

# Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program



2021 - 2022 Academic Year Activities Report

## Objectives

The Friedman Family Visiting Professional Program aims to bridge the gaps between the academic and professional worlds of earthquake engineering and earthquake risk reduction by:

- Improving the understanding of students and faculty of the active professional earthquake engineering and risk reduction community
- Enhancing the students' understanding of the multi-disciplinary nature of earthquake engineering
- Increasing the professional's understanding of the educational process
- Utilizing the unique intellectual resources of EERI to broker useful relationships
- Using the resources of EERI to help students understand and consider professional careers associated with earthquake engineering and earthquake risk reduction

With generous funding from the Friedman Family endowment, the program sends professionals to universities to provide a lecture and meet with students to discuss the options available to them upon graduation. These meetings also benefit visiting professionals by increasing their understanding of the educational process experienced by young professionals now entering the field.

## 2021 - 2022 Program Overview

The Friedman Family Visiting Professionals program launched in October 2021 for the 2021-2022 academic year. 27 visits were scheduled by 18 professionals from February to June 2022.

To prepare for the launch, in August 2021, EERI staff and the FFVP chair reviewed the budget and clarified the program's operating procedure for the academic year. In light of COVID-19, EERI implemented a new FFVP [Participant Agreement](#) and [Release and Waiver](#). These new documents were signed and returned by all visiting professionals. No new professionals were added to the program for this academic year, but 3 did not return. This didn't impact the number of visits for the year, but there are plans to recruit new members for the next year.

In early October 2021, the program was advertised to EERI student chapters, and an application form required student chapters to select their top 3 professionals and describe the reasons for their choices. 27 EERI student chapters applied to the program, and all 27 were selected to participate. Selections were made based on the following criteria:

- Budget limitations
- Diversity in professionals selected
- Diversity in universities selected

- Providing opportunities to new chapters or chapters who have not had recent visits.
- Quality of description and reasoning for professionals in the application form

Before the first visit, EERI staff launched the participating group of professionals by email summarizing the procedures and the EERI introduction slides that describe EERI's mission, disciplines, and the benefits to students of being a member. Since there were no new professionals, no kick-off call took place.

Upon the conclusion of the spring visits, student chapters were required to complete a report summarizing the visit and submit it via a questionnaire designed to solicit their feedback on the success of the program and areas for improvement. The reporting template has streamlined visit feedback. More timely reporting could be achieved by providing a deadline for student chapters.

The template includes the following sections:

- Itinerary or Agenda
- Student Chapter Planning Committee
- Visiting Professional Lecture Overview
- Supplemental Activities
- Results, Feedback, and Lessons Learned
- Acknowledgments
- List of Attachments

Visiting professionals were also asked to complete an evaluation that would help EERI staff improve the program. Generally, feedback from the professionals was very good and will help improve our program in the coming academic year. More details about the results of these evaluations are included later in this report.

## List of Visiting Professionals

Below are the names of the visiting professionals participating in the program during the 2021-2022 academic year, along with their firm and disciplinary area of expertise.

- Christine Beyzaei, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Geotechnical Engineering
- Erik Bishop, Reid Middleton, Inc., Structural Engineering
- David Cocke, Structural Focus, Structural Engineering
- Ronald Eguchi, ImageCat Inc., Risk Analysis, Lifelines, and Industrial Facilities
- David Friedman, Forell/Elsesser, Structural Engineering
- Ramin Golesorkhi, Langan, Geotechnical Engineering
- John Hooper, Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Structural Engineering
- Ezra Jampole, Exponent, Inc., Structural Engineering
- Janiele Maffei, California Earthquake Authority, Structural Engineering
- Faiz Makdisi, Gannett Fleming, Inc., Geotechnical Engineering
- James O. Malley, Degenkolb Engineers, Structural Engineering
- Brent Maxfield, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Structural Engineering
- Jorge Meneses, RMA Group, Geotechnical Engineering
- Troy Morgan, Exponent, Inc., Structural Engineering
- Sissy Nikolaou, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Geotechnical Engineering

- John D. Thornley, Golder Associates Inc., Geotechnical Engineering
- Jay Wilson, Clackamas County Disaster Management, Emergency Management
- Ivan G. Wong, Lettis Consultants International, Seismology

## Selected Universities

In total, 27 universities were selected to participate in the 2021-2022 program. Only one visit did not take place due to the university not having the capacity and resources to plan the event (Brent Maxfield's visit to California State Polytechnic University, Pomona). Complete reports summarizing each visit have been submitted by the participating universities and can be found at the links below.

University (and link to report)	Professional	Date
<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	Jim Malley	February 2, 2022
<a href="#">Virginia Tech</a>	Janiele Maffei	February 3, 2022
University of British Columbia - Vancouver	Jay Wilson	February 10, 2022
Universidad de las Fuerzas Armadas ESPE	David Friedman	March 3, 2022
<a href="#">University of California, Davis</a>	Christine Beyzaei	March 4, 2022
<a href="#">University of Nebraska</a>	Jim Malley	March 9, 2022
<a href="#">University of Toronto</a>	Ezra Jampole	March 15, 2022
<a href="#">University of Michigan</a>	David Friedman	March 30, 2022
<a href="#">Southern Methodist University</a>	Sissy Nikolaou	March 31, 2022
<a href="#">Lehigh University</a>	Jay Wilson	March 31, 2022
<a href="#">University of Notre Dame</a>	David Cocke	April 8, 2022
<a href="#">University of Nevada, Reno</a>	John Thornley	April 8, 2022
<a href="#">University of California, Los Angeles</a>	Janiele Maffei	April 12, 2022
<a href="#">University of Massachusetts Amherst</a>	John Hooper	April 13, 2022
<a href="#">California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo</a>	David Friedman	April 14, 2022
<a href="#">University of California, San Diego</a>	Erik Bishop	April 21, 2022
<a href="#">University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign</a>	Ronald Eguchi	April 25, 2022
Cornell University	Troy Morgan	April 25, 2022
<a href="#">University of Victoria</a>	John Hooper	April 26, 2022
<a href="#">The University of Memphis</a>	Ramin Golesorkhi	May 6, 2022
<a href="#">Portland State University</a>	Ivan Wong	May 6, 2022
<a href="#">Oregon State University</a>	Ezra Jampole	May 9, 2022

<a href="#">Universidad Iberoamericana</a>	Christine Beyzaei	May 12, 2022
<a href="#">University of California, Irvine</a>	Troy Morgan	May 20, 2022
<a href="#">Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú</a>	Faiz Makdisi	May 26, 2022
<a href="#">North Carolina State University</a>	Jorge Meneses	June 3, 2022

## 2021 - 2022 Outcomes and Accomplishments

The 2021-2022 program achieved great success, as shown in the evaluation forms from student chapters and professionals. In total, over 780 students were involved or attended a FFVP lecture in 2022. A few quotes are included below.

*"The presentation by Mr. Malley was very thorough and multiple student attendees later told the officer board that it was the best presentation given during the winter quarter CEE 298 seminar series. Other than the formal presentation, everyone at the roundtable discussion immensely appreciated the down-to-earth attitude of Mr. Malley and the opportunity to talk in-person (although masked) after more than two years."*  
- Stanford University

*"The lecture was very exciting because students from different backgrounds could relate and were intrigued by a particular aspect of the presentation, whether geotech or structural engineering related. The time spent with Dr. Meneses learning from his career path was also very helpful especially for many students in our chapter who are nearing the end of their studies. His feedback of student presentations was also a highlight because of his experience, he brought up questions and discussion points that are really important to the state of practice."*  
- North Carolina State University

*"I am so honored to be a part of the FFVP participating members. This is one of my career highlights."*  
- Jay Wilson

## Goals, Plans, and Activities for 2022 - 2023 Academic Year

For the 2022-2023 academic year the committee plans to schedule at least 25 university visits pending a detailed budget assessment. Continued staff support will be provided for the next academic year to keep the program on a consistent schedule.

Due to the decreased number of professionals in the 2021-2022 academic year, EERI Staff is implementing an application process to find new professionals. This application will be open August 22 to September 18, 2022. New professionals will be invited to participate before the 2022-2023 student chapter application launches in early October 2022.

Visits in 2023 will mainly be in person, but virtual visits will continue to be an option. EERI staff has found this allows more lectures to take place (especially outside the United States), without needing an increased travel stipend budget.

We plan to continue to collect quantifiable data from our visits to better track the program as a whole. We recently began asking student chapters to report how many undergraduate and graduate students, and faculty members attended the event. This has helped to assess the success of the program.

## List of Attachments

See the Friedman Family Visiting Professional webpage for report downloads and other information:  
<https://www.eeri.org/projects/friedman-family-visiting-professionals-program/>.