

Chapter Reports

ACI ARQ UANE Alumni-Student Forum

On September 4, 2025, the ACI Universidad Americana del Noreste (ARQ UANE) Student Chapter in Saltillo, Mexico, hosted the second ACI ARQ UANE Alumni-Student Forum. The event was held at the university's facilities, offering a platform for dialogue and connection between current students and alumni of the Architecture program.

During the forum, graduates shared their experiences, advice, and reflections with students currently pursuing their degrees. The initiative aimed to inspire and guide students through firsthand stories of growth, challenges, and achievements from those who were once in their shoes. A

highlight of the event was the presence of alumni from the very first graduating class, along with representatives from every subsequent generation of UANE Architecture graduates. This wide-ranging participation reflected the program's strong and enduring sense of community.

More than 100 students attended the forum, actively engaging in conversations, asking questions, and forging connections with professionals across various fields of architecture and design.

Throughout the event, participants exchanged valuable insights, memorable anecdotes, and meaningful perspectives. Above all, the forum succeeded in strengthening intergenerational bonds within the UANE architecture community, reinforcing a culture of mentorship, collaboration, and professional growth.

ACI BAU Bridge Design Competition

On July 30, 2025, the ACI Al-Balqa' Applied University (BAU) Student Chapter held the annual Bridges Competition at the BAU Faculty of Engineering in As-Salt, Jordan. The competition targeted civil engineering students, integrating creative design with advanced structural engineering skills. Its objectives were to promote research and studies that enhance engineering knowledge, explain material behavior, and foster a professional engineering mindset, while enriching students' practical experience in the civil engineering field. Multiple Jordanian universities participated in the event, and it was fully funded by the BAU Faculty of Engineering, ensuring the provision of appropriate resources and an optimal environment for participants.

The competition took place over 2 days. On July 29, participating teams constructed wooden bridges in the university's engineering laboratories, working for 5 hours under the supervision of competition advisors and professional engineers. On July 30, the bridges underwent structural evaluation. The assessment process involved verifying compliance with dimensional specifications, followed by load testing. Structural efficiency was determined as the ratio between the maximum load capacity and the bridge's self-weight. In addition, the creative aspect of bridge designs was evaluated. Concrete cubes used in the bridge testing process were prepared in advance by ACI Student Chapter members within the university laboratories. The winning teams were awarded prizes, and all participants received certificates in recognition of their contributions to the competition. The best design among the participating teams was honored.

Fifteen teams participated, representing BAU; Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST), Irbid, Jordan; Aqaba University of Technology, Aqaba, Jordan; Al-Huson



Attendees of the second ACI ARQ UANE Alumni-Student Forum



Graduates from Universidad Americana del Noreste attended the forum and shared their experiences, advice, and reflections with students currently pursuing their degrees

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Participating teams in the Bridges Competition



The ACI UNC Student Chapter Engineering Week awards ceremony



Bridge testing through load application

University College, Irbid; Al al-Bayt University, Mafrqa, Jordan; The University of Jordan, Amman, Jordan; and Yarmouk University, Irbid. All teams successfully passed the initial compliance test. Final rankings were determined based on performance in the structural load test. The winners included:

- First Place: Al-Huson University College (Mahmoud Al-Smeiri, Hatem Qudesat, Doa'a Khamaiseh, Ahmad Abu Awad, and Yara El Moghrab);
- Second Place: Steel Team – Yarmouk University (Qusai Al-Jarrah, Abdullah Al-Shdefat, Mays Bani Khalaf, Noor Al-Huda Al-Rabee, and Abdalrhman Amairah); and
- Third Place: ACI JUST Student Chapter (Ahmad Abughzleh, Rua'a Waleed, Aisha Al-Dwaeri, Sara Omoush, and Jafar Naamneh).

ACI UNC Updates

Workshops

The ACI Universidad Nacional de Cajamarca (UNC) Student Chapter in Cajamarca, Peru, hosted a series of workshops and training sessions designed to deepen members' technical expertise through presentations and practical engagement. For 2025 Engineering Week, the presentation “Direccionalidad de la Respuesta Espectral Horizontal y sus

Implicaciones en el Diseño Sismorresistente” was given by Engineer Arnold Mendo Rodríguez. Engineer José Luis Ramos Delgado also met with the Student Chapter and shared his knowledge on quality control and concrete testing through the workshop titled “Control de Calidad en Agregado y Pruebas de Concreto en Campo.”

Activities

On July 5, 2025, the ACI UNC Student Chapter participated in “Concurso de Probetas,” a test tube contest in which students competed in groups and gained hands-on experience. The next day, the students took part in “Concurso de Puentes de Palitos de Madera,” where they made bridges out of popsicle sticks. Each team's bridge was then tested for structural integrity and strength. The Student Chapter concluded the competitions with an awards ceremony, recognizing members for their efforts, skill, and dedication.

ACI UCSM News

The ACI Universidad Católica de Santa María (UCSM) Student Chapter in Arequipa, Peru, organized “Arquitectura Errante,” an exhibition and lecture that highlighted the modernization of Arequipa's architecture through the evolving role of concrete over time. Through a series of informative panels, the exhibition offered a visual journey across different architectural periods, showcasing the transition from traditional methods to contemporary practices. In addition, a lecture was held to provide deeper insights and encourage dialogue within the university community.

The ACI UCSM Student Chapter also had the honor of participating in the Arequipa Corso, a celebration commemorating the city's anniversary. A student delegation walked in the parade, carrying university colors and highlighting the importance of concrete in the region's construction and development.

The Student Chapter has several upcoming events planned, including a call for new members, inviting civil,



ACI UCSM Student Chapter members at the Arequipa Corso

environmental engineering, and architecture students to join; a project on “Concrete Evolution: Arequipa,” featuring insights from local concrete companies and academia on the past, present, and future of concrete in the city; and a technical visit to Concretos Supermix, where students will explore the concrete production process and its industry applications.

ACI UPeU Strengthens Community

The ACI Universidad Peruana Unión (UPeU) Student Chapter in Juliaca, Peru, recently carried out multiple activities to increase community among students. One such event was a mashed potato fight organized by the Student Chapter and carried out on the campus outskirts. This event aimed to provide a relaxing space for Student Chapter members during the final week of academic activities. Students, active members, and Student Chapter advisors participated.

The Student Chapter also held a celebration in honor of the members who had birthdays during the months of June and July. The activity took place at the university and concluded with a prayer led by the Student Chapter advisor, symbolically marking the end of

the first academic period in 2025. These activities reflect the ACI UPeU Student Chapter’s commitment not only to

academic and professional development but also to the formation of a united and supportive community.

ACI Resources for Concrete Specifications & Field Reference



Specifications for Concrete Construction

Ensure quality and consistency in concrete construction with ACI 301-20, the go-to specification for architects and engineers.

Field Reference Manual

Get the ultimate jobsite companion with ACI MNL-15(20) – the ACI Field Reference Manual featuring ACI 301-20 and other essential guides.



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