

Frangopol Recognized by Lehigh Valley ASCE as the Civil Engineer of the Year 2016

Dan M. Frangopol, the Fazlur R. Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture, was selected by the Lehigh Valley section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (LVASCE) as the 2016 Civil Engineer of the Year. According to the nomination form "Civil Engineer of the Year award is to recognize and distinguish, in a dignified public way, an outstanding civil engineer each year. The award does not focus primarily on work for and on behalf of ASCE, since other awards serve this purpose. Instead, this award focuses on civil engineers who have distinguished themselves by outstanding achievements and contributions to the civil engineering profession, to the education and support of younger engineers and future engineers, and to the community at large (referring to the local, regional, national, and international communities)." Frangopol received the award at the LVASCE April 18, 2017, Student Dinner meeting held at the Fritz Engineering Laboratory, Lehigh University.

The award was given for Dr. Frangopol's "outstanding achievements and contributions to the profession, ASCE, and the community," according to John Caperilla, President of the LVASCE.

Frangopol's achievements and contributions to the three aspects mentioned previously are numerous. He has been a Distinguished Member of the ASCE since 2010, and over the course of his career, he has won many awards, including the 2016 Outstanding Projects and Leaders (OPAL) Award for a Lifetime Achievement in Civil Engineering Education. Last year, he also was named the inaugural recipient of the ASCE's Alfredo Ang Award on Risk Analysis and Management of Civil Infrastructure for exceptional efforts in advancing, advocating and persistently promoting the life-cycle cost analysis of structures and structural systems, and their integration into reliability-based structural analysis and design.

The Industry Leaders Council of the ASCE has invited him to join their efforts to solve the ASCE Grand Challenge: to significantly enhance the performance and value of infrastructure projects over their life cycles, reducing the life-cycle cost of infrastructure by 50 percent by 2025, and fostering the optimization of infrastructure investments for society.

The ASCE noted that "Dr. Frangopol's research has not only saved time and money, but very likely also saved lives."

In addition to Frangopol's award, the LVASCE dinner meeting was also a chance to recognize student leaders at both Lehigh and Lafayette.

Nicholas Urban '17 received the Student of the Year award, along with Lafayette's Steven Berube. Each student gave a presentation to the professional members and faculty in attendance.

Four students from the Lehigh chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute also discussed their recent trip to Portland for an international earthquake engineering competition. It was the first time the Lehigh chapter of EERI qualified for this event.

The LVASCE Student Dinner event takes place at either Lehigh or Lafayette each year and is a chance for professional members to connect with civil engineering students and educators.

—John Gilpatrick
May 5, 2017

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Lehigh Professor, Dan M. Frangopol, The Fazlur R. Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture



Frangopol receiving the 2016 Civil Engineer of the Year Award from John Caperilla, President of the LVASCE

