

**Arnold D.  
Kerr Lecture**  
in Engineering  
Mechanics  
and Design



**DR. ARNOLD D. KERR**

The Kerr Lecture Series honors Dr. Arnold D. Kerr, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering at the University of Delaware. The series brings distinguished scientists and engineers to the University of Delaware each year to speak on topics in engineering mechanics and design. An endowment established in Kerr's name upon his retirement in 2004 provides funds for the lectureship.

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**ARNOLD D. KERR LECTURE**

**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE,  
RESILIENT, AND EQUITABLE FUTURE**



**Mike  
Carragher, PE**

VHB, President & CEO  
*University of Delaware*

**APRIL 12, 2021**

2:00 - 3:00 P.M. | ZOOM MEETING

**CLICK HERE TO JOIN:** [HTTPS://UDEL.ZOOM.US/J/94652190765?pwd=STHJZMJlOFFSZVVMN3PSUK5BSIRIZZ09](https://udel.zoom.us/j/94652190765?pwd=STHJZMJlOFFSZVVMN3PSUK5BSIRIZZ09)

**ABSTRACT**

How we live, work, and play is rapidly transforming. The needs of our communities are evolving, with sustainability, resiliency, and social equity all gaining importance, especially in light of the coronavirus and its consequences. Changes are affecting our daily lives—and will have lasting impact. There is a tremendous opportunity for us as engineers, environmental, and planning professionals to reimagine the built environment for the better.

Applying our technical expertise, education, and background with robust public engagement, diverse perspectives, and data and technology, will help make our communities more sustainable, more resilient, and more equitable.

Beyond the contributions we can make as technical problem solvers, we have an incredible opportunity to make our mark as leaders helping to improve society.

**BIOGRAPHY**

As VHB's first non-founder President in its 40-year history, Mike has led the company through one of its most transformational, successful, and strategic periods of growth, geographic expansion, and technological advancement. His vision and leadership are propelling VHB's diverse team of engineers, scientists, planners, and designers forward to evolve and embrace new technology to meet increasing client challenges, improve our nation's mobility, and shape communities in a sustainable and meaningful way. As he helps set the course for the sustained success of VHB's Generational Company, Mike's dedication to VHB's 1,600 professionals—and to maintaining the firm's unique, inclusive culture—is evident in everything he does.

Recognizing a need for a cultural shift, Mike is helping to ignite the conversation around inclusion and diversity throughout the AEC

industry. Through his leadership role in the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Design Professionals Council (DPC), Mike is a tireless and vocal advocate for advancing diversity in the workplace and creating more inclusive environments.

Throughout his career Mike has had the opportunity to help enhance our nation's cities by working on some of the most complex mobility challenges, including highway and multimodal systems in Boston; Philadelphia; New York; Washington, DC; and Orlando. During his 22 years at VHB, Mike founded and helped build the firm's transit and rail practice, directed the company's transportation practice, helped establish the Tysons office in Virginia, and led VHB's emergence as a premier integrated services consultant in Florida.

Mike is active in numerous professional associations, including ACEC, the ACEC Research Institute Board of Directors (Vice Chair), and the ACEC DPC Executive Committee; Women's Transportation Seminar; Design-Build Institute of America; American Public Transportation Association; American Society of Civil Engineers; and the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association. He previously served as Chairman of the Advisory Council of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Delaware, his alma mater. Mike was the recipient of the University of Delaware 2016 Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Outstanding Alumni Award. In 2019, VHB was honored with a Blue Hen 17&43 Award in recognition of alumni who have founded or led new ventures and fast-growing companies.

Mike resides in Boston with his wife Joan. They have three adult children and one granddaughter.