News of the Institute

2001 Annual Meeting: Call for Poster Session Abstracts

Planning is in full swing for the 2001 EERI Annual Meeting at the DoubleTree Hotel in Monterey, California, scheduled for February 7-10, with the theme of Dealing with Issues of Acceptable Risk in Northern California. The organizing committee's intent is to focus on and redefine “acceptable risk” at a time when performance-based engineering concepts imply that clients, building owners, and/or government agencies want to make conscious choices on risk and safety. The meeting will explore the evolving concepts of risk and look at cases where risk evaluations are factored into building design and planning decisions—universities, hospitals, and some corporate settings. Each case will include owner/decision-makers, regulators, engineers and architects to present the full range of views on the issues and the process.

Individuals interested in participating in the Poster Session are invited to submit abstracts to the organizing committee. Presentations on retrofit projects at universities and critical facilities are encouraged, as well as current work of interest to EERI members. The abstracts for posters accepted for presentation will be included in the Annual Meeting notebook, and therefore must be submitted in final form. They will be reproduced as submitted. All abstracts should be prepared on plain white paper with one-inch margins on all sides. The abstracts should be single-spaced and printed in a Times Roman or equivalent font (11 points or larger). Text should be flush left. The title of the poster presentation should be centered at the top of the page and capitalized. Presenters should be identified by name, title, and organizational affiliation. Abstracts should not exceed two pages in length. Do not number the pages, but write your name in pencil on the back of the second page. Please submit three copies of each abstract by December 1, 2000 to Susan Tubbesing at the EERI office. Presenters will be notified in early January of acceptance.

Honors Committee Seeks Member Input

The EERI Honors Committee would like to generate more participation by EERI members in the process of identifying worthy members whose contributions should be recognized. In particular they would like to have more participation by the general membership in identifying candidates for the Housner Medal and the Distinguished Lecture Award. The committee also recommends Honorary Membership and the award for the Outstanding Paper from Spectra. The awards are presented at the Annual Meeting. Send your nominations to the Honors Committee at the EERI office. Past recipients of the Housner Medal and Honorary Members are listed in the EERI Roster.

Monterey’s Fisherman’s Wharf (photo: Monterey Peninsula Visitors and Convention Bureau)
Publications

New NOAA/NGDC Products

NOAA's National Geophysical Data Center (NGDC) announces the availability of some new educational/scientific products: Posters, Slides, and CD-ROMS (featuring images, maps, and digital data). From the web site www.ngdc.noaa.gov/products/fliers.html, one can: (1) access the electronic brochures that describe our products, (2) obtain more information on each product, and (3) order online using a major credit card. For more information, contact NOAA/NGDC, 325 Broadway, E/GC4, Boulder, CO 80305-3328; phone: 303/497-6826; fax: 303/497-6513.

Announcements

Architect/Engineer Forum

The San Mateo, California County Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), with joint sponsorship by EERI and the Structural Engineers Association of California, will hold a forum in San Mateo on Saturday, October 28, 2000. Architects and engineers will make presentations on a variety of topics that are at the forefront of concern in the seismic architecture and engineering community. The forum’s speakers will include:

• Eric Elsesser, Forell/Elsesser Engineers, on new trends in seismic design and architecture.
• Christopher Arnold, FAIA and President of EERI, on the basics of the nature of ground motion and its effects on buildings.
• Evan Reis, Comartin-Reis Engineers, on performance-based design and seismic retrofit at Stanford University and U.C. Berkeley.
• Mary Comerio, Vice-Chair of the U.C. Berkeley Department of Architecture, on the studies of seismic vulnerability at U.C. Berkeley.

The forum will start at 9:00 A.M., with registration at 8:30 A.M. The fee is $75 for members of the sponsoring professional societies and $85 for non-members. To make a reservation, call Connie Barton at the AIA/San Mateo County Chapter office at 650/348-5133. For questions about the forum content, call Christopher Arnold at 650/462-1812, or Bob George at 650/872-3330.
Announcements

Upcoming Seminar on Current Issues in Earthquake Engineering

EERI members in western states will receive a mailing next month with details about an EERI technical seminar scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 2000 at the ______________ Hotel in _______________. It will be an Overview of Current Issues in Earthquake Engineering, taught by the current members of the EERI Board of Directors, who are all at the top of their fields: Norm Abrahamson on strong ground motion; Thalia Anagnos on seismic risk; Chris Arnold on architecture; Mel Green on retrofit of historic buildings; Ron Mayes on base isolation; Dennis Mileti on recent assessment and trends of social science research on natural hazards; Tom O’Rourke on lifelines, Chris Poland on professional practice and performance-based design; and Paul Somerville on seismology. In many cases, they will draw in lessons in their own disciplines from the 1999 Turkey and Taiwan earthquakes.

2001 California GIS Conference

The 7th Annual California GIS Conference will be held February 21-23, 2001 in Sacramento, California. The theme of the conference is “2001: A Spatial Odyssey.” It will bring together more than 1,000 GIS professionals and users to share experiences, information, and technology. Presentations will focus on both the practical and technical side of GIS technology and its use in various fields. For more information, see the conference web site: www.calgis.org.

News of the Institute

Annual Meeting Travel Scholarships Available

As in years past, several scholarships are available to encourage student members and younger EERI members (out of school no more than three years) to attend the Annual Meeting, thanks to support from FEMA. The financial support will be contingent upon the applicant’s participation in the Poster Sessions, either through his or her own research project, or as a representative of a student chapter depicting the chapter’s activities (see accompanying article for poster abstract specifications). Each scholarship will cover registration, lodging at the conference hotel for three nights, and round-trip excursion airfare. To apply, send a letter of request to the Student Activities Committee in care of the EERI office by December 1, 2000. Applicants should describe their current involvement in earthquake engineering or a related field and their status as students or professionals.

News of the Profession

Magnitude 5.2 Earthquake Strikes Napa, California

A moderate-sized earthquake hit Northern California’s wine country on Sunday September 3 at about 1:30 A.M. The earthquake was reported to cause 25 injuries, at least one of which was serious. Water and gas mains were broken, about half of the county lost power, and there were numerous cases of shattered windows. The city of Napa declared a state of emergency to cope with the aftermath of the event, although officials reported that most of the damage was non-structural, affecting windows, contents, and chimneys.

The earthquake was centered near Yountville, California, about 50 miles north of San Francisco. The USGS reported that strong motion instruments recorded unusually high levels of shaking in the city of Napa. Peak levels there were amplified five to eight times relative to a station located in the mountains less than a mile from the earthquake’s epicenter. One instrument located north of the city of Napa and about 6 miles from the epicenter recorded a peak ground acceleration of about 0.5g. Another located south of the city recorded 0.34g.

A reconnaissance report on this earthquake will be included in an upcoming issue of Newsletter.
Save for Board Nominee
Save for Board Nominee
Save for Board Nominee
Save for Board Nominee
News of the Institute

EERI Student Chapter Annual Reports

Presently there are 19 EERI student chapters nationally at universities in 13 states. Each year, the student chapters are expected to submit an annual report describing the membership and activities of the chapter during the previous year. Those reports are summarized below. For information on the benefits of and requirements for establishing a student chapter, contact the EERI office.


1999-2000 Highlights: Participated in the 2000 EERI Annual Meeting; Hosted Daniel Shapiro of SOHA Engineers in San Francisco for a three-day lecture/presentation series as part of the EERI Visiting Professional Program; Developed an earthquake engineering exhibit for the SciencCenter in Ithaca.

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia; Established April, 1999. President: Julio Valdez; Faculty Advisor: Reginald DesRoches; Industry Contact: Stanley Lindsey, Stanley D. Lindsey & Associates.


Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon; Established May, 1992. President: Nason McCullough; Faculty Advisors: Thomas Miller and Stephen Dickenson; Industry Contact: John Ferguson, CH2M Hill.

Web site: www.ccee.orst.edu/eeri.

1999-2000 Highlights: Hosted three speaker meetings, including John Egan from Geomatrix Consultants as part of the EERI Visiting Professionals Program; Built an e-mail list server that includes many local practitioners in earthquake engineering.

University at Buffalo, SUNY, Buffalo, New York; Established December, 1997. President: Ani Natali Sigaher; Faculty Advisor: John Mander; Industry Contact: Sarafim Arzoumanidis, Steinman Boynton Gronquist Birdsall.

1999-2000 Highlights: Hosted several seminars and audiovisual activities; Hosted Jeremy Isenberg of Weidlinger Associates for a two-day visit as part of the EERI Visiting Professional Program; Participated in the 2000 EERI Annual Meeting.


1998-99 Highlights: Hosted seminars on the Turkey and Taiwan earthquakes; Participated in 2000 EERI Annual Meeting; Visited Benicia Bridge seismic retrofit project.

University of California at Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California; Established June, 1999. President: Sandrine Lermitte; Faculty Advisor: Jonathan Stewart and John Wallace; Industry Contact: To be determined.

1999-2000 Highlights: Hosted a seminar series with over 13 speakers, including talks by EERI Distinguished Lecturers Allin Cornell and Joseph Penzien.

University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas; Established October, 1992. President: Jenelle Marsh; Faculty Advisor: JoAnn Browning; Industry Contact: Harold Sprague, Black & Veatch and David Byers, HNTB.

1999-2000 Highlights: Visited site of a mine collapse in Kansas City; Participated in University of Kansas Engineering Exposition for local K-12 students; Visited earthquake research facilities at Washington University in St. Louis.

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Established November, 1995. President: Areg Margarian; Faculty Advisor: Kevin Collins; Industry Contact: Howard Hill, Wiss Janney Elstner Associates.

Web site: www.engin.umich.edu/soc/eeri.


Other student chapters active during the 1999-2000 academic year are located at the following institutions:

Brigham Young University (established 1/97)
University of California at Berkeley (established 10/92)
University of California at Irvine (established 4/98)
University of California at San Diego (established 2/98)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (established 9/94)
University of Memphis (established 2/93)
University of Minnesota (established 6/99)
University of Missouri-Rolla (established 3/97)
University of Notre Dame (established 8/99)
University of Texas at Austin (established 1/93)
Washington University in St. Louis (established 8/91)
News of the Membership

Corley, Popov, and Wyllie Receive Honors

W. Gene Corley, an EERI member since 1973, was elected to membership in the National Academy of Engineers. Corley is a senior vice president at Construction Technology Laboratories, Inc. in Skokie, Illinois, and an American Concrete Institute (ACI) fellow.

Egor Popov of the University of California at Berkeley has been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC). Popov is best known for his development of steel alternatives for seismic design. He has been an EERI member since 1969 and is a past recipient of the Housner Medal.

Loring A. Wyllie, Jr., an EERI member since 1973, was awarded honorary membership from ACI. He was cited for his many contributions to the structural design of reinforced concrete buildings located in seismically active areas, and for his work in advancing design and construction methods and procedures for use in those areas. Wyllie is a senior principal with Degenkolb Engineers in San Francisco, California.

News of the Profession

New PEER Director for PR and Outreach

The Pacific Earthquake Engineering Center (PEER) recently announced that it has hired Parshaw Vaziri to fill a newly created position, Director of Public Relations and Outreach. The position was established to foster increased communication between PEER and its various target audiences by increasing awareness of the following PEER activities and milestones: results from both the core and directed studies research programs, education program highlights, and collaboration with representatives of industry and government.

Parshaw will work closely with the faculty, staff and students of the different PEER institutions to help increase overall awareness of PEER.

Parshaw comes to PEER from California Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREe), where he was Associate Executive Director. He would like to encourage anyone who has comments or ideas on PEER outreach, publicity, or community relations issues (including the PEER web site peer.berkeley.edu) to contact him by phone: 510/231-9950, fax: 510/231-9471, or e-mail: vaziri@peer.berkeley.edu.

Publications

New Book on Structural Dynamics

EERI member Franklin Y. Cheng, Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Missouri-Rolla, has written a new book Matrix Analysis of Structural Dynamics – Applications and Earthquake Engineering recently published by Marcel Dekker, Inc. This book emphasizes computer-oriented methodology with more than a thousand pages containing 3700 equations, 660 drawings and tables, 110 examples, 165 problem sets and answers, as well as a separate volume of solutions. Topics are covered comprehensively in both breadth and depth from fundamental to more advance levels, including lumped mass, dynamic stiffness, and consistent mass models; coupling vibrations; geometric and material nonlinearity; several well known numerical techniques for eigensolutions and integrations; analysis and design response spectra; as well as multiple-seismic input response. Structures include finite elements, 2-D trusses, rigid and elastic frames, grillages, and 3-D building systems composed of beams, columns, shear walls, bracings, and floor slabs. The book also includes the new seismic building code, IBC-2000, which is presented in parallel with UBC-94 and UBC-97. This comparison in both required procedures and numerical illustrations can assist the reader familiar with the UBC to follow the new code.

University of California, Los Angeles, CA. Tenure-track or tenured faculty position in Structural Engineering and/or Structural Mechanics. Responsibilities include teaching graduate and undergraduate courses, and developing and sustaining an independent, extramurally-sponsored, research program covering theoretical, computational, and/or experimental aspects of structural engineering and/or structural mechanics. Contact: Jiann-Wen Ju, Chair, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, 5731 Boelter Hall, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1593; www.cee.ucla.edu.

University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. Tenure-track faculty position at the Assistant Professor level in the area of structural engineering with emphasis in one or more of the following areas: steel structures, dynamic behavior of structures, mechanics of advanced composites, and natural hazard mitigation. Contact: Ahsan Kareem, Chair, Department of Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences, 156 Fitzpatrick Hall, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN 46556-0767; phone: 219/631-5380; e-mail: kareem@nd.edu; web site: www.nd.edu/~cegeos/.
Publications

On-line SSC Design Practice Aid

Those interested in a design practice aid to facilitate a better awareness of the mutual responsibilities of design-team members during design and construction might want to obtain the publication titled “Architectural Practice and Earthquake Hazards: the Architect's Role in Earthquake Hazard Mitigation.” It contains several helpful checklists, guides, and other sample documents. Use of such aids can help design teams clarify their responsibilities, and facilitate a better match between owners’ expectations and actual performance. The publication was jointly developed by the AIA California Council and a California Seismic Safety Commission Committee. It is now online for free download at the following address:

www.seismic.ca.gov/sscpubs.htm.

For more information, contact: Fred Turner, Staff Structural Engineer, California Seismic Safety Commission, 1755 Creekside Oaks Drive Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833; phone: 916/263-0582; fax: 916/263-0594; e-mail: fturner@quiknet.com.

1999 Taiwan Earthquake

Two publications on the September 21, 1999 Chi Chi, Taiwan earthquake are now available. The first is a special issue of the Journal of the Chinese Institute of Engineers (July 2000 issue). The volume contains 11 papers dealing with the effects of the earthquake on: hydraulic facilities, buried pipelines, hospital buildings, soil retaining structures, reinforced slope failure, bridge soil-structure interaction, seismic design codes, response of bridges, relation of damage areas to the fault, fallen utility poles, and response operations. For more information, contact the Editor of the Journal, C.T. Liou, Center for Research in Technological and Vocational Education, National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, No. 43, Sec. 4, Keelung Road, Taipei, Taiwan 106.

The second publication is a book of photographs. Following the earthquake, a group of professional photographers decided to prepare a photographic book and donate the receipts from sales to aid the victims of the earthquake. The book contains over 500 photos, with captions in both Chinese and English. The book can be ordered from the Taiwan International Visual Arts Center, BA DER ROAD, Section 2, 229-2, 2nd Floor, Taipei, Taiwan. For more information, contact Mr. Lai, Manager, by phone: 886-2-2773-3347 or fax: 886-2-2773-8779.

News of the Profession

Wood Frame Shake Table Testing at UNR

A full-scale two story wood frame building supported on base isolators was recently tested on one of the shake tables of the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Funded by a grant from the Ever-Level Foundation Systems (ELFS) of San Rafael, California, the study was aimed at evaluating the performance of a patented base isolator device. Both the El Centro and Sylmar records were simulated. The isolator consists of two parts to both provide seismic isolation and accommodate foundation rotation. Three modes of connection to the base were tested: fully-isolated, partially isolated, and fixed. According to the project director, Saiid Saiidi of UNR, the tests showed the definite potential of the ELFS device for reducing internal shear forces in the walls.

Reno NBC affiliate TV reporter Malayna Kerton covering the story from the first story doorway of the model building on the shake table.
CALENDAR

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

2000

OCTOBER

11-13. Risk 2000 Conference, Bologna, Italy. Info: www.wessex.ac.uk (1/00)

28. Architect/Engineer Forum, San Mateo, CA. See page 2. (10/00)

NOVEMBER
4-7. IAEM Annual Conference, Austin, TX. Info: iaem@aol.com (7/00)

7. Kobori Symposium, Kyoto, Japan. Info: suzuki@zeisei.dpri.kyoto-u.ac.jp or wdiwan@caltech.edu (3/00)

7-9. 5th International Conference on Corporate Earthquake Programs, San Jose, CA. Info: Steven Vukazich, vukazich@email.sjsu.edu (11/99)

12-15. 6th International Conference on Seismic Zonation, Palm Springs, CA. Info: EERI office, eeri@eeri.org, www.eeri.org (6/98, 12/99, 9/00)

13-15. Workshop on Performance-Based Design, Tsukuba, Japan. See page 12. (10/00)


16-18. Conference on Traditional Buildings, Istanbul, Turkey. Info: www.icomos.org/iliwc (9/00)

DECEMBER
4-5. Earthquake Disaster Preparedness Conf., Kampala, Uganda. Info: physics@starcom.co.ug (9/00)

7. EERI Seminar on Earthquake Engineering Issues, TBA. See page 2. (10/00)

2001

JANUARY
7-12. Conference on Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics, Tucson, AZ. Info: intermix.engr.arizona.edu/~epd/#IACMAG (11/99)

FEBRUARY
7-10. 2001 EERI Annual Meeting, Monterey, CA. Info: www.eeri.org (2/00, 10/00)


MARCH


26-31. 4th International Conference on Recent Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics, San Diego, CA. Info: prakash@novell.civil.unr.edu (6/99, 2/00, 6/00)

APRIL
31-April 1. ASTM Symposium on Performance of Exterior Walls, Phoenix, AZ. Info: pjohnson@dtsmithgroup.com (4/00)

MAY

JUNE
4-6. SEM Annual Conference, Portland, OR. Info: www.sem.org (9/00)

12-14. IABSE Conference on Cable-Supported Bridges, Seoul, Korea. Info: secretariat@iabse.ethz.ch (5/00)

17-22. ICOSSAR 2001, Newport Beach, CA. Info: www.colorado.edu/engineering/ICOSSAR (6/00)

AUGUST
7-10. International Tsunami Symposium, Seattle, WA. Info: www.pmel.noaa.gov/its2001 (7/00)

16-19. International Conference on Engineering Materials, San Jose, CA. Info: mcmullin@email.sjsu.edu (3/00)

29-31. IABSE Conference on Wooden Structures, Lahti, Finland. Info: www.iabse.ethz.ch (8/00)

OCTOBER
3-5. Modelling and Simulation in Civil Engineering, Paris, France. Info: www.enpc.fr/caquot/ (9/00)

2002

JULY
21-25. 7th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, Boston, MA. Info: www.eeri.org (9/99)

SEPTEMBER
9-13. 12th European Conf. on Earthquake Engineering, London, UK. Info: 12ECEE@ice.org.uk (9/00)
Announcements

Workshop on Performance-Based Design

An International Workshop on Performance-Based Building Structural Design will be held in Tsukuba, Japan on November 13-15, 2000. The objective of this international workshop is to propose future research topics in performance-based structural design and technology reflecting the recent worldwide trends. The revised Building Standard Law of Japan (BSL) has introduced performance-based regulations. Reviewing the performance-based regulations of the structural design in the BSL and the current status of each country, the workshop will focus on discussing the topics of conceptual framework, loads and responses, and seismic design in the parallel sessions. The closing session will feature proposals for future research topics in performance-based structural design and technology.

The Chair of the workshop is Tsuneo Okada, Shibaura Institute of Technology, President of the Architectural Institute of Japan. The workshop will take place at the International Congress Center EPOCHAL TSUKUBA (www.epochal.or.jp/english/index.html) in Tsukuba, Japan. For more information, contact the workshop secretary, Hiroshi Ito, Associate Director of Structural Engineering Department, Building Research Institute, Ministry of Construction, 1 Tachihara, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki-ken, 305-0802 JAPAN, phone: +81-298-64-6627; fax: +81-298-64-6773; e-mail: itohiro@kenken.go.jp, or see the conference web site: www.kenken.go.jp/kenken/english/ebri/e-06-7.html.

Publications

SSRC Workshop on Frame Connections

The Proceedings of the 1998 Structural Stability Research Council (SSRC) Workshop on Frames with Partially Restrained Connections are now available. Five topics related to partially restrained connections were addressed in the Workshop. These included: (1) frame stability; (2) connection performance; (3) influence on seismic effects; (4) analysis and design technologies; and (5) practical implementation and technology transfer. The 230-page book is available for $30 for SSRC members and $35 for non-members. For more information, contact the SSRC at 352/846-3874, e-mail ssrce@ce.ufl.edu, or see the web site: www.ce.ufl.edu/~ssrc.