

The Nation's Most Outstanding Student Construction Chapter of 2016



Kansas State University

By Frank Sandoval

Kansas State University has the nation's most outstanding student construction chapter of 2016, the Associated General Contractors of America announced during its annual convention in Las Vegas. The association also announced that the University of Cincinnati and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville were the second and third place winners, respectively, of its 2016 Outstanding Student Chapter contest.

"Each one of these student chapters demonstrated tremendous dedication to their community and have executed very impressive public service projects," said Mark Knight, the association's president and president of Knight Construction Services LLC in Aberdeen, S.D. "Student chapters represent the future of our industry, and judging by the work of the three winning chapters, it is a promising future."

Kansas State University's AGC Student Chapter completed a strong portfolio of projects in 2016 and has built a close working relationship with their sponsoring chapter, the AGC of Kansas. The student chapter built a new recording booth called a "Story Store" for the Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan, Kansas. As many as 50,000 people visit the center each year, and recordings from the Story Store will be documented and held in a collec-

tion at the Library of Congress. The national association awarded the chapter \$2,500 for winning first place in the competition.

The University of Cincinnati Construction Student Association also completed a number of impressive projects during the 2015-2016 school year. Among those projects was partnering with Habitat for Humanity to build four homes. The student chapter also partnered with the Cincinnati CANstruction Event, building a "Finding Nemo" themed sculpture out of 4,600 cans, which were then donated to a Cincinnati foodbank. The national association awarded the chapter \$1,500 for winning second place.

The Southern Illinois University Edwardsville Constructors Club also completed a series of outstanding philanthropic efforts. For example, the student chapter members spent their spring break building two Houses for Habitat for Humanity in Walton County, Florida. The group also completed a new roof for a park



pavilion in Highland, Illinois park. The national association awarded the chapter \$1,000 for winning third place.

The three winning chapters were selected by a panel of judges made up of members of AGC of America's Training, Education and Development Forum Steering Committee and were evaluated on the strength of their relationship with their sponsoring AGC chapter and the quality of their philanthropic activities. The student chapters each presented their portfolio of activities during the annual Student Chapter meeting taking place as part of the association's annual convention in Las Vegas this year. ■

Student chapters represent the future of our industry, and judging by the work of the three winning chapters, it is a promising future.



Kansas State University 2016-2017 Construction Science & Management AGC Student Chapter

TOP ROW, FROM LEFT: Sam McArthur, Andrew Eigsti, Sean Mitchell, Hayden Borth, Matt Hastert, Branson Kocher, Tanner Lund, Phineas Adams.

BOTTOM ROW, FROM LEFT: Sam Roldan, Sam Pint, Drew Deters, Demetri Praderio, Nate Sterns, Frank Sandoval, Ray Buyle and Shannon Casebeer