

Ron Britton

Dr. M.G.(Ron) Britton, P.Eng., FCAE, FEC

Title of Keynote: Sitting in a Design Chair – Reflections on the NSERC Chairs in Design Engineering Program

Biography:

Born in Regina and raised in Lang, Saskatchewan Ron obtained his B. Sc. in Civil Engineering from the University of Saskatchewan, M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering from University of Manitoba and Ph.D. in Agricultural Engineering from Texas A&M University. Ron spent five years working in industry between his B.Sc. and his M.Sc. His work took him from Winnipeg to London, England and Toronto. During that time he concentrated on the design of buildings, with an emphasis on wood, and ultimately focusing on agricultural buildings. Ron has held academic appointments at both Texas A&M and the University of Manitoba. In 2001 he was awarded a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Chair in Design Engineering, a position he held for 10 years. During that time he was instrumental in the establishment of the Internationally Educated Engineer Qualification program, and the creation of a faculty-wide emphasis on design education.

Professionally, he is a member and past President of Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba, and served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council of Professional Engineers. He is a Fellow and past President of the Canadian Society of Bioengineering, an honorary lifetime member of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education, and a member of numerous other technical and education related societies. Ron is a 3M Teaching Fellow and has received a number of other awards including the CCPE Medal of Distinction in Engineering Education, the CSBE Maple Leaf Award, the APEGM Merit Award and Outstanding Service Award and the University of Manitoba Dr. & Mrs. H.H. Saunderson Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Dr. & Mrs. D.R. Campbell Outreach Award and the Champion of Engineering Education award.

At home, Ron is a proud father and grandfather, and a sometimes obsessive baseball fan.