



EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEWSLETTER

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EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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News of the Institute

Last Call for 2009 Annual Meeting

The EERI-WSSPC 2009 Annual Meeting kicks off Wednesday, February 11, 2008, in Salt Lake City, Utah, with the theme of "Earthquake Risk Reduction — Are Voluntary Actions the Key?" Located in the heart of downtown, the Hilton Salt Lake City Center offers easy access not only to the nearby world class resorts for skiing and snowboarding, but also to attractions such as the Clark Planetarium, the Utah Museum of Natural History, the Hogle Zoo, the Utah Symphony Pops Concerts (February 13 and 14), and the Family History Library.

EERI members should have received brochures in the mail by now. Information is also available at www.eeri.org, along with online registration and a link to hotel reservations. The early registration deadline is January 21, which will save you \$50. Make your hotel reservations by January 10 to help EERI fill its room block! Take action now — you won't want to miss this important meeting!



A watercolor painting by EERI Past President and Honorary Member Chris Arnold, depicting the Salt Lake City and County Building, which in 1989 became the first historic structure in the country to be base isolated. It is a masterwork of late 19th century architecture, having originally been completed in 1894.

Abrahamson Named 2009 EERI Distinguished Lecturer

Norman A. Abrahamson, a senior engineering seismologist in the Geosciences Department at Pacific Gas and Electric Company in San Francisco, is EERI's 2009 Distinguished Lecturer. He will present his lecture on the topic of "The State of the Practice of Seismic Hazard Analysis: From the Good to the Bad" for the first time during EERI's 61st Annual Meeting in February 2009 in Salt Lake City.

An EERI member since 1984, Abrahamson specializes in ground motion and seismic hazard assessments for important engineered structures and systems, including dams, bridges, nuclear power plants, nuclear waste repositories, water and gas pipelines, rail lines, ports, landfills, hospitals, electric substations, and office buildings.



Norman A. Abrahamson

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News of the Institute

EERI Endowment Donors

EERI would like to thank the donors to the Endowment Fund shown below and acknowledge their recent contributions. EERI's endowment supports those innovative projects that ensure the Institute's continuing leadership in the earthquake engineering professions.

\$7,000

Degenkolb Engineers
Kinometrics, Inc.

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Distinguished Lecturer

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Abrahamson's expertise includes the treatment of uncertainty, the use of numerical simulations of ground motion, and strong motion instrumentation. As an independent consultant, he has worked on hundreds of projects nationally and overseas. He has an acute sense of what the engineering community needs to know and a remarkable ability to deliver it. He advocates public-private partnerships and is responsible for the technical management of the PG&E Seismic Research Program funded through the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center. He was one of the leaders of the Next Generation of Attenuation (NGA) Relations Project, a five-year research program that developed improved ground motion prediction equations for shallow crustal earthquakes in the western United States and similar tectonic regions; this effort resulted in the much-anticipated NGA special issue of *Earthquake Spectra* earlier this year.

Abrahamson believes that interaction among the different disciplines is key for identifying important research topics and for making significant improvements to the models used in earthquake engineering processes. He has been a valued participant in numerous interdisciplinary working groups, panels, and committees with research organizations and public agencies, including the Southern California Earthquake Center, MCEER, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Federal Highways Administration, the Department of Energy, and Caltrans. Abrahamson contributed to the 1998 probabilistic seismic hazards assessment (PSHA) for Yucca Mountain and

the U.S. Geological Survey's 2003 earthquake probabilities report for the San Francisco Bay area.

Abrahamson has taught a graduate course on PSHA at the University of California at Berkeley, UC Davis, UCLA, UC San Diego, Stanford, and the University of Texas. He served a term on EERI's Board of Directors 1998-2001 and has participated in the Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program. He received his B.A. and Ph.D. degrees in geophysics at UC Berkeley.

If you wish to invite Abrahamson to present his lecture to a group later in 2009, contact the EERI office.

Subscribing Member Sponsorships

EERI thanks FEMA and the following Subscribing Members for sponsoring the Undergraduate Student Design Competition during the upcoming Annual Meeting (see page 1): Computers and Structures, Degenkolb Engineers, and the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center. There are many other Annual

Meeting sponsorship opportunities! Subscribing Members who are interested in fully or partially sponsoring one of the following events should contact Sonya Hollenbeck (sonya@eeri.org): the Banquet, one of three luncheons, the Poster Session, the Meet the Mentors Reception, or one of four coffee breaks.

News of the Institute

Committee on Earthquake Hazards in Schools

An Ad Hoc Committee on Earthquake Hazards in Schools will meet during EERI's 2009 Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, spearheaded by Philip Gould of Washington University in St. Louis. Gould is aware of several individuals already working on this issue. His interest was heightened by the tragedies of many collapses of schools that occurred during the Wenchuan, China, earthquake of May 12, 2008. Gould observed, "Unlike some of the other topics addressed by EERI, the earthquake aspects of school construction and retrofit are largely a local issue." Gould has ideas on what might provide a productive start for local initiatives, particularly in areas of moderate seismicity.

This ad hoc committee offers an opportunity for others to become involved in such efforts. Please contact Phil Gould at pgoul@seas.wustl.edu to express interest or for more information.

New Madrid Chapter

EERI's New Madrid Chapter recently held an election of directors and officers. Elected to two-year terms were new directors Frank Callanan (Geotechnology, Inc.); Phil Gould (Washington University); Steve McCaskie (Hanson Professional Services Inc.); and Mike Griffin (CCS Group, Inc.). The following new officers were elected to one-year terms: President Greg Hempen (URS Corporation-St. Louis); Vice President/President-Elect John Finke (Jacobs Engineering Group); and Secretary/Treasurer Eric Neuner (Geotechnology, Inc.).

At its most recent business meeting, the chapter's Board of Directors agreed to commit a significant portion of its assets to the New Madrid Earthquake Scenario. The scenario's executive committee extends heartfelt thanks to State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company for its contribution to the scenario. The committee will be deciding how to leverage the contribution for the most research advantage. For more information on the scenario, visit newmadrid.eeri.org.

Contact Greg Hempen at Greg_Hempen@urscorp.com if you would like to be put on the New Madrid Chapter's mailing list or would like more information.

Naeim Elected to IAEE

EERI President-Elect Farzad Naeim of John A. Martin and Associates was elected to represent the United States earthquake engineering community on the Board of Directors of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering (IAEE). The General Assembly of National Delegates held the election during the 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering in China in October. Such an election is held at every world conference. Directors' terms are four years, and they are eligible for one re-election.

Established in 1963, the IAEE sponsors the quadrennial world conferences and aims to reduce global seismic risk by promoting international cooperation among scientists, engineers, and other professionals in the broad field of earthquake engineering. The 15WCEE will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2012.

News of the Profession

PEER to Coordinate NGA-East Program

The Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) is coordinating a new major multidisciplinary multi-year research program to develop the Next Generation Attenuation Models for the Central and Eastern U.S. (NGA-East) with support from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), the U.S. Department of Energy, and the Electric Power Research Institute.

During the NGA-East project, PEER and numerous researchers from across the country will collaborate to collect relevant international seismic data and coordinate numerous supporting research projects to develop the next generation ground motion models for the central and eastern U.S. that will update and greatly improve the current models, which constitute a major source of uncertainty for seismic hazard calculations and seismic design.

Begun on October 1, 2008, the NGA-East project will continue for six years and follows a successful multi-institution, multi-investigator, multi-sponsor collaborative project called the Next Generation Attenuation Relationship for the western U.S. (NGA-West) project, which PEER coordinated over five years. The newly developed ground motion models for the western U.S. have successfully met their objectives and have been adopted by the USGS for the development of the latest version of the U.S. National Seismic Hazard Maps. This effort culminated in the publishing of EERI's NGA special issue of *Earthquake Spectra* earlier this year.

The expected impact of the NGA-East project, similar to that for NGA-West, is enormous, as almost all seismic design will be affected by these models.

News of the Institute

Summary of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of September 23, 2008

President Thalia Anagnos called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Also present were Directors Jon Bray, S. K. Ghosh, Laurie Johnson, Marshall Lew, Jack Moehle, Farzad Naeim, Masayoshi Nakashima, Andrew Whittaker, Executive Director Susan Tubbesing, and Publications Manager Eloise Gilland.

Consent agenda: The Publications Sales Report shows that revenue is up in the category of *Spectra* downloads compared to last year, indicating that people are getting used to accessing *Spectra Online*. Tubbesing reported that she signed a new agreement with AIP to license access to *Spectra Online* to international consortia, which hopefully will be reflected in future sales reports.

The Membership Report indicates little change in overall membership levels compared to a year ago. EERI must continue to attract the next generation. The Board voted to accept the consent agenda.

President's Report

Executive Director search process: The Board agreed to engage a facilitator for a retreat to focus on the qualities that a new Executive Director would need to help EERI achieve its mission. The job description needs to include a vision of EERI's future. In addition to the current Board, the retreat should include Board candidates, past Board members, and next-generation leaders.

Student Leadership Council (SLC) Retreat over the Labor Day weekend: Computers and Structures President Ashraf Habibullah was a warm and generous host at a reception for the SLC. He gave an inspiring talk on what it means to be a

responsible engineer to 22 students.

Idriss/Boulanger seminar: The authors of the *Soil Liquefaction During Earthquakes* monograph, Ross Boulanger and Ed Idriss, have proposed doing a multi-city seminar (Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and St. Louis) based on their monograph. The staff will work with the authors to set dates and secure venues for the upcoming series.

New Subscribing Members: The Board welcomed Miyamoto International and Shannon & Wilson as new Bronze Subscribing Members.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report Overview of Revenue and Expense Report: Marshall Lew noted that EERI will end the year with a smaller than projected deficit, less than \$20,000. The technical seminars generated revenue of \$58,000 — attendance was more than 100 at each. Tubbesing and Lew met with Joe Martello of RBC Wealth Management. It is his opinion that the stock market will come back and losses will be recovered. The Friedman Family Fund, the Shah Innovation Prize Fund, and parts of the Endowment Fund are in bonds, guaranteed to return 100% investment, but on paper their values have gone down with the market. As of the second quarter, the value of the Endowment Fund portfolio had decreased 7.42% compared to the overall market drop of 11%. Expenses for the reconnaissance investigation of the Wenchuan, China, earthquake totaled approximately \$30,000, an average of \$5,000 per person for six people. Funds exist for only one briefing on the China quake, which will be held in Los Angeles on October 7 and videotaped for viewing on the EERI website.

The combined balance sheet for August 31, 2008, showed an opening fund balance of \$191,201. There were \$228,678 in excess revenues over expenses. EERI's total liabilities of \$209,214 combined with the total fund balance of \$419,879 equaled \$629,092. The Endow-

ment Program's opening balance of \$958,404 was reduced by \$82,631 in expenses. Total liabilities in the amount of \$351,550 combined with the total fund balance of \$875,774 equaled \$1,227,324. The balance of the combined association, endowment, and technical programs equaled \$1,856,416.

Investment report and overview: The Investment Funds Report showed a balance of \$287,809. The balance in the interest-bearing checking account was \$93,886. The combined funds in both the General Administrative checking and investment accounts totaled \$381,695. The Endowment Fund balance totaled \$860,913; the Friedman Family Investment Fund totaled \$199,930; and the Shah Family Innovation Prize totaled \$149,385.

2009 Budget: The Board reviewed two proposals for the 2009 budget, based on different dues increases (8% or 10%) and different staff salary cost-of-living increases (3% or 4%). Both scenarios assume no attrition of membership. Even with a dues increase, Lew is projecting a deficit for 2009. He reminded the Board that there had been no dues increase in 2008.

2009 Dues and Spectra subscription price: The Board voted with great reluctance to approve an 8% dues increase and a 10% increase in *Spectra* subscription rates. Johnson moved that E-student dues remain at \$25, that regular student dues be increased to \$50, and that students be encouraged to take advantage of E-student membership. The motion passed unanimously. Tubbesing will discuss with Susan Newman of SSA the Board's desire to increase SSA Affiliate dues to \$60 by 2010.

Appropriations Committee letter: On September 15th, a letter signed by Anagnos and Tubbesing was sent to the office of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, providing her staff with information on the level of funding required for each of the NEHRP agencies to meet their

goals as set forth in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program. One of the goals of the letter was to clarify how each NEHRP agency's funds are used for different functions. Senior Appropriations Advisor Scott Boule has offered to take the letter to each Appropriation Committee that has responsibility for part of the NEHRP program. The letter requested an increase of \$45 million, well below authorized levels.

International Association of Earthquake Engineering (IAEE) Director Nomination: Loring Wyllie's term as a director on the IAEE board is coming to an end. As EERI President-Elect, Naeim has agreed to allow his name to be put forward. The IAEE Board will vote at the 14WCEE on new directors (see the article on page 3). The current U.S. voting delegate is Anagnos, EERI's president during the year of the World Conference.

FEMA Web Intern funding: EERI received \$36,000 from FEMA to fund a student at USC to work for one year with Professors Jacqueline Mills and Andrew Curtis to develop web-based tools to maintain and manage field data coming into the California Clearinghouse.

NEHRP Scenario Planning Workshop: Anagnos reported that a broad range of enthusiastic people participated in a productive two-day NEHRP Scenario Planning Workshop in San Francisco in early September. A network of people interested in scenario development is being established and a web resource created. Recommendations from the workshop will be used to revise EERI's scenario development guidelines, which will be web-based.

2009 Annual Meeting Program: Tubbesing reported that the organizing committee has received the Board's comments about the program. She will remind the committee that the program needs to be finalized immediately. Bret Lizundia is organizing a session of presentations by past recipients of the Shah

Family Innovation Prize. Tubbesing will work with Lew on a session about the Wenchuan earthquake, based on the Los Angeles briefing.

Joint US/Canada National Earthquake Engineering Conference: Tubbesing indicated that plans for the 2010 conference are going well. There have been two conference calls and a third is scheduled for October 3. All subcommittees are fully co-chaired and members identified.

2010 Annual Meeting: A contract has been signed. The Annual Meeting will be held in San Francisco at the Parc 55. Part of the program will be determined by younger members and students.

The NEHRP Reauthorization: Hearings have been moved to the spring. Whittaker will pull together a small committee for a short-term project to generate a brief document that would be useful to congressional staff. Whittaker envisions that it will provide a series of sheets for each NEHRP agency, integrating needed funding with each of the NEHRP strategic goals over the next 20 years.

Assess existing committees:
Heritage and Existing Structures: Current Chair, Debra Laefer has indicated a desire to step down. Anagnos will contact vice Chair, Erol Kalkan, to see if he will serve as the Chair.

Research Policy: Fenves has stepped down. Moehle moved that Whittaker be appointed interim Chair of the Research Policy Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Its goals should be research funding and keeping the Board apprised of key issues in research trends to help Board members be more effective advocates. Whittaker will reformulate the committee. He will add new names and take off those who will work separately to update the *Securing Society* report.

FEMA Cooperative Agreement Professional Fellowship: For the first time since the program began

over a decade ago, no applications were received. FEMA is agreeable to directing the available funds this year to sponsor the Student Design Competition. Several members of the Board felt strongly that EERI keep the option open to provide the fellowship in future years. The Board voted unanimously that the 2009 FEMA fellowship funds be allocated to the 2009 Student Design Competition, that EERI see if FEMA will support both next year, and that the Professional Fellowship process be revitalized.

Monograph reproduction request from Sudhir Jain: The Board passed a motion to grant permission to Sudhir Jain to reprint two EERI monographs for distribution in India: *Earthquake Spectra and Design* by Newmark and Hall, and *Seismic Design with Supplemental Energy Dissipation Devices* by Hanson and Soong. This will enable NICEE to distribute high-quality materials to professionals and academics that otherwise would not have access to them.

December Board Meeting plans: The December Board meeting will be a two-day event, with a retreat on December 8 and the Board meeting on December 9. Anagnos and Tubbesing will work together to hire a facilitator, identify participants, and secure a facility.

The meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

Call for Papers

GEESD V

The Missouri University of Science and Technology will host the 5th International Conference on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics in San Diego, California, May 24-29, 2010. Prospective authors are invited to submit a one-page abstract by April 2, 2009. Instructions may be found on the conference website: <http://5geoeqconf2010.mst.edu/>.

Subscribing Member News

Caltrans and PEER Seismic Research Seminar

PEER and Caltrans are jointly hosting a seminar on March 20, 2009, in Sacramento to highlight recent transportation seismic research projects sponsored by the two organizations. The purpose of the seminar is to distill the findings into practical applications, design procedures, and lessons that are useful to practicing engineers. This seminar will highlight many speakers from several projects in three primary topic areas including (1) Determination of Seismic Hazard using Next Generation Attenuation (NGA) Models, (2) Seismic Analysis and Design of Abutments, and (3) Seismic Performance of Rocking Foundations. Following the presentations, a panel of experts will answer questions and discuss related issues. For registration information and additional seminar details, visit http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/transportation_seminar.html.

CSI Webinars

EERI Platinum Subscribing Member Computers and Structures is offering two webinars in January. For complete course details and to register, visit <http://csiedu.com/>.

Post-Tensioned Concrete — Introduction of SAFE v12 P/T: This 90-minute webinar being offered on January 6 and January 20 will highlight the innovative post-tensioning features of the recently released SAFE V12. It is an integrated tool for designing reinforced and post-tensioned concrete floor and foundation systems. This version introduces versatile 3D object-based modeling and visualization tools. SAFE integrates every aspect of the engineering design process in an intuitive environment. The course fee is \$95.00 per person or \$500 for a group. Completion of the **SAFEv12 Reinforced Concrete Webinar** is recommended prior to taking this webinar. Familiarity with the SAFEv12 features that were presented in that webinar will be assumed.

Practical Seismic Design of Bridges Using BrIM/SAP2000: This two-hour online course offered on January 8 and January 22 is intended for BrIM/SAP2000 users who want to become more familiar with the seismic loading and analysis of bridge models. The course will guide the user through the automated seismic design that has been integrated within a complete bridge modeling package. The AASHTO Seismic Guide Specification is already built into the software. The parametric modeler allows the user to build a simple or complex bridge model rapidly and to make changes quickly while maintaining total control over the design process. The course fee is \$195.

RMS Positions

EERI Subscribing Member Risk Management Solutions (RMS) is the world's leading provider of modeling, analytics, and decision science solutions for the quantification and management of catastrophic risks throughout the world. If you are interested in finding new and exciting ways to apply your civil, structural or earth science degree, consider opportunities with RMS, where you can employ your knowledge and skills as a member of a catastrophe modeling team. RMS offers professionals the opportunity to expand their skills through participation in cross-functional teams working on predictive and real time catastrophe modeling. RMS has numerous opportunities within wind, earthquake and flood modeling. Resumes may be submitted by building a career profile at www.rms.com or by sending a formatted version and cover letter to rms@agents.icims.9com.

Announcements

Scholarships for Masters Programs in Europe

Applications are being accepted for the English-language master's program, Masters In Earthquake Engineering and/or Engineering Seismology (MEEES), being conducted in Europe under the framework of the Erasmus Mundus program, with a deadline of January 31, 2009.

MEEES is organized by a consortium of European University/Research Institutions, led by the Centre for Post-Graduate Training and Research in Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (ROSE School, www.roseschool.it) and featuring the participation of the University of Patras (Greece), the University of Grenoble Joseph Fourier (France), Imperial College London (UK), the European Joint Research Centre (EC), and the Italian National Institute of Geophysics and Vulcanology (Italy).

Scholarships ranging in value from €14,000 to €35,000 are available to applicants from all nations. For full details on the program and the online application procedure, visit www.meees.org.

Asia-Pacific Summer School

Applications are being sought for participation in the NSF-sponsored Asia-Pacific Summer School (APSS) in Smart Structures Technology, which will be held July 3-25, 2009, at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. This summer school aims to lower the barriers that currently divide the disciplines required to conduct cutting-edge research in smart structures technology through a student-oriented

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Asia-Pacific Summer School

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international program. In bringing graduate students from the United States, Korea, Japan, and China together and exposing them to international leaders in the field, APSS is intended to inspire students to continue to pursue international collaborative research.

NSF funding will cover the travel and per diem expenses of ten U.S. students and a \$500 stipend. Applications are due by February 15, 2009. For information regarding eligibility, the application procedure, and the selection process, visit <http://sstl.cee.uiuc.edu/apss/>.

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.

2009

JANUARY

20-21. 6th Annual NEHRP Workshop on EQ Hazards Investigations in Northern California, Menlo Park, CA. Info: <http://earthquake.gov/regional/nca/workshop/> (12/08)

FEBRUARY

10-13. Map World Forum, Hyderabad, India. <http://www.mapworldforum.org/2009/index.htm> (7/08)

11-14. EERI Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City. Info: www.eeri.org. See page 1. (3/08, 6/08, 9/08, 10/08, 11/08, 12/08, 01/09)

20. 1st in Khan Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA. Info: www.lehigh.edu/frkseries (12/08)

MARCH

20. 2nd in Khan Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA. Info: www.lehigh.edu/frkseries (12/08)

20. PEER/Caltrans Seismic Research Seminar, Sacramento, CA. See page 6. (1/09)

APRIL

8-10. Annual Meeting of the Seismological Society of America, Monterey, CA. Info: <http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/meetings.html> (7/08)

17. 3rd in Khan Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA. Info: www.lehigh.edu/frkseries (12/08)

MAY

31-June 3. 11th Canadian Masonry Symp., Toronto, Ontario, Canada. www.canadianmasonrysymposium.org/ (12/08)

JUNE

1-3. SEM Annual Conf. & Expo on Experimental and Applied Mechanics, Albuquerque, NM. Info: <http://sem.org/CONF-AC-TOP.asp> (9/08)

15-17. Int'l Conf. on Performance-Based Design in EQ Geotech Eng., Tokyo, Japan. Info: <http://www.comp.tmu.ac.jp/IS-Tokyo/> (6/08)

21-24. 19th World Conference on Disaster Management (WCDM), Toronto, Canada. Info: www.wcdm.org/ (10/08)

22-24. EQ & Tsunami Conf., Istanbul, Turkey. Info: <http://www.imo.org.tr/eqt2009/> (5/08)

28-July 1. TCLEE Conf.: Lifeline EQ Eng. in a Multihazard Environment, Oakland, CA. Info: www.asce.org/tclee2009 (8/08, 10/08)

AUGUST

19-21. 2nd Int'l Workshop on Performance, Protection, and Strengthening of Structures under Extreme Loading, Hayama, Japan. Info: www.nda.ac.jp/cc/users/fujikake/protect2009 (12/08)

SEPTEMBER

13-17. 10th Int'l Conf. on Structural Safety & Reliability (ICOSSAR2009), Osaka, Japan. Info: www.sc.kutc.kansai-u.ac.jp/icossar2009 (2/08)

OCTOBER

2-3. EQ Geotech. Eng. Satellite Conf., Alexandria, Egypt. Info: mamsakr@yahoo.com(12/08)

5-9. 17th Int'l Conf. on Soil Mechanics and Geotech. Eng., Alexandria, Egypt. Info: <http://www.2009icsmge-egypt.org/> (12/08)

NOVEMBER

10-15. 5th Congress on Forensic Engineering, Washington, D.C. Info: <http://content.asce.org/conferences/forensics2009/index.html> (12/08)

DECEMBER

9-11. Improving the Seismic Performance of Existing Buildings and Other Structures, San Francisco, CA. Info: www.ATC-SEI.org (12/08)

2010

MAY

24-29. 5th Int'l Conf. on Recent Advances in Geotech. EQ Eng. & Soil Dynamics and Symposium in Honor of I. M. Idriss, San Diego, CA. Info: 5geoeqconf2010.mst.edu. See page 5. (4/08, 1/09)

JUNE

22-24. 2nd Int'l Conf. on Computational Methods in Structural Dynamics and EQ Eng., Rhodes, Greece. Info: www.compdyn2009.org (11/08)

JULY

11-15. 5th Int'l Conf. on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management (IABMAS2010), Philadelphia, PA. Info: <http://www.iambas2010.org> (11/08)

25-29. 9th U.S. Nat'l & 10th Canadian Conf. on EQ Eng.: Reaching Beyond Borders, Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto, Canada. Info: 2010eqconf.org. See page 8. (2/08, 7/08, 01/09)

AUGUST

30-Sept. 3. 14th European Conf. on EQ Eng. (14ECEEE), Skopje-Ohrid, Macedonia. Info: www.eaee.boun.edu.tr/eaee.htm (12/08)



Subscribing Member News

Transitions for PEER

With concurrence of the PEER Institutional Board and the University of California, Berkeley, the identity and management of the nine-campus Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) and the UC Berkeley Earthquake Engineering Research Center (EERC) are being officially integrated. The new center will retain the name "PEER" and will continue to represent the nine campuses of the original PEER while incorporating EERC.

PEER Director Jack Moehle and EERC Director Nick Sitar are stepping down from their respective positions, effective December 31, 2008. Professor Moehle thus ends a long tenure, serving first as EERC director (1991-2001) and then as the

founding director of PEER (1996-2008). Professor Sitar is completing a five-year term as EERC director, including a successful inauguration of the *nees@berkeley* equipment site of the George E. Brown Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation. Both Professors Moehle and Sitar will continue as active participants in the new PEER.

EERI member Stephen Mahin, professor in the UCB Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering for three decades, has been appointed as the new PEER Director effective January 1, 2009. A key member of PEER since its inception, he served on the PEER Research Committee, as thrust area leader on transportation systems, and on the PEER Institutional Board. His expertise ranges from engineering characterization of ground motion to seismic performance of buildings and transporta-



Stephen Mahin

tion systems. Following the 1994 Northridge earthquake, Mahin was leader of the FEMA-funded SAC Steel Project, which successfully developed new seismic design provisions for steel moment frames that were incorporated into today's codes.

This is an exciting era for the new PEER, in which several research programs are continuing while major new initiatives are emerging. PEER's vision under the new leadership is to continue its tradition of excellence through broad participation of the PEER community. For more information, visit http://peer.berkeley.edu/news/2008/peer_transition_announcement.html.

to develop synergy between U.S. and Canadian colleagues as well as other participants from around the world. This conference will bring together professionals from a broad range of disciplines, including architecture, structural engineering, seismology, geology, geophysics, geotechnical engineering, societal impacts, regional planning, emergency response planning, and regulation. The conference will be at the Westin Harbour Castle Hotel.

News of the Institute

Call for Papers for 9US-10CAEE

EERI members should have received in the mail the 2nd Announcement and Call for Papers for the Ninth U.S. National and Tenth Canadian Conference on Earthquake Engineering, with the theme of "Reaching Beyond Borders." The organizing committee invites you

to submit an abstract by visiting the conference web page <http://2010eqconf.org/>. Please note that the abstract submission deadline is March 31, 2009.

The conference will be held July 25-29, 2010, in Toronto, Canada, and will provide a unique environment



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