

# URCA Viewpoint

WEBSITE: WWW.URCA.ORG

NEWS AND VIEWS FOR THE UNION ROOFER

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## Apprenticeship Graduation Luncheon

On October 11, 2014, the Southern California Roofers & Waterproofers Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) held its Apprenticeship Graduation Luncheon honoring the graduates of the 2009 to 2014 classes who advanced to journeyman status.

JATC Coordinator, Lupe Corral served as Master of Ceremonies for the ceremonial luncheon. Approximately two hundred apprentice graduates and guests attended the function.

Guest Speakers included Gabriel Perea, International Union Representative, Brent Beasley, Business Manger of Local 220, Cliff Smith, Business Manager of Local 36, Ronald Johnston, Ph.D Executive Vice President, Union Roofing Contractors Association (URCA) and Paul Marshall California Department of the Division of Apprenticeship Standards. Also, a presentation was made by newly elected State Senator Connie Leyva.

Certificates were awarded to all apprentices in attendance who advanced

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## URCA Member Contractor Lauded for Prestigious 2014 Q Award

On June 24, 2014, Emerson College of Los Angeles was awarded the prestigious Alliance for Quality Construction's Q Award, for its construction of a flashy and technologically advanced LEED Gold Certified 10-story building. This \$85 million, 107,000 square foot project began in early 2012 and was completed in the fourth quarter of 2013. The campus was union built by Hathaway Dinwiddie Construction Company, and architecturally designed by world-renowned Thom Mayne of Morphosis Architects.

The Q Award lunch and ceremony was held on-site at the new campus for guests to experience the beauty and craftsmanship the building offers. AQC Chair Pam Ackrich welcomed the capacity crowd to

another spectacular Q Awarded iconic structure. In attendance were board members from Boston's Emerson College and Morphosis Architects on-site representative Aaron Ragan, Los Angeles Mayor



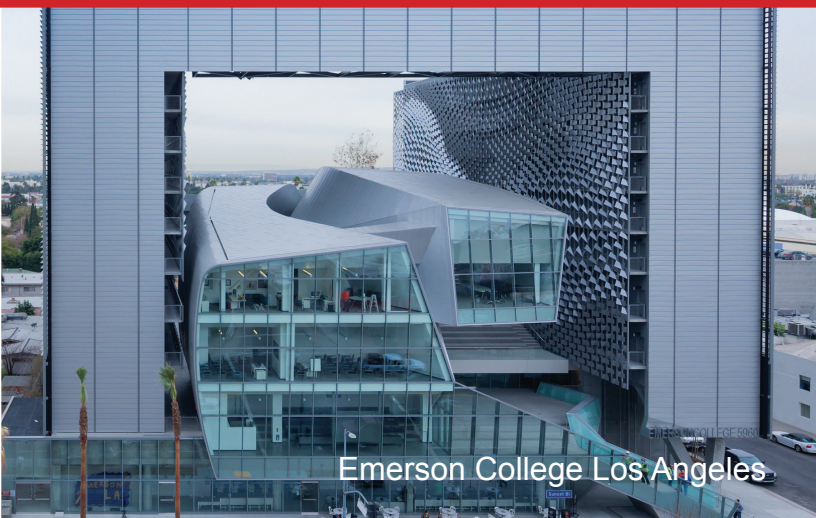
L to R: Mark Troyer-Troyer Contracting, Lee Pelton-Emerson College, Bruce Arnold-Hathaway Dinwiddie, and Ron Johnston-URCA.

Eric Garcetti, Congressman Adam Schiff's District representative Mike Aguilera, L.A. City Council member Mitch O'Farrell, Los Angeles/Orange County Building & Construction Trades Council Secretary Ron Miller, Hathaway Dinwiddie Senior Project Manager Bruce Arnold,

*Continued, page 3*



Q Award Photos by Mark Savage/Katy Winn



Emerson College Los Angeles



**Ronald D. Johnston, Ph.D.**  
*Executive Director*



*2014 Q Award post presentation luncheon at Emerson College of Los Angeles (Hollywood).*



*Joint Apprenticeship Coordinator Lupe Corral at the Apprenticeship Graduation and Awards banquet.*



*URCA and AQC Marketing Consultant John Tenorio-J. Arthur & Associates, and Ron Johnston-URCA.*

In as much as midterm elections were held during the 2014 legislative session, there was a significant reduction in the number of bills introduced in the State Assembly and Senate for review and consideration. Nevertheless 808 bills were passed and placed on the Governor's desk for signing or veto. One of these bills, AB 1705 (Williams), which was actively supported and lobbied by URCA, was signed and chaptered into law by the Secretary of State. In effect, this bill is a "clean up" bill sponsored by the American Subcontractors Association of California (ASAC) to address some ambiguous language contained in SB 293, which was chaptered into law during the 2011-2012 legislative session. A provision contained within SB 293 stated that a public entity could not require a retention payment of more than 5% for a construction project, unless said project was deemed "substantially complex" by the awarding agency. The ambiguous wording, "substantially complex", provided public entities with a pathway to escape the 5% maximum.

AB 1705 states that retention proceeds withheld from a public entity may exceed 5% on specific projects where the governing body of the public entity has approved a finding, during a "properly noticed and normally scheduled public hearing and prior to bid," that the project is "substantially complex." Therefore, it requires a higher retention amount and the awarding entity includes, within the bid documents, details explaining the basis for the finding and the actual retention amount.

However, any finding by a public entity that a project is "substantially complex" shall include a description of the specific project and why it is a unique project that is not "regularly, customarily, or routinely performed by the agency or licensed contractors."

On the horizon for the 2015 legislative session, URCA and the ASAC Government Relations Committee will collectively be looking at the following for possible bill introduction: (1) Assuring Timely Action on Change Orders- This would entail a slight modification of a bill introduced during the 2014 legislative session AB 2471 (Frazier), which was pulled by the author. The intent of this bill

would require a public entity, when authorized to order changes or additions to the work issue a change order promptly and no later than 60 days after the extra work is performed and documentation submitted. If the requirement is not met, the public entity would be liable to the contractor for the extra work completed and would require prejudgment interest to accrue on any amount the public entity fails to pay.

(2) Clean Up Language to SB 474. SB 474 (Evans) became law effective January 1, 2013. This bill, which was strongly supported and lobbied by URCA, eradicated Type 1 indemnity provisions in public works contracts. This was a major victory for the subcontractor community; however, there is ambiguous language within the law that could be interpreted to mandate "additional insurance" be purchased by the subcontractor. This was not the intent of the law, but it must be addressed with a bill that includes clearly defined language.

(3) OCIP/CCIP Legislation- URCA and ASAC have formed a joint task force to ascertain whether or not legislation should be promulgated to address some of the issues and concerns of subcontractors who have participated in wrap-up insurance programs, specifically the issue of "blended payroll" that in many instances forces a participating subcontractor to pay more for insurance under a wrap-up than he or she would pay if individually purchased. Secondly, feedback from subcontractors have indicated there have been instances where the sponsor of a wrap-up has cancelled insurance prior to the 10 Year Statute of Limitations forcing the subcontractor to purchase additional insurance. A legislative draft bill has been finalized and a survey sent to all members of URCA, ASAC and other subcontractor associations in order to determine whether or not a bill should be introduced during the 2015 legislative session.

2015 promises to be a very active legislative year for URCA and the Association will keep all members apprised of future legislative action.



## Q Award Continued

Founding Director of Emerson College Kevin Bright, President of Emerson College Lee Pelton, URCA's Executive Vice President Ron Johnston, and URCA contractor Mark Troyer of Troyer Contracting, Inc.

In his address to the attendees, Mayor Garcetti said, "Emerson College Los Angeles is both a landmark of artistic achievement and a flagship accomplishment for the revitalization of a neighborhood that has seen decline. This is now a jewel in the crown of the Hollywood Renaissance."



Los Angeles City Mayor Eric Garcetti addressing the capacity crowd.

Established in 1880, Emerson College evolved from a small New England school of oratory to a multifaceted college with an international reputation. The new Los Angeles (Hollywood) campus now offers students television, film, journalism, marketing, and communication internships, which assist in their networking base. These opportunities were available to students as early as January 2014.

Hathaway Dinwiddie Senior Project Manager Bruce Arnold said, "Without unions, we wouldn't be successful. I've been at it 30 years and can't recall a time they didn't supply as much highly skilled labor as we needed to complete our projects on time and with the highest level of quality." Arnold pointed out that construction was 100% accident-free, which those involved say was no small feat, since the highly non-standard building required hefting mate-

rials 10 stories above a parcel of land barely larger than its own base. That meant zero margins for error.

The construction team immaculately created a sun-shading system connected to a local weather station that automatically adjusts to minimize the energy used to heat, cool and illuminate the glass-enclosed residential towers. A valence system, located within the ceilings, is controlled by sensors and provides radiant heating and cooling for the residential units. On top of the West tower, solar thermal panels use the sun to heat water, providing hot water throughout the center and decreasing the building's consumption of natural gas. The building is also equipped with efficient fixtures and on-site water management to reduce water use by 40%.

URCA member Troyer Contracting, Inc. provided the waterproofing and roofing on the project. Troyer began with installation of all the below grade waterproofing. This waterproofing (approx 40,000 sf) was installed over the shoring retention system prior to the concrete foundation being placed. After the garage was completed the superstructure was built. Troyer installed all the horizontal waterproofing including the green roof systems, and traffic coating throughout the floors. Finally, Troyer completed its scope of work by installing the single ply Thermoplastic Roofing over the main tower. Troyer met all schedule requirements, and delivered the completed systems without any quality control infractions.

"It is impressive for a structure of this magnitude and design to become LEED Gold Certified," said URCA's Executive Vice President Ron Johnston. "This is a testament to trades people, architects, project managers, general and subcontractors

working in unison without any major injuries or setbacks."

The glitzy Emerson College sustainable building on Sunset Boulevard provides 6 general purpose classrooms, a computer lab, an audio lab, a distance learning room, two performance studios, dressing rooms, study rooms, a 4K screening room, a multi-purpose event space, and a post-audio mixing suite. The event space has advanced audio and visual equipment with seating capacity of 250 reconfigurable for special events and parties and the post audio is a 7.1 Dolby surround sound audio suite that is shaped to provide optimum acoustics. The outdoor terrace includes a park-like grass area with trees and barbecue grills.

Accepting the 2014 Q Award for Emerson College Los Angeles was Lee Pelton, president of Emerson College. Mr. Pelton exuberantly remarked, "The building will remain a powerful economic engine now that it's complete. LA has always understood the value of a creative economy to attract businesses and services, innovation and investment."

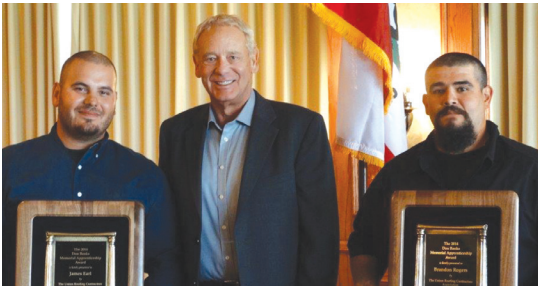
Immediately after the Q Award presentation, attendees enjoyed a sumptuous lunch in the quad area surrounded by the angles and precipices of Emerson's outstanding modern architecture.

AQC's Q Award is given annually through a ceremony and event for outstanding contributions toward the attainment of quality construction within the building industry of Southern California. The recipient is selected by the Alliance's membership from quality union construction projects completed in the previous year.



**Apprenticeship Continued**

to journeyman status. This was followed by a special presentation by URCA Executive Vice President Dr. Johnston, who announced the winners of the Don Banks Memorial Apprenticeship Award.



L to R: James Earl-Eberhard Contracting, Ron Johnston-URCA, and Brandon Rodgers-Chapman Coast Roof.

This award was established shortly after the death of Mr. Don Banks of San Marino Roofing, who served several years on the URCA Board as well as the JATC and was recognized as a statewide industry leader. The award is bestowed upon the outstanding apprentices at each graduation ceremony along with a check

in the amount of \$2,500.00. At this ceremony two were chosen by the JATC to receive this award along with a check in the amount of \$1,250.00- Mr. Brandon Rodgers class of 2009 and a journeyman roofer for Chapman Coast Roof Co. and Mr. James Earl class of 2013 and a journeyman roofer for Eberhard.

The awards luncheon was enjoyed by all. URCA would like to congratulate JATC Coordinator Lupe Corral and his staff, Mr. Reginald Bribiesca and Ms. Sandra Raigoza for a job well done.



**ELECTED**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS**

**OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2013-2015 TERM**

**ERNIE GLASGOW\* (LETNER ROOFING)**

**DAVE CHAPMAN (CHAPMAN COAST ROOFING)**

**DAVE STEFKO (EBERHARD)**

**SEAN TABA (BEST CONTRACTING SERVICES)**

**MARK TROYER\*\* (TROYER CONTRACTING)**

**GREG BANKS (SAN MARINO ROOF Co.)**

**BILL PETERS (VANCE & ASSOCIATES)**

**\*CHAIRMAN, \*\*SECRETARY-TREASURER**

**The mission of the Union Roofing Contractors Association is to promote quality construction utilizing highly trained and skilled employees. The URCA is dedicated to the highest standards of professional integrity.**

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