Connecting Industry to Talent

This segment of our event is designed to bring industry leaders together with top emerging talent, involving students nearing graduation and preparing to begin their careers in the Building Sciences sector. This initiative was started last year, with great success, so it is now part of our annual tradition.

Background
BECOR has a long history of supporting our local post-secondary institutions through a variety of initiatives. In recent years, Algonquin, Carleton and the University of Ottawa have significantly increased their participation in BECOR, with greater student attendance at events and each institution now has a dedicated Student Liaison on BECOR's organizing committee. These liaisons play a crucial role in guiding students' introduction to our industry while helping BECOR strengthen its student initiatives.

Plan
At this year's BRAG session, Algonquin, Carleton and U-Ottawa will send several of their TOP students – high performing individuals withing the architecture, engineering and technology programs with a focus on building sciences and sustainability. Many of these individuals are graduate students or senior undergraduates close to entering the workplace. To help support their transition, BECOR is introducing this new "connections" portion to the BRAG session, to broaden student exposure to industry topics and to facilitate meaningful professional relationships.

Rationale
Industry professionals frequently note the challenge of identifying high-caliber talent that aligns well with their organization. At the same time, students approaching graduation often lack clear insight into which organizations best match their interests and skills. This initiative aims to bridge that gap, making the process easier and more effective for both employers and emerging professionals.

Format
Our approach will include the following elements:

1. Industry Presentations: During the BRAG session, industry representatives will deliver a concise 10 to 15 minute presentation that showcases a cool project and the firm's expertise. This will be an opportunity to **brag** about their organization, in the way that Jacques enthusiastically encouraged.
2. Academic Showcases: Presenters from Algonquin, Carleton and U-Ottawa will share an overview of their programs and feature notable student projects.
3. Enhanced Networking: Dedicated networking sessions will encourage interaction between students and industry professionals, to explore potential pathways for collaboration and employment.
4. Clear Identification: Name tags will be provided to all presenters and students to support introductions and discussions. At the post-session portion, industry leaders will situated at dedicated stations.

Connection to BRAG

The BRAG session is the perfect opportunity for connecting students to industry, as it allows students to brag about themselves to attract job offers while also allowing organizations to brag about themselves to attract top graduating talent.