

KEYNOTE Speakers

Hon. Don Harmon, *Illinois Senate President*



As the leader of the Senate, Harmon was a key partner with the Governor in 2019 in the passage of the historic \$45 billion Illinois infrastructure bill. In January 2020, he was elected to serve as the 39th President of the Illinois Senate, vowing to lead a new era of ethical progress as the Senate works to rebuild trust in public service and rationalize state tax policy. Harmon, an Oak Park native, was first elected to the Illinois Senate in the fall of 2002. During his time in the General Assembly, he championed early childhood education, ethics reform, curbing gun violence, protecting civil rights and expanding voter access. Harmon has an undergraduate degree from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois and a law degree and MBA from the University of Chicago.

Pat Devaney, *Secretary-Treasure, AFL-CIO*



Mr. Devaney is the current Secretary-Treasurer of the Illinois AFL-CIO and President of the Association of Fire Fighters of Illinois. In addition, Devaney serves as Fire Captain at the City of Champaign Fire Department, where he's worked since 1995. Devaney is a member of the Champaign Firefighters Pension Board, the Illinois Fire Service Institute Advisory Board, the Bank of Labor Advisory Board and the Muscular Dystrophy Association Advisory Board. In 2020, Gov. Pritzker appointed him to the Illinois State Employment Security Advisory Board. Pat earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Jamie Rhee, *Commissioner, Chicago Department of Aviation*



Commissioner Jamie L. Rhee is a leader in the aviation community, overseeing operations at both O'Hare and Midway International Airports – one of the largest airport systems in the world. Over the course of 28 years with the City of Chicago, Rhee has served in multiple positions at the airports. In 2009, Rhee was named the City's Chief Procurement Officer. She returned to the CDA in 2018 as Commissioner. Rhee has dedicated much of her career to diversity, equity, and inclusion. She has overseen the purchasing of more than \$2 billion in goods and services, authored articles and publications on aviation safety and security, and increased the accessibility of municipal contracts to minority, women, disabled, and veteran-owned businesses.

Steve King, *President, The Invert Chicago*



Steve has a proven track record for turning vision into reality. A creative problem solver with an entrepreneurial mindset, Steve has led ventures in the U.S., South America and Europe. His collaborative approach to project development delivers mutually beneficial outcomes and long-lasting relationships. An accomplished musician and faith leader, Steve has a natural understanding of people and the power of bringing them together. He earned a bachelor's degree in transportation & logistics from Western Illinois University and holds an MBA from The Kellstadt Graduate School of Business at DePaul University.

Ken Johnson, *Senior Vice President, AECOM-Hunt*



Ken is a leading expert in sports venue construction. His resume includes iconic stadium and arena projects for dozens of teams including MLB's Washington Nationals, New York Mets, St. Louis Cardinals, Miami Marlins, Los Angeles Dodgers and Kansas City Royals; the NFL's Atlanta Falcons and Detroit Lions; and the NBA's Orlando Magic, Brooklyn Nets, Detroit Pistons and Atlanta Hawks. Most recently, his projects have included the new UBS Arena, Savannah Arena, and pre-construction on the Jacksonville Jaguars, Tennessee Titans and Tampa Bay Rays stadiums. Ken brings decades of valuable lessons learned to every project and his leadership capabilities have helped to establish AECOM Hunt as the nation's leading sports builder.

Peter Weismantle, *Director, Adrian Smith+Gordon Gill Architecture*



Peter has led the technical architecture of many international projects including Jeddah Tower, Wuhan Greenland Tower, and Greenland Tower Chengdu. Recently, Peter led the technical architecture of Al Wasl Plaza, the centerpiece of Expo City Dubai, which features a 150-meter diameter domed trellis with an immersive projection experience and Uptown Tower, a new 190,000 sm 72-story mixed-use building also in Dubai. Before joining AS+GG in 2008, Peter was an Associate Partner in the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, where he served as Senior Technical Architect on several super tall towers, including Shanghai's 88-story Jin Mao Tower and the 163-story, 828 meter (2,717 foot) tall Burj Khalifa, currently the world's tallest building.

Jim Underwood, *Executive Director, IL Capital Development Board*



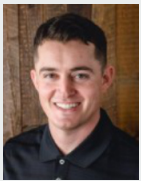
Jim Underwood began a construction career as a Laborer pouring concrete on the construction of the Clinton Nuclear Power Station in 1976. Jim earned a BA in Labor Studies in 2000 and started a career in state government in 2001 as Division Chief of the Illinois Secretary of State's Physical Services Division building trades men and women. He was Personnel Manager at the Illinois Department of Corrections and then CEO of Correctional Industries before joining the Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB) as Deputy Director of Construction in 2008. Jim was Executive Director at CDB from 2011-2015 and after four years as the Chief Procurement Officer for the Illinois State Treasurer he returned to CDB as Executive Director in May of 2019.

Rita Ali, *Mayor, City of Peoria*



Dr. Rita Ali was elected Mayor of Peoria, Illinois in April 2021, becoming the city's first woman and first person of color to serve in that role. Dr. Ali retired as Vice President of Workforce and Diversity at Illinois Central College where she earned statewide recognition for strong and effective equity-focused programming. Mayor Ali is leading a bi-partisan, multi-region effort to bring passenger train service to Peoria and Central Illinois. She intends to put Peoria on a pathway to become a Smart City and she's working with key stakeholders to equip Peoria citizens with high-demand workforce skills and local careers. Mayor Ali earned a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Illinois - Springfield and a Master of Arts, Master of Business Administration, and Doctor of Philosophy from Bradley University, Walden University, and Capella University, respectively.

David Wilkinson, *Project Manager, SWE Solutions*



David is an international student from the United Kingdom. He came to Chicago in 2008 to study at Illinois Tech on a full-ride soccer scholarship. David graduated in 2012 with his Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering. He worked for 10 years before co-founding SWE Solutions. He spent the last five years developing RTK Drone surveying skills and helping to implement them into the Civil Engineering practice.

Glen Clapper, *Director, National Roofing Contractors Association*



Glen Clapper has 30 plus years' experience in the design and construction industry and holds a Bachelor of Science and Master's degree in architecture and is a Registered Architect and a LEED AP. He began his career working for a small architectural firm and during his summer breaks while attending college he worked in residential construction as a carpenter, roofer and mason laborer. After college he worked at a national engineering and architectural firm specializing in the investigation and repair of the building envelope. In 2001, he became the Architectural Services Manager for the Southeast region of the Brick Industry Association where he represented the industry at local building codes and ASTM, in addition to responding to requests for information and performing project investigations. Mr. Clapper represents NRCA at ASHRAE 90.1 and 189.1, ASTM D08, C16, E06, and E60, ICC, and USGBC. He is also a member of AIA, ASHRAE, ASTM, ICC, IIBEC and USGBC.

Mani Golparvar, *Professor, University of Illinois, Champaign*



Mani Golparvar is Professor of Civil Engineering, Computer Science, & Technology Entrepreneurship, Faculty Entrepreneurial Fellow, Excellence Faculty Fellow, and the director of the Real-time and Automated Monitoring and Control (RAAMAC) lab at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC). He received his Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering and MS degree in Computer Science from UIUC in 2010, MASc in Civil Engineering from the University of British Columbia in 2006, and MS and BS in Civil Engineering from Iran University of Science and Technology in 2005 and 2002 respectively. Dr. Golparvar has worked with many national and international construction companies and most extensively with Turner Construction.

Bill Buttlar, *Glen Barton Chair of Flexible Pavements, University of Missouri*



Prior to his endowed faculty appointment at Mizzou, Dr. Buttlar was on the faculty at UIUC for 20 years, and had served as the Associate Dean in the Graduate College at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research and professional interests include: analysis, modeling and design of asphalt pavements; thermal and reflective cracking studies; fracture testing and modeling in asphalt materials and composite pavements, smart city infrastructure evaluation and management, and sustainable pavement materials. Dr. Buttlar has over 200 publications in the area of asphalt materials and pavements, and over 50 invited presentations and keynote lectures presented throughout the US, Europe and in China.