

Civil Engineering NEWS

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Jerry Stephens

Some of you might have heard about a recent domino effect in MSU's College of Engineering. Robert Marley, Dean of Engineering, was named an American Council on Education Fellow for academic year 2012-13;

Brett Gunnink, our department head, was appointed acting dean; and I was appointed acting department head. I am pleased to have been selected to fill the role.

The college came out fine in this shuffle, as Dr. Gunnink has done an outstanding job as Department Head over the past 10 years. One of my primary goals is simple, to return the Department to him running at least as smoothly as when he left. Because of our faculty and staff's absolute commitment to helping prepare our students to succeed as professionals, this goal should be readily achieved.

We continue to teach our students traditional engineering design principles and processes while exposing them to the latest technologies and design tools so that they can meet the complex challenges of providing the infrastructure that makes today's society go. This newsletter highlights a few accomplishments of our students, staff and faculty.

As we look ahead to all that the new academic year will bring, we want to also reflect on an amazing past year and thank all of those who continue to support us.

Jerry Stephens

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MSU Students Win Competition to Design Ice Climbing Tower



Image courtesy of Michael Spencer

MSU students Michael Spencer and Tymer Tilton from Architecture and PJ Kolnick from Civil Engineering won an MSU-based competition to design an 85 foot ice climbing tower as part of an attempt to attract the 2013 World Cup of Ice Climbing to Bozeman. The winning design is composed of angled climbing surfaces that attach to stacked shipping containers. The containers, in addition to being economical and sustainable, are designed to be temporary lodging for visiting athletes.

MSU Students Excel at Regional Construction Competition



MSU photo by Sepp Jannotta

Once again, Montana State University did very well in the regional Associated Schools of Construction competition held in Reno, Nev., this past spring. The Heavy Civil team took first place for the third time in five years (placing 2nd and 3rd the other two years), and the Commercial team took third out of 16 teams – competing against the likes of the Air Force Academy, Arizona State, Colorado

State, and BYU. The Marine Construction team turned in a very solid performance, but it was not fortunate enough to place. Dean Peterson, the group's advisor, drew the sports analogy that the student's performance would be like the MSU football team moving up to the Western Athletic Conference and then winning the conference championship three out of the past five years.

~ **WANTED** ~ Professional Mentors for MSU-EWB Students, Experience **REQUIRED**

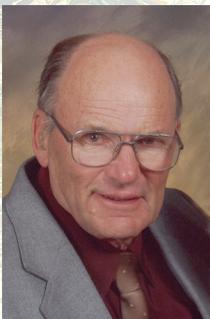
The MSU Chapter of Engineers Without Borders continues to work to bring fresh drinking water and sanitary wastewater facilities to schools in Kenya's Khwisero District. EWB is one of MSU's most active extracurricular student groups ever. The program now is seeking your help as professional mentors to work with the students, at

home and in Africa. If you want to work with highly capable, motivated students overcoming an unusual set of challenges, halfway around the world, contact EWB's advisor, Professor Otto Stein (ottos@ce.montana.edu) or go online at <http://www.ewb-msu.org>.



Image courtesy of Dolan Personke

in memoriam



Distinguished Alumnus, Faculty Member and Lifelong MSU Booster: Bill Hunt

Bill Hunt, long time distinguished member of the Civil Engineering Department passed away on September 3, 2012. Bill's association with the Department dates back more than 60 years, where he earned his BSCE in 1952. After a brief interlude at the University of Wisconsin where he received his Master's degree, and a two-year stint in the U.S. Army, he returned to MSU as an instructor in Civil Engineering in 1955. In 1958 he returned to the University of Wisconsin, completing a PhD in 1960 with a focus on hydraulics. Bill subsequently was hired as an assistant professor in MSU's Civil Engineering Department. Twenty-six years later he retired from MSU as a full professor, having served as acting department head from 1977 to 1978. In his post-retirement years Bill continued to teach at MSU as a professor emeritus and was very involved in consulting (among other things, managing the Bozeman Office of HKM). Bill's contributions to the Department and Profession at the local, state and national

levels over the span of his very active, productive career are too numerous to enumerate. Bill and his wife Marj were recognized for their lifelong support of MSU with an alumni Blue and Gold Award in 2011. Memorials can go to the William A. Hunt Civil Engineering Scholarship, P.O. Box 179300, Bozeman, MT 59717.