

**Dennis R. Mertz Bridge Research Fellowship  
2017 – 2018**

The PCI Transportation Activities Council and PCI Research and Development Council have selected the first recipient of the Dennis R. Mertz Bridge Research Fellowship. 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 fellowship is:

**Ahmed Almohammed**

University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

*“Implementation of Self-Consolidation Ultra-High Strength Concrete in Prestressed Concrete Girders”*

Advising Professor: W. Micah Hale

Supporting Producers: Coreslab Structures (Ark) Inc.  
JJ Ferguson Prestress-Precast Co.



In his application, Ahmed stated “I developed a deep appreciation for prestressed concrete when I exposed to the design and fabrication of prestressed concrete girders. Keeping in my mind that the prestressed concrete girder is one of the most common structural member used in bridge construction.”

This fellowship was established 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*.