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Gregory A. Howell is both a co-founder and Managing Director of the Lean Construction Institute (LCI), a non-profit organization devoted to production management research in project settings, and a principal of Lean Project Consulting (LPC). Howell brings 40 years of construction industry project management, consulting and university-level teaching experience to both organizations. He received a B.S.C.E from Stanford University in 1966 and spent the next 4 years as an officer in the Civil Engineer Corps of the United States Navy. There he served with the Seabees in Viet Nam and Thailand and as Aide to the Commander of the Southwest Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. On leaving the Navy he worked briefly as a civil engineer and surveyor in Arizona and then for the architect Paolo Soleri. He returned to Stanford and received an M.S.C.E in Civil Engineering and Construction Management in 1973. Howell then worked as a quarry and project engineer and then as project manager until 1976 when he returned to California. For the next 8 years, he was the President of Timelapse Inc., a photo equipment manufacturer and Howell Associates, a productivity improvement consulting company that utilized the equipment.

He was appointed the Associated General Contractors' Visiting Professor in Construction Management at the University of New Mexico in 1987, and became an Associate Professor in Civil Engineering with tenure there in 1991. He co-authored Productivity Improvement in Construction with Clark Oglesby and Henry Parker, published by McGraw-Hill. He served as Eminent Scholar at the Del E. Webb School of Construction in 1996, and in 1997, Howell left UNM to co-found LCI. His consulting company, LPC was established in 1999. From time to time, he has also served as an expert witness and mediator in productivity related disputes.