



THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS

DALLAS CHAPTER

www.seaot.org

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January 2016 Newsletter

Meeting Info

Date: Tuesday,
January 19, 2016

Doors Open: 11:30 am
Lunch Starts: 11:45 am
Program: 12:00- 1:00pm

Location:

Maggianno's Little Italy
205 North Park Center
Dallas, TX

Pricing:

- Member Lunch Presentation (1.0 PDH) – \$25.00 (USD)
- Non-Member Lunch Presentation (1.0 PDH) – \$35.00 (USD)
- Member Presentation Only, No meal (1.0 PDH) – Free
- Non-Member Presentation Only, No meal (1.0 PDH) – \$10.00 (USD)
- Student Lunch Presentation Only (1.0 PDH) – \$10.00 (USD)

Reservations

Please register by 12:00 pm on
Monday, January 18, 2016.

**Limited walk-ins available*

[Click Here](#) to register on-line.

FUTURE BUILDINGS: WHERE DOES STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING FIT?

Kishor C. Mehta, Ph.D., Dist. ASCE, Fellow SEI, NAE
from Texas Tech University

Structural engineering has focused in the past on the skeleton of the building to make sure that the building survives in natural hazards of earthquakes, hurricanes, or tornados. Thanks to the excellent work in updating building codes the focus is pretty well accomplished. In the next two decades we are likely to see the definition of structural engineering for buildings change from design of skeleton to design of holistic building that includes foundation-structure-envelope and interior system. The ultimate goal is to enable sustainable buildings that can be continuously occupied and operated during its useful life. Considerations will be given to analysis, design, construction, operation, maintenance, retrofit, and repair of buildings. Research will be pursued in new concepts that will reduce dependence on municipal infrastructure through recycling of water, and controlled energy use. To realize these goals the structural engineers will be working closely with architects, mechanical engineers, material scientists, economists, and human factor specialists. This presentation will discuss where we have been, where we are, and where we will be going.



Kishor C. Mehta, Ph.D., Dist. ASCE, Fellow SEI, NAE is a P.W. Horn Professor of Civil, Environmental, and Construction Engineering at Texas Tech University. He was Program Director for Structural and Architectural Engineering and Co-Program Director of Engineering for Natural Hazards at the National Science Foundation in Washington, DC during 2011-2015. He received a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from the University of Texas-Austin. He has been on the faculty at Texas Tech University since 1964. He is former Director of the Wind Science and Engineering (WISE) Research Center (now the National Wind Institute) at Texas Tech. He was elected to the Distinguished Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers in 2002 and to the National Academy of Engineers in 2004. He has been pursuing research in wind loads on buildings and structures since 1970 when a tornado devastated almost half of the city of Lubbock. He chaired the committee of ASCE which produced the ASCE 7 for wind loads during 1976-1995. At Texas Tech he developed a doctoral degree program in Wind Science and Engineering; this one-of-a kind degree was approved by the State in July 2007. To date twenty students have been granted Ph.D. degrees in Wind Science and Engineering.

This presentation is based on his experiences at the National Science Foundation.

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Upcoming Events

Next chapter meetings:

February 16, 2016
Voided Concrete Floor Systems
Tony Johnson

March 15, 2016
Engineering Ethics
Richard Capshaw

Industry Events:

New NCSEA Structural
Engineering Summit
Disney's Contemporary Resort
Orlando, FL
Sept 14 – Sept 17, 2016
[Click Here](#)

President's Message

By Asma Momin, PE

Happy New Years! Last year, there were an unprecedented number of people that attended SEAOt chapter meetings. We are hoping to build on this success and expand our reach to further serve the structural engineering community. I believe cohesion and sense of community will make us a more effective organization and powerful resource to its members. I also believe that in order to be successful as an organization, we need to be flexible and willing to change as required to meet the new demands of times. For this purpose, we are trying some new ideas this year.

Last year I came upon an architect that was looking for assistance from the design community for an issue he was having with a local city's interpretation of the fire code that was detrimental to the structural integrity of the system. In the process of helping him, I discovered that the SEAOSC has issued position statements that address such topics. The purpose of these statements is to support engineers in their effort to design better and safer structures in face of competing interest. We want to be able to provide the same support for our members. This year Brad Cheshire from Page has agreed to Chair the Dallas Chapter's Technical Activities committee. He will be joined by other members of our community in providing practical technical support/resource to assist our members.

In addition to assisting technically, we want to enhance the sense of community. I had a structural engineer tell me recently that he does not see the purpose of attending the SEAOt meeting when you can get most of your CEUs online. He did not see the purpose of networking with other structural engineers from a purely marketing stand point. If you look at it like that, he has a point. However, that is not why I enjoy being a part of SEAOt. I have learned much not just from the presentations but also from my conversations with people before and after the meetings. For me the best part is the sharing of ideas. I have learned a lot about the everyday practical parts of the business with other engineers that have shared their experiences with me. In addition, I enjoy meeting structural engineers. I think they are great people, and it feels good to be around people who know what it is like to walk in your shoes. At meetings, I can see people's faces light up when they run across old friends and colleagues. This year we want to bring social events that give opportunities to build upon these friendships. I am hoping we could have a banquet this year, but we are still looking for someone to chair this committee. We have engineers that have already volunteered to help with the committee but we need a visionary leader, and I am hoping one will step up.

For us to be successful in our goals, it will take the village. There is an advantage in plurality, and we hope you will bring forth your ideas and suggestions freely. We hope you will actively participate in helping us be a success. I would like to thank the people that participated in the survey and also to those people that step up to fill positions. In our effort to get there, I would also like to ask you for your patience and understanding. We will not be able to follow through will all the ideas, but the process of having sharing and vetting ideas is still an important one. Don't get discouraged. As stated, for me the best part of this is the sharing of ideas and making friends along the way.

Here is to a wonderful New Year!

REMINDER

Renew your membership
today at www.seaot.org.

WEBSITE

Check out SEAOt Dallas
Chapter
www.seaotdallas.org

SEAOt Dallas Chapter Newsletter

Welcome New Members

Say hello to our new members!

Mr. Adam Phelps, PE
Project Manager
Connect Structural Engineering, Inc.

Mr. Kyle Snow, EIT
Field Engineer
Hilti North America

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	John Turner, PE		
	Lucas Ponce, PE (alternate)		

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Dallas Chapter
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