Building a Legacy

The John Brown University Construction Management degree is the second oldest degree of its kind in the nation and JBU is the only Christian college to offer this degree. The JBU Construction Management program began in 1939 as the Building Construction Engineering Department, and was started by J. O. Ball. In 1946, Charles Willis joined the department and proved to be an invaluable resource to the program. Mr. Willis supervised the furniture factory, which made the furniture that was used on campus. In addition Mr. Willis, with the help of Building Construction Engineering students, drew up the plans for and supervised the building of the Library (now the Engineering building), the sanctuary of the Cathedral of the Ozarks, J. Alvin Hall addition, the Science Building (now the Art building), the duplexes, the old gym (which was located on the intramural fields), the old power plant building, the KUOA studios, and the addition to the President’s house. Building Construction Engineering students helped with the building of all these buildings through 1955 and 1964; therefore, most of the JBU campus was designed and built by the Construction Management program.

In 1968 the program gained membership into the Associated Schools of Construction, which allowed it to join a community of other colleges with a similar degree program. In 1959 the department changed its name to Building Construction and Design; it changed again in 1973 to Building Construction; and finally in 1990 the department became known as Construction Management. In 1994 the Construction Management program became an accredited program and was offered ACCE status. Throughout the 70 years that this program has existed it has not only benefited the campus of JBU, but it has also helped the Siloam Springs community. In 1997 students in the program helped survey the city of Siloam, and starting in 1999 the students have built several houses in Siloam as hands-on experience projects. The JBU Construction Management department has also taken many mission trips throughout the decades to provide buildings for those in need. The Construction Management department, though small, has been instrumental in the building of the JBU campus, the Siloam Springs community, and construction projects around the world.

Milestones

October 17, 1958
Creative Artist Harriet Fitzgerald came to JBU to lecture on 19th Century art, and to exhibit 20 Paintings, done by the Abindgon Square Painters, of whom she is The director.

October 25, 1957
The Blues beat the Golds during Intramurals Day. The Blues won by 50 points, which they received because of their superb skits.

October 11, 1957
The Science Club had a busy beginning of the year first they hosted a blood-type event, and then a hamburger fry was their first party.
Insights

Quotes from John Brown, Sr.

Down in every man's heart there is a judgment seat, and every man in his better hours believes most profoundly in the eternal justice or the eternal "righteousness" of things. To teach the average man that there is no day of final accounting, which means that once cruelty and greed are enthroned permanently and without judgment, is to teach the average man what he positively does not believe.

The man of brain and the man of brawn—the man who has red blood jumping through his veins, cannot be appealed to with a namby-pamby, negative, jellyfish type of deity, and cannot long be held with a message that does not have blended the two tremendous incentives to right living—heaven and hell.

Few men there are in this day and age, capable of connected thinking, that do not believe in life beyond the grave. These men realize that in that life which is yet to come there must of necessity be eternal separation. Man revolts at the idea of an eternal existence in which vice and virtue, greed and unselfishness, are hopelessly to intermingle forever...

Down the stream of human life sin has poured, to lay its hand of disease and death upon all ages, classes, and conditions of men. By sin men stab conscience until it dies. Multitudes are walking our streets today without a conscience on high moral issues.

Multitudes of young people stab away the foundations upon which character rests, and character with a crash goes tumbling to the earth. Multitudes of men and women of all ages stab away their power of resistance until they become as a jellyfish in the mighty tide, carried wherever circumstances may take them. Multitudes stab the body until ten, twenty, thirty years ahead of time they jump into hell...

Just as it is true that men love life—seek life—tenaciously clinging to life—it is also true that men shun death, fear death, and run from death. Upon the proposition that men love life and fear death there is no room for controversy, for everywhere about us a thousand voices substantiate the truthfulness of such a declaration.

-If a Man Die

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ECHOES OF THE PAST
Excerpt from the 27 of September 1958 Threefold Advocate

Some Improvement!
Upon returning to campus this year, we find that many changes have taken place. At the California Dormitory fifty new beds have arrived. Accompanying some of these beds, for the senior rooms, are new chests and desks, making our rooms a more comfortable place in which to live.

Let's take a trip over to the South Hill Dormitory for Senior and Junior Men and see what has taken place there. Here we find double rooms with a bath adjoining every two rooms. The rooms have been refinished and new beds installed. Some of the boys think they are a little far from the cafeteria, but they seem to have survived so far.

The engineering majors have found their new location a more attractive and efficient place in which to further their education. What was at one time our science building is now called the engineering annex. The inside has been remodeled, walls painted, floors varnished—the whole works!

The Alumni Building, which formerly housed the Laundry, has been converted into classrooms for the engineers. If you should take a walk down the new sidewalks that have been put in you would find that classes are already in progress there.

The new paint job and Venetian blinds make studying a pleasure in the Cathedral Building. Florescent lighting saves your eyes from glare as we cram in the classroom. New tile on the floors saves our feet from the cold, cold concrete.

As we wander down to the gym we find that a new road has been put in from West University and more parking area made available. Additional plans are being made for the gym including a paint job and seating for approximately 500 people.