

## Fredric M. Bell

### Faculty Profile

Adjunct Associate Professor; Acting Director, CBIPS,  
Center for Buildings, Infrastructure and Public Space



#### MY CONTACT INFO

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### Research Interest

Rick Bell, through his role at Columbia's interdisciplinary Center for Buildings, Infrastructure and Public Space, has led research efforts on: Decarbonization of Infrastructure; Social Housing and Open Space; Equity in Infrastructure; Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Multi-Family Residential; Preservation of Historic Infrastructure; Cybersecurity; and Water Quality Assessment.

As Assistant Commissioner of Architecture and Engineering at the NYC Department of Design and Construction, and as that agency's Executive Director of Design and Construction Excellence, his research projects included: means and methods of assuring design quality in the provision of public works; sustainability and high-performance design guidelines; active design; accessibility standards and universal design; and design standards for a variety of building typologies, such as libraries.

Serving as Executive Director of the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter and its Center for Architecture, he was engaged with research on the implementation of a shared-bike system in New York; accessibility guidelines; re-envisioning of Lower Manhattan after 9/11; sustainable urbanization; and affordable housing.

### Research Experience

- Town+Gown: NYC, <https://www.nyc.gov/site/ddc/about/town-gown.page>  
Advisory Board, 2009-present.
- Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, <https://csu.global/>  
President, 2023; Board Member, 2014-present.
- Center for Buildings, Infrastructure and Public Space, Columbia University,  
Deputy Director, 2018-2023; Acting Director, 2023-present.  
<https://cbips.engineering.columbia.edu>

## Professional Experience

- Adjunct Associate Professor, Columbia University, August 2018 to present
- Deputy Director, CBIPS, Columbia University, September 2018 to August 2023
- Acting Director, CBIPS, Columbia University, August 2023 to present
- Executive Director, Design & Construction Excellence, NYC DDC, May 2015 to August 2018
- Executive Director, AIANY & Center for Architecture, NYC, June 2001 to May 2015
- Assistant Commissioner, Architecture & Engineering, NYC DDC, October 1993 to June 2001

## Professional Affiliations

- American Institute of Architects, previously Board Member
- Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, Board Member
- Building Energy Exchange (BE-EX), previously Board Member
- New York/New Visions, Founder and spokesperson
- BuildFound, previously Board Member
- Creative Exchange Lab, Board Member
- Urban Design Forum, Fellow

## Honors & Awards

- New York Design Award, DRIVENxDESIGN, 2021, 2018 & 2017
- Kemper Award, American Institute of Architects, 2014
- *Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres*, French Ministry of Culture, 2012
- Kidney Gold Medal, American Institute of Architects New York State, 2007
- Barrier Free America Award, Paralyzed Veterans of America, 2002
- Newsmaker Award, Engineering News-Record, 2002
- Fellow, American Institute of Architects, 2000

## Selected Publications

- *Journal of Construction Engineering and Management*, Volume 150, Issue 5, 2/23/2024; Yao Huang, Dingli Liu, Fredric M. Bell, Jing Yu & Feniosky Peña-Mora, *Influences of Intra- and Interorganizational IT Innovations on Knowledge Sharing and Team Creativity Evidence from Construction Projects in China*; <https://doi.org/10.1061/JCEMD4.COENG-14007>
- *Participatory and Resilient Urban Governance: The Case of Ankara Citizen Council, 2023*, Consortium for Sustainable Urbanization, Savaş Şahin, Feyzan Erkip, Rick Bell & Aliye Celik
- *Beyond Zuccotti Park*, New Village Press, 2012 essay *Public Space & Its Disconnects* editors: Ron Shiffman, Rick Bell, Lance Brown and Lynn Elizabeth
- *Los Angeles & New York: The Uncertain Future*, Oxford University Press, 2012 essay *You Know Where It's At*; editors: David Halle and Andrew Beveridge
- Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of *Architect* magazine, 2011-2015
- *Living & Working*, Archipress, 2011 essay *Learning from Danish Architecture*, editor: M. Ibler
- *Sustainable Urbanization in the Information Age*, United Nations Publications, 2009 essay; editors: Aliye Pekin Celik, Roxana Zyman and Rafat Mahdi
- *Rhetorically Speaking* column in AIANY's eOculus, 2003-2015, editor: Camila Schaulsohn
- *Last Words* quarterly column in AIANY's journal *Oculus*, 2001-2015, editor: Kristen Richards