



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

## CIVE Invited Seminar

Presented by **Craig H. Benson, PhD, PE, NAE**  
**Dean, School of Engineering**  
**University of Virginia**

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

April 11, 2019

SEC 237 / PKI 250



### **Sustainability: Compelling Value Proposition for Civil & Environmental Engineering**

**Abstract:** Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) provides the backbone supporting economic growth and quality of life worldwide. Buildings, roadways, railways, water supply and quality, and air quality are critical for society to thrive. Growth and success brings challenges as well, as the earth has finite resources for society to share. Developing resources has broad impacts on the environment that can alter quality of life and opportunity for future growth. The infrastructure that CEEs provide and manage plays a large role in resource consumption and impact. Managing growth from a lens of sustainability ensures society can promote both economic growth and quality of life for all. CEE, as one of the oldest engineering disciplines, has the opportunity to steer society towards sustainable growth practices by applying principles of sustainability in engineering design. In this presentation, this opportunity is described and examples are provided how sustainability can be infused into CEE infrastructure projects.

**Bio:** Craig H. Benson is Dean of the School of Engineering at the University of Virginia as well as the Hamilton Endowed Chair in Engineering. Dr. Benson has a BS from Lehigh University and MSE and PhD degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. Prior to joining the University of Virginia, Dean Benson was appointed as a Distinguished Professor, Chair of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Chair of Geological Engineering at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He was also Director of Sustainability Research and Education for the University of Wisconsin-Madison, leading one of the three cross-campus strategic initiatives.

