

THE FRP COMPETITION SPRING 2026 RECAP



OVERVIEW

The ACI UW Student Chapter participated in the FRP Composites Competition at the ACI Convention in Chicago this Spring 2026, where teams from around the world designed and tested fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) concrete beams. The goal of the competition was to achieve the highest load capacity at the lowest cost, requiring a balance of material efficiency, structural design, and construction techniques.

All ACI UW members participated in: Research, Mix Design, Analysis for the mixes, Mold Design, Trials and Tests for the samples, and Final selection of the competition beam.

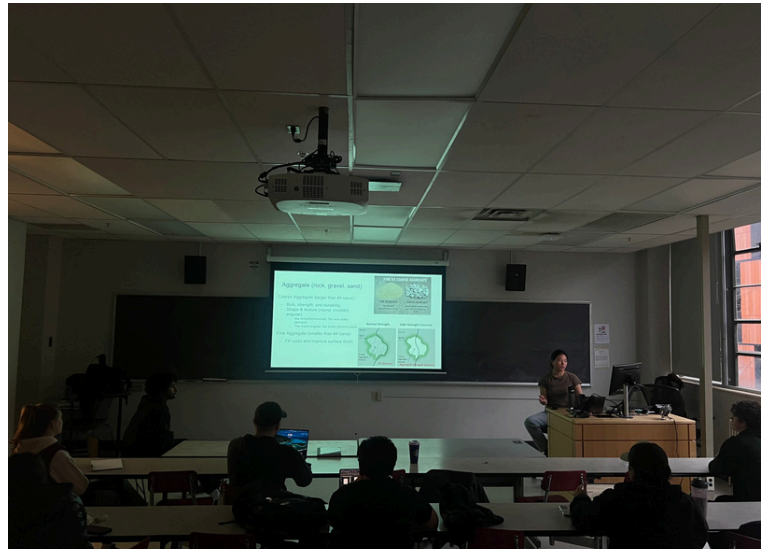


The reinforcement goal was to choose a combination of GFRP bars that had the best specifications and place them at the ideal location. The reason for using a combination of bars was so we could make two completely identical beams and test one of them for prediction. Ideally, we would have used the same two bars in our beam, but we decided to compromise on this for better testing data, as we received two pieces of each type of reinforcement bars from the ACI.





ACI UW Design Engineer, Sarah Young, led a “Mix Design 101” session covering the fundamentals of concrete mix design and how to use the team’s in-house template for competition work. The session was aimed at helping newer members get involved and better understand the technical aspects of the competition. Many students agreed that this session was valuable for applying the concepts they learn in class to real-world scenarios.




Spring 2026 FRP Composites Competition

						
Virak Leng	Patricia Reyes	Sarah Young	Owen Chatters	Sam Wyche	Alena Karpova	Anna Shved

University of Washington - Seattle

Faculty Advisor: Giovanni Migliaccio Team ID: [DAWGS](#)

Huge thanks to:
Virak Leng,
Patricia Reyes,
Sarah Young,
Owen Chatters,
Sam Wyche,
Alena Karpova,
Anna Shved.

Here are the ruthless warriors who went to Chicago to compete for ACI UW!

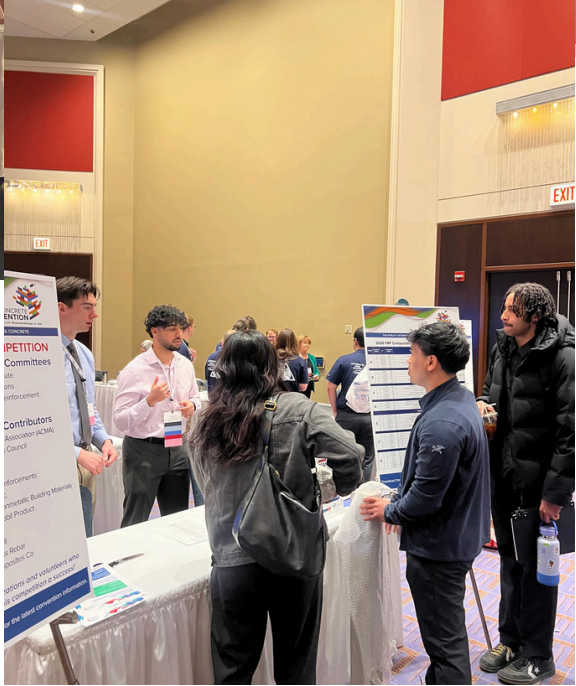




COMPITITION DAY — RESULTS

Results

Although ACI UW was eliminated from the competition due to being slightly overweight, the team’s performance ranked in the mid-range across categories compared to other teams.



Looking at the future

The next competition will be held in Atlanta and will focus on mortar workability. The new ACI UW team for the 2026–2027 school year is excited to begin preparation and research in this area.

We heard that the Concrete Mixer in Atlanta will take place at the aquarium—an exciting detail that’s motivating students to work even harder for the competition!



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