



“HOW STRUCTURAL TESTING INFLUENCED THE DEVELOPMENT OF BUILDING CODES FOR REINFORCED CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION”

presented by:

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The first multistory reinforced concrete buildings were constructed in Europe in the 1850s, and by the turn of the 20th century, reinforced concrete was being used for building construction throughout the United States. The development of design and materials standards lagged behind the construction industry, and contractors used a wide variety of patented technologies, including types of reinforcement and design approaches, in their buildings. Load tests were frequently used to demonstrate the adequacy of an individual building, but many conflicting opinions regarding structural behavior existed. Only through structural testing of reinforced concrete members in the laboratory, did engineers begin to develop the theories that form the foundation of our current building codes. Fundamental observations from early tests will be reviewed and the impact on modern construction discussed.



Sharon L. Wood is Dean of the Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin and holder of the Cockrell Family Chair in Engineering #14, and Jack and Beverly Randall Dean’s Chair for Excellence in Engineering. She is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, a past president of the American Concrete Institute, the recipient of the OPAL Award for Education from the American Society of Civil Engineers, and a member of the ACI Building Code Committee.

Thursday, February 28th
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Bernie Dallas Room, Goodell Hall
Light Snacks to Follow

hosted by:

The Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering

Free and Open to the Public