

PerspECCtive

Theme:  
**Doing More With Less**

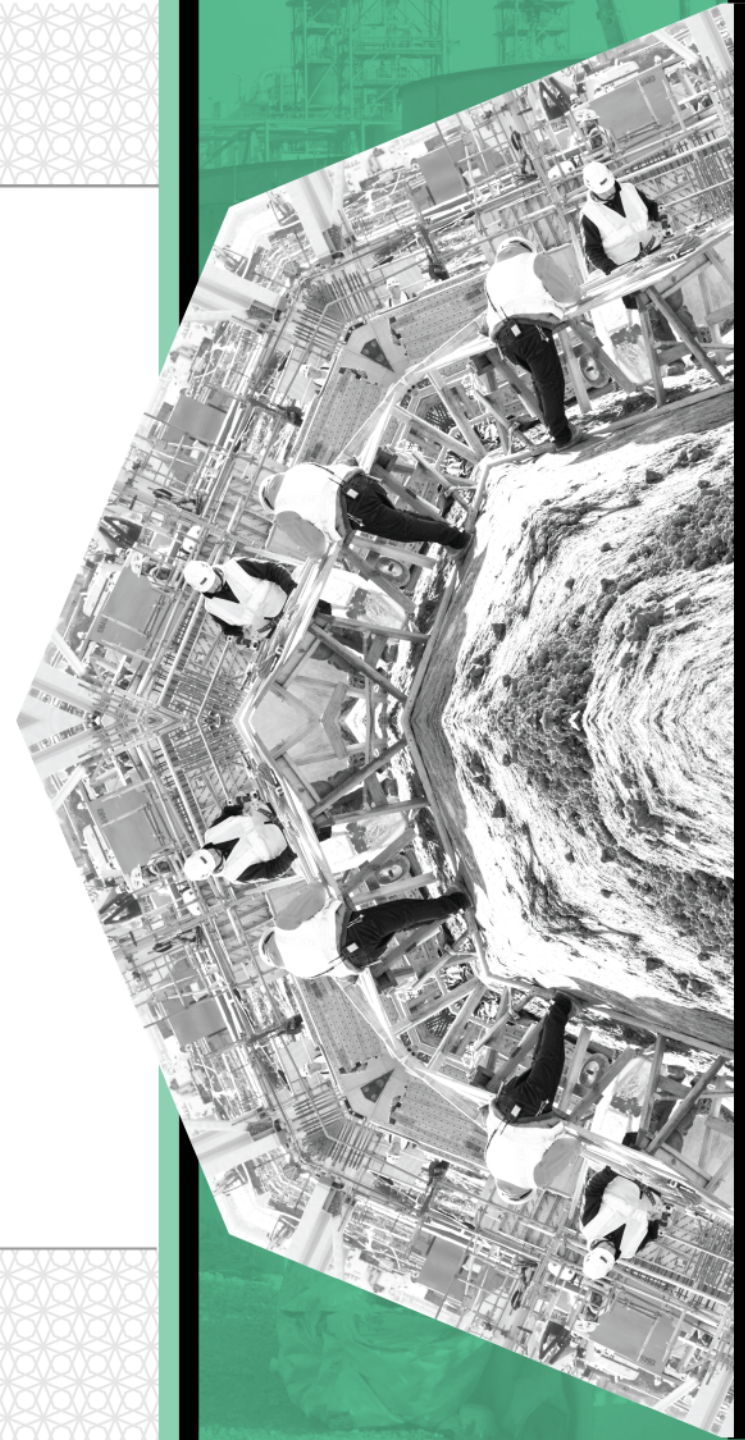
# Closing the Knowledge Gap



Year:  
**2017**

Date:  
**Dec. 12-14**

Location:  
**Boca Raton, FL**





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# Opening Remarks

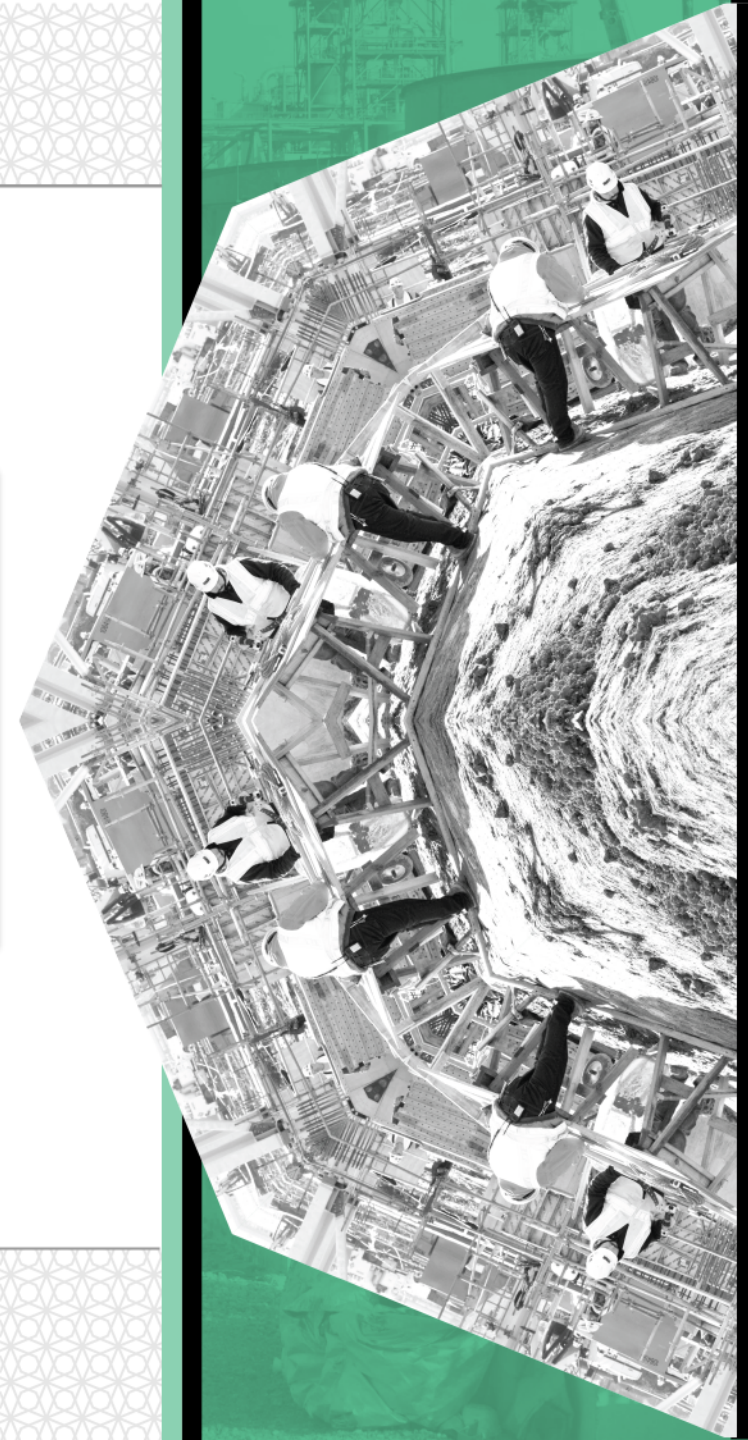
Steve Cabano  
ECC Past Chairman's Council  
Pathfinder, LLC



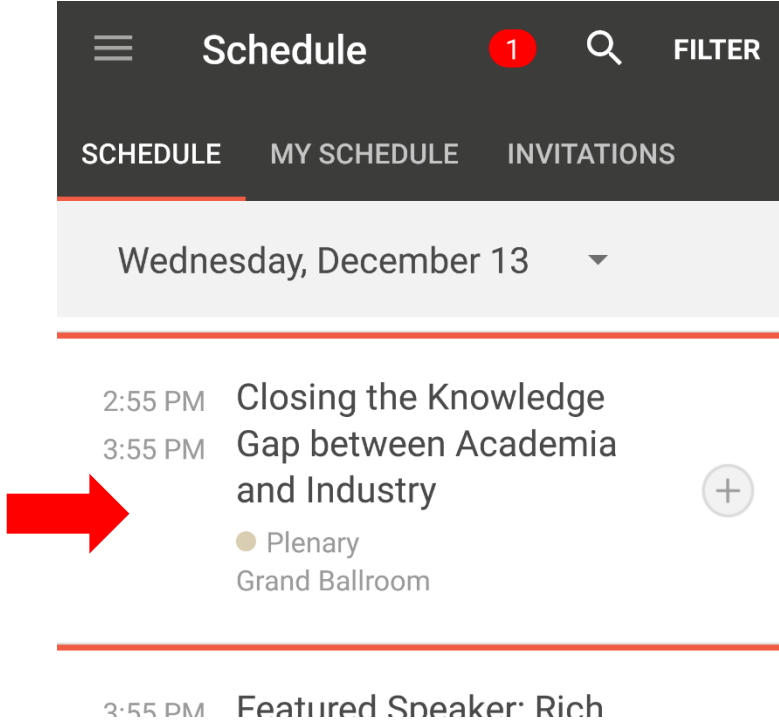
Year:  
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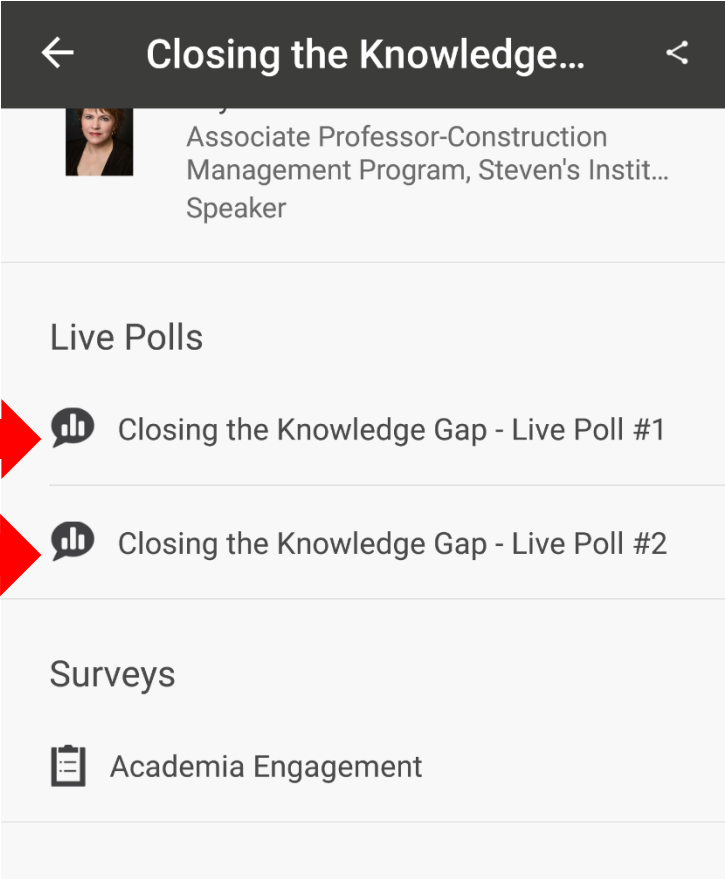
Location:  
**Boca Raton, FL**



# How to use WiFi connected ARS system



Scroll to bottom



# How to use WiFi connected ARS system

< Closing the Knowledge Gap -...

Have you been actively involved with academia within the past 3 years?

Please select an answer:

As a Guest Speaker

Adjunct Professor/Professor

Advisory Board Member

Currently work in Academia

No...but attend lots of college sporting events

Finish >

< Closing the Knowledge Gap -...

Exit Poll

< Edit My Responses



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# History of ECC's Involvement

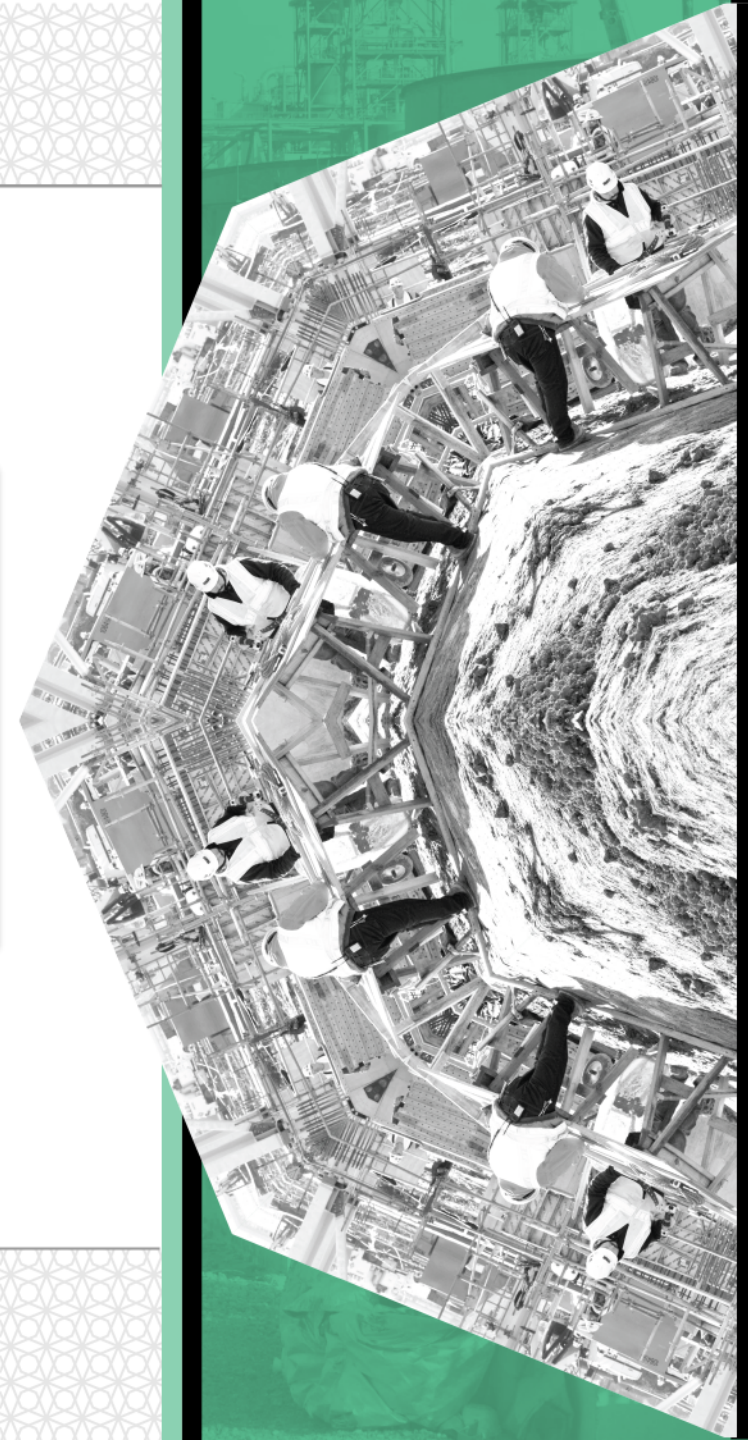
John W. Dalton, Sr.  
ECC Past Chairman's Council  
Zachry Group



Year:  
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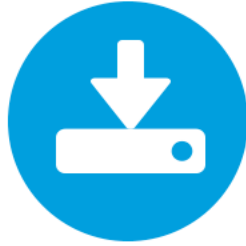


# Audience Question

- Have you been actively involved with academia within the past 10 years?
  - As a Guest Speaker
  - Adjunct Professor/Professor
  - Advisory Board Member
  - Currently work in Academia
  - No...but attend lots of college sporting events



# Your poll will display here



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# Background

- In 2005, a group of ECC Board Members believed there was opportunity to better link industry and academia
- However, there were some perceived gaps that needed to be validated.
- In 2007, the ECC funded a study/survey with Texas A&M University and Dr. J. Vanegas





# The Drivers...

- The capital projects industry needs:
  - People that can be more effective and efficient in a dynamic changing global work environment (the **talent**)
  - People with a different set of skills and abilities that are more compatible to the current needs of the industry (the **competency**)
    - Technical, interpersonal, communication, technological, leadership, creativity, business acumen, etc.



# The Questions...

- In the current educational context:
  - There are perceived **gaps** between the **content of curricula** versus **industry needs**...
  - Belief that current **pedagogical approaches** and **learning environments** are not keeping up with the dynamic changing environment of professional practice
  - Many educators are not taking advantage of a wealth of **industry knowledge** (best practices) and **experience** (lessons learned) in the curricula



# The Results...

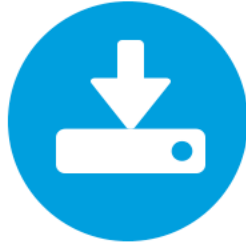
- Survey results validated significant gap in industry expectations and academia perceptions on
  - Curricula to industry needs
  - Adequacy of pedagogical approach
  - Use of industry knowledge and experience
- Over arching was the majority of universities did not recognize the need for change
- The survey also highlighted a number of barriers and challenges for the universities (especially at the undergraduate level)
  - Funding restrictions
  - Limitation of hours for degree completion
  - Accreditation challenges
  - Non-technical desired skills required courses from other colleges within the universities
- Over the past 10 years a core group of universities have been working with industry to “close the gap”



## Audience Question #2

- Do you feel there is still a gap in skillset needs of graduates between industry and academia?
  - No gaps – graduation students are well prepared
  - Changes within academia have been limited to “close the gaps”
  - Recognize universities are working with industry to help close the gaps and make the changes necessary to support industry
  - Have no opinion – about to retire

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## Audience Question #2 continued...

- Great News!
- A lot has been done by a number of universities across the country
  - CII best practices courses
  - Non-tech skills being taught
  - Latest technologies being used within the courses
  - New accredited degree programs being implemented
- Today you will hear from a sampling of universities and what they are doing to support industry needs



# Panel Members



**PATHFINDER, LLC**  
Steve Cabano (Moderator)



**ZACHRY**  
John Dalton (ECC History)



**CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY  
INSTITUTE**  
Cindy King



**DREXEL UNIVERSITY**  
Christine Fiori



**NORTH CAROLINA STATE  
UNIVERSITY**  
Ed Jaselskis



**STEVEN'S INSTITUTE OF  
TECHNOLOGY**  
Ellyn Lester



**TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY**  
Jorge Vanegas



**UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON**  
Lingguang Song



**VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY**  
Frank Falcone

# Discussion Questions

What recent changes have you made in your course offerings to address the issues?

What has CII offered recently and how has this been received?

What are some future plans or programs in place to address the gaps?

What are some of the metrics around graduates with this additional education?

# QUESTIONS

Please state your name, company affiliation and if appropriate, who you are directing your question to.





# Wrap Up

## What is Being Accomplished

- More integration of Practicing Professionals and Academia in Course delivery
- Attention to the Professional Skills of Project Management
- Targeting industry specific project issues rather than only technical issues
- Society attention to integrate universities into solving the problems/closing the gaps
- Extensive use of on the job training including co-op programs
- Planned 4 year adjunct curriculum to support Project Management needs
- Aggressive willingness to listen to the industry needs and implemented changes
- High degree of receptivity from industry on existing programs

**We are closing the gaps, but we need your help...**

# Call to Action

## PLEASE USE THE CONFERENCE APP TO PARTICIPATE...

- In the app, go to **Schedule**
  - Find the **Closing the Knowledge Gap** session
  - Scroll down under **Surveys**, click **Academia Engagement**
  - Be sure to **Finish** the survey.
- 
- How would you like to get engaged in Closing the Gap between Academia and Industry?
    - Guest Lecturing (Specific University or General)
    - Adjunct Professor
    - Internships
    - Mentoring
    - Research
    - Participation in ECC Academia committee
    - Other

**If you have not downloaded the app, please fill out the survey on your table.**



# PerspECCtive

The 49th Annual ECC Conference