

February 17, 2009  
Center for Architecture – Edgar Tafel Hall

## **DESIGN SYNERGY IN ARCHITECTURE**

The working relationship of the Architect/Engineer has radically changed over the last decade and to be successful in the future, engineers will need to embrace the changing ways in which a project is realized. Modern Architecture, with its complex forms and geometries are challenging the technology of engineering and construction to new limits that demand a more integrated model for the design team to collaborate across disciplines from design inception to completion.

The presentation will focus on how the structural engineer can best perform in an integrated design team and infuse structural engineering strategies in both the Architectural profession and as a new model in education curriculums. The architectural design studios at Pratt Institute and Columbia University are embracing an integrated education with structural engineers playing key roles in their education. Recent projects by architectural students will be presented to illustrate the empowerment of design ideas by understanding the fundamentals of structural systems and how it relates to the professional practice.

### **Speakers:**

Robert K. Otani PE, LEED AP  
Senior Associate – Thornton Tomasetti  
Instructor – Pratt Institute School of Architecture and Guest Critic – Columbia University  
GSAPP

Sean Gallagher  
Senior Associate – Smith-Miller+Hawkinson Architects  
Instructor – Columbia University GSAPP

Lonn Combs, RA  
Principal – Easton Combs Architects  
Assistant Chair of Undergraduate Architecture – Pratt Institute School of Architecture

