



Lean in the Public Sector Conference, September 10-12, Tampere Finland

GREGORY A. HOWELL, P.E., M.S.C.E.



Gregory A. Howell is both a co-founder and President of the Lean Construction Institute (LCI), a non-profit organization devoted to research in design and management of production systems in project settings. He brings 40+ years of construction industry project management, consulting and university-level teaching experience to both organizations. He received a B.S.C.E from Stanford University in 1966 and spent the next 4 years as an officer in the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy. There he served with the Seabees in Viet Nam and Thailand and as Aide to the Commander of the Southwest Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. On leaving the Navy he worked briefly as a civil engineer and surveyor in Arizona and then for the architect Paolo Soleri. He returned to Stanford and received an M.S.C.E in Civil Engineering and Construction Management in 1973. Howell then worked as a quarry and project engineer and then as project manager until 1976 when he returned to California. For the next 8 years, he was the President of Timelapse Inc., a photo equipment manufacturer and Howell Associates, a productivity improvement consulting company that utilized the equipment.

He was appointed the Associated General Contractors' Visiting Professor in Construction Management at the University of New Mexico in 1987, and became an Associate Professor in Civil Engineering with tenure there in 1991. He co-authored Productivity Improvement in Construction with Clark Oglesby and Henry Parker, published by McGraw-Hill. He served as Eminent Scholar at the Del E. Webb School Construction at Arizona State University of in 1996. Howell left UNM in 1999 to co-found LCI. From time to time, he has also served as an expert witness and mediator in productivity related disputes. He was inducted to the National Academy of Construction in October 2011.

His expertise in improving performance has resulted in improvement initiatives on healthcare facilities, hospitals, power plants, petro-chemical facilities, commercial and industrial buildings, single and multifamily housing, and infrastructure, in North and South America and Africa. He has studied and applied the application lean in principles and practices in the design and construction on a variety of projects. He remains active in research, teaching and establishing Lean Construction Communities of Practice in the United State and around the world.