2009 reflected some impressive results. In summary, the ACE Mentor Program is outperforming every other organization with the same goals. Over 89% of ACE alumni who responded to the survey are enrolled in college or graduate school, and a majority of those are pursuing degrees in architecture, engineering or construction. We're especially proud of the fact that most of these future industry professionals are women and minorities. The following pages will highlight other remarkable accomplishments.

The bottom line is that our success is not anecdotal; it's fact. In the last decade, we've introduced over 75,000 students to careers in the building and construction industry. In the last year, we had 10,000 students and 4,000 mentors in the program. Even in a struggling economy, our scholarship fund-raising efforts are setting new records.

To support our ever-growing network of mentors, we've put in place regional program directors to better support affiliate needs. Their role is to represent ACE in their region, grow the mentor pool, increase the number of students and assist the affiliates in raising additional support for scholarship funds. Just this past year alone, awareness of ACE has led to the start up of eight new affiliates in California, Nevada, New Mexico, Washington, Florida, Louisiana, South Carolina and more and has strengthened existing affiliates tenfold.

On the funding side, I'm especially excited about the Department of Labor Workforce Initiative Grant. The grant provides \$250,000 for mentoring students in the Philadelphia area and hiring them for the summer. It's the first time we have received dedicated

funding for an ACE team in connection with a real project—its success could lead to similar efforts across the nation.

I'm extraordinarily proud of the ACE board, mentors and sponsors, who continue to make a difference to young people and the industry. The following segment spotlights just a few of the impressive accomplishments from the 2009-2010 ACE Mentor Program.

Enjoy!  
Sincerely,

Dr. Charles H. Thornton  
Founder, ACE Mentor Program



# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



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## A Decade of Work, A Lifetime of Change

**The ACE Mentor Program** is changing a nation, an industry and the lives of thousands of young people.

If that statement sounds too bold, consider the following facts and findings. In the last decade, ACE has introduced over 75,000 young people to the integrated construction industry. According to a recent online survey of ACE Alumni, over 91% of ACE graduates polled are enrolled in college or graduate school, and a majority are pursuing degrees in architecture, engineering or construction. Nearly 60% of ACE students are from economically challenged families, and many are the first in their families to attend college.

From an industry perspective, expert economists predict that the building and construction industry will have one- to two-million job

openings in the next 5-10 years. In particular, communities across the country look to creative minds to modernize our rapidly deteriorating infrastructure. According to the online survey, ACE annually is attracting proportionately higher numbers of young people to the integrated construction profession than any other youth workforce program.

Pamela R. Mullender, president and CEO of the ACE Mentor Program, says, "We're pleased that the ACE Mentor Program's landmark research reveals that we are achieving tremendous success on a number of fronts and impacting the lives of young people

and important populations within our country."

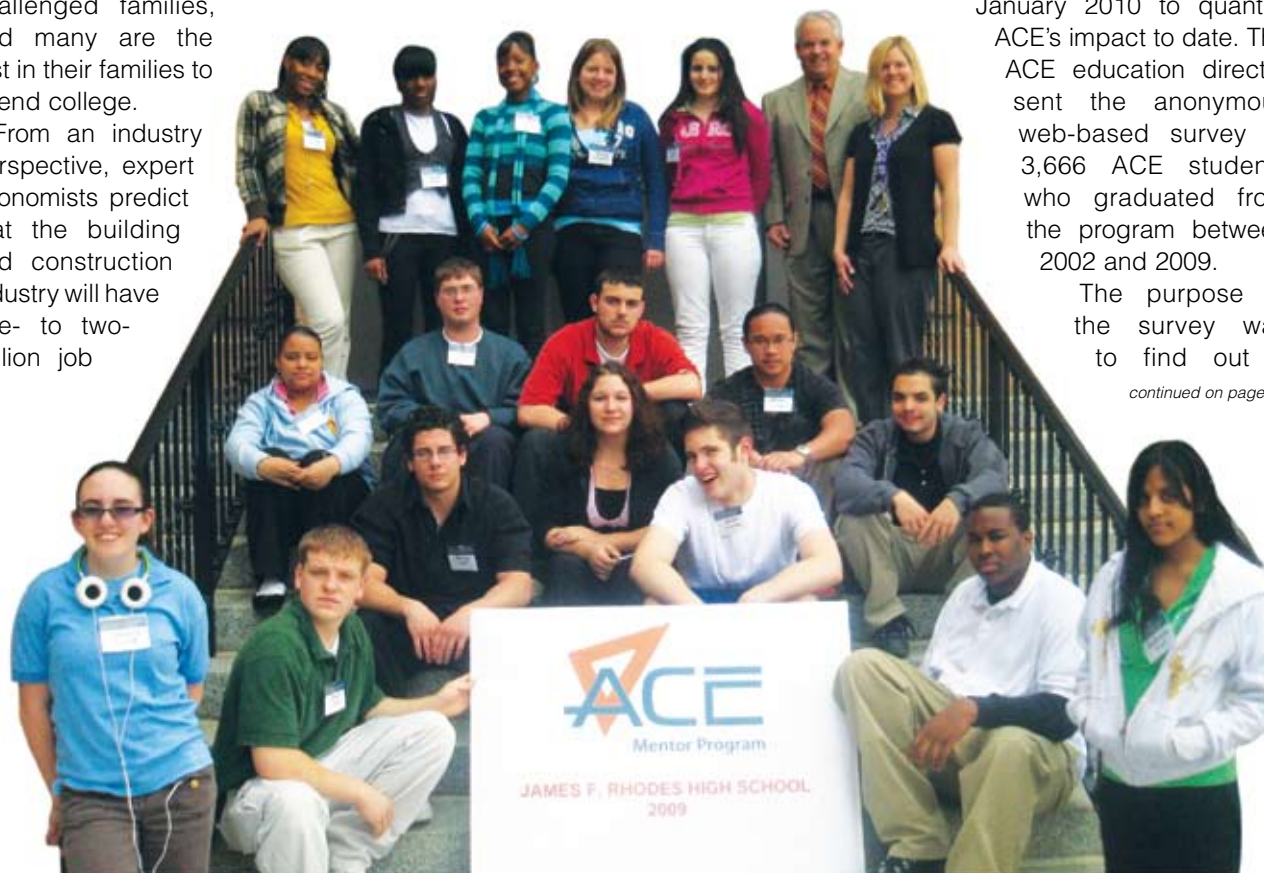
Tony Guzzi, EMCOR Group Inc. president and COO and member of the ACE Mentor Program's board of directors and executive committee, agrees, adding, "We've been telling people for years that we're doing good things through ACE. But the building and construction community is a facts-based, results-oriented environment—so it's important that we substantiate our success."

### AND THE SURVEY SAYS ...

The benchmark 2010 online survey of ACE alumni was undertaken in January 2010 to quantify ACE's impact to date. The ACE education director sent the anonymous web-based survey to 3,666 ACE students who graduated from the program between 2002 and 2009.

The purpose of the survey was to find out if

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ACE was meeting its primary goals, which include:

- Generating diversity in the integrated construction industry
- Channeling high percentage of students into post-secondary education
- Positively influencing students unsure about an AEC career
- Stimulating workforce development in the industry

Approximately 26% of those surveyed, or 935, responded. Almost all respondents (90%) completed the full program, which runs approximately six months during a given school year.

## DIVERSITY AND DIRECTION

Yurintzy (Yuri) Estrada, a Mexican immigrant and ACE alumna, grew up with very little of the basic necessities. She recalls, "I was one of those children who had to carry water in a tin bucket on their back up a hill. I know what it's like to have no water, to wear torn shoes and to have just enough to eat at the end of the day. With the support of my parents, counselors and ACE mentors, I have found a career in engineering that will help me do something about the inequality and unfairness in this world."

Ricardo Zendejas, another ACE alumnus, tells a similar story. He

says, "I'm not sure where I'd be today without ACE, but I don't think I'd have graduated with a degree in civil engineering from UCLA and a master's from Stanford University."

Yuri and Ricardo are just two of many economically challenged young people who found a career through the ACE program. In fact, of the 933 ACE alumni who responded to the 2010 online survey of ACE Alumni, approximately 36% of respondents were female, 62% were minorities and 59.5% were from low-income families as compared to the national level of 41%. Proportionately, ACE attracts several times more female, African-American and Hispanic freshmen into

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Special Advertising Section

## EMCOR: Sharing Our Passion for the Industry Through ACE



The architecture/construction/engineering (A-C-E) industry is the largest employer in the U.S.—the very backbone of this country—including four of the fields that rank among the top eight paying jobs that do not require a degree, and two of the fields that rank among the top 10 paying jobs for students graduating college. As a leader in this vital industry, EMCOR Group, Inc. understands the ongoing need for qualified talent.

We are a long-time supporter of the ACE Mentor Program because we believe this program does and will directly impact the industry and, therefore, life in this country—and because we're honored to introduce young people to an industry we value so passionately.

EMCOR is excited about the results of ACE's new groundbreaking research that proves what we've seen for years: The ACE Mentor Program works.

We're proud to play a role in ACE's national success, and equally proud of our continuing support of the ACE Mentor Program, serving on the Executive Committee and National Board, and contributing two scholarships a year to support the continuing education of young people. As a top ACE sponsor, EMCOR's involvement runs deep, also including financial support for ongoing activities, internships for students, and providing skilled experts that mentor students. ■





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studying architecture and engineering than the national rate.

Of the ACE students participating in the program in 2008-2009, 61% were minorities and 31% were white versus the national average for after-school programs of 40% minority and 60% white.

EMCOR's Guzzi says, "I'm particularly proud that ACE is one of the most successful after-school programs and that it attracts well above the average participation by minorities and low-income students. Those kinds of facts go a long way to gaining greater support from the industry and within EMCOR, where our corporate programs include a focus on helping youth."

According to the ACE 2010 alumni survey, the program channels a high percentage of students into post-secondary education. More than 91% of alumni survey respondents are enrolled in college or graduate school or have already graduated from college, and 64.6% are pursuing majors in AEC as undergraduates or graduate students.

Now consider that, according to an annual survey conducted by the Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA, about 1,226 college freshman planned to enroll in architectural programs across the country in 2009. Nearly 10% of those freshmen were ACE alumni. Of freshmen majoring in architecture, the minority mix (African-American, Hispanic and Asian) of the ACE students was two to four times greater than the national average's, which was 70% Caucasian versus 38% of ACE students planning to major in architecture.

Hank Harris, managing director of FMI Corp. and member of ACE Mentor's board of directors, says, "I knew we were making a difference, but maybe not to this extent. I'm

pleased and amazed that we've been able to make this kind of impact in such a short time. The survey results are especially impressive when you consider the nature of the construction industry. We're fragmented, and therefore, as many organizations will confirm, it's hard to make a difference. As far as I know, ACE is the only organization of its kind that is having such a comprehensive effect on an entire industry."

#### INFLUENTIAL ADVISORS

To an overwhelming degree (91%), ACE alumni who responded to the survey agree they gained knowledge about the AEC industry as well as valuable life/work skills, and 74% of alumni respondents felt ACE gave them an advantage over their architecture and engineering peers in college.

One survey respondent had the following comment: "The ACE Mentor Program is an amazing program. It provided me with more than just a sneak peek at what mechanical engineers do but also let me experience the other aspects of creating and building a structure. This program put me right in the seats of engineers, architects and construction workers and gave me a firsthand experience of what it's like."

About 41% of survey respondents who had given little or no thought to a career in AEC before participating in ACE ultimately studied AEC in college. A total of 86% of the respondents were convinced that an AEC career was for them or began to consider this option after the ACE experience.

One respondent made the following comment in the survey: "I found the ACE program to be fulfilling because of the amount of time we could spend with the mentors and ask not just basic questions about their jobs, but how they feel about their specific jobs on a personal level. This program helped me choose to major in engineering."

A key part of the ACE program is to teach students life and work skills such as team-building, visual and oral communications, problem-solving and adherence to deadlines—valuable in any career.

Another survey respondent said, "ACE was one of the best things I could have done for myself as a

high school student. It encouraged me to try new things and become more outgoing in a team setting. Now, as a sophomore in mechanical engineering at Iowa State, I am realizing how much I have benefited from this program and my mentors. It expanded my view of engineering and architecture and opened my eyes to a whole new array of potential careers. I encourage everyone to get involved with this program because the possibilities are infinite."

#### CRITICAL RESOURCES

Economists predict that by 2012-2013, the construction industry will have one- to two-million job openings, in part because of an aging workforce and in part because

of an increased need to expand and rehabilitate our nation's deteriorating infrastructure. "Skilled professionals and tradespersons are a very critical resource that we're lacking, and ACE plays a critical role in filling that need," says John Heisse, ACE board member and spokesperson for the American Bar Association, an ACE sponsor.

Pam Mullender concludes, "Given that the construction industry is the backbone of this country—the largest employer in the U.S.—and that ACE includes two of the fields that rank among the top 10 paying jobs for students out of college, as well as four of the fields that rank among the top eight paying jobs that do not require a degree—one can conclude that, as

the ACE Program continues to grow, it will have an increasingly positive impact on vital American industries and life within the U.S. I'm extremely proud of what we've accomplished in the last decade. Our dedicated affiliates, sponsors and especially our mentors truly are changing the lives of a nation, an industry and especially young people." ■

*\*The 2010 online survey of ACE alumni was not intended as a scientific survey. It was not specifically sent to a representative sample of alumni nor was it sent to all alumni. It was sent to all alumni for whom ACE had current e-mail addresses. Results should not be interpreted to reflect views of all alumni, just the respondents.*

## ACE Mentors Past, Present Polled

The 2010 ACE Mentor survey conducted in February 2010 polled all mentors in the ACE database to find out why they support ACE and, perhaps more importantly, if they would do it again. Of the 3,829 surveyed, 1,812 mentors responded, revealing some impressive results.

Pamela R. Mullender, president and CEO of the ACE Mentor Program, says, "We're most proud of the fact that 61% of active mentors plan to continue mentoring next year. Most of those who don't plan to continue or aren't sure say they would continue but professional obligations interfere."

The study also found that ACE benefits from mentors with considerable experience across a broad spectrum of the AEC industry. Most mentors work in construction field (34%), followed by engineering (31%) and architecture (24%). Smaller proportions work in specialized fields such as landscape architecture, interior design and urban planning.

The survey also found that mentors have an average 11.5 years of experience in the AEC industry. A vast majority (72%) of mentors work for publicly traded AEC firms or for a private AEC company. More than one-

third have professional license, and 42% hold LEED-AP accreditation. About 45% of mentor respondents are in their first year of mentoring, though on average mentors have 2.3 years of mentoring experience.

Compared to their national civil-engineer and architects peers, ACE architect and civil-engineer mentors have higher proportions of women and minorities. According to the U.S. Census data, 11.5% of national civil-engineers mentors are women, as compared to 26.1% in ACE. Architects show even greater disparity: In ACE, about 36.6% of mentors are women, compared to 24.7% of architects across the nation. The percentages of Hispanic, African-American and Asian-American ACE civil-engineer and architect mentors are slightly higher than the national averages.

On average, mentors devote 33 hours preparing for and delivering the program over the course of the school year. One mentor summarized the thoughts of many, saying, "This is the only work-related commitment I have where I consistently leave feeling inspired and energized. It is a great program. So much fun for the mentors and fun for the students, too."



## USGBC/ACE Sustainable Design Award Rewards Sustainable Awareness

**High school students interested in** a career in architecture, construction or engineering have a unique opportunity to get a “green” foot in the door thanks to the innovative Sustainable Design Award program, coming soon from the ACE Mentor Program and the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).

The Sustainable Design Award program, now in pilot testing, is designed to help students understand the core concepts of sustainability—site, water, materials, energy and air—in building and construction and to identify green strategies. The program is open to high school juniors and seniors who are registered with ACE and active in its program.

The award program operates virtually through a secure website created by ACE. Through the site, each student is paired with a qualified LEED-accredited ACE mentor who supervises and approves the student's work. Mentoring occurs via e-mail and occasionally by telephone.

To fulfill the Sustainable Design Award requirements, students must submit a two-page report identifying, explaining and analyzing sustainable design elements of a USGBC-selected case study to the Award website. Mentors review, propose refinements and approve their students' essays according to a scoring formula developed in collaboration with the Green Building Certification Institute. Students must

also take an online USGBC course and pass a short quiz.

Once all the requirements have been met, ACE and USGBC issue a Sustainable Design Award document that states the student has demonstrated a basic understanding of sustainable design concepts.

Chris Smith, chief operating officer of USGBC and member of the ACE Mentor Leadership Council, says, “The Sustainable Design Award is an introduction to sustainability that we hope further excites young people to learn more about the building and construction industry while investigating ways to employ sustainable concepts.”

USGBC and ACE launched the Sustainable Design Award pilot program in June 2010 and plan a nationwide rollout of the program in fall 2010. ■

Special Advertising Section

### SKANSKA: Supports the ACE Mentor Program of America

# SKANSKA



As part of our corporate commitment to the communities in which we live and work, Skanska USA supports the ACE Mentor Program of America through mentorships; local and national event and program sponsorships; leadership positions on local boards of directors; donations of in-kind services and materials; and, summer internships for selected ACE students or program graduates.

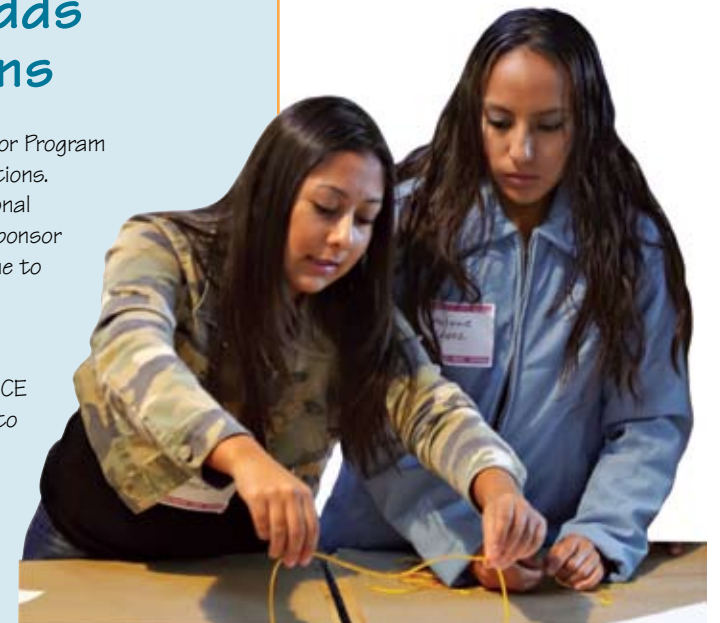
Across the country, we've hosted exciting ACE field trips at our jobsites and opened up our offices to host ACE programs or classes to give students an in-depth look into the world of construction. Skanska proudly helps our communities' youth explore their potential to become tomorrow's world-class building, heavy civil and project development professionals through the ACE Mentor Program of America. Mike McNally, CEO and President of Skanska USA Inc., serves on the ACE Mentor Program's National Board of Directors. ■



## ACE National Adds VP of Operations

To support continued double-digit growth, the ACE Mentor Program recently hired John Strock as its vice president of operations. In this position, Strock will develop and direct organizational finance and business strategies, help manage national sponsor relationships and support ACE Affiliates as they continue to expand and prosper.

Strock previously worked with Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) as the director of Careers in Construction. He says, “As the ABC representative for ACE Mentor over the last few years, I've had the opportunity to see the incredible difference this organization makes in the lives of young people and to our industry. I'm excited to be a part of such a dynamic organization and look forward to offering insight that will facilitate continued growth and new ideas.”



## ACE Student Profile

### A Boy from the Barrio Engineers a Bright Future

**A first-generation U.S. citizen,** Ricardo Zendejas believes wholeheartedly in the American dream. He is the son of Mexican immigrants who had only a grade-school education but who believed education provides opportunity.

Zendejas attended Theodore Roosevelt Senior High School in Boyle Heights, a suburb of east Los Angeles, where most of the roughly 5,000 students were from impoverished, immigrant families and the annual graduation rate at the time was around 70%.

"Like many of my peers, I did not apply myself all that diligently in high school," recalls Zendejas. "I needed some direction."

At the beginning of his senior year in high school, his calculus teacher told him about a new program called ACE.

"At the time, I enjoyed math and knew that I wanted to pursue a career involving this subject, though I had given little thought to engineering as a possibility," says Zendejas. "I barely knew what engineering was. That all changed shortly after my first ACE session."

#### OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITY

The ACE mentors—all architects, engineers and contractors from local companies—organized 15 after-school mentoring sessions for Zendejas and 12 of his classmates over the course of six months. The students learned about the design and construction industry and different engineering careers connected to this industry, engaged in hands-on activities, toured

construction sites and mentors' offices, heard talks about different career paths and ultimately designed a new athletic facility for the school as their final project.

Zendejas says, "Our mentors were open and casual. They invited questions and shared a lot of personal information about their own careers, even salaries. They impressed and inspired us, and as a result, I discovered civil engineering."

By the end of the year, Zendejas had so impressed his mentors with his interest and intellect, the Los Angeles ACE affiliate offered him a four-year educational scholarship.

*"Our mentors were open and casual. They invited questions and shared a lot of personal information about their own careers, even salaries.*

*They impressed and inspired us, and as a result, I discovered civil engineering."*

*— Ricardo Zendejas*

Three-quarters of the ACE group that year pursued some form of postsecondary education in engineering or another field in the design/construction industry.

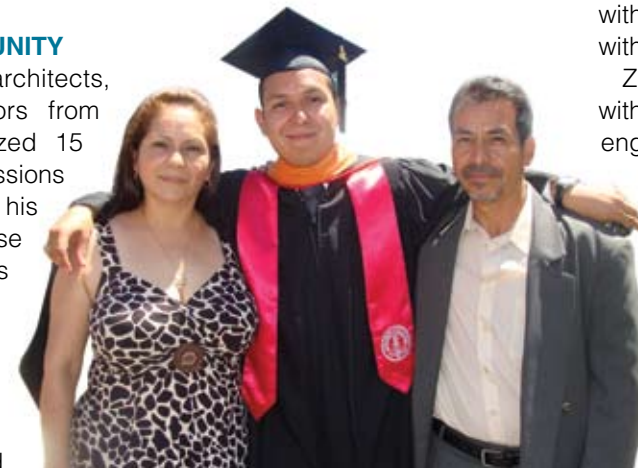
#### FAMILY FIRST

In 2008, Zendejas became the first person in his family to graduate from college when he earned his civil engineering degree from UCLA.

During his college years, he worked as an intern at Charles Pankow Builders as a field engineer intern working on a 22-story luxury condominium in Beverly Hills. Zendejas went on to earn a master's degree in civil engineering from Stanford University. While at Stanford, he served as the president of the student chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America and as a mentor for the Accelerated Calculus for Engineers program.

"The ACE mentors, like J.J. Mollenkoph and Ed Noches from Charles Pankow Builders, are responsible for helping me find a career as a civil engineer," says Zendejas. "Quite simply, I am not sure I would be where I am today without ACE and its mentors along with my loving parents."

Zendejas recently accepted a job with Clark Construction as the project engineer for the construction of a Los Angeles Unified School District middle school. He concludes, "I accepted the position in part for the challenge and in part because it's a great opportunity for me to give back to my community." Zendejas also hopes to be an ACE mentor in the near future. ■



## CIRT-ACE National Design Competition Finalists Wow Jury and Members of Congress

**ACE Mentor students** from Colorado and Connecticut earned kudos from industry leaders, praise from U.S. senators and congressmen and received a clear understanding of their potential impact to the world around them.

In the fourth annual National Design Competition sponsored by the Construction Industry Round Table (CIRT) and ACE, a record 19 teams from ACE affiliates across the country converged on Washington, D.C., to share their ideas for creative, sustainable construction.

The seven-person jury, chaired by Matthew Walsh, CEO of The Walsh Group and 2010 chairman of CIRT, lavished high praise on the students and their projects. After hearing all the presentations, Walsh told the teenagers, "The depth of experience and the range of resources that you brought to your projects are truly inspiring and amazing."

Besides Walsh, the jury members, all CEOs of top design and construction firms, included Robert Alger, chairman, president and CEO, The Lane Construction Corp.; Mark Casso, president, CIRT; Linda Figg, president and CEO, Figg Engineering Group; Randy Larson, president, environment, energy and Construction Group, PBS&J Corp.; Ross Myers, CEO, American Infrastructure; and, Murray Savage, chairman, professional services industries.

### EDUCATION AND THE ARTS

Design competition teams were asked to choose one of four projects:

1) the "ideal" school that stimulates students to achieve their best; 2) a row of three different "green" houses, each of which will serve as laboratory for building techniques, sizes and energy efficiency; 3) an arts center/theater offering culture in every form; or 4) a parking garage "outside the box," challenging current perceptions of urban parking facilities.

By the end of the two-day competition, first-time competitors from the Denver affiliate narrowly walked off with first place for the design of a new Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, Colo.

The first-place team, composed of two seniors from Green Mountain High School, located in the Denver suburb of Lakewood, reconceived their school to maximize the magnificent views of Denver from the school's existing hillside site, increased school pride and motivated students to remain on campus more. The team placed the auditorium, gym, locker rooms and parking underground to

create more space above ground for attractive, sustainable amenities such as a commons and cafeteria with an expansive glass curtain wall and large deck with views of the spectacular Rocky Mountains.

A green row-housing project in East Haven, Conn., developed by New Haven Team Number One, earned second place. Ten students drawn from several schools in East Haven, Conn., who comprised the New Haven Team Number One, designed the second-place East Haven Green Housing Row project. The project included three prototypes for green row houses on a largely abandoned city block.

The five-person team from Bridgeport and Stratford, Conn., designed a multipurpose arts and cultural center called A Creative Experience (ACE) Center for the Arts to win third place in the competition. The 21,000-square-foot facility, situated on a brownfield site along the Housatonic River in Stratford, included exhibition

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space, modular classrooms and an unusual theater arrangement in which an outdoor amphitheater and an indoor theater shared a common stage.

Both Connecticut teams were also first-time participants in the CIRT-ACE National Design Competition.

PBS&J's Larson said, "I had heard that the ACE students in the national design competition were good, but I didn't realize how good. I was blown away! They are like sponges. Provide them the juice, and they will suck it up. These kids and their projects demonstrated incredible intuitive thought and abilities."

## A WALK ON THE HILL

On the day after the competition, the winning teams, accompanied by their mentors, travelled to Capitol Hill to show their projects to senators and

representatives and extol ACE's value. The Denver team met Senator Mark Udall and Congressman Ed Perlmutter, while the two Connecticut teams visited Senator Christopher Dodd, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro from New Haven and Congressman Jim Himes from Bridgeport. The teams also spoke with key staff members from the offices of Senators Michael Bennett (Colo.) and Joseph Lieberman (Conn).

"I am so proud to see students from Connecticut competing and winning competitions at the national level," said Congresswoman DeLauro. "The hard work and dedication of both the mentors and students resulted in an innovative design for a sustainable housing complex in a part of East Haven in need of revitalization. I commend their innovative vision for our communities."

In a statement in the April 28 Congressional Record, Colorado Congressman Perlmutter said, "The team from Lakewood has worked hard and enthusiastically to develop a practical construction project that reflects real-world skills and concepts. This team embraces the love of education, teamwork and dedication to success that ACE hopes to infuse in all its participants."

The first-place team won a \$3,000 prize sponsored by CIRT for its affiliate. The affiliates of the second- and third-place teams received \$2,000 and \$1,000 prizes, respectively. The Lane Construction Corp. and Day & Zimmerman Inc. underwrote the second-place prize, and Odebrecht Construction donated the third-place prize. ■

## Dept. of Labor Workforce Investment Grant

The Philadelphia Council for College and Career Success and the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board awarded The ACE Mentor Program of America and its partners a \$248,000 grant to provide Philadelphia high school students with a two-year, on-the-job skills training, professional coaching and education program in the integrated construction industry.

To facilitate the program, the ACE Mentor Program for In-School Youth of Philadelphia (ACE ISY) partnered with two O'Donnell & Naccarato and Pennoni Associates, who will provide volunteer mentors as well as internship and summer employment opportunities.

Anthony F. Naccarato, PE, principal with O'Donnell & Naccarato, says, "The ACE Mentor Program's structure is well suited to the mission of the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board and similar workforce development programs because of how successfully we pair construction industry professionals with Philadelphia high school students on an ongoing basis in a group mentoring setting."

A network of more than 45 other Philadelphia companies in the integrated construction industry already support

the ACE Mentor Program and also will contribute mentors and other resources.

The workforce grant is complementary to the ACE Mentor Program we have been running in Philadelphia for the last 10 years.

Naccarato says, "It will allow us to maintain our basic approach and structure but weave in a few additional components, such as paid internships for students within our mentoring firms. This connection is crucial toward raising the interest level of the students and convincing them to pursue the higher education needed to pursue careers in the AEC industry."

Through the grant, ACE ISY will work with administrators, guidance counselors and educators at Bok Technical High School and G.W. Carver High School to recruit high school juniors for the 20-month program, which is scheduled to begin in fall 2010.

Naccarato concludes, "I believe every ACE Affiliate throughout the country can qualify for grants similar to Eastern Pennsylvania's Workforce Development grant, and I strongly encourage each of them to pursue what we feel is an extremely worthwhile and beneficial program."

## Thornton Tomasetti: Building a Foundation for the Future

### Thornton Tomasetti Building Solutions



We're building a foundation for the future of our industry by supporting the ACE Mentor Program. Starting as an ACE founding firm in the mid-1990s, we have been closely involved with the

organization, helping found new affiliates, garnering support, raising funds and expanding the organization throughout the United States. Thornton Tomasetti people are active at all levels of the program, from more than 40 mentors and board members of local affiliates to active members of the National Affiliates Council.

The ACE Mentor Program relies on volunteer mentors, who generously give their time and effort. "I strongly believe that the mentors gain as much as the students from the experience," Managing Principal Aine Brazil, who is a board member of the ACE New York affiliate, said. "They gain satisfaction from introducing a fascinating world of opportunities in the AE professions to the ACE students as well as the ability to build their self-confidence and public speaking skills through teaching. Try it and you will see how rewarding it can be!" ■



## PSI: A Proud National Sponsor of the ACE Mentor Program



Murray Savage  
PSI CEO & ACE Treasurer

"PSI is a proud national sponsor of the ACE Mentor Program for good reasons – it helps attract young, talented people to our industry and motivates them to make engineering, construction or architecture their career choice."

Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI) is a leading independent engineering and testing firm, and ranks among the largest consulting engineering firms in the United States. Public and private

sector clients involved with site selection, design, construction and property management rely on PSI for environmental consulting, geotechnical engineering, construction materials testing and engineering, non-destructive examination, industrial hygiene services, and facilities and roof consulting. These services are backed up by state-of-the-art equipment and laboratory facilities.

Through PSI's *One Company, One Call* service, clients can access a wide range of engineering, testing and environmental services, all through a single consultant. PSI has a strong reputation as an industry leader, built on more than 125 years of experience in providing business and industry with Information To Build On. Services are offered from a network of 100 offices in the U.S., with 2,500 employees. PSI, *One Company, One Call* – [www.psiusa.com](http://www.psiusa.com) – simply a better way to do business. ■



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ENR's Annual ACE Mentor Yearbook 2010

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To become involved in an established ACE Mentor Program, please contact the local representative listed with the location. Please email or call ACE National to assist in the start-up of an ACE program in your area at pmullender@acementor.org or 203.323.0020.

# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



ENR's Annual ACE Mentor Yearbook 2010

## ACE Mentor Program

### Top 10 Reasons Why YOU Should Become a Mentor

#### 10 Help rebuild a valuable resource.

*Today's young people are the ones who we must entrust with the future of our infrastructure. It's up to us to find the best and brightest.*

#### 9 You can get a new job. You'll be the first to know if there is a job opening at a nearby ACE sponsor firm.

*In these slow economic times, mentoring is a great opportunity to network with leading company executives, who are always looking for talent.*

#### 8 You might learn something new by engaging with active and energetic minds.

*Young people have the unique ability to develop ideas with few boundaries.*

#### 7 You can teach someone something you are good at.

*AEC professionals are some of the most talented and creative individuals in the world. Teaching helps refine and validate your expertise.*

#### 6 It feels good to make a difference in someone's life.

*Mentors consistently say that seeing the eyes of a teenager brighten with comprehension and excitement over an idea or skill the mentor has shared is one of the greatest feelings of satisfaction and pride.*

#### 5 President Obama called on Americans to volunteer time to improve their communities.

*For a couple hours a month, you can help young people in your community find rewarding career opportunities.*

#### 4 You can meet new business partners, since ACE mentors range from presidents and senior executives to project engineers and leads.

*Mentors span the corporate ladder from presidents and senior executives to project engineers and leads.*

#### 3 You can improve your communication skills and better understand your individual talents and skills.

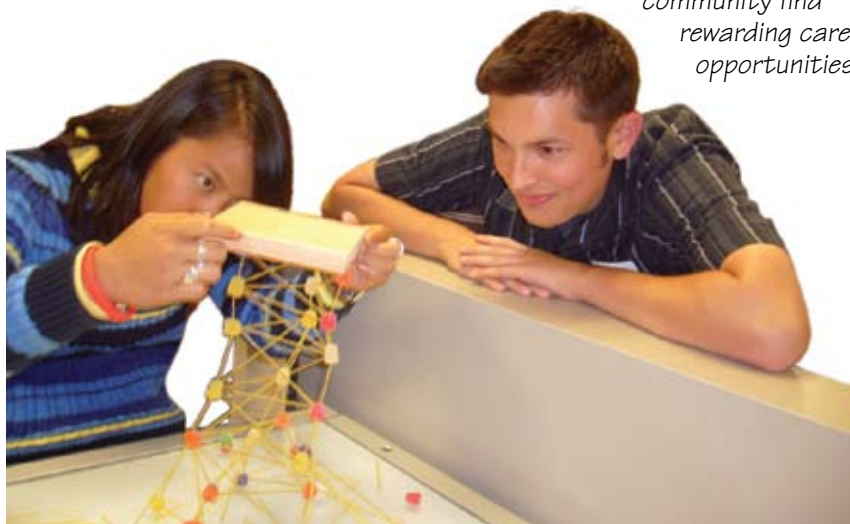
*Not only is ACE a perfect workforce development program for teenagers, it's also an ideal leadership development program for mentors.*

#### 2 You can lock in the best talent before your competitors even know the talent is there.

*Mentoring in the ACE program gives professionals a unique opportunity to identify talent at a very early stage.*

#### 1 You can win brownie points from the boss who is a big ACE Mentor supporter.

*ACE's national board of directors and leadership council is run by the CEOs and presidents of the industry's leading companies. If your company isn't on this list yet, chances are they will be soon!*



## ACE 2009-2010 National Scholarship Recipients

Each year, the ACE Mentor Program national office designates scholarships given in a sponsor's name to select ACE students who meet educational criteria and plan to attend a university, college or trade program with emphasis in architecture, engineering or construction. The following students are recipients of the 2009-2010 national scholarships:

**Bechtel**  
**\$5,000**

Sylvia de la Cruz – Houston, TX  
Shubhanu Bhargava – Frederick, MD  
Daniel Gibbons – Pueblo, CO

**EMCOR**  
**\$5,000**

Francisco Solis – Sacramento, CA  
Robert Bouchey – Albany, NY

**Hospital Corporation of America  
and Friends**  
**\$5,000**

Norquata Allen – Chattanooga, TN  
Austin Keith – Nashville, TN  
Latethia Abernathy – Nashville, TN

**Hill International**  
**\$5,000**

Elizabeth Cubbage – Millville, NJ  
Olivia Sell – New York City, NY  
Ajin Fatima – Philadelphia, PA

**Turner Construction**  
**\$4,000**

Michias Zewdu – Washington, DC

**Associated Builders & Contractors**  
**\$4,000**

Jacynth Malcolm – Orlando, FL

**AECOM**  
**\$4,000**

Nathan Schlaud – Kansas City, MO

**Gilbane**  
**\$4,000**

Brandon McEwen – Cleveland, OH

**Hensel Phelps**  
**\$4,000**

Lane Brugman – Denver, CO

**Mechanical Contractors  
Association of America**  
**\$4,000**

Luis Gonzalez – Portland, OR

**McGraw-Hill**  
**\$2,500**

Rolin Lopez – Annapolis, MD  
Christopher Kirch – Providence, RI  
Marco Genova – Easton, MD

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Special Advertising Section

### Turner: Upholds Community Focus

# Turner



Turner remains true to its founding values of integrity, teamwork and commitment. These founding values have instilled a culture of community engagement throughout the company. This culture has led Turner to support efforts to make a positive and lasting impact in the community.

In particular, Turner has long supported initiatives to develop the future workforce through programs like the ACE National Mentor Program of America. In 2002,

Turner was a founding member of ACE and has continued to support the ACE program through financial giving, mentoring, scholarships and internships for ACE students and service on the national and affiliate boards of directors. ACE graduates have also become a source of full-time employees for Turner.

Turner's efforts to guide students toward careers in the construction industry also include participating in adopt-a-school programs, career days and other education initiatives, such as the Turner YouthForce 2020 program. Turner established the Youthforce 2020 program in 1989 as a way to provide leadership and role models for students, to promote diversity and to encourage students to consider careers in the construction industry.

By providing support to youth and education-based community activities, the company fulfills its ongoing commitment to expand available opportunities in the communities Turner serves. ■





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## Scholarship Recipients

### Parsons Brinckerhoff \$4,000

Jacob Billingsley – Portland, OR  
Obiudo Efochie – Dallas, TX

### Professional Service Industries \$4,000

Akeram Suleiman – Grand Rapids, MI

### Baker Concrete Construction \$4,000

Leticia Gonzalez – Broward County, FL

### United Technologies \$4,000

Alana Vidmar, Seattle, WA

### PCL Construction Services \$4,000

Delbin Sanchez – Los Angeles, CA

### The American Institute of Architects \$3,000

Joshua Donald – Boston, MA

### The Haskell Company \$3,000

Magbis Orozco – San Antonio, TX

### Limbach Facilities Services \$3,000

Fatima Ruiz-Villatoro – Seattle, WA

### Charles H. Thornton/STRAAM \$4,000

Barnard Mondal – Indianapolis, IN

### Whiting-Turner Contracting Co. \$3,000

Devin Cornish – Baltimore, MD

### American Society of Landscape Architects \$3,000

Jasmine Mullins – New York, NY

### FMI \$3,000

Fariha Wajid – Chicago, IL

### USGBC \$3,000

Alexandra Saiz – Charlotte, NC

### ACE Mentor Program Leadership Council \$3,000

Holly Harris – Chattanooga, TN

**National Center for Construction Education and Research: Careers in Construction Week**

**B·Y·F**

**BUILD YOUR FUTURE**

**Careers in Construction Week**

OCTOBER 18-22, 2010 • OCTOBER 17-21, 2011

The sixth annual Careers in Construction Week will take place Oct. 18-22, 2010. Designed to increase public awareness of the hard work and contributions of our nation's craft professionals, this week also promotes recognition among parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and students of the rewarding career opportunities available in construction.

Contractors and schools are encouraged to collaborate locally to host such activities as career fairs, discussion panels with students and craft professionals, job site and facility tours, and equipment and tool demonstrations to help promote construction career opportunities within their communities.

These events allow students the ability to network with potential employers, and contractors the ability to meet their future workforce. During this week, the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) will debut the 2010 *Build Your Future* recruitment video. Funded by generous industry contributions, this video is available at no cost to schools nationwide. It highlights the dynamic construction career path through interviews with craft professionals and project managers at some of the nation's most exciting construction projects.

To assist schools and organizations in planning a successful Careers in Construction Week, a free planning guide is available for download at [www.byf.org](http://www.byf.org). The planning guide includes tips on working with media, suggested activities, a sample week outline, press releases and sample logos. For more information on Careers in Construction Week or to register a Careers Week event, visit [www.byf.org](http://www.byf.org). ■



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# BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE



ENR's Annual ACE Mentor Yearbook 2010

## ACE Mentor Program

### ACE Adds Four Keystone National Sponsors

#### HILL INTERNATIONAL

Hill International, a global project management and construction claims consulting services company, has been an active supporter of the ACE Mentor Program for many years. Founded in 1976, the firm is ranked as the eighth-largest construction management firm in the U.S., according to *Engineering News-Record*, with over 2,400 employees and 80 offices worldwide.

Irvin E. Richter, the chairman and CEO of Hill and member of the ACE national board of directors, says, "We sponsor ACE because we believe in it and its criticality to the engineering and construction industry. I believe we need to teach our students about our industry if we want to interest young people. ACE works very hard to provide that introduction."

Richter was named "Person of the Year" by the Eastern Pennsylvania chapter of the ACE Mentor Program in 2008. Many Hill employees serve as mentors and administrators for local affiliates. ■

#### PCL

PCL Construction is one of the largest contracting organizations in the U.S. and has diverse operations in the civil infrastructure, heavy industrial, and building markets. The company has an annual construction volume of more than \$6-billion and offices strategically located in 25 major North American locations.

The firm has been involved with the ACE Mentor Program since 1995 and, more recently, as a national sponsor.

PCL Construction hopes to make a difference through its national

sponsorship by expanding ACE involvement across its operating locations. Through this increased involvement, PCL hopes to raise awareness across the industry of ACE's value to the construction community.

Al Troppmann, president of PCL Construction Services Inc., says, "ACE has refined its processes through experience, provides the construction industry with open access to future constructors and provides proven tools to succeed in expanding participation, thus influencing future constructors." ■

#### HENSEL PHELPS

Since 1937, Hensel Phelps Construction Co., has successfully delivered of a wide range of domestic and international projects in the educational, commercial and industrial fields and is consistently ranked by ENR among the top design-builders, general contractors and construction managers in the nation.

As a new national sponsor of the ACE Mentor Program, Hensel Phelps will take an active role in supporting the affiliates from all its district offices across the United States.

Michael Choutka, executive vice president of Hensel Phelps' Southern division, says, "For many years, Hensel Phelps has been an industry leader in promoting a sustainable workforce at the high school level. This is now being focused through the ACE Mentor Program, which is a perfect fit for our culture and our diverse employee-owners. We look forward to furthering the growth of the program for many years." ■

#### BAKER CONCRETE

As one of the newest members to the ACE Mentor Program, Baker Concrete Construction Inc. is the nation's leading concrete construction firm specializing in all types of cast-in-place concrete construction. Baker operates throughout the United States and the Caribbean with a commitment to developing concrete solutions from preconstruction through completion.

Mark Mehalovich, regional talent coordinator for Baker Concrete Construction Inc., says, "On behalf of the Baker Concrete family, we are very excited to play a leading role in the ACE Mentor Program. This program is such a win-win, and the personal and professional rewards are immeasurable. As a company, we are fortunate to have a leader in Dan Baker, who embraces programs such as ACE. Baker Concrete is all about giving back to the community, and if we can help these students get excited about construction, then that's just an added bonus." ■

*A Keystone National Sponsor commits to contributing \$50,000 or more annually to the ACE Mentor Program.*

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