April 30, 2013

Dear LCI Members:

The Lean Construction Institute has been selected by the National Building Museum to receive the 2013 Henry C. Turner Prize for Innovation in Construction Technology.

"The Prize, which carries an honorarium of $25,000, is extended to LCI for its efforts to improve the construction industry by creating a safer workplace and providing faster delivery while maintaining the highest quality control."

Past Recipients include Society of Women Engineers, Caterpillar Inc., Engineers Without Borders, Charles H. Thornton, Gehry Partners and Gehry Technologies, Dr. Paul Teicholz, U.S. Green Building Council, Charles A. DeBenedittis, I.M. Pei, and Leslie E. Robertson. What an honor it is to be in this company.

The jury included the past Chairman and CEO of Turner Construction Company - Hal Parmalee, Engineering News-Record Editor-in-Chief - Jan Tuchman, Gensler Chairman and CEO - Art Gensler, and Vice President of Turner Construction Company - Chris McFadden.

The letter from the National Building Museum says, "The jury was especially interested in discussing with you how the cash award could support research conducted by LCI that focuses on project outcomes to clearly demonstrate how Lean methods can improve the design, engineering and construction of new facilities." We look forward to that conversation.

It is my distinct pleasure to thank the Jurors and the National Building Museum for their prestigious award. LCI today is a significant force in the industry because of the intellectual, financial and practical contributions and support of our members led in the early years by Greg Howell and Glenn Ballard.

I have asked our co-founder and past president, Greg Howell to give proper thanks to the pioneers.

Sincerely,

Victor Sanvido
Chairman, LCI Board of Directors
Dear LCI Members,

The most valuable aspect of this award is that it has provoked us to thank our community of supporters for all they have done to bring us where we are today.

LCI began when Glenn Ballard realized improving performance was a conceptual problem. We, Glenn, yours truly, Iris Tommelein, and Todd Zabelle, first incorporated LCI. Leo Linbeck provided the push to get us started and wrote the first check in 1997. EMCOR and Southland Industries joined in 1998; N.L.Barnes and The Boldt Company in 1999, DPR, Fluor Daniel/MK and Walbridge-Aldinger in 2000; Frank Messer & Sons, Burt-Hill, Industrial Design Corporation, Strategic Project Solutions and Kinetics in 2001. The International Group for Lean Construction (IGLC) was founded in 1993 when Glenn attended a meeting with 5 others in Finland. The 21st annual IGLC meeting is set for this summer in Fortaleza Brazil.

LCI is where it is today because we kept one foot in the real world of practice trying to understand work as it really happened, and the other in the academic world to establish the conceptual foundations needed to explain what we saw, to provide a foundation for understanding. We focused on the design of key systems; planning, supply and installation, learned what we could from “Best Practice” and moved beyond it. Our understanding advanced by seeing a new problem, inventing a countermeasure that revealed another problem that in turn called for another countermeasure that revealed another problem, and so it went. Somewhere along the way we switched from seeing an industry rich in problems to one filled with opportunity. Tracing the connections between people, ideas, companies was obvious at first but now is surely impossible. Dean Reed of DPR was the first individual member. Owen Matthews, a mechanical contractor built Integrated Project Delivery from the ground up. Will Lichtig brought Sutter Health to the LCI meeting on Contracts, and they decided to deliver their multi-billion dollar program with Lean Construction. Dick Bayer falls in love with Lean Construction, becomes the Interim Director and raised the cash to put new wheels under LCI.

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Glenn Ballard & Greg Howell

Register Now for the Lean Design Forum!

Held June 13 – 14 at the Crowne Plaza in Colorado Springs and co-sponsored by LCI, P2SL and AIA, this forum is designed to provide significantly more time for audience interactions, reflection and Q&A.

Don’t miss:

· Lean Design Provocation Panel
· How to identify and align ends and constraints at the beginning and during a project?
· Steer design to deliver value within project constraints of time, money, location, etc.
· Determine during and after design if value is being/was delivered
· Understand conceptual design - What management methods work well and which don’t
· Reflection and Exploration facilitated by all the moderators
Interested in sponsoring the Design Forum? We have sponsorship opportunities at various levels available if your firm would be interested in exposure to a cross-section of the Lean design community. Please contact anne@leanconstruction.org to learn more.

Calling all abstracts for the 2013 LCI Congress

If you are interested in contributing a presentation to the 2013 LCI Congress, please access the link below for directions, schedule, etc. Responses are due May 31. Our 2013 Congress takes place in Dallas, TX October 22-25. Click here to submit your abstract. You may also register for the Congress by clicking here.