



**EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
NEWSLETTER**

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**EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING
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News of the Institute

**Special EERI Activities at the 100th
Anniversary Earthquake Conference**

Mark your calendar for the following EERI events that will take place during the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference in San Francisco.

Monday, April 17, 5:00–6:15 p.m.: EERI Student Member/Industry Reception, Westin St. Francis Elizabethan D Room

Monday, April 17, 6:30–8:00 p.m., 8NCEE Opening Night Reception and Poster Session, Westin St. Francis California/Elizabethan Rooms

Wednesday, April 19, 12:30–2:00 p.m., EERI Annual Business Meeting (see below for more information), Moscone Esplanade Ballroom

Wednesday, April 19, 7:30–9:30 p.m., EERI Festive Banquet and Musicale, Westin St. Francis Grand Ballroom

Thursday, April 20, 12:00–2:00 p.m., EERI Annual Honors Luncheon and Distinguished Lecture (see below for more information), San Francisco Marriott Yerba Buena Ballroom

Thursday, April 20, 6:00–7:30 p.m., Major Donor and Subscribing Members Reception, Westin St. Francis, St. Francis Suite

8NCEE Technical Concurrent Sessions are scheduled for the following times at the Moscone Convention Center:

- Tuesday, April 18, 2:00–5:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, April 19, 10:30–12:00 noon and 2:00–5:30 p.m.
- Thursday, April 20, 10:30–12:00 noon and 2:00–5:30 p.m.
- Friday, April 21, 8:30–10:00 a.m.

To find papers being presented in all technical concurrent sessions, visit the online itinerary planner at <http://submissions.miracd.com/8ncee/itinerary>. The planner is searchable by title keyword, author name, author institution, review category, session day, session time, and session name. If you search by session day only, you will get a display of everything scheduled for that day in chronological order. Posters will be on display for the entire day they are assigned; the time shown in the itinerary planner indicates when authors should be available at the poster for discussion.

If you have not already done so and plan to attend the conference, please register as soon as possible at <http://www.1906eqconf.org/>.

A printed program will be provided to all attendees when they first arrive at the meeting. An Annual Meeting packet listing EERI committee meetings and locations in the hotel, along with final agendas for the Annual Business

continued on page 2



Designed by Swiss architect Mario Botta, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art has been a landmark of the South of Market District since 1995. It will be the site of the all-conference Anniversary Reception Celebration, Tuesday, April 18, 6:30–8:30 p.m. (photo: Mary Sullivan)

Special EERI Activities at 100th Anniversary Conference

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Meeting and Honors Luncheon, will be provided at the EERI Opening Night Reception at the Westin St. Francis Hotel.

The preliminary agenda for the EERI **Annual Business Meeting** during lunch on Wednesday includes reports by EERI's president and treasurer, the introduction of the 2006 Board of Directors, presentation of certificates and plaques, the Northern California Chapter Awards for Innovation and Exemplary Practice in Earthquake Risk Reduction, retiring board member and committee chair recognition, and the *Earthquake Spectra* Outstanding Paper Award.

The preliminary agenda for the EERI **Annual Honors Luncheon** on Thursday includes the following presentations: the Shamsheer Prakash Award for Young Engineers to Juan Pestana, the Shah Family Innovation Prize to Rebekah Green, Honorary Membership to Loring A. Wyllie, Jr., and William Petak, the Housner Medal to Paul Jennings, and the 2006 EERI Distinguished Lecture by Kathleen Tierney.

EERI **committee meetings** with continental breakfasts are scheduled at the following times in the Westin St. Francis: Tuesday, April 18, 7:00–8:15 a.m.; Wednesday, April 19, 7:00–8:00 a.m.; and Thursday, April 20, 7:00–8:00 a.m.

The **Heritage and Existing Structures Committee** (HESCO) welcomes all to attend its meeting on Wednesday, April 19, 7:00–8:00 a.m. The main topics will be (1) the results of the experimental work conducted for the J. Paul Getty Museum on seismic protection of art objects, (2) development of web-based resources, (3) participation in the 2007 EERI conference, and (4) new publication-based initiatives. If you would like more information on HESCO's activities or would like to join its mailing list, e-mail HESCO's chair, Debra Laefer at debra.laefer@ucd.ie.

News of the Profession

NEHRP Seeks Public Comments, Hosts Forum

The National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) is the federal government's program to reduce risks to life and property from earthquakes. The four agencies making up NEHRP—the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Science Foundation, and NEHRP's lead agency, the National Institute of Standards and Technology—are seeking the public's assistance in updating the program's 2001-2005 strategic plan to create the plan for 2006-2010. Anyone interested in participating in this process may download the 2001-2005 plan from the NEHRP web site (<http://www.nehrp.gov>) and suggest updates via a public comment form at the same site. The form may be e-mailed, faxed, or sent by regular mail to NEHRP. NEHRP will accept comments through May 26, 2006.

Additionally, the NEHRP agencies will host an open forum in San Francisco during the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference at 4:00–5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 17, in the Olympic Room at the Westin St. Francis Hotel. At the forum, each of the four NEHRP agencies will present a brief summary of its current activities and take comments from conference attendees on NEHRP performance and direction. More information is available at <http://www.1906eqconf.org>.

Obituary

California State Senator Alfred Alquist, 1908-2006

Retired California State Senator Alfred Alquist, a pragmatic politician who represented Santa Clara County as a Democrat in the state legislature for 34 years, died March 27 of pneumonia. He was 97.

Alquist had a long and distinguished career supporting earthquake safety in the legislature. His name remains prominent in the earthquake field through the annual awards named after him, bestowed by the California Earthquake Safety Foundation.

Alquist spearheaded the state of California's great involvement in the earthquake problem. In 1968, he picked up the ideas in the classic book *Earthquake Hazard in the San Francisco Bay Area: A Continuing Problem in Public Policy* by Karl Steinbrugge (EERI Past President 1968-69). Alquist formed the Joint Committee on Seismic Safety on a shoestring budget in 1969. The San Fernando earthquake of 1971 gave his effort additional momentum.

He was also responsible for legislation that created both the state Energy Commission and the state's Department of Information Technology. During most of his 30-year tenure in the upper house, Alquist chaired the powerful Budget Committee.

Senator Alquist was born in Memphis, Tennessee, in 1908, and had a 40-year career with Southern Pacific as a railroad dispatcher and yardmaster, an experience that inspired his career-long affinity with blue-collar workers and their struggles. It also contributed to the hearing loss that plagued him in the twilight of his legislative career.

Sen. Alquist died on the 13th anniversary of his marriage to his

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News of the Institute

Student Travel Scholarships

The following students and one young professional have received travel scholarships to help them attend the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference (see page 2 of the February *Newsletter* for more information). These scholarships were funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the EERI Endowment Fund under the auspices of the Special Projects and Initiatives Committee, and COSMOS.

Timothy Ancheta*, UCLA
 Jong-Wha Bai, Texas A&M University
 Sarah Besser, George Washington University
 Beth Brueggen, Univ. of Minnesota
 Joanna Catano, Univ. of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
 Hoon Choi*, Univ. of Nevada at Reno
 Ioannis Christovasilis, SUNY Buffalo
 Brady Cox, Univ. of Texas
 Katie Cranston, Oregon State University
 Qiang Fu, Stanford University (young professional)
 Gavin Hayes, Pennsylvania State University
 Lisa Holliday, Univ. of Oklahoma
 Hung-Jung Hung, UC Davis
 Onur Ihtiyar, Univ. of Massachusetts
 Amin Karbassi, Univ. of Quebec
 Albert Kottke, Univ. of Texas at Austin
 Masahiro Kurata, Georgia Tech
 Karine Lefebvre, Univ. of Quebec
 Benjamin Mattson, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Monika Moore, Oregon State University
 Timothy Nelson, Tufts University
 Sarah Orton, Univ. of Texas
 Kyungha Park, Univ. of Maryland
 Rafael Prieto, Univ. of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez
 Dziugas Reneckis, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Zahra Riahi, Univ. of British Columbia

News of the Institute

PERI Scholarship Recipients

The following individuals received scholarships from the Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI) to help them attend the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference (see page 2 of the February *Newsletter* for more information). The amounts of the awards are \$1,000 for attendees requiring air transportation, \$600 for San Francisco Bay Area residents.

Curt Andrews, City of Othello (WA) Building Dept.
 James Baker, Santa Clara County Planning Office, San Jose, CA
 Mohsen Beikae, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 Coleen Bell, Oakland (CA) Fire Dept./Office of Emergency Services
 Brent Blackman, Insight Engineers Business Resumption Team, Los Angeles, CA
 Eric Browning, Los Angeles County (CA) Office of Public Works
 Peggy Brutsche, American Red Cross, Greater Long Beach (CA) Chapter
 Arrietta Chakos, City of Berkeley (CA) City Manager's Office
 Dory Ehrlich, Berkeley (CA) Fire Dept./Office of Emergency Services
 Roy Fewell, City of La Habra (CA) Building Dept.
 Shubhada Gadkar, Gov. of Maharashtra, Public Works, Mumbai, India
 Rob Gayle, Project Management Capital Projects, UC Berkeley
 Grace Harper, City of Los Angeles (CA) Building Dept.
 Joyce Harris, LA County (CA) Office of Emergency Management
 Rosa Hernandez, Imperial County Office of Emergency Services, CA
 Jim Hodges, Livermore (CA) Building Division
 Mohammed Islam, California Dept. of Transportation, Sacramento, CA
 Mark Johnsson, California Coastal Commission, San Francisco, CA
 Romeo Lavarias, City of Miramar (FL), Fire Rescue Dept.
 Doug Litchfield, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
 Carol Lopes, City of Berkeley (CA) Fire Dept.
 Zeenat Mackwani, Focus Humanitarian Assistance, Falls Church, VA
 Tracy Monk, Families for School Seismic Safety, Vancouver, Canada
 Sarah Nathe, UC Berkeley, Disaster-Resistant University
 Linden Nishinaga, Long Beach (CA) Dept. of Public Works
 Paul Olsen, San Diego (CA) County Office of Emergency Services
 Bishnu Hari Pandey, UN Centre for Regional Development, Disaster Management Planning Office, Kobe, Japan
 Mohammed Abu Sadeque, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, Disaster Management Bureau, Dhaka, Bangladesh
 Christine Shaff, Facilities Services, UC Berkeley
 Vernon Takasuka, Dept. of Building Inspection, San Francisco, CA
 Mark Treuge, City of Salinas (CA), Fire/Building Planning
 Mark Wilde, City of Santa Barbara, CA
 Jay Wilson, Oregon Emergency Management, Earthquake & Tsunami Program, Salem, Oregon
 Harold Wolgamott, City of Gonzales (CA) Fire Services

Hugo Rojas, Memphis University
 Abouzar Sadrekarimi, Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
 Sonia Sorabella*, Tufts University
 Matthew Speicher, Georgia Tech
 Taronne Tabucchi, Cornell University
 Cenik Tort, Univ. of Minnesota

Aidcer Vidot-Vega, North Carolina State University
 W. J. Wang, Univ. of Missouri-Rolla
 Majid Yarandi, Univ. of Ottawa

**Indicates partial funding provided by COSMOS*

News of the Profession

NEES Blind Prediction Contest

The School of Engineering at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD), the Portland Cement Association (PCA) of Skokie, Illinois, and the NEES Consortium Inc. (NEESinc) have announced a blind prediction contest, open to teams from the practicing structural engineering community, the academic and research community (including graduate students), and the undergraduate engineering student community (with graduate student or faculty advisors).

The prediction contest will compare analytical response “predictions” with those measured during experimental testing on a full-scale vertical slice of a seven-story reinforced concrete wall building that was subjected to earthquake ground motions on the new NEES large high-performance outdoor shake table. It is located at UCSD’s Engelkirk Structural Engineering Center. All predictions are due by May 15, 2006. There will be three categories of winners and PCA will award a \$2,500 prize to each winning team. Details regarding the contest rules, the structure, and the ground motions can be found at <http://nees.ucsd.edu/7Story.html>.

NEESinc will also reimburse a representative of the winning team from each of the three award categories allowable travel expenses to attend the NEES Annual Meeting in Washington D.C., June 21-23, 2006 (<http://www.nees.org/4am/>).

In addition, all entries will be compiled and compared at a technical session at the NEES Annual Meeting, and NEESinc will reimburse registration fees for a representative from up to eight teams in each of the three categories who submits a complete prediction by the May 15 deadline. Results will be presented anonymously, except for those of the “winning” entries from each contestant category. The technical session at the NEES Annual Meeting will focus on relevant lessons learned regarding modeling uncertainty, practical needs for improved simulation capabilities or training, and the merits of large-scale testing.



Full-scale, seven-story, reinforced concrete building on shake table.

News of the Profession

New Disaster Risk Management Tool

The Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) in Hawaii, in partnership with the Earthquakes and Megacities Initiative (EMI), has developed and launched the Internet-accessible Megacity Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Base. This risk communication tool is accessible on the web at www.pdc.org/emi.

Its purpose is to document, organize, and share disaster risk management practices and systems that are in place within many of the world’s most complex and disaster-prone urban areas.

The PDC, EMI, and partners from the Disaster Risk Management Research Center in Kobe, Japan, are working with contributors who actively participate in EMI programs (www.earthquakesandmegacities.org). The goal of the partners is to collect and share disaster risk-management city profiles and sound practices for each of the participating cities.

The Knowledge Base is part of EMI’s Cross-Cutting Capacity Development (“3cd”) Program for Megacities, launched in Manila, the Philippines; Mumbai, India; and Kathmandu, Nepal. Under the partnership, 3cd program experts worked closely with the PDC to take the Knowledge Base from a concept to reality.

The tool increases the understanding of disaster risk and facilitates the sharing of knowledge among the international user community by providing wider access and enhanced data-mining capabilities.

To contribute a disaster management sound practice or to learn more about the Knowledge Base and the 3cd Program, visit the web site or contact Jeannette Fernandez, project manager, Pacific Disaster Center, at jfernandez@pdc.org.

Subscribing Member News

About ImageCat, Inc.



Ronald T. Eguchi

New EERI Bronze Subscribing Member ImageCat, Inc., is an international risk management innovation company whose mission is to support global risk and disaster management needs using advanced technologies. As a leading provider of these technologies, ImageCat is highly regarded for cutting-edge products, consultancy services, and R&D activities targeting decision support needs at all phases of the disaster management cycle.

ImageCat is headquartered in Long Beach, California, with a European office in London, England. Since its establishment in 2000, ImageCat has helped government agencies, industry clients, and research organizations prepare for and respond to disasters including Hurricane Katrina; the Indian Ocean tsunami; the Northridge, Bam and Niigata earthquakes; and 9/11. ImageCat is a FEMA-appointed HAZUS-MH vendor.

ImageCat has two major divisions focusing on (1) remote sensing and GIS, and (2) loss estimation, engineering, and transportation modeling. For more information about flagship products and services, including the recently launched 3DCity™ visualization and structural information program, visit <http://www.imagecatinc.com/>.

ImageCat President and CEO Ronald T. Eguchi has been an active member of EERI since 1976. He is a core member of the Institute's Seismic Risk Committee, a member of the EERI Bilateral Commission for Australia, a past member of the editorial board of *Earthquake Spectra*, a member of the Learning from Earthquakes Data Collection and Management Committee, and a member of the Information Technology Committee, where he also chairs the Remote Sensing Subcommittee. In addition, he was among those who received an EERI Special Recognition Award for his contribution to the development of the report *Securing Society against Catastrophic Earthquake Losses: A Research and Outreach Plan in Earthquake Engineering*.

Subscribing Member Posting

Senior Research Scientist

EERI Subscribing Member FM Global is a global commercial and industrial property loss prevention firm. Its Norwood, Massachusetts, office seeks a senior research scientist to be responsible for analyzing data, planning and conducting research regarding natural hazards and catastrophes, the resulting response of structures, and subsequent property losses. Requirements: a Ph.D. with 5+ years or a master of science degree with 10+ years of experience in natural hazards and resulting property loss; familiarity with databases and data integration issues; a significant research record; knowledge of mathematical and numerical modeling; probability and statistics; and project management skills.

For a complete announcement, visit http://www.fmglobal.com/careers/careers_splash.asp, reference #10255.

For information on becoming a Subscribing Member, visit www.eeri.org.

News of the Membership

Miranda Receives ASCE Moisseiff Award



Eduardo Miranda

EERI member Eduardo Miranda is this year's recipient of the American Society of Civil Engineering's Moisseiff Award. This prize is given to an important paper in the field of structural design published by the Society in the 12-month period ending in June.

Professor Miranda received his Ph.D. at the University of California at Berkeley and now teaches at Stanford University. He shares the award with his doctoral student, Shahram Taghavi.

The award was given for two papers that appeared in the February 2005 issue of the *ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering*, "Approximate Floor Acceleration Demands in Multi-Story Buildings, Parts I & 2."

Professor Miranda's work is of particular interest to engineers who are trying to advance the state of the practice. Besides these two papers already mentioned, he has written about the behavior of nonlinear systems excited by near-fault ground motion, and has helped on ATC-55 as well as many other projects.

Call for Abstracts

Congress of Seismology

The Second Latin American Congress of Seismology will take place in Bogotá, Colombia, August 8–12, 2006, with the theme “Volcanic and Seismic Hazards for Big Cities.” Geoscientists will focus on recent advances in seismology and geophysics regarding seismic and volcanic hazards in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is May 17, 2006. For information about suggested topics, visit <http://www.geoslac.org/congreso/english/index.html>. For submission information, e-mail Carlos Alberto Vargas Jimenez at cavargasj@unal.edu.co.

Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering

The University of Missouri-Rolla will hold the 6th International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering from August 6-9, 2008, in Washington, D.C. Ten themes will be explored during the conference, including “Case Histories and Failures of Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering.” There will also be a symposium in honor of Professor James K. Mitchell.

The deadline for submission of abstracts is December 31, 2006. For more information, visit <http://campus.UMR.edu/6icchge/index.html>. The technical contact is Dr. Shamsher Prakash, conference director, at prakash@UMR.edu.



The catfish is a Japanese symbol of earthquakes.

Announcements

ICEE in Pakistan

The Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan, is sponsoring an International Conference on Earthquake Engineering September 8-9, 2006. The main topics will be engineering seismology, geotechnical aspects in construction of engineering structures, low-cost earthquake-resistant houses, challenges in design and construction of multistory buildings, rehabilitation and retrofitting of structures, codes of practice and construction standards, lightweight and high-strength materials, the effect of earthquakes on hydraulic structures, and temporary shelters for homeless people after disasters. For registration information, visit <http://www.uet.edu.pk/icee/>.

Tall Buildings Meeting

The Los Angeles Tall Buildings Structural Design Council (LATBSDC) will have its 2006 annual meeting on Friday, May 5, 2006, in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California's Davidson Executive Conference Center. The theme of this year's meeting is “Alternative Design Procedures for Tall Buildings.”

Current and proposed building codes are not written specifically for tall buildings and therefore impose many prescriptive requirements that make their design unnecessarily difficult and economically challenging. The meeting will focus attention on those code requirements and on the performance of tall buildings in a seismically active environment. Performance-based earthquake engineering will be highlighted, and the LATBSDC will present its alternative design criteria for consideration.

Scheduled speakers include EERI members Paul Somerville, Jack Moehle, Helmut Krawinkler, Gary

Searer, Graham Powell, Kenneth Elwood, and Farzad Naeim.

For registration information, visit www.tallbuildings.org or e-mail gbrandow@bjase.com.

8CONVESIS

The University of Carabobo is hosting the 8th Venezuelan Conference on Seismology and Earthquake Engineering May 17-19, 2006, in Valencia, Venezuela. The theme is “Education: The Fundamental Element in the Prevention of Natural Disasters.”

Conference topics include education and prevention, institutional reinforcement, seismology, geotechnical and soil-structure interaction, seismic microzoning, modern prediction techniques, evaluation and rehabilitation of structures, vulnerability and seismic risk, and disaster management. The Conference Secretariat has organized two technical tours on Monday, May 15, and three pre-conference courses. The official language of the conference is Spanish. No translation into other languages will be provided. For instructions and further information, visit www.uc.edu.ve/ or e-mail viiiiconvesis@yahoo.es.

Alfred Alquist

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second wife, Elaine, who now occupies the Senate seat he held. He is also survived by a son, two stepsons, and five grandchildren.

A memorial and celebration of his life will be held Sunday, April 2, 2006, at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of Faith in San Jose.

A Senate memorial and reception are scheduled for Monday, April 24, 2006, in the Senate Chambers at the State Capitol in Sacramento.

CALENDAR

Items that have appeared previously are severely abbreviated. The issue containing the first appearance, or the most informative, is indicated at the entry's end. Items listed for the first time are shown in **bold**.

APRIL

5-7. Midwest Regional Tech. Sem. on Safety Evaluation of Existing Dams, Indianapolis, IN. Info: www.damsafety.org (2/06)

17-22. 100th Anniversary EQ Conf., San Francisco, CA. Info: www.1906eqconf.org. See pages 1. (5/04, 5/05, 6/05, 7/05, 8/05, 9/05, 10/05, 12/05, 1/06, 2/06, 3/06, 4/06)

MAY

5. LA Tall Buildings Struc. Design Council Ann. Mtg. See page 6. (4/06)

14-19. Management of Urban Earthquake Risk in Central Asia and the Caucasus Countries, Istanbul, Turkey. Info: <http://www.koeri.boun.edu.tr/deprenmuh/natoconference/nato.htm> (3/06)

15-19. Seismic Hazard Analyses for Critical Facilities Workshop, Miramare, Italy. Info: agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1747 (1/06)

16-17. Restoration 2006: Community & Economic Recovery after a Disaster, New Orleans, LA. Info: www.restoration2006.org (2/06)

19-21. SECTAM XXIII, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. Info: civil.uprm.edu/sectam (10/05)

21-24. 5th UCLA Conf. on Public Health and Disasters, Long Beach, CA. Info: www.cphd.ucla.edu/ (9/05, 3/06)

31-June 2. 10th Int'l Conf. on Piling & Deep Fdns., Amsterdam, Netherlands. Info: www.pilinganddeep-foundations.com (12/05, 3/06)

JUNE

8-10. Int'l Sym. on Technology & Society, New York, NY. Info: www.ieee.org/ssit (12/05)

15-17. International Workshop on Base-Isolated High-Rise Buildings. Yerevan, Armenia. Info: kavaneso@aua.am (3/06)

18-21. ECI Geohazards Conf. Lillehammer, Norway. Info: www.engconfintl.org/6ag.html (9/05)

18-21. 16th World Conf. on Disaster Management, Toronto, Canada. Info: www.wcdm.org (11/05)

19-21. Risk Analysis 2006, Malta. Info: www.wessex.ac.uk/conferences/2006/risk06/index.html (12/05)

19-22. NEES Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C. Info: www.nees.org (11/05)

JULY

11-13. 4th World Conference on Structural Control and Monitoring. University of California, San Diego. Info: www.usc.edu/4wccsm (3/06)

16-22. Minisymposium on Modeling and Simulation of EQ Phenomena at 7th World Congress on Computational Mechanics, Los Angeles, CA. Info: <http://www.wccm2006.northwestern.edu> (3/06)

AUGUST

8-12. 2nd Latin American Congress of Seismology, Bogotá, Colombia. See page 6. (4/06)

14-17. 5th Int'l Conf. on Behavior of Steel Structs. in Seismic Areas (ST-ESSA), Tokyo, Japan. Info: www.serc.titech.ac.jp/stessa2006 (2/05)

27-Sep. 1. Int'l Disaster Reduction Conference, Davos, Switzerland. Info: www.davos2006.ch (2/06)

SEPTEMBER

3-8. 1st European Conf. on EQ Eng. & Seismology, Geneva, Switzerland. Info: www.ecees.org (1/05, 1/06)

8-9. Int. Conf. on Earthquake Engineering, Lahore, Pakistan. See page 6. (4/06)

10-14. 23rd Ann. Conf. of the Assn. of State Dam Safety Officials, Boston, MA. Info: www.damsafety.org (2/06)

10-15. Int'l Conf. on Infrastructure Development and the Environment, Abuja, Nigeria. Info: www.iseeg.giees.uncc.edu/abuja2006/callabstracts.cfm (2/06)

18-20. 5th Nat'l Seismic Conf. on Bridges and Highways, San Francisco, CA. Info: mceer.buffalo.edu/meetings/5nsc/default.asp (1/06)

25-Oct. 7. 8th Wkshp. on 3-D Modeling of Seismic Wave Generation, Propagation, and Inversion, Miramare, Italy. Info: agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1775 (1/06)

OCTOBER

4-6. Deep Fdn. Inst. Annual Conf., Washington, D.C. Info: www.deep-foundations06.org (12/05)

11-13. 7th Int'l Cong. on Advances Civil Eng., Istanbul, Turkey. Info: www.ace2006.yildiz.edu.tr/ (12/05)

12-13. 4th Int'l Conf. on EQ Eng. (4ICEE), Taipei, Taiwan. Info: icee2006.ncrec.org.tw/ (10/05)

2007

FEBRUARY

7-10 EERI Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA. (3/06).

JUNE

1-3. 10th North American Masonry Conference, University of Missouri at Rolla. Info: <http://www.masonrysociety.org/NAMC/index.html> (3/06)

25-28. 4th Int'l Conf. on EQ Geotech. Eng., Thessaloniki, Greece. www.secreteriat@4icege.org (2/06)

27-29. 9th Canadian Conf. on EQ Eng. (9CCEE), Ottawa, Canada. Info: www.9ccee.ca. (2/06)

2008

AUGUST

6-9. 6th Int. Conf. on Case Histories in Geotech. Eng., Washington, D.C. See page 6. (4/06)

OCTOBER

12-17. 14th World Conf. on EQ Eng., Beijing, China. Info: www.14wcee.org (12/05)

News of the Institute

Liel Wins Student Paper Competition



Abbie Liel

Abbie Liel, a graduate student researcher at Stanford University, captured the top prize in EERI's student paper competition with her paper, "Using Collapse Risk to Inform Seismic Safety Decisions: California's Existing Reinforced Concrete Structures." Liel has received a grant to attend the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference. Her

paper explores the potential policy applications of earthquake engineering research in the context of the many nonductile concrete structures in California that may need retrofiting.

Simulation and calculation of a structure's risk of collapse under seismic loading provide explicit measures of collapse risk, which can be used to compare the risks posed by different types of structures.

Liel observes that, historically, seismic safety legislation has been largely driven by damage in past earthquakes, which have triggered legislative action to mitigate a certain set of structural seismic hazards.

Metrics that enable assessment and comparison of collapse risk provide a mechanism for standardization and ranking in the seismic safety policy process. As an example, the paper assesses the collapse risk of an archetypical older concrete moment-frame structure using the framework of performance-based earthquake engineering.

EERI member Professor Gregory Deierlein is Liel's advisor.

Subscribing Member News

EERI is pleased by the number of firms that have recently upgraded their levels of Subscribing Membership. Three companies have become Silver Subscribing Members: Exponent, Pacific Gas & Electric, and Risk Management Solutions. ABS Consulting has become Bronze, as have nine new members: BART, Bechtel, CRC Press, ImageCat, International Civil Engineering Consultants, the NEES Consortium, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Raito, and Weidinger Associates. Dues for Subscribing Membership levels are \$10,000 (Gold), \$5,000 (Silver), \$3,000 (Bronze), and \$2,400 (regular). All Subscribing Members are listed on the inside back cover of *Spectra*. Many have been steadfast for years, including Gold Subscribing Members Degenkolb Engineers, John A. Martin and Associates, and Kinometrics, as well as Bronze ongoing members Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Geomatrix Consultants, KPFF Consulting Engineers, Refraction Technology, and Simpson Gumpertz and Heger.



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