

# Student Chapter News

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## Cal Poly Pomona Wins Top Prize in Student Competition

MCAA's Student Chapter at the California State Polytechnic University at Pomona won first prize in MCAA's 2002 Student Chapter Competition. The six-person team representing one of MCAA's newest student chapters accepted its prize and trophy at the association's **Annual Awards of Excellence Ceremony** on March 5 at the Desert Springs Hotel during the association's 2003 convention.



MCAA Student Chapter at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona team wins the 2002 Student Competition.

Second prize went to the **Student Chapter for Mechanical/Electrical Specialty Contracting at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln**. Honorable mention prizes and trophies went to the **MCA of Indiana Student Chapter at Purdue University** and the Greater Michigan **MSCA Student Chapter at Ferris State University**.

The annual competition took place on March 4. Each team presented

their proposal to a packed room and a panel of three judges and then answered questions from the judges.

Judge and Career Development Committee member Bob Armistead of Armistead Mechanical (Waldwick, NJ) said the choice was very tough because, "all the presentations were excellent."

Stay tuned for information about the 2003 **Student Chapter Competition** which begins this fall.

## Ferris State Univ. Chapter, Prof. Tim Wentz are No. 1

The Greater Michigan **MSCA Chapter at Ferris State University** and Prof. Tim Wentz, faculty advisor to the Student Chapter for Mechanical/Electrical Specialty Contracting at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln took the top prizes for 2002 **MCAA Chapter of the Year** and 2002 **Educator of the Year**, respectively.



2002 Chapter of the Year – Greater Michigan MSCA Student Chapter at Ferris State University

The results of the competitions for these awards were announced on March 5 at the **Annual Awards of Excellence Ceremony** at **MCAA 2003** in Palm Springs, CA. MCAA President Bob FitzGerald and Career Development Committee member Bob Armistead presented the awards.

The **Chapter of the Year Award** recognizes outstanding achievement in governance, communication, community service, fundraising, membership development, career development, and participation in the MCAA **Student Chapter Competition**. The winning chapter receives a handsome trophy and the opportunity to make a presentation at the **Student Chapter Summit** about the chapter's program. Five chapters entered the competition.



2002 Educator of the Year – Prof. Timothy Wentz (center) of the University of Nebraska – Lincoln accepts his award from MCAA President Bob FitzGerald (right) and Bob Armistead, member of the Career Development Committee.

The **Educator of the Year Award** recognizes the contributions of a faculty advisor as a mentor, new member recruiter, career advisor and academician. The winner receives a handsome trophy and a cash prize. Seven chapters entered the competition last year.

Both winners received the same honors at **MCAA 2000** in San Diego, CA. Congratulations on your achievement!

## **MCAA Officially Welcomes 8 New Student Chapters**

On March 5, eight MCAA student chapters received their charters at the **Annual Awards of Excellence Ceremony** in Palm Springs, CA, raising the number of official student groups to 24.

Chapters that received charters were: **Eastern Constructors Student Chapter at Eastern Michigan University** (Ypsilanti, MI); the **MCAA Student Chapter at the Milwaukee School of Engineering** (Milwaukee, WI); **Washington State University MCA Student Chapter** (Pullman, WA); **MCAA Student Chapter at California State Polytechnic University at Pomona** (Pomona, CA); **MCAA Student Chapter at Fairleigh Dickinson University** (Teaneck, N.J.); **MCAA Student Chapter at University of Wisconsin – Stout** (Menomonie, WI); **MCAA Student Chapter at Boise State University** (Boise, ID); and **Illinois State University Mechanical and Electrical Contractors Association** (Normal, IL).

Officially chartered chapters also receive colorful banners and are eligible to receive up to \$1,000 in matching funds to help with chapter activities and chapter members' expenses to MCAA events.

Again, congratulations and welcome!

## **MCAA Student Chapters Break Attendance Records at 2003 Convention**

The largest group of students to ever attend an MCAA convention came to Palm Springs, CA in early March to learn, network, compete, and enjoy.

Everyone got what they came for. Over 70 students from 14 chapters attended the convention this year, a reflection of the program's rapid growth

over the past year and the students' increasing interest in the industry for full-time professional career opportunities.

And, there was something for everyone. Even before the convention formally opened, attendees were treated to a Beatlemania party and the rockin' sounds of the '60's, sponsored by the MCA of Northern California.

Former President Gerald Ford opened the convention Sunday evening with reminiscences of his days in the White House and how they relate to current events.

Throughout the convention, celebrity speakers – baseball legend Cal Ripken, Jr., former N.Y. City Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik, Sen. Fred Thompson, author Frank McCourt, and Olympian Jimmy Shea – offered their unique perspective on **building relationships**.

Other sessions about our future water use, managing mold, change orders, grass roots leadership, project management . . . even **Chicken Soup for Women** . . . were informative, interesting and entertaining.

The highlight, of course, was the **Student Chapter Competition**, the “buzz” of the convention. Supporters of the Cal Poly Pomona chapter nearly brought the house down when the competition results were announced at the **Awards of Excellence Ceremony**.

Thanks to all who attended . . . and to your MCA sponsors who make the chapter program possible every day. And, another special thank you for all the nice notes of appreciation (I keep them all).

If you think **MCAA 2003** was amazing, wait until you see what we're planning for next year in Orlando, FL. Wow! I am sworn to secrecy, but be assured that it will be “something else.” So, start making your plans now to attend.

## **Student Summit Heads to Milwaukee - Sheboygan**

If you're going into the mechanical contracting business, you need to know how a toilet works. Attend MCAA's 2003 **Student Chapter Summit**, and you'll find out.

This year's Summit will take place in Milwaukee, WI at the Wyndam Hotel, September 25 – 26, but the featured event, a tour of Kohler Company's manufacturing facility and design center, is in Sheboygan, WI. The four-hour tour will educate students and faculty advisors about the structure, design and mechanics of toilets, tubs, sinks, faucets, and other plumbing fixtures.

The program also includes the launching of this year's **Student Chapter Competition**, chapter reports – your chance to share experiences, information, and ideas about your chapters with your colleagues from other schools – a special session on planning and preparing a project bid proposal, the “brain drain” game, and much more.

We're also making it possible for your chapter to reserve rooms for your members now and avoid the confusion and hassle of signing up right after the fall term begins. **Faculty advisors, watch your e-mail for reservation forms.**

## **Carrier Donates Free Units . . . Again**

Terry Hampton, vice president of national sales for Carrier Corporation, stunned MCAA last fall when he offered HVAC units free of charge for instructional use. It was a generous, and much appreciated, contribution then . . . but he and Carrier are doing it again.

All chapter faculty advisors were notified of the offer on April 29 via e-mail. Carrier is donating seven units this time (two have already been spoken for) ranging in size from 27.5 tons to 100 tons. Additional specifications are outlined in the attachment to the April 29 message.

If your program could use one of these units, don't delay making your choice. Instructions for ordering are also outlined in the attachment.

Again, thanks to Terry and Carrier for this very generous contribution.

## Looking for a Summer Internship? Check MCAA's Website

If you're still looking for a summer internship, check MCAA's website for listings. Once again, MCAA member companies are posting their summer internship opportunities in the **Careers** section of the association's website at [www.mcaa.org/careers](http://www.mcaa.org/careers).

We promote the service in MCAA's weekly newsletter, the **National Update**. Members access the page, complete a simple form, and the listing is posted.

The more **you** use the service, the more listings we'll receive. So, be sure to look regularly and follow up on any leads that meet your criteria.

## Chapter News Roundup

Here's a quick run-down of recent chapter developments. If your chapter has news items for sharing with other chapters, send the items to [amattheis@mcaa.org](mailto:amattheis@mcaa.org) and you'll see it in the next issue of **Student Chapter News**.

**Southern Polytechnic State University's** first graduates with a construction concentration in mechanical-electrical-plumbing, including Chapter President L. Carol Lively, take their bows and accept their diplomas on May 10. Congratulations to the graduates!

SPSU has also just installed the Carrier unit they received last year. It sits on a concrete pad and structural steel frame about two feet high. Faculty advisor and instructor John Mench has big plans for the unit as a teaching tool next term.

The **MCAA Student Chapter at the Milwaukee School of Engineering** announces their officers for 2003-2004: **Jonathan Baxter, president** and **Faye Jenny, vice president**. They recently attended a retreat involving officers from other professional construction-related societies at MSOE. Chapter members look forward to welcoming other MCAA student chapters to Milwaukee for the 2003 **Student Chapter Summit**.

The **Washington State University MCA Student Chapter** has a new **president, Isidro Mejia**, third year construction management major. Isidro took over the chapter reigns from Brian Antonsen (who graduates in May) at **MCAA 2003**.

The **Student Chapter for Mechanical/Electrical Specialty Contracting at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln** announces their officers for 2003 – 2004: **Dan Kopecky, president** (senior, graduates in 2004); **Miranda Mueller, vice president** (senior, graduates in 2004); **Mike Corrado, treasurer** (sophomore, graduates in 2005 and a member of the U.S. Marine Reserves); **Anne Barry, secretary** (freshman, graduates in 2006); **Joe Bracken, historian** (sophomore, graduates in 2005).

**Have a great summer!**