



Student Chapter News

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Student Summit Planned for Charlotte, N.C.

Ladies and gentlemen . . . start your engines . . . and head for the **MCAA Student Chapter Summit** September 19 – 20. It will take place at the Hilton Charlotte at University Place in Charlotte, N.C.

The Summit program will feature opening remarks from **MCAA President-elect Tom Williams**, a tour of **Carrier Corporation's manufacturing facility** and **Customer Solutions Center**, a tour of the **Hendrick Motorsports Complex**, and a reception/dinner at the **The Speedway Club** at the **Lowe's Motor Speedway** in Charlotte, N.C.

Informational presentations include job searching techniques – resume preparation and interviewing tips – and the benefits and opportunities offered by the mechanical construction and service industries.

Participants will also get a first look at the 2002 **Student Chapter Competition**. Details will be revealed about the competition project and changes to the rules and guidelines.

Rounding out the program will be a mini-competition or game, which will challenge participants' technical knowledge and management skills. Randomly assigned groups of students will prepare solutions to the "problem" for presentation to the full group. Attending faculty advisors will judge the presentations and choose first and second place winners for cash prizes.

This annual event brings together representatives of MCAA student chapters from colleges and universities around the country to learn more about the mechanical construction and service industry, exchange ideas, network, and socialize.

Brochures and registration forms will be mailed to all student chapter faculty advisors this summer. **Faculty and students who plan to attend the Summit must send in their registration forms to MCAA by August 26.**

For more information, contact Ann Mattheis at amattheis@mcaa.org.

Three New MCAA Student Chapters Form

When the fall 2002 semester begins, MCAA will welcome three new student chapters at the Milwaukee School of Engineering in Milwaukee, WI, Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI., and Washington State University in Pullman, WA.

The Eastern Michigan University Constructors is a joint chapter of MCAA and the Associated General Contractors, and is co-sponsored by the Greater Michigan PMCA. The Ann Arbor-based local affiliate helped the chapter set up a website (<http://www.easternconstructors.org>), established a scholarship and organized a kick-off event at the opening of a contractor member's (John E. Green Company) office in Ann Arbor in early April. The Greater Michigan PMCA also sponsors the MSCA student chapter at Ferris State University in Big Rapids, MI.

The Milwaukee School of Engineering is jointly sponsored by the MCA of Wisconsin. Professor Matt Fuchs is helping the charter members organize the chapter and will be the faculty advisor. When the fall term begins, the group plans to elect officers, launch a membership recruitment drive, and attend the **Student Chapter Summit** in Charlotte, N.C.

The Washington State University Chapter is sponsored by the MCA of Western Washington, its third student chapter. Brian Antonsen helped organize the chapter and will serve as its first president. Professor Max Kirk will be the chapter's faculty advisor. Its constitution was signed on April 29, 2002.

MCAA is very pleased to welcome these new chapters to its student chapter program. Charters will be presented to chapter representatives at **MCAA 2003** in Palm Springs, CA.

Committee Sets New Requirements for Awards

Chapters will be required to submit reports justifying their nominations for **Chapter of the Year** and **Educator of the Year**. These requirements will be established for awards presented at **MCAA 2003**.

The Career Development Committee reached this decision at its spring meeting in Chicago after considering ways to improve selection of the two awards.

Chapters who wish to be considered for **Chapter of the Year** must submit a summary report that provides information about projects and activities undertaken during the award year, member recruitment successes, community service, and other criteria. A similar report will be required for those faculty members nominated for **Educator of the Year**. Reports must be sent to MCAA by the end of 2002 for nominees to be considered.

A subcommittee of Career Development Committee members will review the reports and choose the award winners. Winners for both awards will be announced at the **Annual Awards Ceremony** during **MCAA 2003** in Palm Springs, CA.

U of WI – Madison Chapter Honors Ken Coffman

The University of Wisconsin Construction Club honored the lifetime achievements of alum and MCAA Past President Ken Coffman (Downey, Inc.) with its **Lifetime Achievement in Construction Award**. Coffman received the award at the club's Fifth Annual Banquet held in Madison recently.

Coffman was recognized for his progressive leadership of MCAA as its president (1988-1989) and for his work in advancing the mechanical construction industry.

In accepting the award, Coffman attributed much of his professional success to lessons on the value of teamwork learned early in life from a book he received from his father. Coffman also spoke with pride about his company, Downey, Inc., and his participation in many industry organizations, especially noting his service with, and leadership of, MCAA.



Joan Braun (l), executive vice president of PMCA of Milwaukee & Southeast Wisconsin, and Tom Van Oss III (center) congratulate Ken Coffman on his award.

The Construction Club's Annual Banquet is planned by UW-Madison students, including members of the MCAA student chapter, and is the club's primary fundraising activity. This year's event drew nearly 500 people from industry.

Tom Van Oss III, president of the MCAA student chapter this year, introduced the Univ. of Wisconsin chancellor, and James D. Larry, transportation engineering student, delivered the tribute to Coffman.

Nebraska Chapter Elects New Officers

Before leaving for the summer, the Student Chapter for Mechanical/Electrical Specialty Contracting (MESC) at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln elected a new slate of officers for the 2002 – 2003 school year.

Senior Donnie Arant will serve as president. He has been active in the chapter for two years and was vice president this year. Arant led the chapter's team that took second place in the 2001 ***MCAA Student Chapter Competition***.

Senior Mike Schulte will fill the vice president position. He has been active in the MESC and in the Associated General Contractors student chapter. This summer, he will intern with Kiewit Construction.

Junior Dan Kopecky will be the chapter's secretary next year. He is active in MESC, AGC, CETSAB, and Sigma Lambda Chi. He has an internship position this summer with Southland Industries.

Senior Nate Kastens will continue to serve as the chapter's treasurer until he graduates this December.

Senior Craig Wilson will be the chapter's historian. He is active with MESC, AGC, and UNL's rock climbing club. He is interning this summer with Midwest Mechanical in Omaha.

