

by Julie Ecker

## Business Partner Recognized

APPA Strategic Business Partner member Sebesta Blomberg & Associates, a consulting engineering firm, was recently recognized as a silver level sustaining firm of the Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE), the only engineering society that serves as an advocate and resource for licensed Professional Engineers (PEs) across all disciplines in Minnesota. Sustaining firms help support MSPE's programs and activities that benefit the entire engineering community. Sebesta Blomberg is one of 27 engineering companies participating in MSPE's sustaining firm program for 2005-2006. "Our sustaining firms make some of our goals easier to reach through their financial and volunteer support," said Mary Detloff, MSPE executive director. "Without sustaining firms, it is very possible that some of our outreach programs would need to be scaled back or even eliminated."

## EPA Finalizes OSWI Rules

On November 30, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized rules to reduce emissions of air pollutants from other solid waste incineration (OSWI) units. The final OSWI rules regulate two classes of incinerators: 1) institutional wastes incineration units and 2) very small municipal waste combustion units. The final rule is available at [www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html](http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg/t3pfpr.html).

## Asbestos Claims Due March 15

Colleges and universities have until March 15, 2006 to recoup some of the costs incurred for removing asbestos-containing materials from campus facilities. More than \$50

million in settlement funds are available from the class action suit *Central Wesleyan v. W.R. Grace, et. al.*, filed 18 years ago. Official notices have been mailed to all institutions. The American Council on Education and the National Association of College and University Business Officers helped to organize and support the institutions involved in the suit. Except for those institutions that opted out of the class action in 1996, colleges and universities that can document expenses for the removal or abatement of friable asbestos-containing materials from campus facilities may file claims.

While there is no limit to how long ago abatement expenses were incurred, claims will only be accepted for work that is completed before the March 15 deadline. No claims for future expenses will be allowed. Preferred documentation includes an asbestos survey, laboratory reports verifying asbestos content, abatement contractors' bills with evidence of payment, canceled checks, and receipts. Claims will be paid after all claims have been reviewed and processed. The dollar amount of all

accepted claims will be totaled and divided by the total funds available to determine each institution's pro rata share of the settlement. Claim forms and more information about the process and requirements are available on a website set up by the class counsel at [www.collegeclaims.com](http://www.collegeclaims.com). For more background on the case and a list of institutions that opted out, see [www.nacubo.org/asbestos](http://www.nacubo.org/asbestos).

## Campus of the Future

Campus of the Future: A Meeting of the Minds is a first-of-its-kind joint conference of three leading associations that serve higher education: APPA, NACUBO, and SCUP. This collaboration will result in enhanced educational and networking opportunities for everyone involved.

The conference, taking place July 8-11, 2006 in Honolulu, Hawai'i, will provide an opportunity to explore a vision of the trends, challenges, and advancements anticipated for the Campus of the Future; enable access to high-quality, joint educational programming that will address the top

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## THE CAMPUS OF THE FUTURE

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issues to higher education; provide an opportunity for cross-collaborative campus teams to attend one conference that meets all their needs; offer a single educational event for individuals who wear many hats on the job; and enhance opportunities to build synergy across the higher education community.

Campus of the Future will also feature two outstanding plenary speakers, Tom Friedman, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and best-selling author of *The World is Flat*, and Tim Sanders, former Chief Solutions Officer at Yahoo! and an irrepresible advocate for good value in the business world. Friedman will share his insights on the impact of globalization on higher education. Sanders will offer

his perspective on how higher education creates today and tomorrow's civic society.

**Registration is now open!** Visit [www.campusofthefuture.org](http://www.campusofthefuture.org) for more information and to register for this important event!

### Johnson Controls Awards FSU with Upgrades

In October 2005, Johnson Controls, Inc. presented Florida State University (FSU) an award for the university's efforts to make energy-smart upgrades since 1996. The award ceremony included presenting the university's president and facility staff with a symbolic \$2.5 million check representing the excess energy savings achieved by Johnson Controls and the university on the FSU campus. An \$8 million contract FSU signed with Johnson Controls in 1996 involved major building improvements and other conservation measures on campus. These projects were funded through energy and operational savings that the projects created. The measures were projected to yield \$8.5 million in savings over 10 years, but after less than eight years the original project is \$2.5 million ahead of savings guarantees. The excess savings means the university has \$2.5 million in additional funds for other purposes, over and above the savings guaranteed by the contract.

FSU has recently signed an extension of this original facility upgrade and energy savings contract with Johnson Controls. The extended phase of the contract includes new technology lighting retrofits, water and sewer retrofits, steam retrofits, computerized energy management, an energy awareness program and chilled water system retrofits. 🏢

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