

6:00 pm | Monday, April 2 | Fowler Hall | Purdue University

Dennis and Leslie Drag Distinguished Lecture Series

The early twentieth century was the golden age of long span suspension bridges, yet the spanning of the Golden Gate Strait was thought to be impossible by many. Purdue University's Professor Charles A. Ellis (1934-1946) was among the men up for the challenge. Built in the shadow of the Great Depression, the builders of the bridge had to overcome daunting political, financial and technical challenges to build the longest bridge in the world in one of the harshest marine environments. Eager to meet these challenges, Charles A. Ellis, the Principal Design Engineer, and many other extraordinary men would converge on San Francisco in the early days of 1933 to span the Gate.

Utilizing a combination of historic photographs and dynamic animation techniques, Paul Giroux brings the construction of the bridge to life, providing a unique learning opportunity.



Golden Gate Bridge 75th Anniversary

Charles A. Ellis
Purdue University Professor
Golden Gate Bridge Principal Design Engineer
1934-1946



featuring

PAUL GIROUX
District Quality Manager
Kiewit Infrastructure West Co.

Paul has been with Kiewit Corporation for the past 32 years working on a wide variety of heavy civil engineering mega projects throughout the United States. He is member of the Iowa State University Civil Engineering Advisory Board, the Transportation Research Board, and is a Corresponding Member of the American Society of Civil Engineering History and Heritage Committee.

Paul Giroux is currently serving as ASCE chairman for the Golden Gate Bridge 75th Anniversary. In 2008 he was the ASCE chairman and featured speaker for Brooklyn Bridge 125th Celebration. In 2010 he presented the closing speech at the Hoover Dam 75th Anniversary Symposium. He is the author of several bridge design and civil engineering history papers and is a frequent lecturer at engineering schools throughout the United States.