



Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering

DISTINGUISHED SEMINAR

A Critical Look at Bridge Design Practice: Beyond Material Efficiency



Theodore P. Zoli, III

Senior Vice President,
National Bridge Chief
Engineer, HNTB
Corporation

**Monday
November 5,
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103 Churchill
Hall
12:00 PM

*This seminar is free and
open to the public.*

Abstract: Minimizing materials, which is at the core of the way we teach and practice bridge design, is becoming less relevant. Fabrication, transportation, and erection dominate the costs of modern bridges, and offer new opportunities for innovation. Given these new sets of constraints there is great potential to create much safer, more robust, structural systems than before. These ideas are explored through a number of recently built structures.

Bio: Theodore Zoli serves as the technical director of HNTB's bridge practice nationwide. During his 30 years with HNTB, Zoli has led the design of numerous innovative first-of-their kind bridges including the network arch Lake Champlain Bridge (NY, VT), the gusset-less truss for Portsmouth Memorial Bridge (ME-NH), and the hybrid cable stayed Leonard P. Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge (MA).

Zoli received a B.S. (1988) from

Princeton University and an M.S. (1989) from the California Institute of Technology. He has served as a visiting lecturer in Princeton University's Department of Civil Engineering; and currently serves as an adjunct professor in the Department of Civil Engineering and Engineering Mechanics at Columbia University, and in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences at University of Notre Dame.

In September 2009, Zoli was made a MacArthur Fellow by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. This prestigious award was granted for major technological advances to protect transportation infrastructure and for his innovative designs. In 2012, Zoli was selected as ENR's Award of Excellence winner, considered the construction industry's most prestigious honor.

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