

## editor's note



**MY DAUGHTER, JULIA, IS INTENT ON GRADUATING FROM COLLEGE IN FOUR YEARS.** But since her multiple majors make that difficult, she's resorting to augmenting her normal coursework by taking online courses through a couple of community colleges both over the summer and during the school year.

I'm pretty happy about the ability to take courses online, especially from a financial standpoint (there's a few thousand dollars' difference for each course!). I'm also happy she's taking a mix of online and in-person courses, though.

From a personal perspective, I find I get more out of an in-person course, primarily because I pay more attention to a person with whom I'm in the same room. I have a similar problem with conference calls (though some of this is alleviated when we do video calls). In addition, I often learn more from the audience give-and-take than simply from the presentation; and I definitely value the opportunity to speak with a presenter after a course (or during breaks).

That said, online presentations also have their advantages. They often cost much less, you don't have any travel costs to attend, and you can usually stop and rewind to repeat something you either missed or didn't understand.

AISC has moved to primarily providing continuing education through online courses, with the pinnacle being our wonderful Night School program (with

our most recent offering focusing on steel bridge design). Night School tries to combine the best of both worlds by initially offering the session live (through streaming) and later as a recorded program. To learn more, visit [www.aisc.org/nightschool](http://www.aisc.org/nightschool).

For live seminars, of course, your best bet is NASCC: The Steel Conference, held each year in the spring (for 2017, the conference will be March 22–24 in San Antonio). But in the spirit of our commitment to disseminating information as widely as possible, we also stream some of those sessions live and offer all of the sessions online after the conference. You can currently view more than 100 of the 2016 sessions at no charge by visiting [www.aisc.org/2016nasconline](http://www.aisc.org/2016nasconline). But act soon; beginning in late September, the videos will still be free to AISC members but non-members will have to pay for access.

Happy watching!

  
**SCOTT MELNICK**  
EDITOR

## Modern STEEL CONSTRUCTION

### Editorial Offices

130 E Randolph Street, Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60601  
312.670.2400

### Editorial Contacts

EDITOR & PUBLISHER  
Scott L. Melnick  
312.670.8314  
[melnick@modernsteel.com](mailto:melnick@modernsteel.com)

SENIOR EDITOR  
Geoff Weisenberger  
312.670.8316  
[weisenberger@modernsteel.com](mailto:weisenberger@modernsteel.com)

ASSISTANT EDITOR  
Tasha Weiss  
312.670.5439  
[weiss@modernsteel.com](mailto:weiss@modernsteel.com)

DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS  
Keith A. Grubb, S.E., P.E.  
312.670.8318  
[grubb@modernsteel.com](mailto:grubb@modernsteel.com)

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR  
Megan Johnston-Spencer  
312.670.5427  
[johnstonspencer@modernsteel.com](mailto:johnstonspencer@modernsteel.com)

GRAPHIC DESIGN MANAGER  
Kristin Hall  
312.670.8313  
[hall@modernsteel.com](mailto:hall@modernsteel.com)

### AISC Officers

CHAIR  
James G. Thompson

VICE CHAIR  
David Zalesne

SECRETARY AND  
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

### Editorial Advisory Panel

Caroline R. Bennett, P.E., Ph.D.,  
University of Kansas

Keith R. Griesing, P.E.,  
Hardesty and Hanover

Steve Knitter, Geiger and Peters

Janice Mochizuki, P.E., Arup

Dylan Olson, Olson Steel

### Advertising Contact

Account Manager  
Louis Gurthet  
231.228.2274  
[gurthet@modernsteel.com](mailto:gurthet@modernsteel.com)

For advertising information,  
contact Louis Gurthet or visit  
[www.modernsteel.com](http://www.modernsteel.com)

### Address Changes and Subscription Concerns

312.670.5444  
[subscriptions@aisc.org](mailto:subscriptions@aisc.org)

### Reprints

Megan Johnston-Spencer  
312.670.5427  
[johnstonspencer@modernsteel.com](mailto:johnstonspencer@modernsteel.com)