



OPUS

College of Engineering

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

Department of Civil, Construction
and Environmental Engineering

SPECIAL SEMINAR

1:00-2:00 p.m., Friday, April 20, 2018

323 Engineering Hall, 1637 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI

Part 1: From the Mountain Top to the Mud

Part 2: Views from Near and Far

Dr. Christopher Higgins

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Abstract

From the Mountain Top to the Mud: Research is a process that comes with challenges, long hours, tribulations, drudgery, toil, failures, disappointments, and rejection. Yet, we love to do it. This presentation touches on the breadth of research that I have undertaken over my academic career and my evolving philosophy on why I do it. It covers work across almost all the civil engineering disciplines and beyond. It discusses some of my recent research efforts in more detail and describes my research contributions that range from placing a pebble on top of the mountain to breaking ground on a new mountain using hand tools.

Views from Near and Far: The Department of Civil, Construction, and Environmental Engineering at Marquette University is a unique academic community with strong traditions, recognized excellence, enthusiastic supporters, and a solid foundation. It is a place of transformation that requires a leader who can serve the needs of the students, faculty, and staff of the Department, College, and University. This presentation will describe a vision for the Department and my leadership approach and will serve as a starting point for a conversation on who we are, where we want to go, and how we can have the greatest impacts by fulfilling the Jesuit ideal of *cura personalis*.

Biography



Christopher Higgins is the Cecil and Sally Drinkward Professor of Structural Engineering in the School of Civil and Construction Engineering at Oregon State University. His field is structural engineering and he created and directs the Structural Engineering Research Laboratory at OSU. He holds a B.S.C.E. from Marquette University, M.S. from The University of Texas at Austin, and Ph.D. from Lehigh University. He is a registered Professional Engineer. Dr. Higgins teaches graduate and undergraduate courses, mentors students, and conducts research in structural, bridge, and earthquake engineering. He has received numerous teaching and research awards throughout his academic career. Dr. Higgins' research expertise is focused on inspection, evaluation, and rehabilitation of infrastructure with emphasis on large-scale and field testing. He has conducted research across all civil engineering disciplines and all traditional civil engineering materials including steel, concrete, and timber, as well as titanium, aluminum, composite, hybrid, and polymer structural materials. His research findings have been implemented into practice and adopted into national design specifications. His research on aging reinforced concrete bridges for the Oregon Department of Transportation saved Oregon state taxpayers half a billion dollars.