

## **An Innovative Outreach Program on Mechanical Contracting for College-Bound High School Students**

**Fatih Oncul, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>, Marty Drobny<sup>2</sup>, Melvin Lewis, M.S.<sup>3</sup>, Faruk Apaydin, M.S., P.E<sup>4</sup>,**

Fairleigh Dickinson University offers innovative weekend outreach program on Mechanical Contracting to college-bound high school students. The program is generously sponsored by Mechanical Contracting Association of New Jersey (MCA-NJ). Lectures are half-day long and expanded to ten Saturdays. High school students are introduced to Mechanical Contracting related careers and subjects such as; Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC), product piping, steam piping and energy conservation. Students are also involved in hands-on experimental exercises where possible. This article discusses recruiting process, program schedule, daily agenda, lectures, lab exercises, and feedbacks from students, high school administrators, and parents.

---

<sup>1</sup> Fairleigh Dickinson University, Gildart and Haase School of Computer Sciences and Engineering, Civil Engineering Technology Program, 1000 River Rd. T-MU1-01 Teaneck, NJ 07666, (201) 692 2350, foncul@fdu.edu

<sup>2</sup> MCA-NJ, Education Director, 211 Mountain Ave. Springfield, NJ 07081, (973) 912-0042

<sup>3</sup> Fairleigh Dickinson University, Gildart and Haase School of Computer Sciences and Engineering, Coordinator of Technology Programs, 1000 River Rd. T-MU1-01 Teaneck, NJ 07666, (201) 692 2248, mlewis@fdu.edu

<sup>4</sup> Mechanical Engineer Robert Derector Associates, New York, New York.