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CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - www.cisco.org - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

ANNUAL MEETING - JANUARY 31, 2014



Prof. Robert Bruno

C I S C O
w e l c o m e s
Keynote Speaker
University of
Illinois Professor
Robert Bruno
to its Annual
Meeting on
Friday, January
31 at Maggiano's
Little Italy, 1901
Woodfield Road
in Schaumburg. The
meeting also features the 2013 Pride in
Construction Award presentations.

Bruno is a professor in the School of Labor & Employment Relations at the University of Illinois and the Director of the Labor Education Program in Chicago. In the faculty and staff directory website page, he states, "I became a professor because I believe that it is the best way for me to act on behalf of working-class men and women. Labor & Employment Relations has a long standing and significant commitment to labor studies and the institutions that support collective bargaining."

His research focuses broadly on working-class and union studies issues. Bruno has taught many different industrial relations courses and has specialized in labor history, steward training and working-class studies. Bruno earned his Ph.D. in Political Theory from New York University and his M.A. in Political Science from Bowling Green State University.

For more information on registering for this event, visit www.cisco.org or please call CISCO at (630) 472-9411.

CISCO TO ASSIST IN TWO MINORITY TRAINING PROGRAMS

The recent funding for much needed public infrastructure and toll way projects has spurred a demand for skilled union workers. CISCO has been asked to assist in the implementation of two new and exciting initiatives specifically designed to help in training a diverse, highly skilled union workforce to meet this challenge.

The first initiative is the Chicago Urban League Transportation Construction Apprenticeship Readiness Training (TCART). This program is a collaborative effort among Chicago-area community based organizations and the Apprenticeship Skill and Improvement Program of Local 150, and the Chicagoland Laborers' District Council Apprenticeship Fund. The goal is to insure increased participation of minority groups, disadvantaged persons, and females in all phases of the highway construction industry. The program is funded by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT).

Candidates must reside in Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will Counties, and must meet all the requirements of the specific skilled trade for which they apply. One of the invaluable aspects of the TCART program is participants receive training addressing industry expectations, conduct, life skills and math skills. This invaluable training is certain to help achieve the TCART goal of creating successful new careers in the union construction industry for minorities.

Secondly, CISCO has been appointed to the Advisory Board for

the Highway Construction Careers Training Program. This initiative is also funded by IDOT, and begins on February 18, 2014. This is a pre-apprenticeship training program for the union construction trades, whereas the training and education provided will greatly contribute to the program's success. As the program progresses, CISCO will be providing the Careers in Construction program for this entire group.

CISCO PARTNERS TO PROMOTE DAILY HERALD BUSINESS LEDGER AWARD

The *Daily Herald Business Ledger* recently announced that CISCO will be one of the marketing partners for the publication's 24th Annual Awards for Business Excellence (AABE). The AABE's highlight successful suburban businesses and organization and honor the people who make them successful.

CISCO will nominate select businesses in its service area before the January 17, 2014 deadline. The award recipients will be recognized at an evening reception March 12, 2014 at the Medinah Banquets in Addison. For more information, contact Public Relations Director Gary Karafiat at (630) 472-9411 or gary@cisco.org.

ON THE LEGISLATIVE FRONT

A pension reform bill was passed by the General Assembly December 3. Lawmakers approved a measure that would overhaul the state government pension system that is more than \$100 billion in debt. The controversial plan was opposed by state employee unions, and a lawsuit is expected to be filed contending that the benefit cuts are unconstitutional and unfair to employees and retirees.