

Professors Workshop on Masonry at University of California San Diego a Success

The 2016 University Professor's Masonry Workshop (UPMW), which was held on March 20-22 at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), was a great success, drawing 21 total attendees from across the country. Dr. Benson Shing of the University of California, San Diego served as Workshop Host. Support from a number of UCSD professors, students, and aides was provided to ensure an effective and enjoyable workshop.

This year's University Professor's Masonry Workshop built on the success of 25 past workshops, the first being given in 1988. The UPMW is a forum for faculty who are teaching masonry, or will be teaching masonry, to learn about the design, specification, construction, and evaluation of masonry. Effective and innovative ways to teach this information to their students are discussed. The goal of the UPMW is simple: to assist professors teaching masonry so that students, who will be future designers and construction managers, are comfortable using masonry on their projects. The Masonry Society (TMS) led the workshop with assistance from a number of sponsoring and co-sponsoring organizations. Formal and informal discussions took place throughout the workshop allowing attendees to learn about masonry design and construction, while obtaining answers to their questions. Presentations were given related to exposing students to masonry, improving masonry education, available teaching resources, and masonry design and detailing. Major highlights of the UPMW included:

- An excellent Keynote Address on Masonry Contractors Insight and Perspective to Masonry Construction by Tom Daniel of GBC Concrete and Masonry Construction
- An informative tour of the RCP Block Plant
- Masonry Wall Building Demonstration which allowed attendees a chance to lay concrete masonry units
- Several Panel Discussions on masonry materials and Building Information Modelling (BIM) which were well received and allowed more discussion between attendees and masonry industry representatives.
- A Session on Innovative Approaches to Masonry Education was given and offered numerous ideas on how to enhance classes using practical, hands-on learning
- Breakout sessions on Masonry Detailing by Pat Rand of NC State University and Structural Masonry Design by Richard Bennett of the University of Tennessee
- A library full of educational resources on masonry design and construction was given to attendees in printed and electronic format

The Masonry Society has developed a "post-Workshop" website for attendees to provide additional resources and to allow them to share thoughts and ideas.

Major Financial Sponsors for the UPMW included the Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada, Masonry Institute of America, NCMA Education and Research Foundation, International Masonry Institute, Portland Cement Association, Western States Clay Products Association, and RCP Block and Brick. Other Contributing Organizations included the Brick Industry Association and the Mason Contractors Association of America.

For further information on the UPMW, please contact TMS at info@masonrysociety.org





