

## News of the Profession

### Major Earthquake Rocks Taiwan

On March 31 (local time 2:52 pm), a major earthquake occurred near the northeast corner of Taiwan, about 65 miles southeast of Taipei. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, this thrust earthquake occurred in a highly seismic and tectonically complex region known as the Taiwan Collision Zone, where the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate are converging ([neic.usgs.gov/neis/bulletin/bulletin.html](http://neic.usgs.gov/neis/bulletin/bulletin.html)).

The magnitude 6.8 earthquake killed five people and injured 270. The deaths were associated with the collapse of two cranes at a construction site. According to the Central News Agency of Taiwan, the Department of Labor Inspection under the cabinet-level Council for Labor Affairs is investigating the collapse. The council has ordered an assessment of current laws on the stress tolerance level of construction cranes ([www.can.com.tw/eng](http://www.can.com.tw/eng)).

EERI members Professors Loh, Tsai, and Yao were in the field conducting investigations within hours of the quake. They will soon post a report on the web site of the National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering ([www.ncree.gov.tw](http://www.ncree.gov.tw)). EERI's web site will also link to this report.



*Damage to residential building in Taiwan. Check EERI's Housing Encyclopedia for a complete description of this construction type.*

## News of the Institute

### 7NCEE Presentation Sessions

Following is a preliminary list of non-plenary presentation sessions at the 7th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, scheduled for July 21-25 in Boston. By now, EERI members should have received the preliminary program in the mail with registration information. Registration is available online at [www.eeri.org/news/Meetings/7nceef.html](http://www.eeri.org/news/Meetings/7nceef.html).

#### Monday Morning Sessions, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm, July 22, 2002

- 1: ST-1 STRUCTURES: Instrumentation and Monitoring
- 2: ST-2 STRUCTURES: Analytical Modeling of Bldg. Components & Systems I
- 3: GM-1 GROUND MOTIONS: Seismic Hazard and Risk Analysis
- 4: LE-1 LOSS ESTIMATION: Case Studies
- 5: LS-1 LESSONS from Recent Earthquakes
- 6: DC-1 DESIGN CRITERIA: Advanced Analysis
- 7: SI-1 SOCIAL ISSUES: Risk Analysis

#### Monday Afternoon Sessions, 1:40 - 3:30 pm

- 8: PS-2 PANEL SESSION: NEES-1
- 9: PS-5 PANEL SESSION: Catastrophe Models
- 10: ST-18 STRUCTURES: Housing Encyclopedia

#### Monday Late Afternoon Sessions, 4:00 - 5:50 pm

- 11: ST-3 STRUCTURES: Analytical Modeling of Bldg. Comps. & Systems II
- 12: ST-4 STRUCTURES: Performance-Based Evaluation
- 13: BR-1 BRIDGES: Seismic Analysis and Design of Bridges
- 14: GM-2 GROUND MOTIONS: Site Effects: Seismological Aspects and Microzonation Studies
- 15: LE-2 LOSS ESTIMATION: Hazard and Damage Models
- 16: ST-16 STRUCTURES: Masonry Structures
- 17: NS-1 NEES: Experimental Facilities

#### Tuesday Morning Sessions, 10:30 am - 12:20 pm, July 23, 2002

- 18: ST-5 STRUCTURES: Estimation of Deformation Demands
- 19: GM-5 GROUND MOTIONS: Source Mechanics, Wave Propagation and Attenuation Relationships
- 20: AT-1 ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES: Supplemental Dampers in Symmetric and Asymmetric Structures
- 21: GS-1 GEOTECHNICAL STRUCTURES: Liquefaction and Earth-Retaining Structures
- 22: AW-1 AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
- 23: SI-2 SOCIAL ISSUES: Hazard Management
- 24: RR-1 RESPONSE AND RECOVERY: Post-EQ Resp. & Rec. Approaches
- 25: ST-15 STRUCTURES: Fiber Composites for Seismic Strengthening

#### Tuesday Afternoon Sessions, 1:50 - 3:40 pm

- 26: POSTERS in the following topic areas: Bridges, Design Criteria, Engineering Practice, Ground Motions, Geotechnical Structures, Response and Recovery, Seismic Code Issues, and Structures
- 27: PS-7 PANEL SESSION: Insurers
- 28: BR-4 BRIDGES: Seismic Eval. and Mitigation of Bridges in Mid-America
- 29: ST-6 STRUCTURES: Seismic Fragility as Measure of Performance