**PCI Foundation is the educational entity that supports the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Industry**

**200 West Adams Street, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60606**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**University of Kentucky, College of Design’s School of Architecture, Awarded $100,000 Grant**

**PCI Foundation Grants $100,000 to University of Kentucky for a 4-year studio focused on precast and prestressed concrete education – Precast Industry Partner is Gate Precast**

****CHICAGO, October 15, 2020 --- Each year the PCI Foundation awards curriculum development grants to universities that submit applications and pass a rigorous review process for acceptance. The University of Kentucky (UK) is one of this year’s grantees. UK is based in Lexington, KY with nearly 31,000 students.

“The PCI Foundation’s mission is to put precast concrete in the classroom so future architects, engineers and construction managers are aware of the possibilities of precast concrete and its myriad uses,” saidMarty McIntyre, Executive Director of the Chicago-based PCI Foundation. “Key components to each of the grants we award include industry partnership, new precast curriculum and innovative experiential learning.”

“In 2020, we have had a record number of schools apply and are proud to announce that the University of Kentucky’s College of Design has been awarded funds for a four-year studio incorporating education about the uses of precast and prestressed concrete.”

**Name of University**: University of Kentucky, College of Design School of Architecture

**Location**: 112 Pence Hall, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0041

**Amount granted**: $100,000 over a 4-year period

**Timing**: Fall of 2020 – through December of 2024

**Academic leadership**: Dean Mitzi Vernon, College of Design; Jeffrey Johnson, Director of the School of Architecture; and co-PI’s are Joe Brewer and Bill Massie.

**Precast Industry Partner:** Gate Precast

**page 2 of 2**

**Quote from Joe Brewer, UK College of Design, Director of Technology and Facilities** (photo)

*****“*The PCI Foundation grant will be transformative for our students.  The future architects, interior designers, preservationists, and product designers at our school will not only benefit from the inclusion of precast concrete in their curriculum, but this grant will help invest in emerging and future technologies.  Through our local partner, Gate Precast, we will be able to teach our students how precast concrete can be used to put more control in the hands of the designer and how we might use technology to lessen the gap between the design and construction industries.

The PCI Foundation with our local representative Gate Precast, has been one of the best partnership experiences we have had.  For the College of Design, it’s important for us to find collaborators, not benefactors.  The PCI Foundation has already helped lay the groundwork for success in our curriculum and student engagement*.”*

**ABOUT THE PCI FOUNDATION -** Since 2001, the PCI Foundation has been the educational entity that supports the Precast/Prestressed Concrete industry. The mission of the PCI Foundation is to foster educational initiatives focused on innovative approaches to the integrated and sustainable use of precast concrete design, fabrication, and construction. It is a charitable 501(c) 3 corporation, based in Chicago, which supports the inclusion of precast concrete programs at accredited colleges and universities. To learn more, visit the PCI Foundation website at [www.PCI-Foundation.org](http://www.PCI-Foundation.org).

 ###

**Media contact**: Marty McIntyre, PCI Foundation

 martymci@pci-foundation.or or (708) 386-3715

Laura Bennett, Bennett & Company, laura@bennettandco.com