Dr. Dan Brown is recognized as one of America’s leading authorities on the construction and design of deep foundations. After completing his education and early engineering career in Louisiana, he spent 22 years on the faculty at Auburn University, where he taught and conducted research on deep foundations. Dr. Brown remains active in deep foundation practice through his consulting firm, Dan Brown and Associates, where he has participated in the foundation design of numerous large bridge projects and commercial structures.

Large projects with complex deep foundation construction issues present challenges with respect to uncertainties in ground conditions, constructability issues, and quality assurance aspects. Problems related to these issues can result in conflicts between constructors and designers as well as contractual issues with claims and delays that can profoundly impact the success of a project. These challenges require engineering skills that can be quite different from the technical skills obtained in traditional engineering graduate level training. Differing project delivery mechanisms such as design-build can alter the traditional relationships between designers and constructors and present different challenges with respect to these types of risks. This presentation will provide an overview of some basic principles and major risk items that should be addressed in these types of projects and will include examples from Dr. Brown’s 45 years in the industry.

Dr. Brown has authored numerous technical papers and was lead author of the recently released FHWA manual on design and construction of drilled shafts. He has been recognized with the Golden Beaver Award from the Beavers, the ASCE Huber Prize for research, the ASCE Martin Kapp Foundation Engineering Award, the Deep Foundations Institute Distinguished Service Award and the ADSC Outstanding Service Award. He is currently Past-President of the Deep Foundations Institute, a member of the Moles, honorary member of the Beavers, past chair of the Geo-Institute Deep Foundations Committee, and an honorary technical affiliate of both the ADSC: The International Association of Foundation Drilling and the Pile Driving Contractors Association.

We are honored that Dr. Brown will continue this tradition of sharing Civil Engineering career experiences with Virginia Tech.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2022
HOLDEN HALL AUDITORIUM
5:00 PM