

Dennis R. Mertz Bridge Research Fellowship 2020 – 2021

The PCI Transportation Activities Council and PCI Research and Development Council have selected a recipient of the Dennis R. Mertz Bridge Research Fellowship for the 2020-2021 academic year. This program connects professors and students with industry experts to advance research in bridge related precast concrete. It is a unique experience where both industry and academics benefit from the interaction. We especially thank all the producers who support universities proposing research ideas.

The student awarded the fellowships is:

Kallan M. Hart

South Dakota State University

“Repairable Precast Bridge Bents for Extreme Events”

Advising Professor: Dr. Mostafa Tazarv

Producer support: Gage Brothers Concrete Products, Sioux Falls, S.D.

Additional support: National Center for Transportation Infrastructure
Durability and Life-Extension (TriDurLE)

In his application, Hart noted “I hope to not only broaden my knowledge and experience in the area of accelerated bridge construction (ABC), but also to challenge the industry to make progressive changes to bridge design codes in seismic regions.”



This fellowship was established in 2017 in memory of Dennis R. Mertz, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Delaware and one of the principal investigators who developed the *AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications*.