What surprised CIM student Alex Llamas most during his summer internship with ASI Constructors Inc. was how confusing things can get at the work site. But his hands-on and classroom experiences served him well. And he was soon awed by the focus and dedication of the ASI crew. “I was impressed with them,” Alex says of the company and his coworkers. He especially enjoyed barbecue get-togethers, fishing, and other relaxed off-duty activities with his bosses and fellow employees. “It was fun, and I learned a lot—especially about negotiating,” he adds with a laugh. In addition to success on his other assignments, Alex honed his negotiating skills while buying materials and equipment. Time and again he’d find the best available prices then his supervisor would say “I think they can go lower” and send Alex back to the phone to push for still lower prices. Which he usually achieved.

CIM Student Scholarships Make a “Major” Difference
The CIM program at CSU, Chico is one of only four university programs in the United States—and the only one on the West Coast—to offer concrete technology and business courses in collaboration with industry leaders. To help launch the program, the Chico State CIM Patrons currently provide generous scholarships to program majors who maintain at least a 2.5 GPA. For Fall 2007 the CIM scholarship for eligible majors is $700, offered in addition to other available university scholarships and grants.

LEARN MORE @ PREVIEW DAY on 10/27
Meet CIM faculty and students @ Preview Day on Saturday, 10/27 @ CSU, Chico. Call 530.898.4898.

CSU, Chico CIM Team
Dean Ken Derucher
Associate Dean Mike Ward
Director Kristin Cooper Carter
Internships Tanya Komas
Advising Dirk Vanderloop
Administration Terry Battle
Marketing & Outreach Kim Weir

CIM Enrollment Building Up and Up
Enrollment in the new Concrete Industry Management (CIM) major at California State University, Chico continues to build, with 34 declared majors at the start of the Fall 2007 semester, up from the 21 enrolled in spring. Before this year’s outreach effort even begins, 10 additional students have declared their intention to enroll in CIM. So by Spring 2008 the program expects 44—or more—majors.

Student Intern Stresses the Success
Alex Llamas at ASI’s Taum Sauk project in the Ozarks
Alex’s project—he plans to return in summer 2008—is rebuilding the Taum Sauk Reservoir in Missouri, in the Mark Twain National Forest. Also a major concrete recycling job designed with LEED certification in mind, Taum Sauk, sited atop a mountain, will be the world’s largest roller-compact ed concrete (RCC) reservo. Colorado-based ASI is an awarding-winning dam and water resource construction firm recognized for its innovative engineering and quality concrete work.

Patron Spotlight: Don Humphrey
Don Humphrey, Central Precast Concrete Inc.’s general manager and an active Chico State CIM Patron, is featured on the cover of the July/August issue of MC Magazine, a bimonthly publication of the National Precast Concrete Association. In the cover story “Winds of Change,” Don discusses the challenges of centralizing management for Central Precast plants in the Bay Area. To read more about Don Humphrey and his work at Central Precast, see:

QUOTABLE CONCRETE
There is plenty of courage among us for the abstract but not for the concrete. —Helen Keller

Patrons Corner: Fall Patron Meeting
The Chico State CIM Patrons will be in Chico for the October 18 fall meeting. The day includes an afternoon social—an excellent industry networking opportunity for students—and the patrons’ dinner at Christian Michael’s.

For questions or comments, contact Kristin at kcooper-carter@csuchico.edu or 530.898.4037. To remove your name from our email list, email cim@csuchico.edu.