



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

INFORMATION

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CIB Student Chapter

New CIB Endorsed Student Chapter

by

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The School of the Built and Natural Environment, Glasgow Caledonian University, and The Department of Civil Engineering, University of Strathclyde, Scotland, UK have just been approved as the latest CIB Endorsed Student Chapter. These two universities have decided to propose the first joint chapter to pull their resources and become more effective.

As explained in the proposal to establish, the postgraduate communities in both institutions, many of the activities currently undertaken are comparable to those recommended to be provided by a CIB Student Chapter. For example, in both institutions, postgraduates and researchers meet informally and formally to discuss issues regarding their research and facilities. Similarly, workshops/seminars are held to discuss many research issues, including 'Research Methodology'. Members of academic staff and external guest speakers are often in attendance in such workshops/seminars.

In both institutions, postgraduates and researchers are encouraged to attend and deliver papers on their research subjects at CIB Working Commission and Task Group events and conferences.

Both institutions already maintain very strong working relationship. For example, the two universities jointly run an MSc. in Construction Innovation. This is developed with the support of the UK Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) as part of the Integrated Graduate Development Scheme. The proposed Student Chapter will benefit from the relevant industrial experience of the postgraduate

students on this programme who are mainly middle and senior staff in disciplines throughout the construction industry on both supply and client side. The two institutions are also involved in collaborative research projects. The areas of postgraduate and research activities in both institutions provide ample opportunity for synergy and benefits to both sets of postgraduate and researchers. Also, from a physical proximity standpoint, both institutions are located less than 1 mile of each other. This would be of benefit in the co-ordination of the Student Chapter activities by its members.

Both institutions welcome the challenge and opportunity that a CIB Student Chapter would offer within their research environment and the two institutions are prepared to provide available resources necessary for the joint CIB Student Chapter to flourish. Our postgraduates and researchers are very keen to embrace the concept of a CIB Student Chapter and wish to interact with other Student Chapters across the world.

Chapter Objectives

Provide targeted forums for disseminating and sharing of research skills and research findings for the benefits of its members

Produce a newsletter/a vehicle for the CIB Student Chapter on a regular basis (at least two per year).

To establish and facilitate joint research activities between members of different CIB Student Chapters in the UK and overseas.



Support CIB events by encouraging student members to attend and to submit research papers for presentation and publication at such events. Actively encourage other CIB member institutes to establish their own CIB Endorsed Chapter.

The Universities

The School of the Built and Natural Environment brings together academic staff with expertise in Construction Technology, Economics and Management with Civil Engineering, Building Services Engineering, and Environmental Technologies, allowing it to tackle a wide range of issues associated with the exploitation of land, water and mineral resources. It brings together the largest academic built environment department in Scotland with one of the few departments in Scotland, which targets the environment as a major sphere of activity. The School considers research to be an essential activity in the development of both undergraduate and postgraduate teaching. The School maintains an appropriate and distinct range of research activity with a major feature being partnerships with industry, commerce and other academic institutions in the UK and overseas. It is firmly committed to the concept of "the environment as a multidisciplinary subject"; the style and shape of the research activities reflect this theme. Research activities in the School cover a wide range of built and natural environment areas but centre on three themes: Construction Management and Economics (e.g. construction procurement & economics, construction management, dispute resolution); Building Performance (e.g. Building materials and physics, fire risk engineering) and Environment (air & water quality, waste management, environmental technology). The school offers a host of postgraduate research programmes including MSc, MPhil and Ph.D. There are currently over 70 postgraduate and registered research students. The School also maintains strong research links with many research institutions, including Stanford University, Arizona State University, University of Capetown, Hong Kong University and Royal Melbourne University.

The University of Strathclyde has a wide interest in the activities of CIB and such work spans several departments. The Department of Civil Engineering has a long history and strong reputation in preparing graduates for the profession of Civil Engineering. The department aims to provide an excellent education at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels and to maintain and develop excellent research programmes of international and national standing both of which will be useful to industry, profession and the community." The research activities of the Department are carried out within three broad-based groups, as follows; Design Process & Construction Management Research Group (Design Process, Component Design, Procurement, Sustainability, Innovation); Civil Engineering Systems Research Group (e.g. Geotechnical Engineering, Water and Environmental

Management, Fluid Mechanics and Hydraulic Engineering and Coastal Hydraulics) and Environmental Research Group (e.g. Water Quality, Solid Waste Management, Parasitology, Air Pollution, Transport, Fisheries, Food Hygiene and Safety, Environmental Fluid Mechanics). The Department offers research programmes leading to MSc, MPhil and Ph.D. There are currently over 50 MSc postgraduate and registered research students. The Department of Architecture and Building Science is the largest Architectural School in Scotland and a postgraduate research activity is organised by a Graduate School which holds 15 MPhil/ PhD students and has an average research income of £400, 000 per annum. The current research units in which CIB activity would be relevant are:

- ABACUS (Architecture and Building Aids Computer Unit, Strathclyde)
- CEDAR (Centre for Environmental Design & Research)
- SEMU (Safety and Environmental Management Unit)

The Department of Mechanical Engineering houses the Energy Systems Research Unit has particular interests in CIB activities such as energy modelling, glazing, photovoltaics, intelligent buildings HVAC systems and indoor air quality. The Graduate Business School houses the University's interest in Facilities Management. The University has an extensive set of research contacts within and beyond the UK.