

Leading the students on a tour of a unique enclosed parking structure with a garden roof was Bob Hassey of J. W. Peters in Burlington, Wis. The tour of the structure gave the students a chance to see a fully enclosed precast concrete structure with all of the connections and precast concrete still in view. Plus, the students got to see a garden roof structure, which is quickly becoming a popular feature.

“We are very happy to see precast being taught so interactively in a prestigious school of architecture,” Hassey says. “It was a great day to connect with the students and help them understand the process of designing and building in precast.”

Students also visited the Staybridge Suites, Gaslight Lofts, and the Park Terrace Row Houses precast concrete projects.

As the semester progresses, students will interact with the precast concrete industry through plant tours, a walking tour of Chicago precast concrete projects, and lectures. The students will also present midterm and final reviews, during which precasters, association representatives, and precast concrete designers will walk through the students’ designs and give feedback.

The studio is funded by the by PCI Foundation. The PCI Foundation is a not-for-profit educational and scientific association with the goal of providing for the precast concrete industry’s future success by helping ensure the continued availability of talented people and new technology.

PCI releases new AIA sustainable design education programs

Four new PCI educational programs are available under the AIA’s new Sustainable Design designation. The programs include the following:

- Sustainability: An Introduction for 3.0 SD/HSW learning units
- Sustainable Building Design Using Precast/Prestressed Concrete for 1.0 SD/HSW learning units
- Sustainable Building Design Using Precast/Prestressed Concrete for 1.5 SD/HSW learning units
- Sustainable Design with Architectural Precast Concrete for 1.25 SD/HSW learning units

PCI members can access these programs through the PCI website. For more information, go to the Member Education Resources page under the Education tab at www.pci.org or contact Michael Potts, PCI’s director of education, at mpotts@pci.org.

CIM survey covers demand for concrete

Strategic Marketing Associates Inc. recently conducted the 2008 Concrete Industry Management (CIM) program demand survey on behalf of the National Steering Committee for the CIM program.

The primary objective of the survey was to estimate the annual demand for CIM program graduates, both regionally and by industry segment.

In total, 149 organizations were interviewed across 10 specialized industry segments. The survey covered the following major issues:

- CIM program familiarity
 - the prevalence of college internship and recruitment programs across the industry
 - CIM graduate hiring plans and practices and the job functions that the graduates are most likely to be hired into
 - interest in executive-level master’s degree programs in concrete industry management
- The PCI Foundation partially sponsors the CIM program.