



CONSTRUCTION *NEWS*

THE BUILDING FUTURES COUNCIL
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BUILDING FUTURES COUNCIL ANNOUNCES THREE OUTSTANDING DOCTORAL RESEARCH PAPERS PRESENTED AT FIRST CONFERENCE ON FUTURE OF ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Las Vegas— The Building Futures Council (BFC) yesterday announced the three most outstanding scholarly papers at the First Conference on the Future of the Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) Industry, *Engaging the New Generation of Doctoral Students in U.S. Universities*. The winners were named most outstanding because of the prospective vision, rigorous foundation, and sufficiently defined critical challenges and opportunities in addressing the future of AEC.

“I was impressed with the depth of concepts and ideas from the students. Their enthusiasm is encouraging, said Jack Chiaverini, BFC Chairman. I believe that the future of the AEC is in good hands with this generation of professionals.”

Sixteen doctoral students were chosen to present their papers on pre-construction and design, project simulation and visualization, new materials, products and technologies, and AEC collaboration at the first-ever conference aimed at bringing together leaders and innovators from all industry segments. Three of the top sixteen papers were awarded a scholarship of one thousand dollars and all will be printed in *Automation in Construction*, and international journal focusing on all aspects of technologies in the AEC industry.

The topics represent an unusual glimpse of the issues at the forefront of the design and building industry,” said Dr. Thomas Gallaway, Dean of Architecture at Georgia Institute of Technology, and Conference Chair.

The three most outstanding papers include:

- *Toward Fully Automated Robotic Crane for Construction Erection* by ShihChung Kang and Eduardo Miranda, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Stanford University
- *The U.S. Non-wood, Non-metal Primary Building Materials Sector in Flux: a Sectoral Analysis and a Proposed Materials Development and Innovation Framework* by Felichism Kabo, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
- *Collaborative Project Planning in Ownership-Architect Partnerships* by Hans Verheij and Godfried Augenbroe, Building Technology Program, College of Architecture, Georgia Institute of Technology

Doctoral students were provided with a think tank focus and intellectual pipeline to address the future of the industry. This is expected to be the first in a series of biennial conferences. The conference was held yesterday and on Wednesday at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada in conjunction with the Associated General Contractor’s 86th Annual Convention.

The Building Futures Council is an independent, non-profit corporation composed of senior executives and organizations engaged in all aspects of the building and construction process. For more information, visit the BFC Web site at www.thebfc.com.

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