



BOARD REPORT

Northeast Region Board Meeting – April 11, 2010

DATE: April 8, 2010

TO: Northeast Region Board of Directors

FROM: Ruma Som, Assoc. AIA, AHC, CSI, CDT.

SUBJECT: Report of Academic Program Committee Chair

A. Report Summary

1. Communication has been made with Chapter Academic Chairs with not much response or feed back except a few chapters.
2. Chapter membership of 3 chapters has increased considerably which is reflective of the activities with Academic Institutions.
3. Institute website is a resource that can be better used.
4. Some Chapter Academic Program Committee Chairs are beginning to work with our affiliated organizations in the building Industry and within other committees within the Chapter.
5. Upcoming Leadership meeting shall hopefully re-energize the chapter leaders by sharing best practices and success stories.

B. The Report

1. Summary of activities since last report:
 - a. 4 of the 15 Chapters have reported activities.
 - b. There has been increase in activities with academic institutions in New York Metropolitan Chapter, Long Island, Maine & New Jersey has resulted in increased Chapter student membership.
 - c. Vermont Chapter retains its student membership.
2. Status of current programs:
 - a. Some chapters have introduced new programs that have resulted in increased membership.
 - b. Some Chapters have initiated dialogues with Institutions and affiliated organizations that will increase membership in the new fiscal year.
3. Problem areas:
 - a. Not all Chapter Academic Program Chairs respond to emails, so it is hard to communicate.
4. Success stories:

- a. Metro New York has increased student scholarship amount from \$2,500 to \$3,500 this year. This is in line with the goal to progressively increase student scholarship to \$5,000/annum. Metro New York Chapter held a pizza event at the opening Construction Management Class at Pratt University. A team of CSI members including the President, Membership Chair and Academic Chair attended event highlighting the value of student involvement with CSI. Event was well supported by the Administrative staff of Pratt University which resulted in increased student membership from 17 to 44 since August '09.
 - b. Long Island Chapter has established relationship with SUNY Farmingdale. The Academic Chair attends 2 meetings a month, organized by the students affiliate chapter. A specification contest was arranged last year. This year another competition will be organized. These programs have resulted in increase of student membership from 4 to 15 since August '09.
 - c. The Maine Chapter holds 1 Chapter meeting a year on each of 4 the campuses and in the process has exposed a variety of students and faculty to CSI members and issues. This has resulted in increased student membership. There are 2 campuses where Chapter members are either full-time or adjunct faculty which gets CSI formats and practices into the classroom. Faculty members may be a source of speaker, especially when they are able to bring different view on some CSI related issue and as a speaker, the Chapter has an opportunity to introduce the faculty members to various CSI issues. Maine Chapter student membership has increased from 6 to 13 since August '09.
 - d. The New Jersey Chapter has combined efforts by Academic Committee and Emerging Professionals Committee to attract the younger generation. As part of the Academic Program, a Chapter meeting was held at the New Jersey Institute of Technology to develop close ties with the students and faculty. The Chapter members assisted a faculty member, also CSI member to incorporate CDT course offering into his coursework. Even though some active student membership have graduated and become intermediate members, the student membership has remained at 3. The out-going students of the System class will be offered free student membership thereby further increasing student membership.
 - e. Vermont Chapter has retained their student membership of 17 members.
5. Schedule of activities prior to next Board Meeting:
Visitations to various Chapters in the Region to increase awareness of the Academic Program Committee of the Institute and to share best practices.
6. Changes in Chapter Membership since last report: Not applicable.

C. Suggestions for the benefit of the Region

The Boston Chapter and Rhode Island Academic Committee set the following goals for their Chapter which pretty much summarizes the suggestions for the benefit of the Region.

- a. Collaborate and jointly host events with other industry related "Emerging

- Professionals” organizations (e.g. AIA Emerging Professionals, AGC Young Constructor’s Forum, ACE Mentor Program, etc).
- b. Support and publicize non-profit fund raising efforts for industry-related scholarship and mentoring programs e.g. Rhode Island Building Industry Scholarship Fund).
 - c. Combine and streamline efforts to recruit both targets: “Academic Affairs” (i.e., elementary students, college level) and “Emerging Professionals” (i.e., graduate students, small business startups).
 - d. Initiate mentor and job shadow programs, and provide sign-up sheets for both employers and students.
 - e. Provide an on-line “Job Center” forum for posting jobs and resumes.
 - f. Publicize calendar of events at local educational institutions.
 - g. Volunteer at the CSI Institute level with the National Professionals Committee; and incorporate country’s best practices at the chapter level.
 - h. Create a Construction Industry scholarship and allocate funds towards awarding annual scholarships; use programs as an opportunity to build relationships with local instructions.
 - i. Provide a directory of professional membership willing to donate time to conduct classes in the academic institutions.
 - j. Organize student competitions at the Chapter levels.

Respectfully submitted;
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END OF REPORT

Cc: Region Secretary