Editorial

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In this issue of *Bridge Engineering*, we have two separate but related discussions on previously published papers about loads and load factors. The first discussion by Hayward is on historical load effects on fatigue of metallic railway bridges (Imam *et al.*, 2019) and the second by Beal covers reduced partial factors in UK standards for assessment of bridges and structures (Hendy *et al.*, 2019). Both contributions have useful views and information. At *Bridge Engineering*, we would like to encourage more readers to submit discussions on our papers. Personally, I have always liked discussions; from an author's perspective, it confirms interest in the paper; from the contributor's perspective, further useful information is gained. I would encourage you to comment on the interesting papers we have in this issue of *Bridge Engineering*. There is a message on how you can contribute at the end of the papers.

The first paper by Croll (2019) should generate some discussion, smashing the myth that visual structural gymnastics only cost a few percent to costs. It covers a range of topics from engineering education, the role of the engineer and architect and some interesting analysis of structural efficiency, which is particularly relevant given current austerity and sustainability agendas. The second paper by Domaneschi *et al.* (2019) stays with the cable-stayed bridge theme. Given the tragic consequences of last year's disproportionate collapse of the cable-stayed bridge in Genoa, Italy, this is very relevant.

Another relevant paper looks at the comparison of the collapse frequency and the probability of failure of bridges (Proske, 2019). I am pleased to see frequencies decreasing, perhaps showing that the sharing of knowledge in journals such as *Bridge Engineering* helps in some small way. The next paper by Collins *et al.* (2019) continues the failure and collapse theme with guidance on hidden defects and, importantly, how to avoid them. The last paper in this issue considers the

sustainability of bridge maintenance (Balogun *et al.*, 2019), drawing some interesting conclusions, for discussion perhaps.

Having started this issue with this Editorial urging your contributions, I am happy to see I also get the last word with a book review (Collings, 2019).

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