

LEADING WAY IN RESEARCH

By Professor Michael Thomas
Contributing Writer

The Concrete Materials Research Group at UNB has grown rapidly in the last three years and, currently, 10 graduate students are pursuing either masters or PhD degrees in this area. The group is led by Dr. Mike Thomas who has more than 20 years experience in concrete materials research working in industry, government and academia in both Canada and the U.K.

The graduate students that make up the Concrete Materials Research Group are: Nick Beaman, Sussex, NB; Donny Burden, Corner Brook, NF; Ian Cosh, Brooks, AL; Raj Dhole, Bombay, India; Xiuping Feng, Beijing, China; Rayna Luther, Corner Brook, NF; Tanya Owens, New Glasgow, NS; Dr. Allan Scott, Belleville, ON (Post-Doctoral Fellow); Dave Smith, Wolfville, NS; Joshua Young, Campobello, NB.

Their research projects are vast and varied. They've included: studies of concrete using

advanced techniques such as magnetic resonance imaging (in collaboration with the MRI Centre at UNB) and X-ray computer tomography (CAT scanning), the development of an information management system for quality control (in collaboration with the Construction Management Group at UNB), the use of chemical and mineral admixtures to control alkali-aggregate reaction, calcium aluminate cement systems, durability of concrete with Class C fly ash, use of fly ash produced from blended coal-petroleum coke fuels (e.g. from Belledune Generating Station, NB), sulfate resistance, chloride ingress and corrosion, permeability, carbonation and the use of high-volume fly ash concrete.

The Concrete Materials Group at UNB aims to become a centre of focus and industry resource for concrete technology in the Atlantic provinces, and to establish a national and international reputation for research in concrete materials.

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The Concrete Materials Group at UNB is striving to establish a national and international reputation for research in concrete materials. ~ Photo Contributed

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