

editor's note



I THINK A FUN EVENING WOULD BE SITTING IN OVERSTUFFED CHAIRS IN THE BROWN HOTEL IN LOUISVILLE, SIPPING SOME SINGLE-BARREL BOURBON AND ARGUING WITH JIM FISHER AND OTHER FRIENDS ABOUT WHAT WAS THE BEST SESSION THEY'VE EVER HEARD AT AN NASCC: THE STEEL CONFERENCE.

Maybe it was Duane Miller's 2008 lecture on "Important Lessons They Didn't Teach Me At College" (still my all-time favorite!). Maybe someone would favor Shankar Nair's 2009 lecture on "Skyscrapers-Past, Present and Future." Or Kurt Gustafson and Ron Hamburger's 2010 talk on "When Codes and Regulators Stop Engineers from Thinking." If you're into bridge innovations, Atorod Azisnamini's 2011 discussion of Folded Plate Technology was nothing short of brilliant, as was Michel Bruneau's 2012 T.R. Higgins Lecture on "Steel Plate Shear Wall Design." One of the most popular talks in 2013 had a most unusual title: "Reading Hardy Cross" by Mike West. Or maybe you preferred Terri Meyer Boake's 2014 lecture "Embrace the Brace."

What's fascinating to me is that we don't have to argue just from memory. All of these sessions, plus around 700 more, are available online at www.aisc.org/epubs (simply click on "steel conference proceedings" in the left-hand menu).

And while the 2015 sessions aren't available yet, they will be by month's end.

These recordings (we typically record the speaker and synchronize their voice with their PowerPoint presentation so you can see the slides, which automatically advance just as if you're at the lecture) are incredibly popular. For example, the 100+ 2014 recordings cumulatively have already been viewed more than 140,000 times.

And if you want a refresher course on welding, connection design or some specific topic like buckling restrained braced frames, there are wonderful lectures available free of charge to AISC members (think of it as a steel-specific Khan Academy—and if you don't know what that is, check out www.khanacademy.org). There are lectures on design and lectures on fabrication. There are engineering lectures and business lectures. Truthfully, there are fantastic seminars for everyone involved in the design and construction of structural steel buildings.

And hopefully, after tasting the great offerings from past conferences, you'll want to attend next year's event in person. This year's conference in Nashville was the most popular ever, with nearly 4,600 attendees. I hope to see you next year in Orlando (April 13–15)!

SCOTT MELNICK
EDITOR

Modern
STEEL CONSTRUCTION

Editorial Offices

One E. Wacker Dr., Suite 700
Chicago, IL 60601
312.670.2400 tel

Editorial Contacts

EDITOR & PUBLISHER
Scott L. Melnick
312.670.8314
melnick@modernsteel.com

SENIOR EDITOR
Geoff Weisenberger
312.670.8316
weisenberger@modernsteel.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Tasha Weiss
312.670.5439
weiss@modernsteel.com

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR
Megan Johnston-Spencer
312.670.5427
johnstonspencer@modernsteel.com

GRAPHIC DESIGN MANAGER
Kristin Hall
312.670.8313
hall@modernsteel.com

AISC Officers

CHAIR
Jeffrey E. Dave, P.E.

VICE CHAIR
James G. Thompson

SECRETARY &
GENERAL COUNSEL
David B. Ratterman

PRESIDENT
Roger E. Ferch, P.E.

VICE PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF STRUCTURAL ENGINEER
Charles J. Carter, S.E., P.E., Ph.D.

VICE PRESIDENT
Jacques Cattani

VICE PRESIDENT
John P. Cross, P.E.

VICE PRESIDENT
Scott L. Melnick

Advertising Contact

Account Manager
Louis Gurthet
231.228.2274 tel
231.228.7759 fax
gurthet@modernsteel.com

For advertising information,
contact Louis Gurthet or visit
www.modernsteel.com

Address Changes and Subscription Concerns

312.670.5444 tel
312.893.2253 fax
admin@modernsteel.com

Reprints

Betsy White
The Reprint Outsource, Inc.
717.394.7350
bwhite@reprintoutsource.com