News of the Institute

8NCEE Papers Due October 15

Papers to be presented at the 8th U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering (8NCEE), to be held April 18-22, 2006, during the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference in San Francisco, are due on October 15. Detailed submission information was e-mailed in August to the corresponding author of each accepted abstract. All accepted papers, whether presented orally or as posters, will be included in the proceedings.

As was the case with the abstracts, papers are to be submitted online to submissions.miracd.com/8ncee/. Specifications for paper length (10 pages), formatting details, a template with an example paper, and instructions can be downloaded from www.1906eqconf.org/. Payment of one $240 author’s fee per paper will be required upon submission of the paper. It will be deducted from the registration fee. Payment can be made online by Visa or MasterCard to the secure web site. Submissions are not considered complete until the fee has been received.

Authors will be notified of paper acceptance (or tentative acceptance if revisions are required) on December 15, 2005, with final papers due on January 16, 2006. All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings CD-ROM, which also will include written submissions from the participants in the co-convened SSA and DRC conferences. The CD-ROM will be provided as part of the registration package. It will contain the complete papers, including color figures, photos, and tables.

EERI Searching for New Newsletter Editor

In February 2006, after three and a half years in the post, Thalia Anagnos plans to retire as editor of the EERI Newsletter. A search is now underway for her successor. The position has a number of benefits, including the chance to read the news first and have one-on-one contact with key players in the earthquake mitigation professions.

Desirable attributes of the Newsletter editor include a deep commitment to EERI, an enjoyment of writing (though many of the articles are drafted by EERI staff and members), the ability to meet deadlines every month, confidence with computers and software, and a willingness to seek details when they are needed. Anagnos formats the Newsletter using Adobe’s InDesign layout program, which is relatively intuitive. EERI would be willing to provide training in this software.

Each month after it is formatted, Anagnos e-mails the Newsletter file to the EERI office, where editing, proofing, and correcting are coordinated. It is then continued on page 3
Announcement

ATC Hires Jon Heintz as Director of Projects

The Applied Technology Council (ATC) recently announced the hiring of Jon Heintz as their new director of projects in Redwood City, California. This position is an important addition to ATC’s project management and quality control structure, and represents a significant expansion of its project capabilities.

Heintz comes to ATC after more than 16 years as a structural design and consulting engineer with Degenkolb Engineers in San Francisco. A licensed civil and structural engineer in California and Alaska, he received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in civil and structural engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.

His practice has included extensive experience in seismic analysis, evaluation, and strengthening projects, as well as collaboration with university researchers in analytical studies.

He is actively involved in the development of codes and standards for existing buildings, most notably serving as author on project teams developing the FEMA 310 **Handbook for the Seismic Evaluation of Buildings** — A Prestandard, and the FEMA 356 **Prestandard and Commentary for the Seismic Rehabilitation of Buildings**.

His professional affiliations include EERI, the Structural Engineers Association of California, the American Society of Civil Engineers/Structural Engineering Institute, and the American Institute of Steel Construction. He has served on the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) Technical Integration Committee.

Innovation at Digitexx

In 2001, EERI Subscribing Member Digitexx Data Systems Corporation started with a goal to provide the world with a new, reliable, and efficient structural monitoring system. Taking advantage of rapid developments in broadband communications and the increased performance of personal computers, Digitexx introduced a real-time multi-channel multi-sensors structural data acquisition and analysis system. The first installation of a 36-channel system (R-SHAPE, Real-Time Structural Health and Performance Evaluation) was on the Millikan Library at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena, California. Researchers and students use this system to work on developing methodologies for rapid decision-making about structural conditions in case of an earthquake or other extreme event. Connected to the Caltech’s local area network, the system is available over the Internet to a number of specified users at the university and around the world.

Under the direction of Dr. Robert L. Nigbor of the University of Southern California and colleagues from the University of California at Santa Barbara and Brigham Young University, Digitexx designed and installed a unique monitoring system for the NEES Consortium, Inc., at its Garner Valley test site in California. Data are broadcast in real time to multiple users within the NEES network.

Other Digitexx installations include a federal building and the Transamerica Pyramid in San Francisco, California; the Vincent Thomas Bridge in Los Angeles, California; and an 80-meter-high windmill turbine in Denmark that was placed on an experimental steel foundation. Digitexx monitoring systems have been provided and installed for universities, government agencies, energy and utility companies, pharmaceutical laboratories and production facilities, and structural consulting engineers. Digitexx is a supplier of advanced real-time monitoring systems for high-rise buildings, long-span bridges, dams, critical manufacturing facilities, and energy producers and distributors. A single accelerometer or a cluster of accelerographs or other existing multi-channel data acquisition systems are easily transformed to real-time installations by using Digitexx multi-threaded software and by connecting to commercially available DSL lines or LAN networks. For more information, visit www.digitexx.com.

Announcement

FEMA Seeking Disaster Assistance Reservists

FEMA is looking for qualified individuals to add to its disaster assistance reservists mitigation cadre. Reservists are intermittent, on-call employees who provide support during presidentially declared disasters. They require knowledge and experience in a variety of disciplines: building science and architecture, public education, planning, environmental and historic preservation, property and casualty insurance, floodplain management, and grants management.

Candidates must be able to work immediately in Louisiana and other southeastern states for an extended period of time. The work environment is expected to be stressful and the hours long. For position descriptions, desired qualifications, and application information, visit www.fema.gov/fima/recoveryemployment.shtml.
McGavin Appointed to CSSC

EERI member Gary L. McGavin was recently appointed to the California Seismic Safety Commission (CSSC) by California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to represent the field of architecture. Since 1995, McGavin has operated his own firm, McGavin Architecture, in Redlands, California. He has more than 20 years of experience in the design of public and institutional facilities. He has been involved with the design and funding of approximately one billion dollars’ worth of educational, transportation, and health care facilities. He has specialized in seismic safety issues and state-level client advocacy. He previously served for more than eight years on the CSSC, appointed by Governor Wilson. He has also been a member of the State of California Field Act Advisory Board. His background includes experience as a staff geologist and earthquake engineer. For more than nine years, he taught college-level

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Support of the Small Grants Program

EERI's Small Grants Program for Developing Countries was initiated with Endowment funds in 2004. In 2005, the EERI Board of Directors approved an additional $15,000 from the fund to continue the innovative mitigation program.

Small grants, in the range of $1,000 to $3,000, are awarded to individuals in developing countries who implement innovative projects for earthquake mitigation. The projects must directly benefit the community and should be replicable in other seismically prone regions that do not have resources for mitigation activities.

In 2005, six new programs were funded. Earthquake awareness and preparedness is being taught to teachers and students at the high school level in Nepal and Colombia. A workshop on the ductile detailing of RC structures is being developed for construction workers in Vadodara, India. The vertical expansion of existing URM buildings was analyzed in Belgrade, Serbia, in order to justify new government building codes. In Istanbul, Turkey, the leaders of more than 400 neighborhoods are being trained in earthquake preparedness and in the mobilization of community response teams. An earthquake education curriculum is being created for engineering teachers at the university level in Bangladesh.

Many new proposals for small grants are received each month. The proposals are carefully reviewed by a selection committee headed by Sudhir K. Jain of India. However, the budget for funding new projects is running out. To support low-cost, innovative mitigation projects that directly benefit communities in countries that do not have many resources, please consider a donation to EERI's Small Grants Program for Developing Countries. For more information on this program, contact either Sudhir Jain (skjain@iitk.ac.in) or James Godfrey (jgodfrey@eeri.org), who provides EERI staff support.

Transition of Committee Chairs

EERI greatly appreciates the willingness of members to serve on and lead committees, as they accomplish much of the Institute’s important work. The normal term for EERI committee chairs is three years. Of the more than two dozen EERI committees, there was a change of chairmanship for the following six in 2005:

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<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Incoming chair</th>
<th>Outgoing chair</th>
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<td>Development</td>
<td>Tom O'Rourke</td>
<td>David Friedman</td>
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<td>Honors</td>
<td>C. B. Crouse</td>
<td>Peter May</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
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<td>Prize Selection</td>
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<td>Student Activities</td>
<td>Ellen Rathje</td>
<td>Eric Williamson</td>
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<td>Technical Seminars</td>
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<td>Bill Spencer</td>
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We extend sincere thanks to the above-mentioned outgoing chairs, who made time in their busy schedules to serve as volunteers on behalf of the Institute and the earthquake professions.

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e-mailed to the printer for reproduction and mailing. Anagnos reports that it typically takes her an average of one hour per page to produce the Newsletter each month.

If you are interested in the position, send a summary of your professional background, a description of how you plan to produce the Newsletter, and any ideas you have for improving it to Susan Tubbesing at the EERI office by November 15.

A change in editor is a good point at which to introduce new ideas and approaches. Anagnos says she would be happy to talk to anyone interested in the position.
The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute is pleased to announce its Annual Student Paper Competition. The purpose of the competition is to promote active involvement of students in earthquake engineering and the earthquake hazards research community.

The general rules of the contest are as follows:

**Graduate Category**
1. The paper must be an original contribution in a discipline directly related to earthquake engineering or earthquake hazard reduction.
2. The paper is not to exceed 12 pages in length, inclusive of all tables and figures.
3. The paper must represent the original work of the student and be authored by the student alone. A faculty member or other advisor may not co-author the paper.

**Undergraduate Category**
1. The paper must be directly related to earthquake engineering or earthquake hazard reduction.
2. The paper is not to exceed 12 pages in length inclusive, of all tables and figures.
3. The paper must be authored by the student alone. In addition, a faculty member or other advisor is required to oversee the preparation of the manuscript. The advisor can provide feedback before submission of the paper but may not co-author the paper. The advisor’s name should be included in the “Acknowledgments” section of the paper.

Guidelines for preparing the manuscript can be obtained from the EERI web site (www.eeri.org) or from EERI, 499 14th Street, Suite 320, Oakland, CA 94612, phone 510/451-0905, fax 510/451-5411. All papers must be received by January 16, 2006, at the EERI office.

**Up to four student authors will be invited to the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference, April 18-22, 2006, in San Francisco, California, and will receive travel support for this purpose.** Their papers will also be considered for publication in Earthquake Spectra.

**DEADLINE January 16, 2006**
Thalia Anagnos has been on the engineering faculty at San Jose State University (SJSU) since 1984. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. in civil engineering from Stanford University and a B.A. in applied mechanics and engineering sciences from the University of California, San Diego.

Anagnos joined EERI in 1982, while she was still a graduate student, in an effort to gain insight into where the profession was headed, and was immediately “hooked.” She has served on the EERI Board of Directors (1999–2002), as EERI Vice President (2002), and currently serves on the editorial board of *Earthquake Spectra* and as EERI Newsletter editor. She organized the EERI Annual Meeting in San Francisco in 1989, where she initiated the annual student paper competition to increase the involvement of students. She has been a speaker at EERI-sponsored seminars and has served on several EERI committees. She was editor of the November 1997 *Earthquake Spectra* theme issue on loss estimation and is currently serving on the program committee for the 8th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering.

The focus of her research has been on seismic hazard and seismic risk assessment. Over the years, she has been involved in a number of projects to develop tools for assessing risks and losses, including ATC-13, ATC-21, and HAZUS. She also has a strong interest in education and outreach and served as chair of the NEES Education Outreach and Training Committee (EOTC). As chair of EOTC, she spearheaded the development of the NEES Education, Outreach and Training Strategic Plan. She recently completed work on a statics textbook and is part of a four-member team of SJSU faculty working with local school districts to reform middle school science education.

**Vision**

As EERI enters 2006, stark contrasts point to a need for renewed emphasis on outreach, education, and advocacy. At the 100th Anniversary Conference commemorating the 1906 earthquake in April 2006, members of our community will be celebrating the enormous progress in risk reduction that has been made during the last century. In contrast, recent disasters in South Asia and New Orleans remind us that as societies, we still are underprepared to deal with catastrophic events. The 2004 reauthorization of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program was a cause for celebration, providing funds and leadership to support the work of many individuals and agencies to reduce vulnerability to seismic events. Yet a recent 30% cut in EERI’s funding for the Learning from Earthquakes Program impedes our ability to disseminate what has been learned from recent events. Since 1975, the California Seismic Safety Commission (CSSC) has led hazard mitigation efforts that have resulted in improved program coordination, technical developments, and advances in California’s seismic safety. Unfortunately, currently we find ourselves fighting to maintain the funding to support the CSSC. These are but a few of the challenges facing EERI.

While EERI can point to many successes in education and dissemination through *Earthquake Spectra*, reconnaissance activities and reports, and numerous other conferences and publications, the events of the last year make clear that our voice must be louder and more persuasive. In alignment with the five-year plan, EERI should continue its role in championing research and supporting technical advancements, but should also expand its role in advocacy and outreach.

As advocates for hazard mitigation, we must continuously communicate our risk reduction message because the memories of citizens and politicians can be very short. EERI’s Northern California Chapter has demonstrated the power of connecting the membership with the media and local decision makers. We need to expand this model to other vulnerable regions of the United States and the world through our regional chapters and other region-specific groups.

EERI must continue to broaden its audience so that we are reaching beyond our own community. We have made great strides in strengthening our voice by developing strong ties with sister organizations in countries around the world. Through the development of stronger links with other natural hazards communities with whom we share many challenges, we can be more effective advocates for public education, research, and funding.

In summary, EERI is a strong organization, which since its founding has been a leader in learning from earthquakes. As we move forward, we must continue to implement strategies to share more effectively the knowledge we have gained in order to reach EERI’s goal of a world with reduced earthquake losses.
Meet the Candidates

For Director A

Arrietta Chakos

Arrietta Chakos is assistant city manager in the city of Berkeley, California, with responsibilities that include hazard mitigation programs and intergovernmental relations. She manages the development of Berkeley’s comprehensive mitigation plan, develops retrofit funding for municipal buildings, and initiates legislative measures for risk reduction at the local and state levels. She has served on hazard mitigation panels and projects at the local, regional, state, and federal levels.

Chakos, an EERI member since 1995, has contributed to EERI white papers on municipal seismic safety policy and mitigation incentives. Other EERI activities include participation on various working groups, and addressing public agency risk and earthquake insurance issues. A member of the EERI Legislative Policy Group and EERI’s Northern California Chapter Quake ’06 Local Government and Legislative Subcommittee, Chakos is an active proponent of sustainable risk reduction.

Chakos has advised the Federal Emergency Management Agency on technical and policy projects, worked with the HAZUS Oversight Committee, and contributed to FEMA’s congressional report on hazard mitigation policy and funding. She served as a member of the Second and Third U.S.-Japan forums on Earthquake Policy, and participated in recent EERI U.S./Japan Urban Earthquake Hazard Reduction conferences. She has served the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, the Association of Bay Area Governments, GeoHazards International, and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in the development of seismic safety initiatives.

Vision

EERI’s mission and vision have never been as important as they are now. EERI’s leadership in advocating for a safer built environment is a critical role in the wake of catastrophic natural disasters. Because risk reduction is now in the forefront of national and international scrutiny, we must advance EERI’s role as a resource for decision makers. I would be honored to serve the Institute as a director and to contribute to the Institute’s mission with my professional colleagues.

Enacting mitigation is a long-standing goal of my professional life as a government official. I believe that we must advocate for community safety on all levels to bridge the gap between engineering knowledge and real-world application. We must work to strengthen the role of FEMA and other similar organizations. The risks we face must be met with sensible renewed investment in comprehensive mitigation programs like the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program. The federal Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program must be properly funded. EERI’s vigorous support of these practical and effective programs is needed.

The LFE Program affects hazards policy and programs around the world through post-earthquake reconnaissance. EERI’s technical seminars, publications, and conferences provide practical information for improving essential technical capacities that must be shared with those in the seismically at-risk world.

Working with EERI colleagues to enact mitigation measures has been a valuable experience for me. The efforts of EERI professionals add value to community safety. We must work to provide the profession with more access to government so it can contribute to meaningful risk reduction efforts.

The Institute’s resources have supported my work with community leaders. Outreach to officials at all governmental levels with the white papers on mitigation policy has sparked action. EERI’s interdisciplinary workshops have prompted significant safety changes through collaboration among decision makers and engineering professionals. Berkeley’s Seismic Technical Advisory Group, comprised of EERI members, advised the city council on best practices. This endeavor led to the retrofit of every public school and essential service building in the city and demonstrates the connections we must continue to build with decision makers.

Whether through projects like the Mitigation Center, the Quake ’06 initiative, or the World Housing Encyclopedia, EERI is a unique national resource. We can help others view mitigation as a commonsense, sustainable practice. EERI’s interdisciplinary nature and broad perspective makes it an inviting organization for non-engineers to join in order to participate in productive dialogue.

My experience working with decision makers will bring strength to the Institute’s ongoing work. Strengthening EERI’s advocacy base requires a strong partnership among the technical, academic, and public policy communities. I have learned much about seismic safety from EERI and put it into practice in my professional life. I look forward to bringing EERI’s message to all concerned communities and sharing its many resources. Only by working collectively can we continue to reduce earthquake risk.
Meet the Candidates

For Director A

Laurie Johnson

Laurie Johnson is vice president of Technical Marketing and Catastrophe Response at Risk Management Solutions (RMS), a catastrophe risk modeling firm serving the global financial services industry. In this role, she educates clients about natural hazards risks, researches insurance markets and their handling of risks, and helps establish collaborative relationships with hazards research, engineering, and insurance organizations in the United States and many different countries. She also leads RMS’ post-catastrophe reporting, and has conducted field reconnaissance and recovery studies after many disasters, including the 1989 Loma Prieta, 1994 Northridge, 1995 Kobe, and 1999 Turkey and Taiwan earthquakes, the 1997 North Dakota flood, the 2001 World Trade Center collapse, and the 2004 hurricanes. She has published work on the economics of catastrophes, land use and risk, and disaster recovery and reconstruction.

Johnson is on the Board of Directors of EERI’s Northern California chapter and has been actively involved with the chapter since its formation, including the Quake ’06 campaign (co-chairing the Legislative Committee) and preparations for the upcoming 100th Anniversary Conference. An EERI member since 1990, she has served on the 1995 Annual Meeting organizing committee, participated in the Learning from Earthquakes (LFE) Data Collection and Management Committee and Earthquake Risk Management for Local Governments initiative, and contributed to LFE reports and several U.S.-Japan exchanges.

Johnson’s experience is both local and international, and spans a variety of disciplines, audiences, perils, and phases of disaster management. Her career includes employment at Spangle Associates and EQE International, and consulting and research projects for the Southern California Earthquake Center, the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium, the U.S. and California geologic surveys, the National Science Foundation, and FEMA. Johnson graduated from Texas A&M University with a master of urban planning and a B.Sc. in geophysics. She belongs to the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Vision

EERI’s early leaders made a far-sighted decision to host a first-ever world conference on earthquake engineering in 1956, commemorating the 50-year anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. Fifty years later, with more than 2,000 members in more than 50 countries and representing an ever-broadening range of disciplines, EERI is again taking a bold, collaborative step in hosting what undoubtedly will be another milestone in April 2006. The 100th Anniversary Conference will bring thousands from all over the world to commemorate the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

I believe the Anniversary Conference, coupled with heightened awareness of catastrophes following the 2004 tsunami and Hurricane Katrina, will provide EERI with an unprecedented spotlight for education, advocacy, and targeted action to reduce earthquake losses. The EERI Board has begun updating our five-year Strategic Plan (2001) and next year’s Board will be responsible for capitalizing on the conference’s momentum and implementing EERI’s updated plan.

That implementation should reinforce key elements of earthquake knowledge gathering and dissemination, including:

- Lobbying to restore funding for earthquake research, notably as the earthquake engineering research centers’ current funds wind down, and for EERI’s LFE Program.
- Increasing technical training for our members as well as a broader array of stakeholders, as planned with the tutorial series that our Northern California Chapter will lead at the upcoming Anniversary Conference.

Future catastrophic earthquakes will occur without time to evacuate or mitigate, except for what we are doing now. Our knowledge and technologies are still far ahead of our implementation abilities. Hurricane Katrina has tragically revealed the complexities and challenges of urban catastrophes, which we have yet to face in California, the New Madrid, Cascadia, and Salt Lake regions, and many of the most earthquake-prone cities around the world. EERI’s strategic implementation must specifically focus on advocacy and application, including:

- Helping FEMA, state, and local emergency services better address the complex societal and economic challenges of future disasters.
- Expanding and strengthening our regional and student chapters to work directly with communities and risk stakeholders to fund seismic safety, and adopt and “incentivize” code and priority retrofit standards. Best practices and successes among chapters must be shared, through mentoring and collaboration.

If elected, I commit my skills and experience to implementing EERI’s strategic vision and building the internal and collaborative bridges to support and achieve it.
Meet the Candidates

For Director B

Jonathan Bray

Jonathan D. Bray, Ph.D., P.E., is a professor of geotechnical engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley, where he has been on the faculty since 1993. Previously, he was an assistant professor at Purdue University and worked as a geotechnical engineering consultant and a Corps of Engineers officer. Bray earned engineering degrees from West Point (B.S.), Stanford University (M.S. in structural engineering), and the University of California, Berkeley (Ph.D. in geotechnical engineering).

Bray has been a member of EERI since 1990, and has worked actively on earthquake engineering activities within and outside EERI. He is a leader in earthquake reconnaissance and serves as chair of the Geotechnical Engineering Earthquake Reconnaissance (GEER) activity (gees.usc.edu/GEER/). His earthquake investigations include the 1989 Loma Prieta, 1992 Landers, 1994 Northridge, 1995 Kobe, 1999 Kocaeli, 1999 Chi-Chi, 1999 Duzce, and 2001 Nisqually earthquakes. He serves on the National Steering Committee of the Advanced National Seismic System, as editor-in-chief of the International Journal of GeoEngineering Case Histories, and on the editorial boards of several prominent journals.

As a registered professional civil engineer since 1985, Bray has served as a consultant on numerous engineering projects, and has served as an expert geotechnical engineer in legal cases. He has authored more than 150 research publications. His expertise includes surface fault rupture, ground motion characterization, seismic site response, liquefaction and ground failure and their effects on structures, the seismic performance of earth and waste fills, and post-earthquake reconnaissance.

Bray’s awards include the Shamsher Prakash International Research Award for geo-earthquake engineering, the ASCE Huber Research Prize, the NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award, and two North American Geosynthetics Society awards for best papers. He is the only civil engineer to earn a prestigious Packard Foundation Fellowship for Science and Engineering.

Vision

EERI is a truly multidisciplinary organization with the goal of reducing earthquake risk. My vision parallels that of EERI. The most challenging problems in earthquake engineering and science are those that span the many disciplines involved in earthquake risk reduction. From seismology to public policy, professionals from each discipline contribute to advancing society’s capability to withstand future earthquake threats. Recent earthquakes worldwide have reminded us of the challenges we face in our chosen professions. Great earthquakes such as the 1906 San Francisco earthquake will occur. It is our challenge to prepare society so that these events do not become catastrophic natural disasters.

EERI’s stated vision is “a world in which potential earthquake losses are understood and steps have been taken to reduce them to an acceptable level.” It is my contention that while there are still many earthquake phenomena that are not well understood, we now have sufficient understanding to recognize the most serious earthquake threats. EERI should emphasize translating knowledge into engineering practice and into public policy. Scientists and engineers need to interact more effectively with government officials and politicians so that positive changes can be implemented. Currently, there is a gap between what we know should be done and what has been done to reduce earthquake risk. It is our challenge to move forward in this area. The unprecedented disaster resulting from Hurricane Katrina serves as a warning that we in the earthquake profession must heed.

EERI members are a talented, diverse, and devoted group of professionals. They continually share their expertise and time to advance our profession and to serve their communities. EERI members have no lack of unselfish devotion to society.

EERI should continue to develop opportunities for its dedicated members to make positive changes that reduce earthquake risk. It can do so by strengthening regional EERI chapters, as change starts at the local level. It can improve governmental partnerships, as they can promote societal change. It can more effectively disseminate current knowledge, as the earthquake profession already knows much that can be implemented to save lives and reduce damage from earthquakes. It can expand ties to international partner organizations. It can bring its understanding of how to reduce risk through education, planning, and mitigation to combat threats other than earthquakes.

EERI can continue to evolve to reduce earthquake risk and to serve society on related problems.
Meet the Candidates

For Director B

Thomas L. Holzer

Thomas L. Holzer is a research engineering geologist at the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, California, where he has worked since 1975. He is also an adjunct consulting professor at Stanford University, where he has a joint appointment in civil engineering and geological and environmental sciences. He holds a B.S.E. degree from Princeton University and an M.S. and Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Holzer has participated in and led numerous post-earthquake investigations, both nationally and internationally. He led the USGS investigation (with the Kandilli Observatory in Istanbul) of the Kocaeli, Turkey, earthquake in 1999. He recently chaired the committee that drafted the “Plan to Coordinate NEHRP Post-Earthquake Investigations” that was mandated by the 2001-2005 NEHRP Strategic Plan.

His career has included service in both USGS management and research. As chief of the Branch of Engineering Seismology and Geology during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake, he helped to organize post-earthquake field deployments and provide technical advice for areas that were severely damaged. Before serving as branch chief, Holzer was the deputy assistant director for research. His current research focuses on improving liquefaction hazard mapping methodology. As part of that research, he developed and applied a new methodology for hazard mapping in Oakland and Berkeley, California, as part of Project Impact.

Holzer has received the Superior Service and Public Service awards from the Department of the Interior and the Distinguished Service Award from the Hydrogeology Division of the Geological Society of America. He is past chair of the Engineering Geology Division of GSA. In 1998, he was the Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer, which is sponsored by GSA and the Association of Engineering Geologists.

He has been an active and enthusiastic supporter of EERI since joining in 1999. He helped establish the role for EERI in the “Plan to Coordinate NEHRP Post-Earthquake Investigations.” He has contributed to numerous EERI workshops, both as a speaker and participant.

Most recently, he worked on an Endowment Committee project, chaired by Tom O’Rourke, that is documenting how investments in earthquake engineering have contributed to technical advances that apply beyond earthquakes to other hazards, civil infrastructure, applied information technology, and homeland security.

Vision

EERI is almost unique among professional societies in the degree to which it supports stewardship by members to reduce the risk of earthquakes to society. I view service on the Board as an opportunity to facilitate stewardship for my colleagues both in the United States and internationally and to practice it personally.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I would support the efforts by EERI to inform political leaders and challenge them to address the hazard of earthquakes. Just as the Hurricane Katrina disaster was not a surprise to many of our colleagues who know about hurricanes, a comparable earthquake disaster will not be a surprise to EERI members. As it has done in the past, EERI should help those political leaders define priorities for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program as well as state efforts. EERI is also well positioned to apply the lessons of a multidisciplinary approach, as practiced in the earthquake community, to other types of hazards.

I would work to encourage other nonmember earthquake professionals and other professional societies to work with EERI to reduce earthquake risk. Joint meetings, such as the 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference co-convened with the Seismological Society of America and the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, are valuable teaching moments. They provide opportunities to focus society’s attention on its earthquake risk.

I also endorse the objective of the EERI five-year plan to increase local activism through an expanded network of local chapters and to reach out to the general public and news media with information on earthquakes and risk reduction.

Most of us who have participated in post-earthquake investigations have found them to be career-affirming experiences. The Learning from Earthquakes Program offers young EERI members the chance to learn firsthand about the potential costs of large earthquakes. I would seek to encourage younger members to participate in post-earthquake investigations.
Call for Papers

Theoretical and Applied Mechanics Conference

The biennial 23rd Southeastern Conference on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (SECTAM XXIII) will be held in Puerto Rico, May 19-21, 2006, hosted by the Civil Engineering and Surveying Department of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez with the theme “Applications of Applied Mechanics in Infrastructure.”

Papers in the areas covering structural and solid mechanics, vibrations and control, fluid mechanics and heat transfer, experimental and numerical methods, and advanced materials are welcomed. The deadline for submission of abstracts is November 15, 2005. Papers will be due February 1, 2006. For more information, visit civil.uprm.edu/sectam.

Announcement

Business Continuity Planning Conference

The Collaborative for Disaster Mitigation and the city of San Jose are sponsoring the fourth annual Business Continuity Planning Conference, to be held on November 2, 2005, at the NASA Ames Conference Center in Mountain View, California.

The half-day conference will provide a forum for information acquisition and exchange among industry professionals. Plenary and breakout session speakers will provide relevant information for managing disasters, since it is only by preparing and planning for unexpected interruptions that continuity can be maintained. For more information and registration, visit www.sjsu.edu/cdm/bcpconference/index.html.

Call for Papers

4th International Conference on EQ Engineering

The National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering of Taiwan (NCREE) has issued a call for papers for the 4th International Conference on Earthquake Engineering (4ICEE), to be held in Taipei, Taiwan, October 12-13, 2006. The conference highlights the theme of “Promoting International Collaborations on the Earthquake Engineering Frontier and Mitigation Practice.” Conference topic areas include (but are not limited to) engineering seismology, geotechnical engineering, structural engineering, advanced technologies, lifeline systems, nonstructural components and contents, new design criteria and methods, earthquake engineering practice, earthquake loss estimation, expansion of earthquake technologies to multihazard protection of infrastructure systems, information and computing technology, lessons from recent earthquakes and tsunami, socioeconomic impacts, and earthquake-induced fire. Abstracts of 500 words or less should be submitted online to the conference web site icee2006.ncree.org.tw by February 1, 2006. Final papers are due online by July 31, 2006. For more information, visit the conference web site or e-mail the conference secretariat at icee@ncree.org.tw.

News of the Membership

Hajjar Named MAE Center Deputy Director

Jerome F. Hajjar has been named deputy director of the Mid-America Earthquake (MAE) Center. Headquartered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the MAE Center is one of three national earthquake research centers in the United States. In August 2005, Hajjar joined the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where he is professor of civil and environmental engineering and the Narbey Khachaturian Faculty Scholar. Previously he was a structural engineer and associate at Skidmore Owings & Merrill from 1988 to 1992, and a professor of civil engineering at the University of Minnesota from 1992 to 2005, where he participated in building and commissioning the NEES facility at Minnesota.

Hajjar’s primary research activities are in the field of computational analysis, experimental testing, and design of steel and composite steel/reinforced concrete structures. Hajjar has a B.S. in engineering mechanics from Yale (1982) and an M.S. (1985) and a Ph.D. (1988) in structural engineering from Cornell. As vice chair of the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Specification Task Committees on Composite Construction; Stability; and Loads, Analysis, and Systems, he led the editing of the AISC Commentary for the 2005 AISC Specification. He was on the Building Seismic Safety Council (BSSC) Provisions Update Committee and the BSSC Task Subcommittee 11 on Composite Construction, and he is the past chair of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Structural Engineering Institute Technical Administrative Committee on Metals. Hajjar has received ASCE and AISC awards for his research on steel and composite construction. As deputy director of the MAE Center, Hajjar is assuming a major leadership role in the new integrated plan for consequence-based risk management. He will coordinate the MAE Center’s thrust on Engineering Engines, and will be an investigator on the center’s Advanced Simulation Tools Project.
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.

OCTOBER

3-15. 8th Workshop Nonlinear Dynamics & EQ Prediction, Trieste, Italy. Info: agenda.ictp.trieste.it/smr.php?1676 (5/05)


18. Disasters Roundtable Workshop, Washington, DC. Info: dels.nas.edu/dr (9/05)

18-21. Involving the Community in Disaster Risk Reduction Programs, Punto Fijo, Venezuela. Info: Juan Murria, murrias@cantv.net (4/05)

20. EQ Centennial Lecture Series, UC Berkeley & Stanford. See page 12. (10/05)

25. Asia Earthquake & Tsunami Symposium, Los Angeles, CA. Info: www.copresearch.org/events/tsunamiquake.cfm (7/05)

25-28. Dam Failure Analysis, Salt Lake City UT. Info: www.damsafety.org (9/05)


NOVEMBER


(10/05)

3-4. ASCE/CERF Conference, Tysons Corner, VA. Info: www.cerf.org/ (9/05)


12-16. Int’l Ass’n of Emergency Managers Annual Conf. & Exhibit, Phoenix, AZ. Info: www.iaem.com (9/05)

16-18. World Conf. on Disaster Reduction, Mumbai, India. Info: www.wcdr.fdr.org (7/05)

18. COSMOS Annual Meeting Technical Session, Millbrae, CA. Info: www.cosmos-eq.org (9/05)


DECEMBER

5-9. AGU Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA. Info: www.agu.org/meetings/fm05 (9/05)

2006

JANUARY

31-Feb. 2. IMAC-XXIV: Conf. on Struc. Dynamics, St. Louis, MO. Info: www.sem.org (6/05)

APRIL

18-21. 8th U.S. Nat’l Conf. on EQ Eng. (8NCEE), EERI Annual Meeting, SSA Annual Meeting, Disaster Resistant California, San Francisco, CA. Info: www.eeri.org. See page 1. (5/04, 7/05, 8/05, 9/05, 10/05)

MAY

19-21. SECTAM XXIII, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. See page 10. (10/05)

21-24. 5th UCLA Conf. on Public Health and Disasters, Long Beach, CA. Info: www.cphd.ucla.edu/ (9/05)

JUNE


AUGUST

14-17. 5th Int’l Conf. on Behavior of Steel Structs, in Seismic Areas (STESSA), Tokyo, Japan. Info: www.serc.titech.ac.jp/stessa2006 (2/05)

SEPTEMBER


OCTOBER

12-13. 4th Int’l Conf. on EQ Eng. (4ICEE), Taipei, Taiwan. See page 10. (10/05)

McGavin

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geology and soil science in the Construction Inspection Certificate Program. Since 1997, he has been teaching earthquake design and structures in the Department of Architecture at Cal Poly Pomona.

McGavin was the architect for the Landers Elementary School, which was situated less than 0.4 miles from approximately 12 feet of horizontal offset in the 1992 Landers earthquake. This facility sustained virtually no damage (cosmetic ceiling tile damage only) and was immediately used as an emergency center by the CDF and Red Cross.

He is the author of numerous works, including Earthquake Protection of Essential Building Equipment (John Wiley and Sons, Inc.). He was a co-author of Architectural Graphic Standards, 7th, 8th, and 9th editions. McGavin has been licensed to practice architecture in California since 1981. He earned a B.Sc. degree in geology at UC Riverside and a masters degree in architecture at Cal Poly Pomona.
Announcement

Earthquake Centennial Lecture Series at UC Berkeley and Stanford

Stanford University and the University of California at Berkeley are jointly hosting a 1906 Earthquake Centennial Lecture Series comprising seven lectures from September 2005 through March 2006. The lectures begin with historical and social perspectives and lead into scientific, engineering, and societal response aspects of earthquakes and mitigation. Most of the lectures are offered twice, once at Stanford and once at Berkeley. The first part of the series kicks off with a lecture by Kevin Starr, a professor of history at the University of Southern California, speaking on “The Great Earthquake and Fire of April 1906—Lessons Learned” (September 29 at Stanford, October 20 at UC); followed by Malcolm E. Barker on “Through the Eyes of the Survivors” (October 25 at Stanford, October 26 at UC); and Stephen Tobriner on “Bracing for Disaster: Engineers, Architects, and the San Francisco Earthquake of 1906” (November 15 at Stanford, November 16 at UC).

Part 2 of the series covering earth science, earthquake engineering, preparedness, and disaster response begins with Chris D. Poland on "Restrain, Respect and Rehabilitate: A Tale of Three Seismic Projects at Stanford" (January 17 at Stanford only), followed by Mary Lou Zoback on “The 1906 Earthquake: Lessons Learned, Lessons Forgotten, and Future Directions” (January 31 at Stanford, February 1 at UC); Eric Elsesser on “Improving Seismic Safety and Performance of Buildings Through Innovative Structural Engineering” (February 15 at UC, February 16 at Stanford); Kathleen Tierney on “Social Dimensions of Catastrophic Disasters: From the 1906 Earthquake to Hurricane Katrina” (February 28 at Stanford, March 1 at UC); and Mary Comerio on “Designing for Disaster: U.C. Berkeley Thinks Ahead” at UC only (date to be determined).

All lectures begin at 7:30 p.m. Events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit quake06.stanford.edu/ and seismo.berkeley.edu/seismo/1906/events.html.

Announcement

AEES 2005

The Australian Earthquake Engineering Society (AEES) will hold its annual conference November 25-27, 2005, in Albury, New South Wales, Australia. There will be technical presentations on the following topics: tectonic issues and seismic activity modeling, earthquake attenuation, site response, hazards and microzonation, structural design, performance assessment, retrofitting, geotechnical issues, emergency management and response, lifelines, codes and regulations, insurance and risk studies, social and economic issues, and blast effects on buildings.

Topics by invited speakers will include earthquake engineering in regions of low to moderate seismicity, a tsunami warning system for the Indian Ocean, seismic risk modeling, overview of blast engineering, the structural engineering aspects of tsunami damage, and the insurance aspects of tsunami damage. The early registration deadline is October 24. For more information and to download a registration form, visit www.aees.org.au/.