Investment Valuation of Public-Private Partnership Transportation Infrastructure Projects

Opening session

Prof. Bruno Montella
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Director, Dept. of Civil Construction and Environmental Engineering

Prof. Guido Capaldo
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Chair, Bachelor's Degree Program in Projects and Infrastructures Management

Prof. Renato Lamberti
Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II
Chair in Highway Design

Lecture

Prof. Baabak Ashuri
Georgia Institute of Technology
Chair, Integrated Project Delivery Systems Masters Track
Director, Economics of the Sustainable Built Environment (ESBE) Lab

June 13, 2014
10 a.m.
Aula Bobbio, Piazzale V. Tecchio

under the auspices of
Associazione Italiana per l'Ingegneria del Traffico e dei Trasporti AIIT
Centro Studi e Ricerche AIIT (CSR-AIIT)
Dr. Baabak Ashuri is director of the Georgia Tech Economics of the Sustainable Built Environment (ESBE) Lab in the School of Building Construction (BC) at Georgia Tech. He joined the School of Building Construction (BC) as Assistant Professor in Fall 2008, immediately after graduating from Georgia Tech with PhD in Industrial & Systems Engineering (ISyE). Prior to entering the ISyE PhD program, he completed MS in Operations Research and MS in Building Construction & Facility Management, also from Georgia Tech. His PhD was in the emerging multidisciplinary area of Economic Decision Analysis in the Tennenbaum Institute for Enterprise Transformation (http://www.ti.gatech.edu).

Currently, his work focuses on Sustainability Conscious Infrastructure Investment Valuation. This field is multidisciplinary and lies at the confluence of Construction Engineering & Management, Infrastructure Asset Management, Quantitative & Computational Finance, and Management Science. Work in this area is essential for improving long-range planning and decision-making processes for buildings and civil infrastructure assets, advancing economic/financial valuation methods for investments in capital projects while preserving environmental and social conditions to foster sustainable development.

Since joining the faculty of the School of Building Construction, his most significant research and scholarly accomplishments include 18 journal articles (15 published/3 under review), 6 research reports, 44 refereed conference proceedings, 23 invited research presentations, and 9 poster presentations. He has been principal investigator of 13 external research grants total worth of $1,681,606. These research projects were sponsored by several public and private organizations, such as National Science Foundation (NSF), Construction Industry Institute (CII), Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), and American Utility Management (AUM). He has been principal investigator of 10 internal research grants total worth of $54,151. These research projects were sponsored by several Georgia Tech units, such as Digital Building Lab (DBL), Georgia Tech Foundation, and Georgia Intern Fellowships for Teachers (GIFT) Program.

He is the recipient of several research awards for his scholarly accomplishments. His research project “Recommended Guide for Next Generation of Transportation Design Build Procurement and Contracting in the State of Georgia” received 2013 High Value Research “Sweet Sixteen” Award from the Value of Research Task Force of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). “A Real Options Model to Evaluate Toll Highway Project under Two-Phase Development Plan” published in the Built Environment Project and Asset Management Journal was the 2012 Highly Commended Award Winner at the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence. “An Investment Analysis Framework for Energy Retrofit in Existing Buildings” received the Best Paper Award from the 47th Annual International Conference of the Associated Schools of Construction (ASC).

In addition to his research and professional activity contributions, he has developed/taught 21 undergraduate/graduate classes and performed at a very high level based on Course Instructor Opinion Survey (CIOS) evaluations (median score of 4.3/5.0). He has been the Principal Advisor of 6 PhD students (1 of them graduated), 8 MS students (7 of them graduated), and 4 Post-Doctoral Research Fellows. He has served as the Co-Principal Advisor of 1 PhD student (graduated from Columbia University), a dissertation committee member for 9 PhD students (7 of them graduated) and 5 MS students (4 of them graduated). Eleven undergraduate researchers have worked in his research lab.