

Plenary Talk By **Dr. Nur Yazdani**

ABET and BAETE Accreditations: Perspectives of an Accreditation Expert

ABSTRACT

Accreditation Team Leaders and Program Evaluators play a critical role in the accreditation process of programs and ensuring desired program qualities. This plenary session will present various aspects of these roles, their responsibilities, and the high standards that they must uphold. Key components of the BAETE accreditation process and the Washington Accord will be contrasted against the corresponding ABET process, thereby enlightening the audience on various pathways to program accreditation.



Dr. Nur Yazdani

*Tseng Huang Endowed Professor
Civil Engineering Department,
University of Texas at Arlington, USA*

***Dr. Nur Yazdani, P.E.**, is the Tseng Huang Endowed Professor and past Chairperson of the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Texas at Arlington, USA. He received his BS and PhD degrees in structural engineering from BUET and the Univ. of Maryland, College Park, respectively. A Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the American Concrete Institute (ACI), and the ASCE Structural Engineering Institute (SEI), he is the author of more than 180 refereed articles. Dr. Yazdani is well-known for his research on Engineering Education, Bridge Evaluation/Rehabilitation, Non-Destructive Evaluation, and Coastal Infrastructure. He has secured more than \$18 million from funded research projects and leads the state-of-the-art Next-gen Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure Lab (NSRI Lab) at UT Arlington. Leadership roles have included the Chair of the ASCE-Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) Committee on Bridge 343 on Concrete Bridge Design and the SEI Committee on Retrofit of Structures under Dynamic Loads, SEI Membership Committee and SEI Fort Worth Branch.*

Dr. Yazdani is a senior ASCE certified ABET civil engineering program evaluator and team chair. To date, he has participated in 14 ABET team visits for the accreditation of civil engineering programs, both within the USA and outside. He was twice the team leader for the BAETE accreditation visit for the civil engineering program at BUET.

Dr. Yazdani has undertaken significant research on Engineering Education, primarily through three educational grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF): Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU); Two Research Experience for STEM Teachers (RET) grants; and International Research Experience for Students (IRES).