



Student Chapter News

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Finalists Chosen for MCAA Student Competition

The MCAA student chapter teams that will compete in the **Final Four Student Chapter Competition at MCAA 2003** in Palm Springs, CA are: the **University of Nebraska – Lincoln; Purdue University; Cal Poly Pomona; and Ferris State University.**

A panel of three judges chose the finalists based on their evaluation and scoring of submissions from seven chapters. They considered the proposals' overall quality, their approach to managing and organizing the project, the feasibility of the schedule, the project design, and the accuracy and feasibility of the project costs. Similar criteria will be used by the judges in Palm Springs to evaluate the oral presentations.

The oral competition takes place on March 4, from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. A panel of three judges drawn from the membership of the Career Development Committee will evaluate the presentations and choose the first and second place winners.

Each team will have a total of 20 minutes to present their proposals, 15 minutes for their formal presentation and five minutes of questions from the judges. MCAA members are welcome and encouraged to attend the competition. Last year, the student chapter competition proved to be one of the highlights of the convention.

The results of the judging will be announced at the **Awards of Excellence Ceremony** on Wednesday, March 5.

Congratulations to all the finalists and best of luck!

California, Here We Come for MCAA 2003

The stars at night are big and bright in the sky over Palm Springs, but during March 2 - 6, they'll be even bigger and brighter at **MCAA 2003.**

All convention activities take place at the J.W. Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa in Palm Desert, a subdivision of Palm Springs. Students and faculty attending the convention are welcome to attend all general sessions, educational workshops and seminars, and most social events. Additional programs have been planned specifically for student chapter members, and Carrier Corporation is the sponsor.

Festivities begin on Sunday, March 2. The Student Chapter Orientation takes place at 2:00 p.m. and gives students and faculty a chance to meet their colleagues from other colleges and universities, hear more about the convention program, and ask any questions.

The first major event takes place that evening with the Opening Session featuring President Gerald R. Ford followed by the **All American Welcome**

Reception. There'll be lots of good food, so bring your appetite.

On Monday morning, the Opening Breakfast features former New York City Police Commissioner Bernard Kerick. He'll speak about his experiences during and following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

That morning, a session featuring Rich Teerlink, the former CEO of Harley-Davidson, will provide an interesting, insightful look into that company's revitalization. Another session, led by Dr. John Stoessinger, deals with *Terrorism Against Civilization*.

Following that busy morning, students and advisors gather for the annual Student Chapter Luncheon & Meeting. Along with a hearty lunch will be a lively discussion about student chapter programs, activities and opportunities.

Tuesday morning, students will have an opportunity to meet contractors and discuss career options at the **Manufacturer/Supplier Exhibit**. That afternoon, student competition finalists will make their best try for the top prize in the **Final Four Competition**. The annual **Dessert Party** tops off the day with a variety of delicious sweets and great music and dancing. This year, the theme for this favorite social event is **Mardi Gras**. There'll be two bands: Papa Do Run Run (a fabulous Rock n' Roll band) and a Dixie Land Band, each in their own ballroom.

On Wednesday morning, students take center stage at the **Annual Awards of Excellence Ceremony and Breakfast** to receive chapter charters, the **Chapter of the Year Award** and to learn the results of the **Final Four Competition**. The featured speaker is Olympian Jimmy Shea. In the afternoon, former Purdue University Professor John Koontz will lead a special seminar for students on pre-construction planning, a must for soon-to-be contractors.

MCAA 2003 ends Thursday morning with the closing session, which features actor/former U.S. Senator Fred Thompson (see him weekly as the district attorney in the hit television series **Law and Order**).

One thing is for sure . . . all who attend **MCAA 2003** will have a great time and a memorable experience. See you there!

Bring Your Chapter Banners to MCAA 2003

Chapters that are attending **MCAA 2003** must bring their banners to display at the **Manufacturer/Supplier Exhibit** on March 4.

Since the student chapter program began in 1998, the student exhibit has been a tradition that MCAA members have welcomed and enjoyed. The colorful banners identify the chapters and draw the attention of contractors interested in hiring professional staff.

MCAA also provides each chapter with a six-foot table to display information about the chapter and the school. Graduating seniors and those chapter members interested in summer internships are strongly encouraged to bring lots of copies of their resumes to hand out.

MCAA provides a banner to all new chapters. Banners have been ordered for the newest chapters and will be presented at the convention to those attending.

Looking for a Summer Internship? Check MCAA's Website

If you're starting to think about looking for a summer internship, plan to check MCAA's website (www.mcaa.org/careers) for listings. Once again, MCAA will invite member

companies to advertise their summer internship opportunities in the **Careers** section of the association's website.

We promote the service in MCAA's weekly newsletter, the **National Update**. The articles will begin appearing in early February. 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.

MCAA Chapters Take the Spotlight at MCA Chicago Meeting

At a recent MCA Chicago business meeting, two MCAA chapters received special attention.

First, Kalen Cartwright, vice president of the MCA of Indiana Student Chapter at Purdue University, received the 2003 Herb Kreisman Award and a check to help with school expenses. Cartwright is a junior at Purdue and leads the chapter's team competing in the **Final Four Student Competition at MCAA 2003**. Faculty advisor Daryl Orth and other members of the chapter also attended the meeting.

MCA Chicago also welcomed its first Illinois student chapter, the Illinois State University Mechanical and Electrical Contractors Association. The ISU chapter is one of the newest additions to MCAA's student chapter program. Faculty advisor Dr. Charles Duvel and several chapter members attended the meeting.

CPMCA Awards Eight Scholarships to Cal Poly Pomona Chapter Members

At a recent meeting of the California Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association (CPMCA),

President Don Chase presented eight scholarships to members of the Cal Poly MCAA Student Chapter, which the local affiliate sponsors. Dr. Ed Hohmann, dean of the College of Engineering, assisted with the presentation of the scholarships to: Shaabine Babu, Ryan Aday, Noel Santos, John Childs, Jennifer Ornelas, Brian Jarrett, Vince Leoni, and Travis Craven.

Since the chapter formed last August, members have been busy. Membership has doubled (from 16 to 30 members). Field trips have involved visits to a Trane Corporation facility and a Baxter plant in Glendale. Another visit is planned to a pharmaceutical plant in February.

Students have also volunteered to serve as judges of the Los Angeles County High School Science Fair to be held at the Staples Convention Center in April.

The Cal Poly chapter is also attending **MCAA 2003** in Palm Springs and will participate in the **Final Four Student Chapter Competition**.

WSU Chapter is Off and Running

The MCA Student Chapter at Washington State University has had a busy first year. They've traveled from Pullman, WA to Seattle for a day of site tours, including the new law library at the University of Washington, and enjoyed lunch with their sponsors, the MCA of Western Washington.

Established on April 29, 2002, the chapter is the third sponsored by the MCAWW. President Brian Antonsen helped start the group and continues to build membership. Michael Mashburn, a fourth-year construction management major, is vice chairman.

The chapter meets regularly to plan field trips, hear from speakers about the industry, and interest new recruits in the group and mechanical contracting.

MSOE Student Chapter Welcomes MCA Wisconsin Board

The Milwaukee School of Engineering was the site of the MCA of Wisconsin's recent Board of Directors meeting. MCAW officers had the opportunity to meet the officers and members of the local affiliate's newest student chapter.



MCAW President, Ashok K. Chopra (General Htg. & AC, Madison) presents MCA MSOE Student Chapter President Juli Gamm and Vice President Nick Greene with a \$2,000 check to support student chapter activities.

MSOE (Milwaukee School of Engineering) hosted the MCAW (Mechanical Contractors Association of Wisconsin) Board meeting at their Milwaukee facility. Prior to the meeting, students sat down to lunch with the contractors. Pictured; MSOE MCA Student Chapter President Juli Gamm and Vice President, Nick Greene thanked the MCAW Board for its support of chapter functions and initiatives .