

Chapter Reports

ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter Update

Following its inauguration in February 2024, the ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter in Orillia, ON, Canada, had a productive academic year marked by research dissemination, industry tours, and professional lectures.

In June 2024, Mehran Aziminezhad, Student Chapter President, represented the Chapter at the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (CSCE) Annual Conference in Niagara Falls, ON. He presented his research, “Durability Properties and Environmental Impact of Green Concrete Containing Shredded Tires, Glass Powder, and Biomass Fly Ash.” His study focuses on reducing concrete’s environmental impact by substituting waste materials for cement and aggregates. Aziminezhad’s participation reinforced the Chapter’s commitment to advancing sustainable engineering solutions.

On February 13, 2025, the ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter organized a technical site visit to Miller Precast Ltd. in Thunder Bay, ON. Students observed the complete precast concrete production process, including



George McKay, President of JML Engineering Ltd., presenting “Rehabilitation of the Harbour Expressway Bridge”

material batching, steel reinforcement assembly, formwork preparation, casting, curing, and quality control. Discussions with engineers and plant managers provided insights into real-world applications of precast systems and the importance of precision in achieving structural performance and durability.

To further strengthen the connection between academia and industry, on March 14, 2025, the Student Chapter hosted George McKay, President of JML Engineering Ltd., for a technical lecture on the “Rehabilitation of the Harbour Expressway Bridge.” McKay discussed site-specific challenges, materials selection, concrete deterioration mechanisms, and innovative repair techniques used in the project. His talk emphasized the vital role of concrete in infrastructure resilience and long-term performance.

These events and activities reflect the ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter’s continued dedication to enhancing student learning through research engagement, industry collaboration, and technical outreach.

ACI UNC Monthly Activities

The ACI Universidad Nacional de Cajamarca (UNC) Student Chapter in Cajamarca, Peru, completed activities in May and June 2025 to foster learning, research, and active student participation in the field of concrete and civil engineering, while encouraging collaboration with professionals and institutions in the sector. This included workshops that allowed members to strengthen their technical knowledge through hands-on experience. The “Concretes in a Sustainable Environment” conference was held with Engineer Omar López Mujica. MAPEI Corporation and Engineer Nicson Ruíz helped facilitate this day of learning and sustainability. Two workshops, “Taller de Revit: Arquitectura” and “Taller de Revit: Estructuras,” were also held. Featuring



The ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter’s visit to Miller Precast Ltd. in Thunder Bay, ON, Canada



Members of the ACI Lakehead University Student Chapter with George McKay (second from right)



Members of the ACI UNC Student Chapter at the “Concretes in a Sustainable Environment” conference

Speaker and Engineer Marcelo Santiago Ramos Callirgos, the training sessions centered on Autodesk Revit, a building information modeling (BIM) software.

The ACI UNC Student Chapter hosted an integration event to welcome new members on June 21, 2025. The event featured games, music, and food. It allowed members to connect in a fun and relaxed environment. This year, the Student Chapter strives to continue building community, knowledge, and a future together.

ACI UCSM News

The ACI Universidad Católica de Santa María (UCSM) Student Chapter in Arequipa, Peru, has carried out several activities in 2025, including the “Palitos al Límite” bridge-building contest; a recruitment campaign targeting civil, environmental, and architecture students; and participation in the international Fiber-Reinforced Concrete (FRC) Bowling Ball competition at the ACI Concrete Convention – Spring 2025 in Toronto, ON, Canada, achieving second place. Other activities included a production plant visit and multiple workshops.

Visit to Ladrillera El Diamante

The ACI UCSM Student Chapter visited the Ladrillera El Diamante production plant located in Arequipa, where they observed the production and creation of different bricks used

in construction projects. The plant is a leading brick manufacturer in southern Peru, known for its automated production, controlled firing technology, and commitment to quality. It uses clay selected from the local area, which undergoes mixing, molding, drying, and high-temperature firing processes. These types of visits promote comprehensive, critical, and contextualized training; motivate students to take an interest in local materials and their application in sustainable construction; and strengthen future civil engineers’ commitment to the development of their region.

Workshops

The ACI UCSM Student Chapter held a complementary “LinkedIn Empowerment Workshop” for UCSM civil engineering students, led by Alain Espinoza, Professor in the Undergraduate Program of Civil Engineering at UCSM. Mastering platforms such as LinkedIn helps students position themselves, differentiate themselves, and connect with opportunities in the professional world.

The Concrete Beam Measurement Workshop, hosted by the UCSM Student Chapter and led by Engineer Oscar Vázquez, bridged academic theory with real-world practice. The event has established itself as a practical learning tool for future civil engineers at UCSM.

The UCSM Student Chapter is preparing for a seminar featuring discussions on concrete technology, sustainability, and innovation from both professional and student perspectives.



The 2025 leadership for the ACI UCSM Student Chapter