News Release — LOGAN, UTAH, April 6, 2018 — Engineering students at Utah State University placed third at a recent regional bridge-building competition held in South Dakota.

Fourteen universities competed in the Steel Bridge Competition as part of the 2018 Rocky Mountain Regional Conference for the American Society of Civil Engineers. The event was held April 5-7 at the South Dakota School of Mines & Technology in Rapid City, S.D.

The competition gives students the opportunity to apply their technical skills to a real-world experience. Bridges must pass several requirements, including fast assembly and the ability to hold up to 2,500 pounds.

“The students that participate in these competitions develop important skills that are necessary to be a successful engineer. Students have told me that they landed an internship or job primarily because of their involvement with concrete canoe or steel bridge,” said Christopher Shearer, a Mines civil and environmental engineering assistant professor and adviser to the SD Mines chapter of American Society of Civil Engineers and the concrete canoe team.

The USU team also won first place for lightness design. Pete Collins, a USU student, was awarded 2nd place for his technical paper.