

Project 2050

Exploring the Future of the Construction Industry

October 29-30, 2026
National Academy of Sciences Building
2101 Constitution Ave NW | Washington, DC 20418



NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF CONSTRUCTION



AMERICAN COLLEGE
of CONSTRUCTION LAWYERS



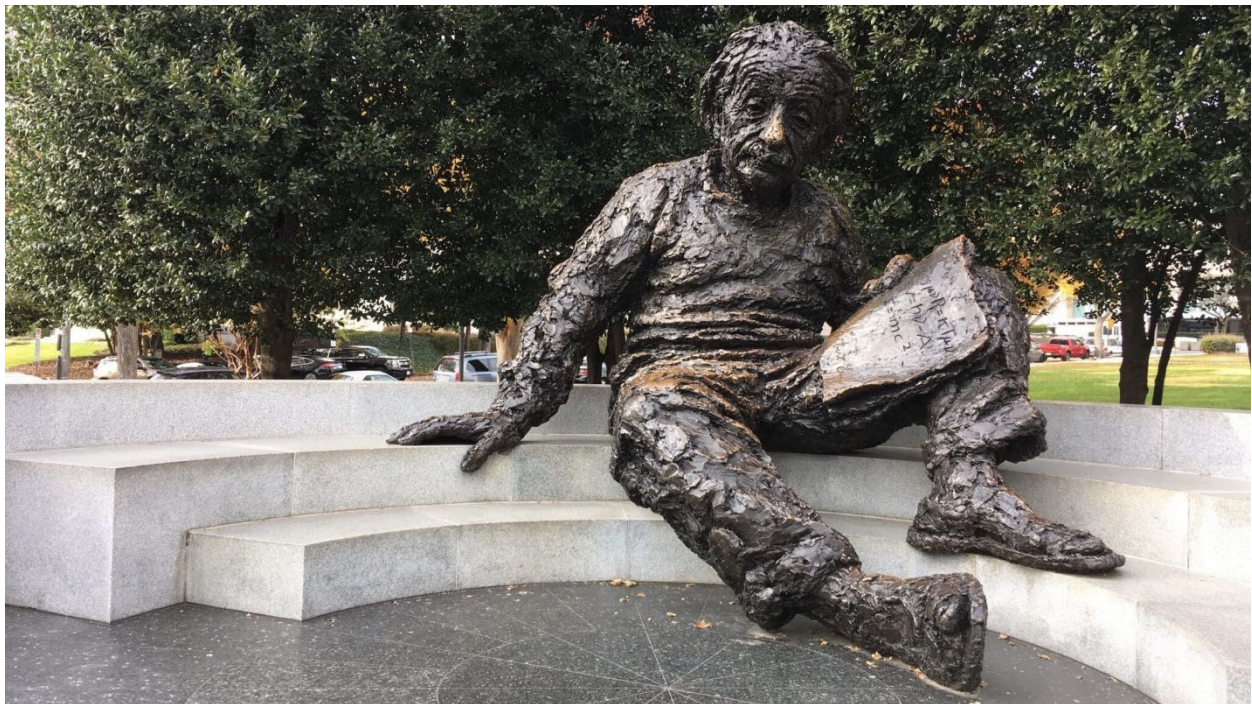
NATIONAL ACADEMY
OF ENGINEERING®

The National Academy of Construction and the American College of Construction Lawyers, in conjunction with the National Academy of Engineering, present a forward-looking Symposium examining the construction industry's future over the next two decades.

Bringing together leaders from construction, engineering, law, academia, and industry, the Symposium provides independent perspectives on the forces, trends, and innovations that are reshaping the built environment. Through expert presentations and thought-provoking discussions, participants explore the opportunities and challenges that will define the future of project delivery, infrastructure development, workforce evolution, technology adoption, sustainability, and industry leadership.

The Symposium serves as a forum for the exchange of ideas, experiences, and insights among some of the industry's most accomplished professionals. These discussions contribute to a broader understanding of the issues that will influence the construction industry in the years ahead and help advance its long-term welfare, resilience, and prosperity.

Key observations, perspectives, and conclusions from the Symposium will be published in the *ACCL Journal*, extending the reach of the dialogue and preserving its contributions for the benefit of future industry leaders.



Outside the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., Albert Einstein welcomes visitors with one of the nation's most beloved scientific monuments. Seated with a notebook etched with his groundbreaking equations, the larger-than-life bronze statue has become a place where generations gather to reflect on curiosity, discovery, and the power of human intellect.

AGENDA

October 29, 2026

7:30-8:30 AM Breakfast

8:30-8:45 AM Welcome and Opening Remarks

8:45-10:15 AM How Do We Power the Surge?

The data center boom, Artificial Intelligence, and other emerging technologies will drain the current energy sources. The demand for power to energize the future construction industry will be immense.

How will the supply meet the demand? This talented panel will address potential resources to meet the construction industry's future energy demand.

Speakers:

Douglas Mouton: Mouton Advisory Services LLC.

Michael W. Kolodner: Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc.
Chair, U.S. Energy and Power Practices

10:15-10:45 AM Networking Break

10:45-12:15 PM Ghosts of Projects Past - The Past, Present, and Future of Project Delivery

This panel will discuss how project delivery methods have evolved over the past 25 years, both domestically and internationally – focusing on what has worked and what has not for various sectors of the construction industry. The Panel will highlight the use of common delivery methods (EPC, Design-Build, Integrated Project Delivery, P3, CMAR, and traditional design-bid-build) and how they have fared across sectors, as well as the headwinds (or tailwinds) to their continued use. The Panel will also discuss new delivery methods to consider, or existing methods to tweak or further develop, to support project success over the next 25 years.

Speakers:

Howard Ashcraft: Hanson Bridgett, LLP

Keith Molenaar: Dean and K. Stanton Lewis Professor, College of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Colorado Boulder

Michael Shapiro, P.E.: Michael S. Shapiro Consulting, LLC

Patrick J. O'Connor: POConnor ADR LLC (Moderator)

12:15-1:15 PM Lunch

1:15–4:15 PM	Building the Future Jobsite: Automation, Innovation, and Impacts on the Construction Workforce This session explores how the construction industry is rapidly evolving from basic digitization to a fully integrated model of automation and industrialized delivery, driven by technologies like agentic AI, digital twins, robotics, and modular construction. It focuses on how these tools are no longer standalone innovations but are now connected across the entire project lifecycle—reshaping how work is performed, shifting tasks toward higher-value decision-making, and raising the need for stronger digital and data literacy across the workforce. The discussion provides a practical, cross-disciplinary roadmap for understanding how these technologies work together, where they create value, and how they introduce new legal, operational, and workforce risks, particularly if contracts and governance structures do not keep pace. The presenters will also discuss the impact of innovation and technology on the future labor force. Ultimately, attendees gain a clear view of what is already in use, what is emerging next, and how to adopt these innovations strategically while managing risk and improving project outcomes.
1:15–1:45 PM	Introduction Industry Insight: Why Construction is Changing Now Daniel Ahmoye: Partner, McKinsey & Company
1:45–2:15 PM	Start-up Demonstrators Megan Lantz: CEO, Formative 3D Dr. Sarah Buchner: CEO, Trunk Tools Michael Pink: CEO, SmartPM
2:15–2:45 PM	Networking Break
2:45–4:15 PM	Innovation, Technology, and Industrialization: Impacts on the Industry and the Labor Force Speakers: Jim Lynch: Former SVP and general manager, Autodesk Construction Solutions Mirosław J. Skibniewski: Professor, University of Maryland Anthony Younan: Vertical Market Head (VP) Industrial, Siemens Americas Nicholas Robinson, P.E.: Engineering Director, Carbon Capture, Kiewit Power James Cooper, P.E.: Senior Vice-President and Global Director, Water, Arcadis

4:15–5:15 PM Breakout Session Among Attendees Discussing Afternoon Topics

5:15–6:30 PM Welcome Reception at National Academy of Sciences Building

October 30, 2026

7:30–8:30 AM Breakfast

8:30–9:45 AM The Impact of United States Industrial Policy on the Future Construction Industry

This session will examine the evolving trajectory of United States industrial policy and its anticipated impact on the construction industry over the next 25 years as federal and state governments increasingly employ policy measures to incentivize domestic manufacturing, supply chain resilience, clean energy transition, and infrastructure modernization. Recent legislative frameworks and targeted incentives are already reshaping investment patterns and construction across key industries such as semiconductors, energy, transportation, and advanced manufacturing, and this session will address how the construction industry has been and will be both a beneficiary and a bottleneck as this transformation continues. It is impossible to discuss industrial policy without exploring how the ever-changing United States political landscape poses challenges to implementing a consistent, long-term industrial policy, but this Session will identify strategies that are less vulnerable to political change. Ultimately, the Session will provide a forward-looking analysis of how coordinated industrial policy could reshape the physical and economic landscape of the United States, positioning the construction industry as a pivotal player in promoting national competitiveness, resilience, and sustainability through mid-century.

Speakers:

Mike Schmidt: Griswold Center for Economic Policy Studies at Princeton University

Johanna Nesseth Tuttle: Vice President, U.S. Government Affairs at Bechtel Corporation

Glenn Grimshaw: National Governors Association Program Director for Infrastructure

9:45–10:45 AM Breakout Session Among Attendees Discussing the Impact of U.S. Industrial Policy on the Future of the Construction Industry

10:45–11:15 AM Networking Break

11:15-12:30 PM

The Future of Claims Avoidance and Resolution

Unresolved claims and disputes continue to impede projects and can cost millions in unrecoverable costs, as well as the diversion of expensive resources for long periods of time even after the project concludes. This panel of esteemed representatives from three of the largest dispute resolution providers in the world will address cutting-edge dispute resolution and avoidance techniques that are either already being implemented or are under development to address the ever-growing concerns in the industry about the cost and distraction of ongoing disputes and extended dispute resolution proceedings.

Speakers:

Bridget McCormack: President, American Arbitration Association

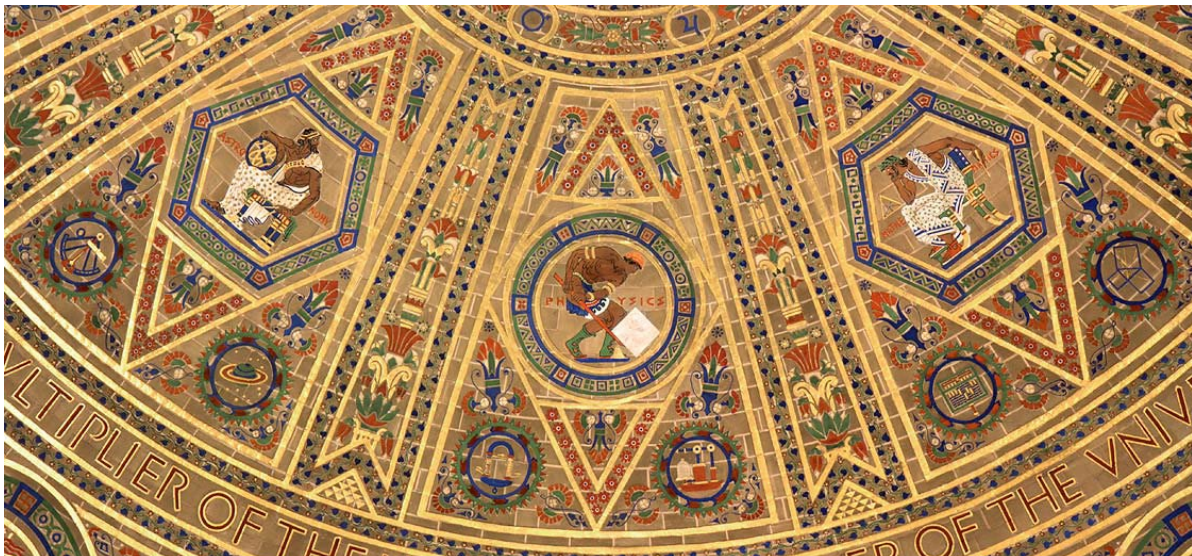
Thomas J. Stipanowich: JAMS Mediator and Arbitrator; retired Professor, Pepperdine Caruso School of Law

Marek Krasula: Director, Arbitration and ADR, North America, ICC Dispute Resolution Services

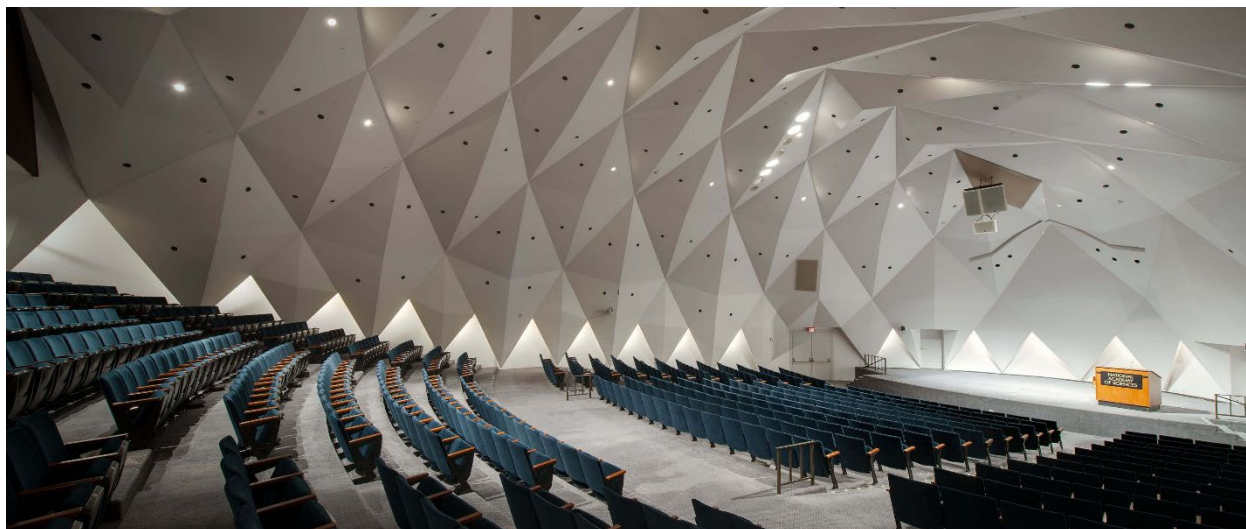
Adrian Bastianelli: Peckar & Abramson, P.C. (Moderator)

12:30-12:45 PM:

Closing Remarks

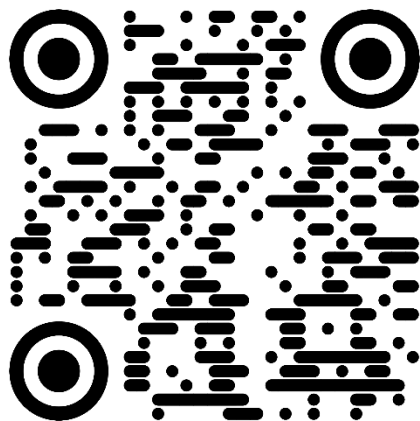


Detail from the Great Hall Dome inside the National Academy of Sciences building, with Astronomy accompanied by a sextant, planets, and stars; Physics accompanied by a magnet and an air pump; and Mathematics accompanied by an abacus and a diagram of the Pythagorean theorem. All in painted and gilded raised gesso covering only 50% of the acoustic plaster surface.



The Fred Kavli Auditorium is a premier event space located within the historic National Academy of Sciences Building in Washington, DC.

Scan the QR code for more information and to register.



Registration Fees

Now Through October 1:
ACCL, NAC, and NAE Members: \$595
Non-Members: \$795

October 2 Through October 29:
ACCL, NAC, and NAE Members: \$695
Non-Members: \$895

Space will be limited. Register early to secure your spot.

Hotels near the National Academy of Sciences building (2101 Constitution Avenue, NW)

State Plaza Hotel

Address: 2117 E Street NW (0.3 miles from NAS | 6-7-minute walk)

Phone: 800-424-2859 | **Parking:** \$48 | **Metro:** Foggy Bottom

The Watergate Hotel

Address: 2650 Virginia Avenue NW (0.7 miles from NAS | 14-15-minute walk)

Phone: 844-617-1972 | **Parking:** \$58-\$75 | **Metro:** Foggy Bottom

Hotel AKA Washington Circle

Address: 1 Washington Circle (0.7 miles from NAS | 14-15-minute walk)

Phone: 202-591-1500 | **Parking:** \$66 daily | **Metro:** Foggy Bottom

AC Hotel Washington DC Downtown

Address: 1112 19th Street NW (0.8 miles from NAS | 16-17-minute walk)

Phone: 202-303-0190 | **Parking:** \$62 daily | **Metro:** Foggy Bottom

Hotel Washington

Address: 515 15th Street NW (0.8 miles from NAS | 16-17-minute walk)

Phone: 202-661-2400 | **Parking:** \$80 | **Metro:** Metro Center

The St. Gregory Hotel

Address: 2033 M Street NW (1.3 Miles from NAS | 26-28-minute walk)

Phone: 202-530-3600 | **Parking:** \$60 | **Metro:** Dupont Circle (Ten-minute walk to hotel)

The Westin, Georgetown, Washington D.C.

Address: 2350 M Street NW (1.6 miles from NAS | 32-34-minute walk)

Phone: 202-429-0100 | **Parking:** \$48-\$65 | **Metro:** Foggy Bottom

The Darcy Washington DC

Address: 1515 Rhode Island Ave NW (1.9 miles from NAS | 38-40-minute walk)

Phone: 844-489-9661 | **Parking:** \$25 daily \$65 Overnight | **Metro:** Dupont Circle