

# OUR MEMBERS

## Roscovius promoted to Midwest region project management director for Wells

Wells has promoted Nate Roscovius to director of project management for the Midwest region. In this role, Roscovius will lead Wells' project management team in the Midwest region, strengthen cross-department collaboration, and work with regional project management leadership to form best practices for the organization at large.



Nate Roscovius

Roscovius brings nearly two decades of construction industry experience to his new role, supported by a diverse background in residential construction, architectural technologies, drafting, and project leadership. During his tenure, he progressed from drafter to drafting manager and most recently served as senior project manager. Prior to joining Wells, Roscovius worked as a drafter at StudioM Architects and ERA, where he supported precast concrete tracking and coordination. —Source: Wells

## Euclid Chemical's Acker receives NRMCA award

Doug Acker, Great Lakes regional manager at Euclid Chemical, has received the prestigious Shydrowski-Turner Materials Leadership Award from the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA). The award honors individuals from materials supplier companies who demonstrate exceptional leadership, commitment, and support for the ready-mixed concrete industry.

Presented by NRMCA's materials division, the Shydrowski-Turner Materials Leadership Award commemorates the contributions of L. Michael Shydrowski and Robert P. Turner, both former chairs of the materials division who dedicated their careers to advancing the ready mixed concrete industry and supporting the initiatives of NRMCA. The award recognizes individuals whose careers reflect the same dedication to industry progress demonstrated by Shydrowski and Turner, professionals who help strengthen the ready mixed concrete community through leadership, collaboration, and innovation.

—Source: Euclid Chemical

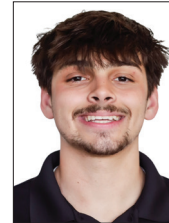
## Six students awarded CarbonCure Sustainability in Concrete Scholarship

In collaboration with the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) Program, CarbonCure Technologies has awarded its 2025/26 Sustainability in Concrete Scholarships.

Now in its fourth year, the annual CarbonCure Sustainability in Concrete Scholarship program has awarded a \$2000 scholarship to each undergrad in this 2026 cohort which includes five U.S. undergraduate students and one Canadian undergrad. The recipients are Evan Almeida of Texas State University in San Marcos, Kate Connor of South Dakota State University in Brookings, Brandon Cruz Campero of Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Fiona Higham of the University of Toronto in Canada, Iyanna Lloyd of the New Jersey Institute of Technology in Newark, and Mario Melo of California State University, Chico.

Through their concrete-focused coursework and industry experiences, each scholarship application highlighted practical, scalable solutions to reduce embodied carbon without compromising performance. Key themes in the applications included mixture optimization, expanded use of supplementary cementitious materials, life cycle analysis, carbon mineralization technologies such as CarbonCure, and durability-focused design that ensures long-term resilience in the field.

—Source: CarbonCure



Evan Almeida



Kate Connor



Brandon Cruz Campero



Fiona Higham



Iyanna Lloyd



Mario Melo

## Pabst promoted to senior VP, COO at Universal Concrete

Universal Concrete Products has promoted Bob Pabst to senior vice president and chief operating officer.

Pabst started at Universal Concrete Products in 2023 and previously served as vice president and project executive. Prior

to joining the company, he was vice president and precast general manager for R. W. Sidley Inc. and vice president of sales and marketing for High Concrete Group LLC. He also held leadership roles with Oldcastle Precast.

As an active participant in PCI, Pabst is the vice chair of the Continuing Education and Financial/Risk Management Committees and a member of the Marketing Council. He is also a former member of the PCI Board of Directors. ▮

## NEIL HAWKINS



Neil M. Hawkins, longtime contributor to the precast and precast, prestressed concrete industry, professor emeritus, and former head of civil and environmental engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, died February 25, 2026, in Seattle, Wash. He was 90.



Hawkins received a BS in mathematics and physics in 1955 and a bachelor of engineering degree in 1957 from the University of Sydney in Australia. He earned an MS in 1959 and a PhD in 1961 in civil engineering from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

He began his academic career on the faculty of the University of Sydney in 1961 and joined the University of Washington in 1968, where he served as chair of civil engineering from 1978 to 1987 and associate dean for research from 1987 to 1991. In 1966 and 1967, he was a development engineer with the Portland Cement Association in Skokie, Ill. In 1988, he was a UNESCO Visiting Scientist at the International Institute of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering in Japan. He returned to the University of Illinois in 1991 as head of civil and environmental engineering, serving until 1996 and again as interim head from 2001 to 2002.

Hawkins taught undergraduate and graduate courses in structural analysis, reinforced and prestressed concrete design, steel design, earthquake engineering, and bridge design. His research focused on structural engineering and seismic design, including work on precast concrete seismic structural systems and contributions to the development of seismic design provisions. He authored

*Reinforced Concrete Structures in Seismic Zones*, published in 1977 by the American Concrete Institute (ACI), a reference on the seismic design of reinforced concrete structures.

He was recognized as one of PCI's Titans in 2004 and named a PCI Fellow in 2005. He received the Charles C. Zollman Award in 1994 and the PCI Distinguished Educator Award in 2001.

Hawkins was active in numerous other professional organizations, including ACI, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. He served on the ACI Committee 318, Structural Concrete Building Code, and the ASCE/SEI 7 Committee, Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures, and was a member of the U.S. Building Seismic Safety Council Provisions Update Committee. He contributed to reviews of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program's *NEHRP Recommended Provisions for Seismic Regulations for New Buildings* and participated in a National Science Foundation project on precast concrete seismic structural systems. He also served on editorial boards of *Engineering Structures* and *Progress in Structural Engineering and Materials*.

Hawkins was an ACI Fellow and Honorary Member and a Distinguished Member of ASCE.

His honors also included the ACI Wason Medal, Structural Research Awards, Kelly Award, and Turner Award and the ASCE State-of-the-Art Award, Structural Research Award, T. Y. Lin Award, and Howard Award. He also received the *fib* (International Federation for Structural Concrete) Osaka Award. He was recognized with the 2025 CEE Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Illinois.

## PCI'S NEWLY CERTIFIED PLANTS AND ERECTORS



PCI recently certified the following plants and erectors. For an explanation of the certification designations, visit [http://www.pci.org/Erector\\_Certification](http://www.pci.org/Erector_Certification) and [http://www.pci.org/Plant\\_Certification](http://www.pci.org/Plant_Certification).

- Creative Erectors LLC in Rockford, Ill.: A, S2
- Guytec Steel Inc. in Ridgewood, N.Y.: A

## A PERSONAL TRIBUTE TO NEIL M. HAWKINS



On March 7, 2025, Edith Gallandorm, PCI's director of codes and standards, and I had the good fortune to have lunch with Neil Hawkins and Ann Hawkins, his wife of more than 60 years, during the winter PCI Technical Activities Council meeting in Seattle, Wash. Hawkins drove up to the restaurant and stepped out, using a cane to walk. It was so nice to see that both of them were in remarkably good shape, and his mind was as sharp as ever.

During research about the history of ACI 550 in mid-June, Hawkins shared that he experienced some health complications. Unfortunately, he never recovered. The end came before February could turn into March, less than a year after Gallandorm and I saw him. I have no words to express the sadness I felt. This is a loss of a magnitude that is impossible to overstate. The system has become such that a versatile, independent-thinking professional such as Hawkins, with exceptional knowledge and experience in a wide variety of related and not-so-related fields, will not be produced anymore. This is truly the passing of one of the last of the stalwarts.

One of Hawkins' qualities that I truly admired was his innate humility. For a man of his distinction and accomplishments, he was modest beyond belief. Indeed, he seemed inherently incapable of thinking of himself as superior to anyone else.

I have seen Hawkins trying to resolve negative ACI 318 ballot comments many times. I have never known anyone who treated the negative voter with as much respect and courtesy as Hawkins did. He reached out to them. He talked to them. He tried really to understand their points of view. He then tried to strike the right compromise, if at all possible. His attitude was never to find the negative voter nonpersuasive and move on. He truly believed in the process that is in place. He knew that resolving negative comments properly after fully understanding and considering the negative voter's point of view always strengthened and improved a proposal.

It was my privilege to work closely with Hawkins within ACI and PCI—first on the codification of PRESSS (Precast Seismic Structural Systems) through the Innovation Task Group's ITG-1, ITG-2, and ITG-5, then on the codification of DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology). It was my honor to have coauthored a number of *PCI Journal* papers with Hawkins. In addition to admiring

his intellectual abilities, I came to greatly admire his work ethic. I remember a meeting in San Diego, Calif., a few years ago. A few of us met at a hotel for much or most of a day. I think it was on diaphragm issues. Ned Cleland and others were there. As we were deciding to go to dinner, I proposed that maybe we should resume the meeting after dinner. At that point, Hawkins surprised everyone by saying, "Do I have to work this hard on my 81st birthday?" Until then, none of us had any inkling that it was his birthday. I could not believe that he had worked all day on his birthday, having left Ann behind in Seattle. This kind of dedication has almost become a thing of the past.

Whenever I approached Hawkins with a technical question or problem, he would listen very carefully and ask questions. Then he would think aloud for a while, maybe discuss some thoughts with me, bring his vast knowledge and experience to bear on the problem (quite often he had done tests related to the subject at hand or knew intimately about tests that others had done), and finally suggest a possible solution or two. We would maybe discuss a little more and agree on the best solution. I felt treated as an equal, though I definitely was not one. No preconception or bias of any kind had any part in the process. The entire exercise was a learning experience, an experience of almost being mentored. I am so grateful to have benefited, to the extent that my limitations would permit, from his wisdom.

Totally outside of academics and the profession, Hawkins had a giving side to him that was not widely known. For a number of years after he and Ann settled back in Seattle, he spent the income tax season helping seniors prepare their tax returns. I had a hard time believing that someone of his talent would spend his time that way, but he was serious about this involvement. He read up on the tax law changes, and then helped those who could not help themselves.

With Hawkins' passing, the profession has lost a stalwart. I personally have lost someone I had looked up to, someone I could always turn to for help, someone with whom I could discuss my vulnerabilities and self-doubts, someone who would always give me valuable advice, someone who always had time for me. He is impossible to replace. We are all so much poorer without him and richer to have had his influence in our lives.

—S. K. Ghosh, president of S. K. Ghosh Associates

## WELCOME TO PCI!

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# SPECIFY PCI CERTIFICATION

## THERE IS NO EQUIVALENT



**The Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI) certifications are the industry's most proven, comprehensive, trusted, and specified certification programs.**

The PCI Plant Certification Program is accredited by the International Accreditation Service (IAS), which provides objective evidence that an organization operates at the highest level of ethical, legal, and technical standards. This accreditation demonstrates compliance to ISO/IEC 17021-1. PCI Certification offers a complete regimen covering personnel, plant, and field operations. This assures owners, specifiers, and designers that precast concrete products are manufactured and installed by companies who subscribe to nationally accepted standards and are audited to ensure compliance.

To learn more about PCI Certification, please visit [pci.org/certification](http://pci.org/certification)

