

# Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program



2022 - 2023 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 multidisciplinary 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.

## 2022-2023 Program Overview

The Friedman Family Visiting Professionals program launched in August 2022 for the 2022-2023 academic year. 22 visits were scheduled by 19 professionals from February to June 2023.

In August 2022, EERI staff and the FFVP chair reviewed the budget and clarified the program's operational procedures for the academic year. That same month, an application for new professionals to join the program was advertised. In total, 9 professionals applied to the program and 4 were accepted. These new professionals were Charles Scawthorn, Rafael Sabelli, Lindsey Maclise, and Maria Mohammed.

In late September 2023, the program was then advertised to EERI student chapters with an application form requiring student chapters to select their top 3 professionals and describe the reasons for their choices. 22 EERI student chapters applied to the program and all 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 cohort 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. For the 4 new professionals, a kick off call was held to talk through the program, its objectives, a typical visit itinerary, and answer any questions. These new professionals found this call very beneficial as it started them off on the right foot to plan a successful visit with their matched university.

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 and questionnaire has streamlined visit feedback, but chapters still regularly need reminders to submit by the deadline.

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.

## List of Visiting Professionals

Below are the names of the visiting professionals participating in the program during the 2022-2023 academic year, along with their firm and disciplinary area of expertise.

- 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 Engineers, Structural Engineering
- Ramin Golesorkhi, Langan, Geotechnical Engineering
- John Hooper, Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Structural Engineering
- Ezra Jampole, Exponent, Inc., Structural Engineering
- Lindsey Maclise, Forell | Elsesser Engineers, Structural Engineering
- Janiele Maffei, California Earthquake Authority, Structural Engineering
- Faiz Makdisi, Gannett Fleming, Inc., Geotechnical Engineering
- James Malley, Degenkolb Engineers, Structural Engineering
- Jorge Meneses, RMA Group, Geotechnical Engineering
- Maria Mohammed, Structural Focus, Structural Engineering
- Sissy Nikolaou, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Geotechnical Engineering
- Rafael Sabelli, Walter P Moore, Structural Engineering

- Charles Scawthorn, SPA Risk LLC, Structural Engineering
- John Thornley, Golder Associates Inc., Geotechnical Engineering
- Jay Wilson, Clackamas County Disaster Management, Emergency Management
- Ivan Wong, Lettis Consultants International, Seismology

## Selected Universities

22 universities were selected to participate in the 2022-2023 program. 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="#">Salesian Polytechnic University, Ecuador</a>	Ramin Golesorkhi	February 16, 2023
<a href="#">University of Toronto, Canada</a>	Erik Bishop	February 23, 2023
<a href="#">Stanford University</a>	Ramin Golesorkhi	February 24, 2023
<a href="#">Rice University</a>	Maria Mohammed	February 28, 2023
<a href="#">University of British Columbia, Canada</a>	Janiele Maffei	March 2, 2023
<a href="#">University of California, Los Angeles</a>	David Friedman	March 4, 2023
<a href="#">University of Victoria, Canada</a>	Ivan Wong	March 15, 2023
<a href="#">North Carolina State University</a>	Lindsey Maclise	March 22, 2023
<a href="#">University of Notre Dame</a>	Jay Wilson	March 24, 2023
<a href="#">University of Michigan</a>	John Hooper	March 29, 2023
<a href="#">University of Texas at Austin</a>	Jorge Meneses	April 4, 2023
<a href="#">Portland State University</a>	John Thornley	April 19, 2023
<a href="#">University of Massachusetts, Amherst</a>	David Cocke	April 21, 2023
<a href="#">University of Nevada, Reno</a>	Charles Scawthorn	April 21, 2023
<a href="#">University of California, San Diego</a>	Ezra Jampole	April 24, 2023
<a href="#">Oregon State University</a>	James Malley	April 25, 2023
<a href="#">University of Wisconsin-Madison</a>	Rafael Sabelli	April 25, 2023
<a href="#">Ain Shams University, Egypt</a>	David Cocke	April 28, 2023
<a href="#">California Polytechnic University of San Luis Obispo</a>	Ronald Eguchi	April 28, 2023
<a href="#">Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú</a>	Erik Bishop	May 22, 2023
<a href="#">University of California, Davis</a>	Faiz Makdisi	June 1, 2023
Virginia Tech	Sissy Nikolaou	Didn't take place

## 2022-2023 Outcomes and Accomplishments

The 2022-2023 program achieved great success, as shown in the evaluation forms from student chapters and professionals.

*Definitely, one of the highlights of the day was the informal meetings with Lindsey Maclise, where we could ask her about career advice, real life as a practitioner, what we could do during graduate school years to make us valuable to enter the industry after, how to have a work-life balance. During lunch, we could engage more with her and see how incredibly inspiring she is as a woman and a practitioner. We were really happy that we bonded so well with her, and that she enjoyed her time here as well!*

- North Carolina State University

*Our chapter thoroughly enjoyed getting to know Jim Malley and learning about his career experiences, as well as his experiences within EERI. We appreciated hearing his advice and learning more about innovative seismic design approaches for steel structures from his talk. This visit gave us a wonderful connection within the structural engineering field, and we were able to gain insight on what a career in structural engineering can look like.*

- Oregon State University

*The most beneficial aspect of the visit was meeting with the students. They had organized multiple 2:1 meetings, as well as group meetings. The students had so many wonderful questions. We also did a mock presentation with their SDC team which I feel was very rewarding for the students. I felt so well taken care of by the students and faculty, it was a really wonderful trip.*

- Lindsey Maclise

*The most beneficial aspect of the visit was talking with the graduate students about their research and future career goals. The amount of work going on at OSU related to mass timber research is truly remarkable.*

- James Malley

## Goals, Plans, and Activities for 2023-2024 Academic Year

For the 2023-2024 academic year, the program plans to schedule at least 20 university visits pending a detailed budget assessment.

We plan to continue having consistent staff support for the next academic year. This creates a consistent schedule and more follow up with the program year to year. We also plan to continue to collect quantifiable data from our visits to better track the program as a whole.

Additionally, staff plans to assess the number of visiting professionals, how long some have served in this role, and look into finding a few more professionals to join the program. This may be done using an application, similar to how new professionals were found at the start of the 2022-2023 program year.

## List of Attachments

See the [Friedman Family Visiting Professional web page](#) for report downloads and other information.