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## Calendar of Events

### June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Spring Awards Banquet  
Arbor Crest Winery

(see page 2)

### June 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>

CSI NW Region Conference:  
Eugene Hilton & Conf. Center

(see page 3)



## President's Message

*"To accomplish great things, we must not only act,  
but also dream; not only plan, but also believe"*

*-Anatole France*



## END OF YEAR EVENTS FOR SPOKANE CSI

Our chapter has been active in recent months, and as our fiscal year draws to a close, we look forward to our year end transition that brings new leadership to our Board.

March 24<sup>th</sup> was the joint CSI/AIA Spokane Regional Plan Center tour. Over 50 people attended and enjoyed a delicious buffet and tour of their new plan distribution facility. Our thanks go to the event organizers, Faith Kidder and Doug Pennell.

April 22<sup>nd</sup> was a walking tour of the Coeur d' Alene Casino expansion project, organized by the ABC Inland Pacific Chapter and Spokane CSI. It was a great success due to the planning efforts of the ABC Sustainable Building Peer Council and the CSI Program Committee.

CSI sponsored scholarships were awarded in April to two well-deserving students from our local area. Congratulations go out to Meghan Craig from the University of Idaho School of Architecture, and Damian Gretch who is studying construction management at ITT Technical Institute. Many thanks go to our scholarship chairs Doug Kasman and Tom Gerard.

The month of June will feature our annual CSI Awards Banquet, and we invite all of you to enjoy a fabulous evening of food and drink. It will be held on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Arbor Crest Winery. The program will include a catered dinner, local member awards and scholarship presentations. It will be a great opportunity to socialize with friends and to enjoy the magnificent grounds surrounding the newly re-built Cliff House.

On a final note, I want to congratulate our new Board Officers and Directors for 2011-2012. Georgia Spencer will be our new Chapter President, and in the coming months she will be looking to fill committee positions for our activities and events. I would encourage you to contact her to volunteer your time in helping our programs grow and provide enhanced service to our membership.

Doug Heyamoto, CSI, AIA  
CSI Spokane Chapter President

*The CSI Spokane Chapter*

# *Spring Awards Banquet*

*June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 - 5:30 Social, 6:30 Dinner*

*Arbor Crest Wine Cellars*

*4705 N. Fruit Hill Road, Spokane*

*RSVP by May 25<sup>th</sup> to [fkidder@integrusarch.com](mailto:fkidder@integrusarch.com)*

The Spokane Regional Plan Center is a membership organization serving the commercial construction industry since 1945. SRPC provides document access to over 850 bidding companies throughout the Northwest.



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#### CSI's CORE VALUES

- ✓ Foster innovation and creative thinking.
- ✓ Honor and embrace our diversity.
- ✓ Encourage personal and professional growth.
- ✓ Make knowledge-based decisions.
- ✓ Strive for cooperative solutions.
- ✓ Promote stewardship of the environment.
- ✓ Promote and recognize individual and team excellence.
- ✓ Celebrate camaraderie.
- ✓ Keep promises, and trust others will do the same.
- ✓ Value the needs of those we serve.



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# CSI NORTHWEST REGION CONFERENCE

Hosted by Willamette Valley Chapter

June 15 – 19, 2011

Eugene Hilton & Conference Center

**Theme of the conference:  
DIVERSITY  
IN THE WORK PLACE**

*Let's build a bridge together*

The conference is a three day educational event for professionals in the business or study of architecture, engineering, general and specialty contracting, building material supply, building ownership and management, surety and insurance, construction finance – in short, anyone interested in the construction industry.

The theme of this year's Conference is "Diversity in the Workplace". We will explore the challenges and opportunities presented by our differences – Cultural, Ethnic, Experiential, Generational, and Gender.



[CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD EVENT INFORMATION](#)

*Highlights of the CSI/ABC Joint Tour of Coeur d'Alene Casino*



## ***Scholarship Committee Awards 2011 CSI Spokane Chapter Scholarships***

CSI-Spokane's Annual Scholarship Program is available to students attending a local institution of higher learning and majoring in an accredited course of study pertaining to the design and construction industry such as; Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Interior Design, Construction Management or Construction Technology.

This year, applications were received from a dozen students, representing WSU, U of I and ITT Tech. Students submitted essays on the following topic: "How do specifications contribute to the overall success of a construction project?"

The winner of the \$1000 scholarship is Meghan Craig, an architecture student from University of Idaho. The \$500 scholarship was awarded to Damian Gretch, majoring in Construction Management at ITT Tech. Presentations will be made at the Spring Awards Banquet, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Below is the essay submitted by Meghan Craig. Check out the June CSI Newsletter for Damian Gretch's essay.

### ***CSI Scholarship Application Essay Submitted by Meghan Craig***

#### ***How do specifications contribute to the overall success of a construction project?***

Specifications are descriptions, generally of materials, in detail describing the quality and types of materials needed throughout the construction projects process. From the presentation it was learned that specifications are written up in a legal contract documents. Due to the fact that the intent of the specifications, in the legal documentation, provide the precise description of the needed materials illustrates the importance of the exactness. The specification documents of every project are extremely important. They not only describe the material, but also include the precise installation methods, as prescribed by the contract requirements. I can see this being vital in the field. For example, having designed several structures that have needed to follow the code for accessibility by the handicapped, having a handrail installed incorrectly would do no good for the individuals it is meant to serve, and could actually result in harming them.

Specifications are not found within the drawings. There is simply not enough room on the drawings to provide sufficient information about the materials, the task they need to accomplish and the installation process that make that happen. Within the drawing there is often a reference number that correlates to something in the specification document. This can be seen in the use of a door and window schedule. On the floor plan a number is assigned to each door and window. From that a door and window schedule is created that describes certain characteristics of the door or window; for example, the width, height, and even more specific, the fire rating.

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Specifications differ from project to project, like residential and commercial. Even within the same category: for example, in commercial buildings the thickness of doors in a shopping mall and bank are going to be different because one's security is more high risk. Some specifications might even adhere to the different site conditions found, and the environment in which the site is located in.

No matter the different materials used from project to project there is a specific format that needs to be followed. The format that needs to be followed is the MasterFormat. It was established as the accepted format in 1963 by the Construction Specifications Institute, (CSI), for Construction Specifications. Within the MasterFormat, stated are also bidding requirements, contract forms, and conditions of the contract. The MasterFormat today, is divided into 50 different divisions with sub-categories, sections. The sub-categories then define the products, as in type, needed in the project. There are essentially six numbers that correlate to a specific instruction and translate to a specific result.

The first division, General Requirements, is in a sense one of the most important, as in it is the location where one can find the methods by which to execute the work at hand and apply it to all the sections of specifications. Division One specifically specifies the administrative requirements, procedural requirements; such as, property surveys, and temporary facilities used during the construction process. Without Division One such directions would have to be repeated throughout the entire document as such topics were addressed.

Specifications as a whole can be quite daunting, but the MasterFormat takes the complexity of it all and simplifies it by organizing everything into divisions and sections. Specifications are also written at the reading level of a sixth to eighth grader. This is because construction workers are commonly known to have little education. This way there is no confusion in the instructions and the task is done correctly. The uses of simple statements are used to also avoid confusion.

With such clear cut instructions understanding the specifications is made simple, which ultimately is what contributes to the overall success of a construction project by anyone doing the job.



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