



**JON PICKARD**

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.



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THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
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## Spring 2020 Khan Distinguished Lecture Series

*The Fazlur Rahman Khan Distinguished Lecture Series honors Dr. Fazlur Rahman Khan's legacy of excellence in structural engineering and architecture*

*Initiated and Organized by* **PROFESSOR DAN M. FRANGOPOL**

The Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture  
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### JON PICKARD

Principal, Pickard Chilton, New Haven, CT

**“Gracing the Sky, Enriching the City”**  
**Friday, February 28, 2020 – 4:30 pm**

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

<http://www.lehigh.edu/frkseries>

**Jon Pickard**, FAIA, RIBA, has been recognized internationally for his achievements in architecture. He has designed or collaborated in the design of some of the world's most recognized buildings, including such prominent projects as the ExxonMobil Global Campus, 609 Main and BG Group Place, all in Houston; Norfolk Southern's new headquarters and 1180 Peachtree in Atlanta; Northwestern Mutual's headquarters in Milwaukee; the Devon Energy Center in Oklahoma City; 300 North LaSalle in downtown Chicago; and, the CalPERS Headquarters Complex in Sacramento.

Prior to the founding of Pickard Chilton, for 18 years he collaborated with Cesar Pelli in the design of numerous landmark and award-winning projects, including the World Financial Center in New York, and Kuala Lumpur City Centre, a development that included the Petronas Towers.

Mr. Pickard received his Bachelor of Arts in Architecture from Iowa State University and his Master of Architecture from the Yale School of Architecture. He has lectured extensively at academic institutions and currently serves on the Yale School of Architecture Dean's Council.

**Gracing the Sky, Enriching the City.** *“The city is more important than the building and the building is more important than the architect.”* - Cesar Pelli

Tall buildings have the ability to define corporations, cities and even nations. As iconic as some towers may be perceived, their true success is in how they positively contribute to their cityscape and, perhaps most importantly, how they improve and enrich the lives of those who live and work every day in the community. As noted by Fazlur Rahman Khan, “Life is art, drama, music, and most importantly, people.” Using examples of tall buildings he has designed worldwide, Jon Pickard will speak to the responsibility architects of skyscrapers have in reimagining ground level experiences to serve as a benefit to both the public and the environment.

**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 celebrating 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.”*



**1 PDH will be awarded to eligible attendees for each lecture**

Please contact the Khan Chair office at 610-758-6123 or Email: [infrk@lehigh.edu](mailto:infrk@lehigh.edu) with any questions.