The 2006 Shah Family Innovation Prize was awarded to Professor Ellen M. Rathje of the University of Texas at Austin in recognition of her outstanding research and contributions to professional practice. Her work on the coupled seismic and stick-slip response of potential sliding masses was innovative and insightful, and has been translated into guidelines that are used in California for analyzing and mitigating landslide hazards. She has more recently developed an in-situ dynamic liquefaction test that has the potential to change the way in which liquefaction is studied, and she has demonstrated leadership in bringing optical satellite imagery to the earthquake engineering field.

An Overview of the Endowment Fund

The EERI Endowment Fund was established in 1994 to improve the science and practice of earthquake engineering and related disciplines in order to reduce the impacts of earthquakes. Members contribute to the Fund by donating amounts beyond their standard membership fees. In addition, two EERI members and their families have made major donations to support special, named programs (see below, this page).

Endowment funding is used to initiate new or unique ventures. Each year, the Special Projects and Initiatives (SPI) Committee solicits proposals, then selects small, creative projects that recognize the multidisciplinary challenge of earthquake risk reduction and the broad geographic and professional composition of EERI’s membership. Individual members of the SPI Committee provide oversight on the selected projects. Programs supported by the Fund identify gaps in research, improve application and practice, and facilitate public policy that leads to effective reduction of earthquake risks.

Shah Family Innovation Prize

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Friedman Family Visiting Professional Program

David A. Friedman, Paulette J. Meyer, and other members of the Friedman family underwrite the Visiting Professionals Program. The Program enables EERI student chapters to meet with leading practitioners in the field of earthquake engineering and learn, through lectures and informal sessions, about current issues and new trends in the industry. For more information about the Program, visit: http://www.eeri.org/home/friedman.html. The following visits were supported by the Visiting Professional Program in 2006:

- Leo Argiris to the University of Texas at Austin
- John Hooper to the University of British Columbia
- Ron Eguchi to Georgia Tech
This joint project was developed by the EERI student chapters at the University of British Columbia and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), addressing confined masonry construction. Confined masonry construction has become one of the most prevalent forms of housing construction in the developing world. Various guidelines for confined masonry construction have been developed by different groups throughout the world in an attempt to encourage proper detailing and proportioning of confined masonry structures without the need for complex, and often conservative, code design procedures. The goal of this project is to develop a commentary to current guidelines so that informed designers (such as NGOs involved with reconstruction) understand the basis for the requirements in the guidelines and can make appropriate changes to achieve an earthquake-resistant design.

The two student chapters met in Mexico City in November 2006, along with numerous confined masonry researchers from Mexico City. The workshops, presentations and discussions centered around the report Confined Masonry Housing Guidelines that the two student chapters are preparing. The final report will be posted on EERI’s website in the spring of 2007.

**Travel support for 38 students to attend the 100th Anniversary Conference**

SPI funds were used to provide travel support to students to attend the very successful 100th Anniversary Conference in San Francisco in April 2006. Students were active in poster sessions, as presenters, and as participants in the PEER Undergraduate Seismic Competition. In photo at right, students and others watch as a team tests their model during the competition.

**New World Housing Encyclopedia website, including World Adobe Forum**

A new website has been developed to provide greater emphasis on training materials and resources, and more active participation from users. The website also currently contains 110 reports from 37 countries. The new site is currently undergoing beta testing and will soon be unveiled. New reports from several countries have been received, and the Farzad Naeim Prize was awarded for the third year, to reports from Algeria, Nepal and Colombia. A new editorial board has also been appointed. See www.world-housing.net for details.

The WHE tutorial on reinforced concrete frame buildings with masonry infill is also now available. This type of building is common worldwide, and often performs poorly in earthquakes. Recognizing that good seismic performance of RC frame buildings with masonry infill is challenging even in industrialized countries, the tutorial outlines two other building technologies that have higher seismic safety levels and similar costs and construction complexity: confined masonry and RC frame with RC shear walls. This tutorial was a major volunteer effort of the World Housing Encyclopedia.
2006 Financial Highlights

**Total Revenues**
- Investment Income: $596,679
- EERI Contributions to Principal: 450,000
- EERI Contribution to Programs: 419,853
- Member Contributions to Principal: 419,853
- Subscribing Member Contributions for Programs: 110,679
- Friedman Family Fund: $270,933
- Shah Innovation Prize: $290,276
- Total Revenues: $2,461,307

**Total Expenses**
- Program expenses offset by investment income: $596,679
- Program expenses offset by principal: 10,316
- Program expenses funded by EERI: 322,887
- Program expenses offset by subscribing member contributions: 85,904
- Friedman Family Visiting Professional expenses: 39,684
- Shah Innovation Expenses: 103,458
- Total Expenses: $1,158,928

**Total Fund Balance (Revenue over Expenses)**: $1,302,280

**SPI Projects Funding, 2006**
- Investment earnings used for programs: $30,045
- Subscribing Member Contribution to projects: 23,427
- Total Project Funding: $53,472

**Other Programs Funding**
- Shah Family Innovation Prize: 16,150
- Friedman Family Visiting Professionals: 3,493
- Total Other Programs Funding: 19,643

**SPI Expenditures, 2006**
- Administration: $13,873
- World Housing: 8,906
- Small Grants: 693
- Confined Masonry Guidelines: 10,000
- 100th Anniversary Travel Support: 20,000
- Total Project Expenditures: $53,472

**Other Programs Expenditures**
- Shah Family Innovation Prize: 16,150
- Friedman Family Visiting Professionals: 3,493
- Total Other Programs Expenditures: 19,643

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2007 watercolor poster sent to all Endowment Fund donors, painted by EERI member and past president Chris Arnold. The twelfth in the series he has painted, this print depicts the construction of the new east span of the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Bridge.