



www.leadingedgecompetition.org

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2007-08 Leading Edge Student Design Competition winners announced

Architecture students from around the world participated in the *Leading Edge Student Design Competition* as part of their 2007-08 education. First- and second-place winners, and their schools, receive monetary awards.

Administered by New Buildings Institute and sponsored by Southern California Edison, California Energy Commission, Pacific Gas & Electric and Sacramento Municipal Utility District, the competition challenges students to incorporate principles of energy efficiency and sustainability as a basic standard of building design.

Leading Edge allows students and instructors to explore the use of new building materials and strategies and the aesthetics and technology of high-performance architecture in a practical, real-world setting. This year's competition was set in the coastal environment of Southern California on the campus of the University of Santa Barbara. Students entering Challenge 1 (3rd-, 4th-year and graduate level students) designed an Environment and History Center serving dual roles of research and education about the environment and history of the local area, including reuse of an existing historic barn on the property. Challenge 2 students (1st- and 2nd-year) designed a three-unit townhouse-style residence for student equestrians with horses on site. Successful entries satisfied the unique environmental concerns of the area while addressing advanced energy efficiency and sustainable building issues.

Each year the competition reserves the right not to award 1st or 2nd place if an appropriate entry is not determined. Such was the case this year. The First Place winner for Challenge 1 was Josh Bowens-Rubin of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; there was no Second Place award. In Challenge 2, Second Place was shared by two entries: Reece Satava of CalPoly San Luis Obispo, and the team of Derek Wong, David Chacara and Ryan Jasmin of Mt. San Antonio College in southern California. No First Place was awarded.

Merit Citations were given for projects which showed outstanding effort in specific aspects of their design. Recipients were Brad Bailey, Oklahoma State University; Chen Jian Nan of Taiwan University of Science and Technology; Michael Mankin, Julian Andretta, Dylan Jenks and Mitchell Jones of Savannah College of Art and Design; Chad Harris and Jose Holguin of University of New Mexico; Oscar Ramos of CalPoly San Luis Obispo.

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“The entries displayed serious conceptual thought, considerable graphic effort and elegant synthesis of technology and design,” said Design Judge Alison Kwok, of the University of Oregon. “We were impressed by the integrated approach, particularly the ones which tested, retested and validated their ideas using simulation programs, simple guidelines and tools that are critical to conceptual development and schematic design.”

Complete judges’ comments and photos of all winning entries can be viewed at the competition website, www.leadingedgecompetition.org.

The *Leading Edge Student Design Competition* will again offer an opportunity for architecture students to demonstrate their skills in the areas of sustainable and energy efficient design during the 2009-10 school year.