The Concrete Industry Management Program at California State University, Chico, grew to 54 students who declared CIM as their major by the end of the Fall 2008 semester, ahead of the projected 45 anticipated for the end of the upcoming Spring semester. New students have come from a variety of locations in addition to California, including North Dakota, Arizona, Tennessee, Oregon, Washington State, and Colorado. Several of our students are benefiting from the Western University Exchange (WUE) program that offers greatly reduced tuition to students from 14 western states, including all of the Pacific Northwest. All CSU Chico CIM students who meet minimum requirements receive a scholarship from the Chico State CIM Patrons. These grants of $1,400 per student per year is helping the program grow and showing students and potential students the importance of this program to our industry. We are proud of the growth of the program and look forward to adding new students and industry involvement in the coming semester.

Thank you so much for supporting our program. With the cost of books and tuition rising, the scholarships that you have donated to all the students, as well as other support, are tremendously appreciated.—Alexx McAvoy, Junior, CIM Program

Local & National Patrons Gift $185,000 at Fall Meeting

Chico State hosted the CIM National Steering Committee (NSC) in October during the Chico State CIM Patron’s Fall meeting. Donations of $50,000 from the NSC and $135,000 from the Chico State Patrons were made in support of the academic program and students. Patron support such as this has been indispensable in allowing the early establishment and continued record growth of the program. The direct benefit of these funds can be seen in the numbers of students who are attracted to the program because of the opportunities for industry involvement and quality, hands-on, industry-relevant coursework and internships.

Patrons at Chico’s Materials Lab viewing new cement testing equipment shipped to Chico for the Patron event from Germany by Toni Technic.
Return to Normandy & Other Research

Return to Normandy. Logistics and funding plans are underway for a new 3-year phase of research at the WWII D-Day landing site at Pointe du Hoc, Normandy, France. It is anticipated that Chico State will take the lead working with Texas A&M and Auburn Universities. A student from the other CIM schools will be invited to take part if the project moves forward. Work will address original concrete construction materials and methods, deterioration over time focusing on durability of the slag cement and steel reinforcement, structural stabilization recommendations, safe accessibility options, and the effects of bombing on the various types of concrete across the site. See NRMCA’s Summer ‘08 issue of “Concrete Infocus” and the upcoming January issue of ACI’s “Concrete International” for an article about our previous work at the site. The work was also presented at an international technical conference in Quebec, Canada in Oct. ‘09. For questions about the project, including opportunities to support it, please contact Tanya Komas at tkomas@csuchico.edu or (530) 898-4487.

Recycled Materials in Highway Applications. Chico State’s CIM program and the California Pavement Preservation Center, a CalTrans supported research Center at Chico State, were recently awarded a contract from the National Academy of Sciences for the National Cooperative Highway Research Board entitled “Synthesis Topic 40-01: Recycled Materials and Byproducts in Highway Applications”. The objective is to collect and synthesize recycled material data and related application data from existing literature and highway agencies across the Country.

CIM Student Society

A group of hard-working CIM students from Chico have formed the Concrete Industry Management Student Society (CIMSS) and gained recognition for the Society as an official student organization on the campus. They have already organized fund-raisers, participated in social events such as a club pizza night downtown, designed and purchased club sweatshirts that are gaining tremendous interest from all who see them, and are planning a golf tournament during the Spring Chico Patron’s meeting. Together with faculty advisors, they have initiated contact with the Northern California chapter of ACI and are proceeding with the steps to become an official student chapter of ACI. Membership in both CIMSS and the ACI student chapter is available to all Chico State students while officer positions are open only to declared CIM majors. With full class schedules and often full- or part-time jobs, the accomplishment of this level of organization by the students is to be commended. Congratulations to Alexx McAvoy and Robert Hostettler and all the CIM students who have worked so hard to develop the club and a new sense of common purpose and collegiality among the CIM students and faculty while promoting the program to prospective students and the larger industry.

CIM Courses & Graduates

In May, the University will honor the first nine Chico State CIM graduates, several of whom already have tentative offers for full-time employment. After completing the Senior Capstone Project next semester, these students will wear their graduation caps and gowns and receive the first CIM diplomas from Chico State. New CIM courses offered last semester included Facilities Management and an elective course in Decorative Concrete for which industry donated time and materials approached $23,000.

All CIM schools share a common core curriculum with new specialized topics being developed at individual institutions with the intent of making the new curriculum available to the other CIM schools. Chico is developing the lecture and lab curriculum for an in-depth Concrete Repair course and for the Decorative course. A future course entitled Seismic Considerations in Concrete is also planned.
The strong growth of the program has been accompanied by several new positions and new faces that promise to continue the success and enthusiasm that now exists. Dr. Tanya Wattenburg Komas is the new CIM Director and will continue to teach in the program and conduct ongoing concrete research. Dr. Michael Ward, who was involved in the formation of the CIM program at its inception, is the new Interim Dean of the College of Engineering. Dr. Ward shares his wholehearted commitment to the program with University President Zingg and Provost Flake. In the classroom, the Chico program has been fortunate to benefit from extensive industry expertise. Tim Hostetller of A&A Concrete taught Facilities Management and will teach the newly reformatted Applied Sustainability class this semester. Greg Juell of Lehigh Cement team-taught the Foundations of Concrete, Materials & Testing class with faculty member Leslie Anderson-Mills. Doug Yeggy of Headwaters Resources taught the Applications and Methods course and will do so again this semester. Clark Branam of the Decorative Concrete Council and L.M. Scofield Company, team-taught the Decorative course with Tanya Komas and is helping to further develop that curriculum. Thank you to all of these individuals as well as the many other industry experts who participated as guest lecturers.

The program is seeking a new full-time, tenure-track faculty member, for information on the position see: www.csuchico.edu/under faculty positions. 

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Margaret Stoner, new CIM Administrative Assistant.

Internships, Company Socials & Conferences

17 Chico State students participated in internships during summer 2008 in such locations as San Francisco, Denver, Seattle, Southern California, Washington D.C., and Missouri. The interns presented their experiences at the Fall Patron meeting and were graded on several aspects including learning achieved during the internship, self-motivated contributions to the experience, and presentation skills. Greg Mercurio received the highest score for his internship with NRMCA and was invited to present at the NRMCA conference in Tennessee in October. Congratulations Greg!

The Chico program will soon begin scheduling Patron Company Socials for the upcoming Spring semester. Socials are an excellent opportunity for companies to meet potential interns and employees. Patrons may contact Margaret Stoner for more information at mstoner@csuchico.edu or 530-898-5963.

Travel to industry events is an important part of the strong industry involvement goal of the national CIM program. Thanks to patron and other support for travel, faculty and students traveled to several important events including NRMCA-Nashville, ICRI-St. Louis, ASTM-Denver, ASCC-San Antonio, ACI No. Cal. Chapter-Berkeley.

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Recognizing that the U.S. concrete industry needs management professionals with a Bachelor of Science Degree as well as street smarts in order to stay competitive in a rapidly changing business environment, the Chico State Concrete Industry Management (CIM) Patrons offer steadfast support to the new concrete major offered at California State University, Chico. The program, now in its third year, blends business skill training with an emphasis on all concrete, including Manufactured Concrete Products, Ready Mix, and heavy construction materials used in the construction industry. Additionally, Chico State CIM graduates take enough economics, business law, accounting, marketing, finance, information technology, and project management courses to earn a Minor in Business Administration from the College of Business.

For information about the program, including how to become a patron of the program, please contact Tanya Komas at 530-898-5963 or cim@csuchico.edu

www.csuchico.edu/cim

Please visit our web site for information about the program, patrons, and upcoming events

Please plan to join us for several upcoming events:

**April 15—Chico State CIM Golf Tournament, Chico**

**April 16—Spring Patron’s Meeting, Chico**

Information for the golf tournament and the Patron Meeting will soon follow.

**February 2-6—World of Concrete**

All week—Visit the CIM booth shared by all CIM schools

Wednesday—Women in Concrete Luncheon with a panel presentation on “A Woman’s Perspective on the Hot Topics in Concrete” with three speakers including Chico State’s Tanya Komas who will speak about concrete repair highlighting the research at Pointe du Hoc, Normandy, France.

Thursday—CIM Auction

**If you are interested in making a donation for the CIM Auction, please contact:**

Wally Johnson
713-499-6229
wjohnson@us-concrete.com
http://www.concretedegree.com/auction/index.html

**May 23—Chico State Graduation**

Through the generous support of the CIM Patrons, the Chico State Materials lab is home to a new 3000 kN Test Plant for compression & Flexural testing of Concrete Specimens. One of only a few in the country at this increased capacity with unique design features, this equipment can conduct common tests as well as test fiber reinforced concrete and other specialized materials and assemblies.