

Activity Summary

Outreach Publication



Change your World. Choose Construction!

Program

Michigan's Construction
Career Days

Organizer

Brindley Byrd
Executive Director
Michigan Construction
Career Council
2110 S. Cedar Street
Lansing, Michigan 48910
517-492-5575
bbyrd@camw.net

Michigan Tech Contact

Elizabeth Hoy
Assistant Director, UTC-MiSTI
906-487-3154
elizabeth@mtu.edu

University Partners

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

School of Technology-
Construction Management
and Survey Engineering Programs

University Admissions Office

Precollege Outreach Office

Rail Transportation Program

University Marketing and
Communications

College of Engineering

Michigan Tech Transportation
Institute

How many people can say that they had the opportunity to operate a massive excavator or move mounds of dirt with a dozer? How many people can say they did it before they turned eighteen? In Michigan, more than 3000 youth can say "I did" to those questions thanks to volunteer professionals from the construction industry. The National Construction Career Days program is providing this experience to youth across the country.

National Program Objectives

The objective of the National Construction Career Days program is to attract youth to construction careers to ensure a pipeline of diverse, skilled and motivated professionals to meet our future workforce needs. The program supports a variety of construction fields including residential, commercial and transportation. The national program was developed and implemented by the Federal Highway Administration in 1999. Since its inception twenty-eight states have adopted the program hosting sixty events annually (2010) with more than 400,000 reported participants.

CCD events combine a variety of activities and elements to engage youth in construction related experiences. A highlight of many events includes a display, active and static, of heavy equipment used in construction. At some CCD events, construction professionals assist youth in hands-on demonstrations allowing participants to experience for themselves what it feels like to operate a backhoe or an excavator. Some CCD events include community service group demonstrations where participants help construct an outdoor storage structure with a local Habitat for Humanity group. In the photo above, a local material provider teamed up with a contractor to provide a concrete placement demonstration, which also benefitted the community fairgrounds where the CCD event took place. Employers including the Michigan Department of Transportation host information booths where youth learn about summer employment and long-term career opportunities. Community colleges, trade organizations and universities are also on-site to answer questions about educational paths and training opportunities to support rewarding careers in construction.



University Transportation Center
Materials in Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure

Michigan Tech Transportation Institute • Michigan Technological University

Michigan Tech

Michigan Technological University

Activity Summary

Outreach Publication



University Facts (2009-2010)

Total Enrollment	7148
Civil Engineering	546
Graduate Enrollment	1206
Number of Faculty	464
Placement Rate	87.5%

Michigan Tech ranks in the top 25% of public research institutions by the National Science Foundation and has annual research expenditures exceeding \$57 million. More than 56% of Michigan Tech's student population is enrolled in science and engineering degree fields with a campus-wide graduation placement rate of 87%.

Michigan Tech houses a wide complement of transportation-related programs partnering in research, technology transfer, education, and workforce development. Under the umbrella of the Michigan Tech Transportation Institute, federally funded centers collaborate with state and internally funded centers and programs. Federally funded programs include the UTC-MiSTI, Michigan's Local Technical Assistance Program, and the Region 2 Tribal Technical Assistance Program. State funded research centers and laboratories include the Michigan Department of Transportation funded Transportation Materials Research Center and the Center for Structural Durability. Internal programs include the Center for Technology and Training, and the Rail Transportation Program.

For more information, visit the University's website.
www.mtu.edu

Michigan Tech's Involvement

Michigan's first CCD event was coordinated by the Capital Area Construction Council and Michigan's Local Technical Assistance Program, located at Michigan Tech, with a great deal of support from the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration's division office and an advisory board of eight other construction industry leaders in Michigan.

Since its introduction to Michigan in 2008, the UTC-MiSTI has supported Michigan's Construction Career Days events, contributing as an exhibitor and as a financial sponsor. The Center's support is designated to offset school costs associated with transporting youth to the event. Michigan Tech's exhibit team, coordinated by the UTC-MiSTI staff, includes representatives from the University's Admissions Office and Precollege Outreach Division, who distribute summer career exploration program information and university admission material. Faculty, staff and students from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Technology's Construction Management and Survey Engineering Programs discuss careers, educational path and activities that students enrolled in their programs may benefit from while in college. The UTC-MiSTI and Michigan Tech's Rail Transportation program representatives talk with students about education specifically supporting transportation careers.

Program Outcomes

More than 5,000 youth have participated in a Michigan CCD event since 2008. In 2010 it was reported that 25% of the event participants (1378 total participants) were from underrepresented groups and 15% were female. Youth from thirty-four school districts and forty-six schools traveled to Springfield Oaks County Park in Davisburg, Oakland County, Michigan for the 2010 event. The 2008 and 2009 CCD events were held at the Ingham County Fairgrounds in Mason, Michigan just south of Lansing.

For More Information

For more information on the National Construction Career Days program and links to individual state programs, visit this website:

<http://www.constructioncareerdays.us>.

The MICCD 2010 Summary Report and other information about Michigan's CCD events are available at <http://michiganccd.org>.

Visit the UTC-MiSTI website to view photos from past events:

<http://www.misti.mtu.edu>.

This publication was produced by the U.S. Department of Transportation University Transportation Center for Materials in Sustainable Transportation Infrastructure (UTC-MiSTI) at Michigan Technological University under the program management of the Office of Research and Technology Administration-U.S. Department of Transportation. The contents of this summary reflect the views of the authors, who are responsible for facts and the accuracy of the information presented herein. This document is disseminated under the sponsorship of the Department of Transportation University Transportation Centers program in the interest of information exchange. The U.S. Government assumes no liability for the contents or use thereof. For more information or additional copies, visit the Center's Web site at www.misti.mtu.edu, call 906.487.3154, or write to UTC-MiSTI, 301 Dillman Hall, Michigan Technological University, 1400 Townsend Drive, Houghton, MI 49931