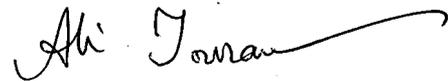


# Carrying the Torch

It is now sixteen years since the Boston Society of Civil Engineers (BSCE) started publishing its journal (which originated in 1914) under the title of *Civil Engineering Practice*. The current journal has focused on practice-oriented papers written by practitioners, regulators and academicians to fill the gap that exists between material published in most archival journals and engineering practice. Many of the articles have been based on local projects and we have been fortunate that the large number of challenging projects in the New England region has fostered a healthy supply of interesting articles. What the journal has achieved in this respect cannot be underestimated, as many ASCE journal editors are struggling to increase the number of contributors from the industry with little success. As an example, all but one of the articles in this issue were written by industry authors, and even the sole article written by an academic is a practice-oriented case study. We are grateful to our contributors, reviewers and all the people who have solicited papers for the journal and who have helped *Civil Engineering Practice* to achieve its goals.

For the past eight years, Brian Brenner, in his capacity as the chair of *Civil Engineering Practice's* editorial board, has been instrumental in providing leadership for the journal's direction and in remaining loyal to the journal's mission. Even though Brian stepped down from the editorial chair position in June 2001, he intends to continue his support for the journal and, indeed, has remained active in the past few months by providing feedback on articles published in the current issue and on other matters related to the journal. We at the editorial board look forward to working with Brian in the coming years and thank him for his dedication, wisdom and leadership over the past eight years. Also, we urge all our colleagues involved in exciting and innovative projects to share their knowledge and experience with our readers. Others who may be interested to serve as reviewers for submitted articles can contact me at [atouran@lynx.neu.edu](mailto:atouran@lynx.neu.edu). Let us all help to keep our journal at the cutting edge of civil engineering practice.



Ali Touran  
Editorial Board Chair,  
*Civil Engineering Practice*