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 & Design.

FAZLUR RAHMAN KHAN (1929 - 1982) One of the foremost structural engineers of the 20th century, Fazlur Khan epitomized both structural engineering achievement and creative collaborative effort between architect and engineer. Only when architectural design is grounded in structural realities, he believed — thus cultivating architecture’s nature as a constructive art, rooted in the earth — can “the resulting aesthetics ... have a transcendental value and quality.” His ideas for these sky-scraping towers offered more than economic construction and iconic architectural images; they gave people the opportunity to work and live “in the sky.” Hancock Center residents thrive on the wide expanse of sky and lake before them, the stunning quiet in the heart of the city, and the intimacy with nature at such heights: the rising sun, the moon and stars, the migrating flocks of birds. Fazlur Khan was always clear about the purpose of architecture. His characteristic statement to an editor in 1971, having just been selected Construction’s Man of the Year by Engineering News-Record, is commemorated in a plaque in Onterie Center (446 E. Ontario, Chicago): “The technical man must not be lost in his own technology. He must be able to appreciate life; and life is art, drama, music, and most importantly, people.”

SAWTEEN SEE

SAWTEEN SEE
President, See Robertson Structural Engineers, LLC, New York, NY

“Some Long-Span and Some Tall Buildings by SawTeen See”
Friday, March 29, 2019 – 4:30 pm

Location: Whitaker Lab 303, Lehigh University, 5 E. Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA

http://www.lehigh.edu/frksseries

SawTeen See has extensive experience in the structural design of the full spectrum of building and structure types. SawTeen is a Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and a Fellow of the New York Academy of Sciences. She is on the Advisory Board of the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Cornell University. In 2017, SawTeen was featured in the CTBUH Journal’s Special Issue: "Women in the Tall Building Industry". She was one of three professionals representing architecture, developer, and engineering in the 2016 AIA-CTBUH program "Women Shaping the Urban Habitat". The 2006 ASCE publication "Changing our World: True Stories of Women Engineers" featured SawTeen as a structural engineer.

As Partner-in-Charge, SawTeen has led the structural design of some of the world’s tallest buildings including the 644-m PNB 118 Tower in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; the 555-m Lotte World Tower in Seoul, South Korea; and the 492-m Shanghai World Financial Center in Shanghai, China. She also led the peer review of two 530-m high rises in China, and dozens of other challenging projects throughout the world. Other projects include the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum, Cleveland; the National Constitution Center, Philadelphia; the NASCR Hall of Fame, Charlotte; Suzhou Museum, Suzhou, China; San Jose Convention Center in San Jose; Baltimore Convention Center expansion in Baltimore; and the National Library of Latvia in Riga, Latvia. Other recent projects include the Minemtals Headquarters in Shenzhen, China; Suzhou landscaped bridges in Suzhou, China; and the new Temple University Library in Philadelphia.

She has written many technical papers on tall buildings and structural engineering, and has presented at various universities and for professional organizations in the US and overseas. At the end of 2017, after 40 years there, she withdrew from Leslie E. Robertson Associates. Together with Leslie Robertson, she set up a new firm, See Robertson Structural Engineers. She is now a Design Director with the Robert Bird Group.

Some Long-Span and Some Tall Buildings by SawTeen See. SawTeen See, a structural engineer with 40 years’ experience, will share some of the highlights of her collaborations with architects in the design of pedestrian bridges, museums, convention centers, and some of the world’s tallest buildings. She will discuss projects such as the AIG pedestrian bridge in Hong Kong, the NASCR Hall of Fame in Charlotte, NC, the Baltimore Convention Center Expansion, the 492m Shanghai World Financial Center, the 555m Lotte World Tower in Seoul (the 5th tallest in the world), the 644m PNB 118 tower under construction in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and innovations for some super high-rises of the future.

1 PDH will be awarded to eligible attendees for each lecture

Please contact the Khan Chair office at 610-758-6123 or Email: infk@lehigh.edu with any questions.