About CFAES

The College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) is one of 18 colleges within The Ohio State University. Although it is one of the smaller colleges with just over 2,000 students, CFAES is one of OSU’s most collaborative colleges on campus, even to the extent that it is a major investor in faculty and resources in other colleges across the university. Faculty from CFAES are key leaders in interdisciplinary centers and institutes across campus and at the forefront of major trans-institutional initiatives such as the OSU Institute for Energy and the Environment.

There are 22 undergraduate majors within CFAES. With 269 students enrolled as of September 2014, the Construction Systems Management (CSM) program is the third largest major in the College and represents more than 10% of its students.

About FABE

The Department of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering (FABE) is a department within the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) and the College of Engineering. FABE offers a diverse curriculum under four programs leading to engineering, agricultural, and construction degrees including:

1. Accredited Bachelor of Science in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
2. Master’s and Doctoral degrees in Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering
3. Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture – Agricultural Systems Management (ASM)
4. Bachelor of Science in Construction Systems Management (CSM)

The faculty/instructor-to-student ratio for the FABE Department is 1:17. The Agricultural Engineering Building in Columbus, built in 1987, is one of the finest collegiate facilities. The building contains 97,000 square feet of classrooms, faculty and administrative offices, teaching and research laboratories, construction materials staging and assembly spaces, student activity areas, and computer facilities with current industry software. Software includes BIM, CM project management, cost estimating, scheduling, and modeling programs.

Members of the faculty have accumulated educational degrees from some of the most highly respected universities in the country. These instructors and researchers represent areas of expertise from agricultural and biological systems to construction management. Their teaching and research have been recognized for excellence at state, national, and international levels. CSM faculty and instructors incorporate their real-world construction experiences in classroom instruction.
About CSM

The Construction Systems Management Bachelors program was founded in 1991 when it revised its Agricultural Mechanization and Systems major within the BS in Agriculture program and created two majors: ASM and CSM. The CSM program has gone through several changes since that time including a shift in emphasis from agricultural structures to residential, commercial, and heavy construction. In the fall of 2009, the program received its own tagged Bachelor’s degree upon approval by the Ohio Board of Regents. It is now a candidate baccalaureate program with the American Council for Construction Education (ACCE).

The Bachelor of Science degree in CSM provides students with a background in the technical and managerial aspects of the construction management discipline. The coursework includes the following classroom curriculum and hands-on learning elements:

- Environmental protection and erosion control measures
- Land acquisition and site development
- Project scheduling
- Risk management
- Field engineering
- Material selection and procurement
- Construction law and claims analysis
- Asset and financial management
- Personnel management
- Project management
- Equipment selection
- Business development, client relations, and marketing
- BIM (Building Information Modeling) processes
- Jobsite safety protocols
- OSHA compliance
- Jobsite organization
- Temporary facilities
- Time management
- Cost estimating
- Quality control

Student Profile
September 2014

- 269 students currently enrolled in the CSM major
- 9% of CSM majors are of an underrepresented ethnicity
- 5% of the CSM students are female
- 97% of CSM students are Ohio residents
- $6400 in department scholarships were awarded to CSM students for the 2012-2013 school year
Career Outlook:

CSM graduates are in high demand. Over the past three years, 93% of CSM graduates report securing job placement or acceptance into graduate or professional school within six months of graduation.

Earnings:

The starting salaries for CSM graduates with a Bachelor of Science in Construction Systems Management typically range from $40,000 to $55,000 per year. The $48,000 average starting salary was the highest among College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences majors. The combined technical and managerial skills that graduates and interns can bring to a company are very valuable and marketable assets. These assets have generated a high demand for OSU’s Construction Systems Management interns and graduates.

Career Opportunities:

CSM graduates can choose from a broad range of career opportunities as commercial and residential general contractors, construction managers, trade contractors, suppliers, consultants, governmental agency workers, and self-employment. The types of positions that graduates are hired for include project management, construction layout, design support, estimating, sales, marketing, purchasing, safety advising and quality control.

Internships:

All CSM students complete a 400-hour industry internship as part of their academic program. Upon graduation many of these students are offered full-time employment with their internship company.

Clubs and Competition Teams:

CSM students have the opportunity to participate in student clubs including the Construction Systems Management Club. Students may also join one of several Construction Management Competition Teams who compete at a national level.

Recent Employers Include:

- American Electric Power
- OCP Contractors
- Fabcon
- Baker Concrete
- George J. Igel & Co.
- Hill International
- Barton Malow
- Gilbane
- Pepper Construction
- Brexton Construction, LLC
- Kiewit Energy
- P|C|S
- Grunley Construction
- CommuniCare Health Services
- Brickman Group
- Kokosing Construction
- Pulte Homes of Ohio
- Continental Building Systems
- Lithko Construction
- Rudolph/Libbe
- Corna Kokosing Co.
- M/I Homes
- R.W. Setterlin
- Danis Building
- Messer Construction Co.
- Settle Muter Electric
- Dugan & Meyers
- Mid-City Electric
- The Quandel Group, Inc.
- Elford, Inc.
- Miles-McClellan Construction
- Turner Construction
- Equity Real Estate
- Lifestyle Communities
- AGC of Ohio
About the CSM Industry Advisory Council:
The Construction Systems Management Industry Advisory Council (CSMIAC) members serve as advisors to the department Chair, Ohio State FABE faculty and staff, CSM Alumni and others associated with the CSM program. Members work to connect academia and the industry by participating in strategic planning with department and college administrators and regularly reviewing the CSM academic, scholastic, and department-industry outreach programs.

Why Get Involved?

Mentor and Develop Talent
- Participate in the CSM department mentoring program
- Meet and work with students in an informal environment
- Support the internship program and help develop your company’s future employees
- Get an early look at the talent and make them aware of your organization

Find Employees
- Find your company’s next best and brightest employees
- Keep the top talent in our state or region
- Reduce your hiring costs and avoid costly hiring mistakes by getting to know CSM students and others involved with the program

Educate
- Influence the educational experience of the future employees and leaders of the construction industry
- Help monitor the program content to ensure that it is providing what your future employees need
- Recommend classes, training, and software required to meet the industry needs for the future

Grow
- Network with leading industry representatives (clients, subcontractors, GCs, CMs, OSU faculty) to understand the next industry concerns and leading-edge issues
- Opportunity to learn from the students and staff
- Professional development of your employees

Influence
- Influence potential research opportunities related to your company and/or the construction industry
- Show your pride in our industry, state, and The Ohio State University
- Help the CSM program achieve a top 10 ranking in the nation

“One of the most valuable aspect of the CSM program is the required internship. Students gain first-hand experience in the construction industry. This experience provides them the chance to utilize the knowledge gained in the classroom and apply it in real life situations. For the employer, it is an excellent opportunity to work with students before making a full-time hiring decision.”
– Jill Harris, Manager of Human Resources, Corna Kokosing Construction Company

“I have had more hands-on experience in the CSM program than all of my other classes combined.”
– Samantha Hesketh

“The instructors are my favorite part of the program. They are great about answering questions and take a real interest in their students.”
– Alan Medina

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