



Renton Technical College

CONSTRUCTION WORKFORCE CONFERENCE AGENDA

****** Session Descriptions may change ******

Education Conference, May 9, 2005

Welcome **Blencoe Auditorium** **9:00 AM – 9:10 AM**
Dr. Don Bressler, President, Renton Technical College

Plenary Session **Blencoe Auditorium** **9:10 AM – 9:55 AM**
Jon Magnusson, Structural Engineer, Magnusson Klemencic Associates
Jon will talk about the designing and building of the Experience Music Project (EMP) museum in Seattle, and the various construction jobs related to this unusual structure. Using the auditorium's technology, he can show CAD drawings and cut-aways of the building.

Concurrent Sessions **10:10 AM – 11:40 AM**

"I Have a Hammer"

Participants will build a house from prefabricated panels. They will also learn about different construction trades and the teamwork necessary for a successful construction project.

Bricklayers

Participants will build a brick wall, using the types of materials and techniques taught in the Bricklayers apprenticeship program.

Operating Engineers

Participants will learn about heavy construction jobs while operating a crane simulator.

Best Practices from In-School Programs

Representatives from the Seattle, Tacoma, North Bend, and Bothell school districts will describe their programs to acquaint high school students with architecture, construction, and engineering. They will also offer advice and lessons learned for districts that may want to adopt similar programs.

Apprenticeship 101

Learn about construction apprenticeship programs with a dynamic video on the trades involved in building a sports stadium, and a tour of apprenticeship programs on the RTC campus.

Career Pathways in Construction

Not all construction-related jobs require brute strength or a willingness to work in the rain. Not all people who start out swinging a hammer end their career that way thirty years later. Learn about other jobs in the construction industry in addition to the trades, and the education required for them.

Lunch with Speaker

C-111

11:55 AM – 12:55 PM

Dr. John Schaufelberger, University of Washington

The construction industry is a huge economic driver in our state, with a wide variety of jobs available in the labor market, particularly in construction management. Learn how a person prepares for a career in construction management, the kinds of educational programs available, and the standards that these programs need to meet to serve the industry.

Concurrent Sessions

1:10 PM – 2:40 PM

Surveying

Participants will work with students from RTC's Surveying program to use total station and global positioning system (GPS) equipment.

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Operating Engineers

Participants will learn about heavy construction jobs while operating a crane simulator.

Apprenticeship Preparation Programs for Youth

While still in high school, students can begin preparing for an apprenticeship program. Representatives from Get Electrified, Frame Your Future, and the Laborers Summer Academy will discuss these programs.

The New Face of Construction

As our state becomes more diverse, so too does the construction workforce. Learn about programs to encourage women and people of color, including non-native English speakers, in construction.

The Driving Force

It is important to have reliable transportation in construction, since a bus line may not go to a building that has not been built yet. Transportation does not have to be a barrier, though. Learn about the state's occupational driver's license and programs like Working Wheels and LELO's Re-licensing Project.

Discussion/Wrap-up

Blencoe Auditorium

2:55 PM – 3:30 PM

How can we best help you identify and prepare students/clients for the construction industry? What knowledge, tools, or resources do you feel you still need? As RTC continues its work as the Construction Center of Excellence, what can we do to support you?

Industry Conference, May 10, 2005

Welcome **Blencoe Auditorium** **9:00 AM – 9:10 AM**
Dr. Don Bressler, RTC

Plenary Session **Blencoe Auditorium** **9:10 AM – 9:55 AM**
Dr. Paul Sommers, Seattle University
Dr. Sommers will talk about workforce trends in construction in Washington State, particularly the impending labor shortage for skilled workers.

Concurrent Sessions **10:10 AM – 11:40 AM**

Incumbent Worker Training

Did you know that, with an industry match of money or in-kind resources, government programs can help you fund training to upgrade the skills of your existing workers? Learn about a Construction ESL project in Pierce County that was funded by the Workforce Investment Act, and a construction training initiative in Yakima spearheaded by the local Workforce Development Council.

The New Face of Construction

As our state becomes more diverse, so too does the construction workforce. Learn about programs to encourage women and people of color, including non-native English speakers, in construction.

Green Building Trends

In both eastern and western Washington, there is growing emphasis on green buildings. In this session, participants will learn about projects around the state that are environmentally friendly.

Live Resumes

Meet college students who are near the end of their training programs in such fields as Carpentry, Welding, Drafting, Surveying, and Construction Management. They will describe their skills and the kind of position they would like to get upon graduation.

Lunch with Speaker **C-111** **11:55 AM – 12:55 PM**
Ellen O'Brien Saunders, Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board
We're listening! Ellen will report on the results of a recent survey of employers, particularly construction employers, on their workforce needs and challenges. She will also suggest avenues for assistance in getting these needs met.

Concurrent Sessions **1:10 PM – 2:40 PM**

Construction Business Opportunities for the Winter Olympic Games

There are extraordinary new construction business opportunities in preparation for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia. Organizers estimate \$600 million (Canadian) of Olympic venue facilities construction and \$10 billion (Canadian) in infrastructure projects to be built over the next five years. Learn how your company can partner and participate in these project opportunities.

The Driving Force

We know reliable transportation is important in construction, but how can you help employees who are struggling with this issue? Learn about the state's occupational driver's license and programs like Working Wheels and LELO's Re-licensing Project.

Industry Conference, May 10, 2005

Attracting the Next Generation of Workers

Learn from organizations that are getting the word out to young people about construction careers. These include in-school programs as well as industry-sponsored programs.

Building and Retaining a High Quality Workforce

How do some companies build and keep an experienced workforce? In this session, employers will share some of their strategies for successful workforce development and retention.

Live Resumes

Meet college graduates and near-graduates in such fields as Carpentry, Welding, Drafting, Surveying, and Construction Management. They will describe their skills and the kind of position they would like to get upon graduation.

Discussion/Wrap-up

Blencoe Auditorium

2:55 PM – 3:30 PM

How can we best help you recruit and retain workers in the construction industry? What knowledge, tools, or resources do you feel you still need? As RTC continues its work as the Construction Center of Excellence, what can we do to support you?