Distinguished Seminar in Railroad Infrastructure

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USDOT University Transportation Center (UTC) Railroad Infrastructure Sustainability and Durability
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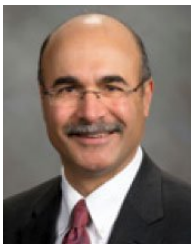
Speaker:



Mehdi Ahmadian, Dan Pletta Professor, PhD, FSAE, FASME, AFAIAA
Director, Center for Vehicle Systems and Safety
Director, Railway Technologies Laboratory

Virginia Tech, MC-0901, Department of Mechanical Engineering
3103 Commerce Street, Blacksburg, VA 24061

Presentation: Railroad Engineering Education	**Location**: Science & Engineering Building (SEB), Room 3265
Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2017	**Refreshment**: pizza and light refreshments
Time: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm	**RSVP**: By 5:00 PM, Friday, November 10, 2017 to Boniphace Kutela by e-mail: boniphace.kutela@unlv.edu

Dr. Mehdi Ahmadian, Dan Pletta Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Railway Technologies Laboratory (RTL). He has published more than 400 papers on various transportation topics, including advanced railroad systems. He has served as Editor and Editor-in-Chief for some of the most prestigious journals in the area of vehicle dynamics, vibrations, and control. Dr. Ahmadian is an internationally known scholar with more than 25 years of experience in railroad research. He received his Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1984, and has served in various capacities in industry and academia for the past 33 years, including working at Virginia Tech since 1995.

ABSTRACT: *Railroad Engineering Research: from Torch and Hammer to Super Sensitive LIDAR systems*
Some of the contemporary topics related to railroad engineering is addressed. The presentation will concentrate on a review of how the rail industry's need can be met while meeting the educational and research mission of academic institutions. It is mentioned that while the needs of the academia and industry can be vastly different, it is possible to craft programs that can meet both. To this end, examples are drawn from the Association of American Railroads (AA) affiliated lab program at Virginia Tech. The discussions are further extended to include suggestions on how the rail tanker car safety may be improved through an industry-academia affiliated program.