

UA student-surveyors take top honors in national competition

For the fifth time in nine years, UA/Summit College Surveying and Mapping team has taken first place in the Student Surveying Competition sponsored by the National Society of Professional Surveyors. "Forensic Surveying" was the theme of this year's competition, held in Phoenix, Ariz., on April 25.

"The success of the team, year after year in this national competition, is basically one of motivation," says T. Michael Besch, professor and director of the Summit College Surveying and Mapping Program in the Department of Engineering and Science Technology. "We guide our students and provide them with the knowledge and skills they need, but it is their focus and motivation that has been the mainstay for continuing success."

Along with the team win, Professor Besch was awarded the Earl J. Fennel Award, presented "in recognition of distinguished educational contributions to ACSM and the surveying and mapping profession."

"It's a national award, and I'm very honored to receive it, especially since I was recommended for it by students, Dean Stanley Silverman and other agencies," says Besch, who joined UA in 1992.