

CTBUH Update - November/December 2005

Dear Colleagues:

Now that the dust has settled and the New York congress is history, it's time to begin my next task - that of searching for my replacement. It has been my great honor and pleasure to serve as Chairman of CTBUH for the last 4-plus years. When I took on the role of chairman my ultimate goal was to once again make the Council a financially viable organization and I am pleased to report that the activity of the Council is steadily increasing and that the organization is financially healthy.

To that end, a Nominating Committee has been formed and is comprised of two former CTBUH Chairmen, Shankar Nair and Gilberto do Valle, and myself. We are currently working to identify suitable candidates for the position with an overall goal of identifying a strong candidate by late 2005/early 2006, with a final confirmation in early 2006.

In November, CTBUH served as one of the co-sponsors of the ISSS 2005 International Symposium on Innovation & Sustainability of Structures in Civil Engineering - including Seismic Engineering, held in Nanjing, China. The Council would like to thank Moira Moser, member of the CTBUH Steering Group, for acting as the Council's representative and for providing a summary of the symposium for the Council's records..

In brief, the symposium was attended by over 200 individuals and included keynote lecturers and invited speakers from 12 countries. The focus was primarily on materials and innovations in concrete, such as FRP, CFRP, GFRP, etc.; sensors and monitoring; testing and prediction of seismic impact; and on bridges, including cable-stayed bridges. In addition to the actual sessions, Southeast University was a more than generous host, treating the delegates to a welcome banquet, a traditional dim sum feast, and a farewell banquet to close out the event.

Last week you received via email a 'Call for Topics' for the new proposed CTBUH Research Division. We would like to thank those individuals who provided immediate responses and encourage others to respond as well. Please send your suggestions to Geri Kery at gkery@ctbuh.org by December 22nd.

Last year some friends of Fazlur Khan and the Mies van der Rohe Society at the Illinois Institute of Technology launched an initiative to honor Fazlur R. Khan by naming a Master's Studio for him at the Institute's College of Architecture. Many friends and colleagues of Faz have responded generously, putting this initiative within reach of its goal.

Fazlur Khan, a founding member and Chairman of CTBUH, was one of the most significant structural engineers of his era. His contribution to the design of tall buildings led a generation and forever altered skylines around the world. He also inspired a unique master program at IIT and devoted his Saturday mornings to teaching and mentoring graduate students at IIT's College of Architecture.

For more information about this initiative and how you can participate, please contact Chandra Jha at 773-880-0407 or by email at psmrckj@aol.com. An Honor Roll of donors will be permanently displayed at the Fazlur R. Khan Master's Studio.

Congratulations to Ysrael A. Seinuk on being named by Time Magazine as "One of the 25 Most Influential Hispanics in America". Time Magazine referred to Mr. Seinuk as "A pioneering force in the complex world of tall building engineering...". For the full story log onto <http://www.time.com/influentials>.

As an attendee of the CTBUH 7th World Congress, you received a copy of the proceedings in your registration packet. If you were unable to attend but are interested in purchasing the CD it is available through the Council's website at

