



## Kenworth Helps Students at Seattle University with Real-World Engineering Projects and Mentoring

SEATTLE – Celebrating 25 years of working together, Seattle University recently recognized Kenworth and PACCAR for their ongoing support of the Project Center in the university's College of Science and Engineering during a special ceremony. Over those 25 years, 43 real-world engineering projects have been conducted with Seattle University engineering students.



From left are Father Steve Sundborg, president of Seattle University, and Reid Nabarrete, Kenworth assistant general manager for operations. Nabarrete accepted a special award on Kenworth's behalf from Father Sundborg in recognition of Kenworth's long-time, ongoing support of the university's Project Center. Nabarrete presented Father Sundborg with a Kenworth hat and sports duffel bag.

"The Seattle University Project Center creates experiential learning opportunities by connecting students and faculty with corporate partners," said Father Steve Sundborg, president of Seattle University. "Companies such as PACCAR and Kenworth Truck Company have provided mentorship and projects for Seattle U students for 25 years."



Shown in front of the new Kenworth T680 are, from left, Reid Nabarrete, Kenworth assistant general manager for operations, and Jean Jacoby, associate dean of the College of Science and Engineering at Seattle University.

"Support from the business and manufacturing world is vital to educational institutions," added Dr. Teodora Rutar Shuman, Seattle U's Associate Professor and Chair of the Mechanical Engineering Department. "Our projects with Kenworth give our students real-world situations and challenges. Since it is real world, the students know that they can make an impact and create something of commercial value. Some of their work has even been patented by Kenworth and the students are recognized in those patents."

During a special ceremony marking Seattle University's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Projects Day, Kenworth was recognized for its long-time support of the program. "We have maintained a strong commitment to this joint program and especially appreciate the contributions made by the participating students and faculty over the years", said Kenworth Assistant General Manager for Operations Reid Nabarrete, who is a Seattle University alumnus with a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering. "It's an honor for Kenworth Truck Company to receive this special recognition from Seattle University."

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Alec Wong, Kenworth's principal research engineer, works closely with the Seattle U students and faculty on a regular basis. The group also sometimes meets with the Kenworth design team. According to Wong, not only does Kenworth come up with a project, students are able to carry out the project all the way through completion – often using Kenworth's Research and Development Center for prototyping.

“This gives our students a stronger feel for the engineering profession,” said Shuman. “Students are more motivated to learn and contribute and they receive deeper learning in the process. It's one thing to design something on paper or in the computer, it's something entirely different to see their vision and work become real in a prototype.”

According to Wong, while the primary mission is for Kenworth to give back to the university, it also has benefits for Kenworth. “Since we give them dynamic projects, the students often come up with ideas that we can incorporate into production models,” he said. “The students have the freedom to think outside the box and they have great enthusiasm for what they're doing. It's always exciting to see what they come up with.”

Often times, the work of the students continues on with Kenworth. “Many have come to work for Kenworth in internship positions,” said Wong, who was also honored by Seattle University with its Top Project Liaison Award for his past 10 years of ongoing contributions to the joint program. “And we have several engineers now on staff who were first exposed to Kenworth through our projects at the university.”

Kenworth Truck Company is the manufacturer of The World's Best® heavy and medium duty trucks. Kenworth is an industry leader in providing fuel-saving technology solutions that help increase fuel efficiency and reduce emissions. The company's dedication to the green fleet includes aerodynamic trucks, compressed and liquefied natural gas trucks, and medium duty diesel-electric hybrids. Kenworth is the only truck manufacturer to receive the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Excellence award in recognition of its environmentally friendly products. In addition, the fuel-efficient Kenworth T700 equipped with the low-emission PACCAR MX engine was named the 2011 Heavy Duty Commercial Truck of the Year by the American Truck Dealers. Kenworth's Internet home page is at [www.kenworth.com](http://www.kenworth.com). Kenworth. A PACCAR Company.