



## Mentor Program

**GREATER METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON AREA AFFILIATE**

*Career directions for students in architecture, construction and engineering*

[www.acementor.org](http://www.acementor.org)

Volume 2, Issue 2, Winter 2010

### SPRING 2010 CALENDAR

#### April

- April 14<sup>th</sup> – Deadline for 2010 Scholarship Awards Breakfast Sponsorship
- April 21<sup>st</sup> – 2010 Scholarship Awards Breakfast, 8-10am

#### May

- May 18<sup>th</sup> – Student Presentation Night, Maryland Teams, 4:30-8:30pm
- May 19<sup>th</sup> – Student Presentation Night, Washington, DC Teams, 5:30-8:30pm
- May 20<sup>th</sup> – Student Presentation Night Virginia Teams, 5:30-9:30pm

#### June

- Mentor Networking/Appreciation Event

### Watch for ACE DC in the News!



We have been featured in two Examiner articles, both in January in honor of National Mentoring Month and February by:

- ❖ Dianne Walker – Nonprofit Business
- ❖ Aisha Ali – DC Youth Issues



#### SAVE THE DATE

#### 2010 Scholarship Awards Breakfast

Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010  
from 8am – 10am at  
Historic Lobby of Terminal A  
Ronald Reagan National Airport  
Arlington, VA

For Registration and Sponsorship, visit  
[www.acementor.org/592](http://www.acementor.org/592)

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# A Note from the Executive Director

**Trisha M. Grant, LEED AP**

Dear Supporters of ACE,

For the first time in our affiliate's history, two teams have entered the Construction Industry Roundtable (CIRT) Competition! Hayfield High School, lead by Lakshmi Nalluri and Wheaton High School, lead by Oswaldo Ortega and Chris Hillegas are preparing their teams to make a coherent, well thought out, clear presentation on their team's design/construction approaches at this national competition. Finalists will be notified March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and will present to the CIRT Panel of Judges April 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> – good luck teams!

We have nearly seventy volunteers mentoring over 200 students on teams throughout the DC, MD, and VA metropolitan area. New partnerships we are exploring include with the Fairfax Partnership for Youth, Greater DC Cares, Design-Build Institute of America and Jets. We are looking into future teams at Bishop McNamara and Job Corps Potomac campus.

We are also gaining more recognition in the community, having received a written endorsement from Ward 1 Councilmember Jim Graham; and a personal team visit by Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh.

I encourage you all to participate in the 2010 Scholarship Awards Breakfast – all the work that we do and all of the programming would not be possible without the support of our sponsors! Guests will enjoy a phenomenal Keynote Speaker – Mr. Robert A. Peck, Commissioner of the GSA Public Building Service. Also, this year we've added a silent auction!

Should your firm be interested in hosting an ACE student as an intern this summer, please do not hesitate to contact me.

## Board of Directors

**President – Chris Reseigh, Parsons Brinckerhoff**

**Treasurer – Scott Damiecki, Watkins, Meegan, Drury & Company**

**Communications – John Gudgel, McGraw Hill**

**Anthony Dean, Prince George's County Public Schools**

**Ben Latigo, University of the District of Columbia**

**Christian Jahrling, Turner Construction Company**

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**Robert Wallace, Wilson Elser, Moskowitz, Edelman & Dicker, LLP**

**Scott Kratz, National Buildings Museum**

**Thomas James, GSA, Public Building Service**

**John Fetty, Marriott International**

**For all inquiries and additional information on how to become more involved, please write to [washingtondc@acementor.org](mailto:washingtondc@acementor.org)**

**Our website always offers up-to-date information and news, visit [www.acementor.org/592](http://www.acementor.org/592)**

# ACE ALUMS

*Where are they now? What are they doing?*



**Cintha Karinna Quispe** – studying Industrial Engineering as a full-time student at Penn State University, class of 2012.



**Christian Chance** – studying Architecture at Montgomery College, class of 2012.

**Danny Gramajo** – studying Architecture at Montgomery College. After finishing his general course, he will transfer to the University of Virginia and graduate in 2014. He is also a full-time employee at Best Buy, making extra money for school and learning how to run a business in preparations for running his own Architecture firm one day.



**Drake DeLorme** – studying Mechanical Engineering with a minor in Nuclear Physics as a full-time student at Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI. He graduates Fall 2012 or Spring 2013. He is also working for the US Army Corps of Engineers during the summers as an Engineering Intern.



**Jason Singh** – studying Mechanical Engineering as a full-time student at the University of Maryland College Park, class of 2013.

**Joey O'Connor** – studying Architecture at Catholic University, class of 2012. He is a Student AIA, a board member of the studio culture committee; and an intern with his mentor at Gauthier Alvarado & Associates during the summer.



**Karla Osorio** – studying Electrical Engineering at Montgomery College, class of 2013. In addition to school, she has a 2-month old daughter as well as a part time job.

**Krystal Robinson** – studying Electrical Engineering at Howard University, graduating December 2010. With a separate part-time job, she is also interning with the ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Metropolitan Area, Inc.



**Marlon Ulloa** – studying Architecture at the University of the District of Columbia, class of 2012. He is a member of the chess club and the school's soccer team.

**Nina Randorf** – studying Nuclear Engineering at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, class of 2014. In her spare time, she is a Student/International Work Camp Volunteer. This year is her gap year where she spent the year studying abroad in South Korea and Japan; and working as a long term international volunteer with Volunteers for Peace.

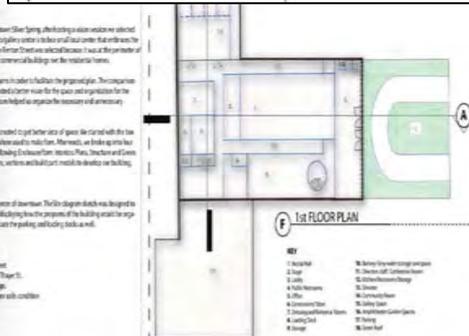
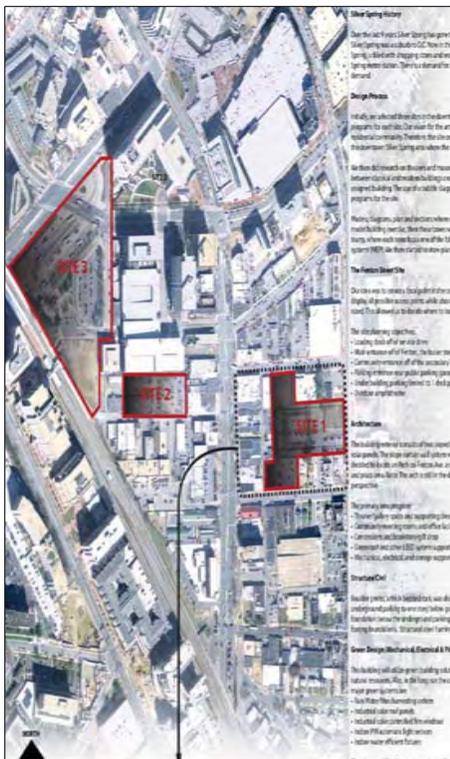
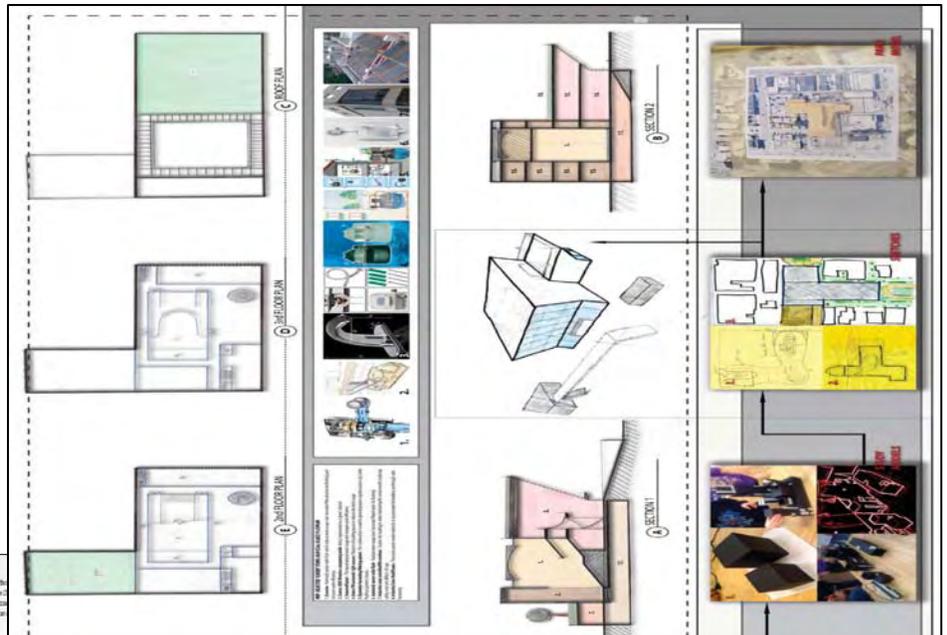


# NEWS FROM OUR ACE TEAMS

## WHEATON HIGH SCHOOL

Lead Mentors: Oswaldo Ortega and Chris Hillegas; John Fetty, Christine Antony, Ajay Devadanam

### 2010 CIRT COMPETITION ENTRY!



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## HAYFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Lead Mentors: Lakshmi Nalluri and Alan Coleman; Mike O'Neal

*The ACE Mentor Program at Hayfield Secondary School has featured a very committed group of sophomores, junior and seniors.*



*This year, the students decided they were up to the challenge of competing in the CIRT Competition and chose "A Parking Garage Outside of the Box."*

*To prepare for this competition, the students considered the weaknesses of current parking garages, and listed methods to improve upon garage design. Furthermore, the students researched areas that would benefit from an "out of the box" parking garage. It was determined that a parking garage at the National Zoo was not only necessary, but would allow for creativity, effectively connecting the garage to the zoo itself.*

*With the help of guests, ranging from architects to landscape designers to garage structural engineers, the team worked week after week to develop and improve upon the concept.*

*While it took a lot of work, the students all came together with some great ideas, and the completed project was submitted for the CIRT competition.*

**2010  
CIRT  
COMPETITION  
ENTRY!**

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## COOLIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Lead Mentor: Julee R. Thomas



*Team photo at National Mentoring Month celebration, January 2010.*

The ACE Mentor team at Coolidge continued its second year with more endeavors and fun events. As part of National Mentoring month, ACE DC hosted an Open House at Coolidge in January 2010 with participants from the American Society of Landscape Architecture (ASLA), Takoma Park Association, American Forestry Service, Coolidge Alumni Association, and the Coolidge school administration.

Councilmember Bowser sent her greetings for this event. Partnership with the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) was established through the student Presidents Michias Abesha and Mattheos Mesfin by submitting a charter via Kenjie Davis, Regional Director NSBE student programs.

The pilot partnership program with NSBE helped establish a direct link to the US Naval Academy's professor and Dean of Mechanical Engineering. In addition, the ASLA will be working with Coolidge students and ACE for their Legacy project, a landscape design charrette event to be held in April 2010.

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## SUITLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Lead: Nadiyah Vass and Calvin Austin; Albert Dobbins



*Photos –  
Discussing the  
final CAPSTONE  
project’s RFP.  
Completing online  
applications for  
ACE scholarships.*

The Suitland High School Students have decided to create a Hybrid Community around Bowie State University. This community will be geared towards the college students. This project is going to be fun. It will utilize sustainable design features and programs along with smart transportation methods. The students each have specific roles/responsibilities in the project which gives them experience as to how actual project teams work in our industry.

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## **BELL MULTICULTURAL**

Lead Mentors: Gunnar Lucko, Lynn Bechthold and Kimberly Schiffgens

March 4th the Bell Multicultural School ACE students visited the AECOM/Elberbe Becket office in Washington DC. After a presentation of the corporate history and work culture we saw presentations from four intern architects on what defines an intern, what are the steps for architectural registration, 3-D computerized graphic design tools, and building a scaled model.

A tour of the office showed the different studios and work spaces for the employees as well as the materials library where samples are maintained for project design purposes.

Over pizza we discussed the Lunar Research Station our team is planning, and the students were pleased to hear their project planning process is similar to the process our team is using in planning our project.

On the return trip to Bell, the students discussed what they saw, and how they could apply what they saw to their process, and asked questions about college and working during and after college.

## **BOWIE / PATRIOTS TECHNOLOGY CENTER**

Lead Mentor: Terry Hayes

The team is going to attempt to design a school new high school that will incorporate new technology that will increase attendance, eliminate class cutting, skipping, security, as well as decrease the amount of security officials on patrol in a school with a population of 3000 students.

One of our newest teams this year, teacher and mentor Terry Hayes also conducts the robotics program for Bowie High School. In previous years, Mr. Hayes and his students have entered the FIRST Robotics competition in the Chesapeake Bay region.

## **WT Woodson**

Lead Mentors: Ryan Seymore

CAPSTONE project: The Woodson High School Capstone Project will be a modern library for the 21st Century.

The design will focus on emerging technologies such as wireless power and downloadable media, as well as traditional resources of a library.

The library will include conference rooms for public use equipped with multimedia capability, expanded computer use areas and a wireless cafe.



*The students have begun researching various new libraries around the country, including a tour at the City of Fairfax Regional Library.*

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## WOODROW WILSON

Lead Mentors: Chris McCune; James Russell



*Photos – Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh participates in the ACE Woodrow Wilson team session*



On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Ward 3 Councilmember Mary Cheh met with the ACE Mentor Program's Wilson High Team at Woodrow Wilson High School.

In previous years, the students formally testified to DC City Council. Their testimony –encompassing input from the Ward 4 neighborhood, faculty, and other students – outlined deficiencies in the plans and presented new design aspects to incorporate into the overall Master Facilities Plan for the school's modernization. For example, the students design elements included making ADA compliance for the disabled; a new cafeteria; and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) at the Silver level a priority. Currently, the Woodrow Wilson High School modernization project is in the design phase and incorporates the students' design elements. The project is anticipated to accelerate Summer 2010.

Their CAPSTONE project this year will be designing a self-sustaining city center for a corporate, commercial motor vehicles company and its employees.

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## **Booker T. Washington**

Lead Mentors: Dawit Zena and Winston Wright; Gaftie Marlow, Lisa Chong, Anthony Stewart  
The ACE Mentoring Program at Booker T. Washington High School is mentored by a group from the US General Services Administration's (GSA) and an engineer from Thornton Tomasetti. For the second consecutive year, the contact person for us is the school's Autocad teacher (a trained architect) who is a great help. In addition to participating in the sessions, he helps with recruiting and motivating students.

During the last semester, the students were engaged in activities that included architectural, engineering and construction topics. The sessions typically involved discussing architectural, civil/ structural, electrical and mechanical engineering professions as well as sustainability and green technology careers. After these discussions, several hands on activities were done. One hands-on activity was building a Christmas tree during two sessions in December. The students were able to learn about electrical circuits and take home with them a small blinking Christmas tree that they built.

One session was opened to the public in January for National Mentoring Month. A site visit to one of the GSA's projects in Washington DC is planned for April. The students have started their Capstone Project. This year they have chosen to build a hotel. The site selection, building plan and general features of the elevation have been determined. Most of the space planning and program of requirements development is also complete.

## **Chantilly Academy**

Lead Mentors: Marcy Loy and John Gould  
CAPSTONE project: The project this year is a hotel located in Miami, FL. The team is looking into all aspects of the project such as location, style of hotel and green initiatives.

## **Crossland**

Lead Mentors: Mike Dulaney; Thad Waters  
CAPSTONE project: The team is considering adding a performing arts addition. Although this addition does not exist, the ACE students have created their own which includes a stage, theatre seating, stage riser, concessions, and classrooms.

## **HD Woodson**

Lead Mentors: Tyrone Anderson and Jodi Paci  
CAPSTONE project: The team is designing a mall with basketball courts, theater, shops, and laser tag, shops. The design will be complete with rooftop pool.

## **Freedom**

Lead Mentors: Jay Ryba; Drew Kelleher  
This is team's last session will be a live demolition exhibition on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Public Access, the school system's news channel, will also cover the event.

## **Herndon**

Lead Mentors: Kassinda Williams and Don Miller  
CAPSTONE project: The team will design an exciting addition to the Town of Herndon. The students are putting together a dynamic building that will house a multipurpose gym with a full size basketball court, Olympic size swimming pool and rock climbing wall.

## **Marshall**

Lead Mentors: Mark McKenna; Joyce Hallinan, Christi McDonald  
CAPSTONE project: The Marshall ACE Team has chosen to develop a plan for the Merrifield Town Center in Fairfax, VA at Gallows Road and Lee Highway. The Town Center will feature a new round movie theater, a community center, parks and recreation area, housing, parking structures, and a modern means of transportation to and from the local metro station.

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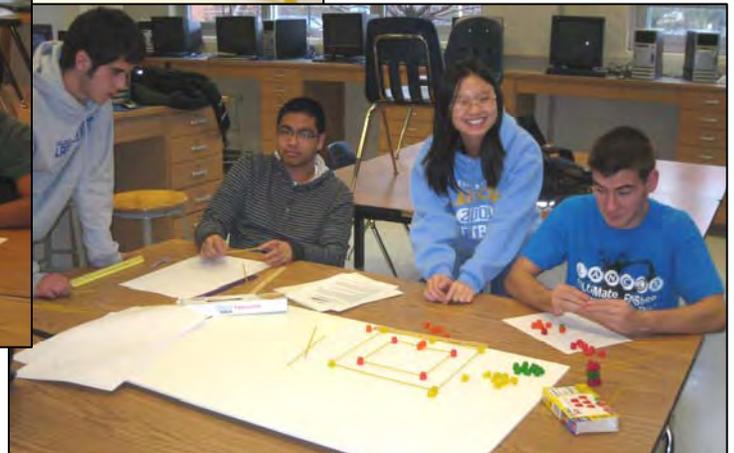
## ROBERT E LEE

Lead Mentors: Chris Reseigh; Matt Johannessen, Joe Schroedel, Austin Ringwood, Jim Needham, Daniel Wungko and Yoseph Wondimu



*The spaghetti and gumdrops structures session was an early highlight as teams competed to build the strongest, tallest and resistance to lateral loading structures.*

*Left: Mentor Mat Johannessen tests the student's work.*



The Robert E Lee ACE Mentoring Students meet on Mondays; and Mr. Phil Saunders is our teacher coordinator. The majority of students that are decided are interested in Architecture and Civil Engineering. Mini projects have included the planning, design, estimating and scheduling of School Improvement projects. We look forward to starting our end of the year project.

We have introductory sessions on what Architects and Civil Engineers do as well as the importance of Sustainability and Green Building program.

Weather has hampered our field trips but we are still optimistic of having an Architectural and Engineering tour of the Metro.

## Mentor Training – December 2009

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December 3, 2009 – Lanham, MD) The final ACE DC Mentor Training Session was a success, drawing interest in the program from representatives of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission; Gilbane Co.; Prince George’s County Public Schools; Catholic University; Marriott International; and PB World. A huge “Thank You” goes to our training session host/sponsor Limbach Company LLC – especially to coordinator Sam Albaugh for his efforts.



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## NEW ACE Student Teams

In January, we added another high school team for the 2009-2010 program year:

**Bowie High School** – Bowie, MD

Lead Mentor: Terry Hayes, Prince George’s County Public Schools

Lead Patron: Thurman Jones, Patriots Technology Learning Center

*Teams to Come* – due to popular request, we are investigating the possibility of teams at Job Corps Potomac Campus, Magruder, McNamara and TC Williams High Schools. If you are interested in being a part of these teams, contact Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acemmentor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acemmentor.org).



Join the ACE Mentor Program of America National **LinkedIn** page.

Get connected to fellow mentors and other industry professionals here:

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2182867>



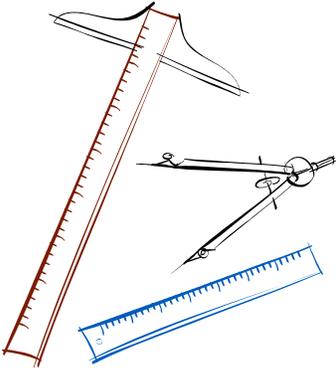
***Use eBay Missionfish to Support the ACE Mentor Program of the Greater Washington Metro Area***

Donate items to the ACE DC for auction. Or make an impact when you shop and contribute directly from PayPal.

[http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP\\_ID=35582](http://donations.ebay.com/charity/charity.jsp?NP_ID=35582)

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***In general, the main identifying goals of the ACE DC Affiliate are:***

- 
- Mentors (industry professionals, tradesmen, etc.) for the school year
  - Guest Speakers/Mentors (a presentation periodically to students)
  - Construction/Site Tours of projects
  - Donations/Grant opportunities

If you know of any opportunities, or other items of interest to ACE DC, please feel free to contact Trisha Grant at [tgrantdcaffiliate@acemotor.org](mailto:tgrantdcaffiliate@acemotor.org).