Yet another quarter, as well as a bitter cold Winter, has come and gone, and Spring is officially here. Please continue to send your news to either rjkrizek@northwestern.edu or l-lealaitafea@northwestern.edu

New Graduates

Congratulations to our recent graduates who completed their MPM degree in the Winter Quarter. We wish them the best of luck during these challenging economic times.

- Yicheng Ding (China)
- Wei Xia (China)
- Fan Gao (China)
- Guanghui Xu (China)
- Jiangying Liu (China)
- Xinyi Xue (China)
- Xiaozhu Zhao (China)

New Students

We are happy to extend a warm welcome (despite the outside temperature) to the following students who joined the MPM program in the Winter Quarter.

- Shubhangi Jalan (India)
- Mengyang Zhang (China)
- Yan Zhuang (China)

Spring Brunch

Reserve Sunday, June 15, 2014 on your calendars for our next Spring Brunch, which will be held again at the Park Ridge Country Club. This is a wonderful annual event where everyone associated with the MPM and EMDC programs can gather together and renew old friendships and make new ones. This past year we had an attendance of more than 135.

Alumnae and Alumni Updates

Our congratulations and best wishes are extended to Michael Stogdill (MPM 2007) and his wife, Renate Barros, who were married in Diseyworld Orlando, Florida, on April 19, 2013 (although we just learned of their marriage). Michael taught our course on International Construction for a few years while he worked in the Chicago area, but he now lives and works in Saudi Arabia; Renate who is from Sorocaba, Brazil (just outside of Sao Paulo) recently received her residence visa and joined him in February. For the foreseeable future, Renate will split her time between Saudi Arabia and Brazil.
Congratulations to **Taha Taha** (MPM 2008) and his wife, Sukar, on the arrival of another little girl, Saba, who was born on January 31, 2014. Saba weighed 5 lbs 8 oz and was 18.5 inches long. Taha will be moving back to the Chicago area and is looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Brunch.

Congratulations to **Daniel Marron** (MPM 2012) who recently accepted a job with Exelon (parent company of ComEd) as a senior project manager.

**Xiaotong Ding** (MPM 2013) recently accepted a position with Deloitte as an Economic Consultant.

**Heng Zhao** (MPM 2013) has accepted “the job of her dreams” with the China Architecture Design & Research Group (http://www.cadreg.com.cn/). This company is one of the best design groups in China and she is very excited to work there because most of their projects are done in cooperation with international design groups. Shortly after starting, her manager asked her to work on two huge projects; one involves a commercial and residential mix, and the other is the Tadao Ando Art Museum in Beijing. Heng is very happy to have studied in the MPM program at Northwestern, where she learned very much about the U.S. architectural design process. She has aspirations of starting her own company in five years or so after she gains a better understanding of how the Chinese building market operates.

**New Specialization Areas**

In the Fall Quarter the MPM program will offer a new specialization area in sustainability. The “heart” of the program will consist of five custom-designed courses that were developed from the responses of a group of practitioners to the question: What competencies do you want in a person that you hire in the sustainability area? These courses, complemented by our core courses in finance and accounting and other related management courses in the MPM program, as well as other areas of the University, comprise a strongly focused curriculum that will prepare an individual with the essential “tools” for a productive career.
Symposium on Technology in Design and Construction

The third biennial Symposium on Technology for Design and Construction will be held on August 13, 14, and 15, 2014 at the Law School, Thorne Auditorium, 375 East Chicago Avenue on the Northwestern University Campus in Chicago. This Symposium will assemble design and construction researchers, academics, and practitioners to discuss the present state-of-the-art and prospects for future advancements in this field. The primary focus is to improve project efficiency by reducing costs, accelerating delivery, improving quality, minimizing risks, and leveraging resources.

Please share this information with your friends and colleagues and consider attending this Symposium yourself to network with leaders in the field and enhance your understanding the current and future role of technology in design, construction, and facilities management. The web site can be found at: http://www.techforconstruction.com