



## Department of Architectural Engineering

### AE Department Awarded Turner Prize



The Department of Architectural Engineering was named the recipient of the National Building Museum's 2014 Henry C. Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction Technology.

The prize, which carries an honorarium of \$25,000, is extended to the Department of Architectural Engineering for fostering a broad range of collaborative research

efforts that will lead to efficiencies in the construction process and encourage energy-efficient building solutions, such as the innovative research underway at the GridSTAR Center in Philadelphia's Navy Yard.

"I commend [Penn State's] commitment to communication and collaboration with our building industry," said Turner Prize jury member and Turner Construction past president Hal Parmalee. "In particular the 'GridSTAR Center,' 'Computer Integrated Construction,' 'Owner's Guide to Building Information Modeling,' 'Institute of Energy and Environment and Energy efficient renovations targeting zero energy use' are but examples of research papers they have disseminated to the industry and the development of the Philadelphia Navy Yard."

The AE department is the 12th recipient of this prestigious award. Previous award winners include Gehry Partners and Gehry Technologies, Engineers Without Borders-USA, the U.S. Green Building Council, the Society of Women Engineers, architect I. M. Pei, ACE Mentor Program founder Charles Thornton, Stanford University professor Paul Teicholz, Caterpillar Inc., engineer Leslie Robertson, construction manager Charles DeBenedittis of Tishman Speyer, and the Lean Construction Institute.

Turner Construction Company established the Prize and an endowment to support it to honor Henry C. Turner, who founded the Turner Construction Company in 1902. The prize recognizes advances or high achievement in the process of construction – an invention, an innovative methodology, and/or exemplary leadership. It is awarded to an individual or team of individuals for a singular achievement of exceptional importance or for a lifetime of contributions to the construction industry.

Dr. Anumba said, "We are very grateful to the selection committee for recognizing our work on energy efficiency in buildings, and the development of innovative construction technologies and processes. It is a testament to the excellent work done by our faculty and students."

A formal award program was held on December 3, 2014 at the National Building Museum in Washington, DC, which included poster displays by Penn State AE students; introduction and remarks by Chase Rynd, president of the National Building Museum, and Stephen Fort, senior vice president of Turner Construction; and acceptance speeches from Anthony Atchley, senior associate dean, College of Engineering; and David Riley, associate professor and director of the GridSTAR Center.

In addition, a panel discussion on "University-Industry Collaboration on Innovative Building Research and Education" was moderated by Karen Sweeny, Turner Construction's senior vice president for Diversity and Inclusion. Panelists included: Chimay Anumba, professor and head, Department of Architectural Engineering; James Freihaut, professor of AE, Penn State; John Grady, president, Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation; Martha Kanter, distinguished visiting professor at NYU and former under secretary at the Department of Education; and Ted Lynch, president, Southland Industries.

### Staff News



**Holly Seidel** joins the AE department 2014 as the new administrative support coordinator and manager of the Engineering Copy Center. Holly has 28 years of service with the University. She previously was the Administrative Coordinator in the Department of Mechanical and Nuclear Engineering .



**Nancy Sabol**, administrative support coordinator, is retiring effective Jan. 1, 2015. She joined the AE Department in 1996 as bookkeeper and in 2001, she assumed the role of administrative support coordinator.

A farewell reception with AE faculty, staff, students and colleagues will be held in her honor on Dec. 19.

### Student Passport Launch Confirms Student Talent



ELECTRI International launched the Student Passport Competition at its July Council meeting with project presentations from two finalist NECA Student Chapter Teams which included Kevin Clement from Penn State University presenting its proposal for a water pumping station project in Roatán, Honduras.

The Pennsylvania State University National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) Student Chapter proposal includes installing a 2 kilowatt photovoltaic array that would run a water pump for the Oakridge community in Roatán, Honduras. The array will be partially roof mounted and partially ground mounted to provide a shaded lounge area. Currently, the community is only able to run the water pump for small portions of the day because of the high cost of operation. This array will completely eliminate the \$3,000 per year operating cost. Vegas Electric, an electrical contractor in Roatán, is working with students to help carry out the project by educating the students on how to build the array while in Roatán, using their prefabrication shop, and storing all materials prior to the arrival of the students and faculty.

The Penn State Chapter's proposal was selected as the winner. The Chapter will receive \$20,000 from ELECTRI to help fifteen students travel to Roatán, Honduras during the second week of March 2015 to implement the project . There will be a one credit class offered in the spring associated with this project to educate the students about photovoltaic arrays as well as the culture of Honduras. The current leaders of the Chapter are very excited to be able to participate in this once in a lifetime experience.

The Chapter is still in need of additional funding for the trip to Honduras. If your company is interested in making a donation to help improve the community of Oakridge or have any questions, please contact Kevin Clement at Kic5220@psu.edu. To learn more about the project please see the link below for the project proposal.

[http://www.electri.org/sites/default/files/PennsylvaniaState\\_StudentPassportProposal\\_2014.pdf](http://www.electri.org/sites/default/files/PennsylvaniaState_StudentPassportProposal_2014.pdf)