

# CIVIL RESEARCH GROUP SEMINAR

Friday 10 June 2016, 12.00 pm

Room F110

## Is Structural Engineering Sustainable?

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### ABSTRACT

In the Civil Engineering profession, it can be argued, that those of us in the sub-fields of Structural Engineering and Construction Materials have been the slowest to embrace and adopt the concepts of sustainability in the built environment. Many structural and construction engineers have sat by with mounting frustration as Architects, Mechanical Engineers, Environmental Engineers and Urban Planners have defined "green" agenda for their disciplines and successfully embraced and marketed them. The reasons for this can be traced to the way in which structural and construction engineers are educated. In addition, it has been difficult to identify an appropriate vision for incorporating sustainability principles into the practice of structural and materials engineering in the built environment. In order to define the appropriate vision for the future of our profession, we need to understand how sustainability emerged from the environmental movement, where it currently stands in terms of sustainable development, and how we as structural and materials engineers can restructure our education and develop opportunities in this new sustainable world.

### ABOUT THE SPEAKER



Lawrence C. Bank is a Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the Grove School of Engineering at the City College of New York (CCNY) of the City University of New York (CUNY). From 2010 to 2013 he was Vice President and Associate Provost for Research and Sponsored Programs at CCNY. From 2008 to 2010, and again from 2014 to 2015, Dr. Bank was a Program Director at the US National Science Foundation (NSF). Dr. Bank began his studies in the Schools of Architecture and Civil Engineering at the University of Cape Town, South Africa. He received his BSc degree from the Technion, Israel in 1980, and his MS and PhD degrees from Columbia University in New York in 1982 and 1985, respectively. He has previously been a Structural Engineer with Leslie Robertson and Associates (LERA) in New York and on the faculty at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Catholic University and the University of Wisconsin. His research focuses on the mechanics and design of composite material structures, and on sustainable buildings and construction materials. He is the author of "Composites for Construction: Structural Design with FRP Materials" (Wiley, 2006).

*This seminar is open to all and refreshments are provided. For more information, contact Dr Stefano Utili by email at [s.utili@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:s.utili@warwick.ac.uk)*