

Dr. James K. Cable Portland Cement Concrete Overlay Scholarship

Iowa has long been a leader in the Portland Cement Concrete pavement industry, beginning in Eddyville and LeMars, Iowa. Iowa led the nation in two-lift paving and recycling in the 1970s. The industry then moved to constructing concrete overlays of existing pavements on all portions of the state and local highway system.

Dr. Jim Cable spent his research career in the area of thin Portland Cement Concrete overlay planning, design, and construction, meeting all challenges presented. Through his instruction, many of the current state, county, city, and consultant personnel learned how to design pavements (black and white) and make engineering decisions on which to build. Many other students participated in research efforts looking for ways to improve pavement construction.

Cable normally had 10 undergraduate students funded part-time and 3 graduate students funded full-time. Some measured pavement performance to find ways to extend pavement life and expand the knowledge base of Portland Cement Concrete overlays. At one time, he had 23 research projects, each for \$200,000 to \$400,000, in progress at the same time. Industry personnel have learned how to build thin overlays and assist in the development of new construction methods and techniques as the result of his research efforts. In addition, he was in charge of the CCCE department capstone course with 120 students per year, and was the lead in managing 40+ continuing education conferences (5,000 participants) per year for practicing civil engineers in Iowa.

Thirty years of Jim's life have been spent taking thin concrete overlays from a dream in Iowa to one of the preferred alternative rehabilitation strategies in Iowa and across the nation. It has been great to look around the country and see Dr. Cable's students in middle to upper management positions exercising good engineering judgement in infrastructure improvements.

A scholarship has been created to provide support for graduate students to further the development of Dr. Cable's work in making Portland Cement Concrete overlays a viable alternative in pavement overlay decisions.

Every scholarship requires a set amount of money to allow for distribution of interest from that fund for an individual scholarship gift to a student. You can help make this a reality for a deserving civil engineering graduate student.