



THE HONG KONG
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING SERVICES ENGINEERING



C P D L E C T U R E

Building Bridges: Collaboration in Fire Science, Engineering and the Fire Service

Organized by
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[Ref: **Building Bridges: Collaboration in Fire
Science, Engineering and the Fire Service**]

- Free Admission -

SPEAKER
PROFESSOR BETH WECKMAN
Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering
University of Waterloo
Waterloo, ON Canada

D a t e
25 June 2012 (Mon)

T i m e
7.00 – 8.00 pm

V e n u e
Room FJ304
The Hong Kong
Polytechnic University

Name (in Full): _____
Company Name: _____
Company/Home* Address: _____

Tel: _____
E-mail: _____

* Please delete as appropriate

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

6.45 – 7.00 pm◆	Registration
7.00 – 7.05 pm◆	Introduction
7.05 – 7.50 pm◆	Talk by Professor Beth Weckman
7.50 – 8.00 pm◆	Questions and answers

ABSTRACT

Fire safety professionals face a number of significant challenges in our changing world. Fire protection of occupants and buildings is a key part of fire safety engineering, but the safety of firefighters must also be addressed. For example, new materials, when left untreated, sometimes represent greater fire hazards than traditional materials. Recent changes in building and fire codes increase flexibility in design, but implementation requires increased understanding of fire science by engineers, architects, fire code and regulatory officials. Addressing fire safety concerns requires a multidisciplinary, multi-stakeholder approach to research and education that blends science, technology and experience. This can be accomplished through collaborative initiatives engaging fire scientists, engineers and fire service personnel. In this paper, a history of joint initiatives between university researchers, industry, government and fire service partners will be highlighted. Thoughts are provided, from a Canadian perspective, on how we can work with our world partners to build a strong international fire safety presence for the future.

Speaker

Professor Beth Weckman is a professor of Mechanical and Mechatronics Engineering at the University of Waterloo and coordinates the Fire Research Group and Fire Safety Graduate programs there. At the UW Live Fire Research Facility, she undertakes a wide range of fire research with students and partners from other universities, industry and government. Small, medium and full scale experiments are conducted to understand and improve models of fire behavior, hot gas movement and fire performance of materials and systems as applied to a wide range of fire protection and fire safety engineering applications. Where possible, research and educational initiatives are closely coupled to enrich the learning experiences of, and to promote technology transfer amongst, fire safety stakeholders at all levels. With this in mind, Beth is an active member in several fire safety and research organizations such as SFPE, NFPA, ASTM, IAAI, IAFSS and is past Chair of the Canadian Section of The International Combustion Institute.