LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

P. C. ROSSIN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE

Spring 2007

FAZLUR RAHMAN KHAN LECTURE SERIES

Honoring a legacy in structural engineering and architecture

Presentations will be held in the Sinclair Laboratory Auditorium at Lehigh University

Receptions to precede events starting at 4:10 P.M.

http://www.lehigh.edu/frkseries

Friday, February 9th, 2007
4:30 P.M.
"Khan's Vision"

Friday, March 16th, 2007
4:30 P.M.
"Why? Why Not? What If?"

Friday, April 20th, 2007
4:30 P.M.
"Learning from the Attacks on an American Icon: World Trade Center Building Performance Study"

About the Khan Series

In step with the abounding vitality of the time, structural engineer Fazlur Rahman Khan (1929-1982) ushered in a renaissance in skyscraper construction during the second half of the 20th century. Fazlur Khan was a pragmatic visionary: the series of progressive ideas that he brought forth for efficient high-rise construction in the 1960s and '70s were validated in his own work, notably his efficient designs for Chicago's 100-story John Hancock Center and 110-story Sears Tower -- the tallest building in the United States since its completion in 1974.

Fazlur Rahman Khan

Lehigh endowed a chair in structural engineering and architecture and has established this lecture series in Khan's honor. It is organized by **Professor Dan M. Frangopol**, the university's first holder of the Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture, and sponsored by the Departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Art & Architecture.

Mark P. Sarkisian '85
PE, SE, Partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

Man-Chung Tang
Chairman, T.Y. Lin International

W. Gene Corley
Senior Vice President, CTLGroup, Inc

Khan's Vision

This first presentation for Lehigh University's Fazlur Rahman Khan Lecture Series will explore Khan's creative vision of structural engineering through his work at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM) and the lasting impact that it has had on the profession.

Khan's innovation, especially related to tall building design, will be presented through his theories and project examples including the Sears Tower, John Hancock Center, Chestnut Dewitt Tower, Onterie Center as well as other projects in the U.S. and overseas. The presentation will also draw upon current SOM architectural engineering projects that reflect Khan's vision and legacy by interpreting and expanding on his ideas.

Why? Why Not? What If?

According to Dr. Man-Chung Tang, Chairman of the Board of T.Y. Lin International and honorary professor of Tsinghua, Tongji, Southeast, and other major universities, today's civilization is the accumulation of past innovations. As engineers, we must be innovative so tomorrow's world will be better.

In this presentation, Dr. Tang explores the basis of innovation, starting with the questions "Why?" and "Why not?" The question "Why?" gives us the opportunity to challenge the status quo. The question "Why not?" gives us the opportunity to introduce new ideas or overcome restrictions. The question "What if?" keeps us humble and conservative.

Learning from the Attacks on an American Icon: World Trade Center Building Performance Study

In the wake of the 9-11 attacks on the World Trade Center, The American Society of Civil Engineers/Structural Engineering Institute immediately formed a Building Performance Study Team to learn how the buildings performed in this tragedy, and asked Dr. Corley to lead the team. This lecture describes the results of the study, and identifies approaches and other areas of study that could mitigate structural response to such severe conditions.

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This lecture series is sponsored by:
Civil & Environmental Engineering: College of Engineering & Applied Science
Art & Architecture: College of Arts & Sciences