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2022 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
 Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, ATLSS Engineering Research Center,
 Lehigh University

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ADRIAN D. SMITH

Partner, Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture, Chicago, IL

"Supertall Towers + Green Cities"

Friday, March 25, 2022 – 4:30 pm

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

Lecture will also be live streamed, please register for link ([Register here](#))

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

ADRIAN D. SMITH

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.

For the past 45 years, **Adrian D. Smith**, FAIA, RIBA has contributed to the theory and practice of architecture through an exploration of global culture, technology, and sustainability. From Boston and Chicago to Shanghai and Dubai, local populations regard Adrian's buildings as their own, as reflections of their character and symbols of their highest aspirations. Adrian has established himself as a leader in the profession through his 26-year partnership at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM) and as a founder of his own firm, Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture (AS+GG) in 2006. His buildings and urban designs have earned more than 225 awards worldwide, including 10 national AIA Honor Awards. He won the 2011 Lynn S. Beedle Award for Lifetime Achievement from the CTBUH for his contributions to the supertall typology. In 2013, Adrian received an honorary Doctorate of Letters from Texas A&M University and in 2016 he was a Legacies and Leaders recipient from his alma mater University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts.

Supertall Towers + Green Cities. Adrian D. Smith, FAIA is one of the first American architects to design supertall buildings internationally. During his 50+-year career, his work has shown an evolving interest in the use of vernacular and indigenous forms and compositions together with state-of-the-art systems and technologies to integrate new buildings into the regional context. As a leading expert on the advanced technology of supertall towers and their impact on cities, this talk will explore projects that have effectively reduced negative environmental impacts, while simultaneously improving the overall quality of life in the city. His talk will feature major international projects including the Burj Khalifa, Jeddah Tower, and plans for a self-sustaining satellite city in China.

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 (minimum webinar participation time of 55 minutes is required)

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