

Chapter Reports

The Wilson Cup

The Wilson Cup Student Competition was started by the ACI Maryland Chapter in 2016 and received further support from the ACI National Capital Chapter in 2017 and the Maryland Ready Mix Concrete Association (MRMCA) in 2024. The competition is centered around undergraduates developing practical skills in designing concrete mixtures in Washington, DC; Maryland; and Virginia in the United States. Students can earn substantial scholarships for tuition-related expenses by competing in teams of four with adjacent colleges and universities.

The 2025 competition included teams from University of Maryland, College Park, MD, USA; Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD; and Howard Community College, Columbia, MD. Each team was tasked with developing a concrete mixture using 75% fly ash to reach a strength as close to 6300 psi (43 MPa) when tested in accordance with ASTM C39/C39M, Standard Test Method for Compressive Strength of Cylindrical Concrete Specimens, at 28 days. The use of admixtures was allowed. Trial batching and cylinder breaking for the 2025 competition took place at the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA) Research Laboratory in Branchville, MD.

The trophy, a chrome-plated Slump Cone, is passed between winning schools for display and sits on a mahogany base listing each year's previous winners. The competition is named after local ACI member John R. Wilson, FACI, an engineer from the Washington, DC; Maryland; and Northern Virginia area. Wilson served as an Officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, received his MS in civil engineering from the University of Maryland, and was a licensed professional engineer. He was also heavily involved with the ACI National Capital Chapter and served as Chair of ACI Committee 211, Proportioning Concrete Mixtures.

As part of the 2025 scholarship program, the ACI Mid-Atlantic Resource Center donated one Concrete Field Testing

Technician—Grade I review and certification session to each member of the winning team.

ACI San Diego Hosts Luncheon

On September 9, 2025, the ACI San Diego Chapter hosted a luncheon with a full house of members and guests. The session featured Edward Luce, District Manager for Chryso, who delivered the presentation, “The Expanding Role of Admixtures in the World of Ever-Changing Materials – and How We Still Make Concrete Dance.”

Luce began with an interactive quiz, challenging attendees to identify various cementitious materials. Most participants answered only partially correctly. These results highlighted the complexity of the subject and the need for continued education within the field. The presentation itself was highly informative, offering a deep dive into how admixtures are evolving alongside changes in raw materials and industry demands. Luce connected technical insights with practical implications, leaving attendees with a greater appreciation for the intricacies of admixture technology and its impact on modern concrete.

The ACI San Diego Chapter thanks Luce for sharing his expertise, as well as all attendees for making this luncheon a success. The strong turnout and engaged discussion helped reaffirm the value of coming together to learn and strengthen the ACI community.



Edward Luce,
District Manager
for Chryso



**The ACI San
Diego Chapter
luncheon**



**The Wilson Cup
winning team with
staff at the ACI Mid
Atlantic Resource
Center in Columbia, MD**

Chapter Reports

ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter Hosts National “Pervious Concrete” Competition

The ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter in Irbid, Jordan, hosted the national “Pervious Concrete” competition at the University’s Hijjawi Faculty for Engineering Technology, bringing together 12 student teams from seven Jordanian universities. The event welcomed over 250 attendees, including, ACI Middle East Regional Director Ahmad Mhanna, representatives from the Jordan Engineers Association, and professionals from leading engineering companies. Focused on designing and testing pervious concrete mixtures, the competition aimed to identify the optimal mixture with the highest permeability while maintaining strong compressive strength. This event provided a dynamic platform for students to apply theoretical knowledge in a practical context, while encouraging innovation, teamwork, and meaningful engagement between academia and industry.

ACI UNI NEWS Workshops

The ACI Universidad Nacional de Ingeniería (UNI) Student Chapter in Lima, Peru, in collaboration with



ACI Yarmouk University Student Chapter “Pervious Concrete” competition

MetaCERV, organized a practical workshop where members had the opportunity to create their own virtual reality simulations, explore practical concepts, and apply building information modeling (BIM) models in civil engineering.

On June 7, 2025, the Student Chapter held a workshop titled “Budgeting Concrete Columns Like an Expert,” taught by an engineer who is a member of Servicio Nacional de Capacitación para la Industria de la Construcción (SENCICO). He shared strategies for optimizing resources, avoiding mistakes, and ensuring quality results in construction projects.

Events

The ACI UNI Student Chapter attended a forum organized by the ACI Perú Chapter to publicize the new Board of Directors’ projects and management and share ideas with the different ACI student chapters in Peru.

The Student Chapter won first place in the Controlled Resistance Cylinder Contest at the XIII ECID (National Student Meeting of Civil Engineering). This victory highlights the chapter’s continued excellence and commitment to practical, hands-on learning in structural engineering.

The ACI UNI Student Chapter also sent a team to Congreso Nacional de Estudiantes de Ingeniería Civil – Huaraz 2025 (CONEIC), one of the most important civil engineering conferences in the country. The delegates took part in technical lectures, academic competitions, and networking spaces that brought together students and professionals from across Peru. It was a valuable opportunity to exchange knowledge, showcase the Student Chapter’s dedication, and strengthen its national presence.

Activities

ACI UNI Student Chapter members participated in a technical visit to UNACEM, one of the largest cement



Members of the ACI UNI Student Chapter at the MetaCERV workshop

producers in Peru. During the visit, participants had the opportunity to explore the production process of cement, from raw material handling to the final product. Guided by plant engineers, the students gained valuable insights into industrial operations, sustainability practices, and quality control systems. This experience strengthened the connection between academic learning and real-world applications, reinforcing the importance of field visits in engineering education.

The ACI Play – First Edition event featured a variety of challenges and interactive games aimed at strengthening bonds between students from different universities. It was a space to connect, collaborate, and celebrate the spirit of ACI beyond academic activities. This activity set a strong foundation for future editions that will continue to promote integration, leadership, and shared growth among future engineers.



ACI UNI
Student
Chapter
technical visit
to UNACEM

Congratulations to the 2025 ACI Excellence in Concrete Construction Award Winners

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