Abstract: Current and future civil engineers need a diverse set of knowledge, skills, and attitudes (KSAs) that prepare them to be effective at solving problems in an increasingly complex world. This paper discusses the complexity involved with designing and constructing the second phase of the Golden Gate Bridge Seismic Retrofit and the essential role of civil engineers that possess a renaissance (i.e. multi-disciplinary) range of KSAs, including commitment, integrity and persistence. The complex retrofit was ultimately completed within budget and with no claims, and the project's success was attributed to three primary team member characteristics: (1) each team member was a technical expert but was also knowledgeable across many subjects, (2) all team members participated in active partnering and partnered at an equal level, and (3) each team member was able to communicate openly with all other team members.