



## Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems

At the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at New York University

partnering institutions

Cornell University  
Polytechnic University

New York University  
University of Southern California

Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems (ICIS)  
411 Lafayette Street – Room 300  
New York, NY 10003-7032  
Director: Professor Rae Zimmerman

Phone: (212) 992-ICIS (4247)  
Fax: (212) 995-4875  
<http://www.nyu.edu/icis>

### **EDUCATION IN CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT**

#### **ICIS Workshop on Civil Infrastructure Systems (CIS) Education, June 11 & 12**

The Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems (ICIS) was established in 1998 with funding from the National Science Foundation to provide a systems orientation and a broader context for infrastructure planning and management. To achieve its goals ICIS uses interdisciplinary networks to incorporate the diverse interests of multiple stakeholders, in particular, the users of infrastructure and communities that host the facilities and services. Institutionally, ICIS is comprised of a variety of disciplines with New York University, Cornell University, the University of Southern California, and the Polytechnic University of New York as the core partners. Although infrastructure has many different meanings, ICIS is initially focusing upon transportation, water supply, wastewater treatment, energy, and telecommunications, and the interactions among them.

To promote new thinking in infrastructure planning and management, the ICIS Education and Adaptive Learning (EAAL) program organized a workshop to discuss the skill sets and knowledge that future infrastructure professionals—Civil Infrastructure Systems managers—will need. The ICIS Workshop on Civil Infrastructure Systems Education brought together academics, practicing professionals, policy makers, and representatives from accrediting boards and professional societies on June 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, at Polytechnic University in Brooklyn, New York. The group discussed the current state of civil engineering education, new curriculum ideas and pedagogical strategies, and challenges to change. Strategies for developing industry support were also major topics since substantial change will have to be sustained from this quarter.

The Workshop was developed and implemented under the leadership of Professors Ilan Juran and Dipak Roy of Polytechnic University and Professor Roy Sparrow of New York University. A workshop report and compendium of papers is in preparation. Watch the ICIS web page for more details.

The higher education initiative is part of ICIS's broader commitment to impact and improve the quality of educational programs as they relate to improving and sustaining the quality of civil infrastructure systems. Additional initiatives are underway in the K-12 area as well as continuing professional education. Forthcoming work of the EAAL program area includes development of pilot degree programs at the University of Southern California and at the Polytechnic University using the output of the workshop and development of a funding proposal for a major project to integrate concepts from the built environment in K-12 education.

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