



**EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
NEWSLETTER**

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ISSN 0270-8337

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**EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING  
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

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**News of the Institute**

**2012 EERI Annual Meeting & NEC Days Away**

The jointly organized 2012 EERI Annual Meeting & National Earthquake Conference taking place April 10-13 at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, is now only days away. The Conference Organizing Committee decided months ago to conserve resources and not issue a printed version of the complete Conference Notebook. Instead, it is now available online at <http://2012am.eeri.org/program/final> as a PDF with linked bookmarks to each section for viewing and downloading. At the conference, attendees will receive a flash drive containing the full notebook. They will also receive a small-format Conference Journal with an abridged program and room for taking notes. On the back cover of the journal are printed two QR (quick response) codes, one of which, when scanned by a smart phone or similar device, will provide access to the online notebook. The other will enable users to register for PDH credits after the meeting. Up to 24 PDHs can be earned by attending all sessions.



Scan to access Conference Notebook: <http://2012am.eeri.org/program/final>

Depending on when you read this, if you have not already registered to attend the meeting, it may not be too late! Visit <https://www.eeri.org/registration/am.php>. The Peabody Hotel is sold out for most nights of the meeting. Nearby hotels in downtown Memphis are listed at <http://2012am.eeri.org/hotel>.



*The Memphis Pyramid: One of the largest seismic retrofit projects in the eastern U.S. (photo: Exo-thermic)*

**LFE Launches New Website**

EERI's Learning from Earthquakes project has a new and greatly improved website. The new site features the LFE Reconnaissance Archive, which is a searchable and sortable table that lists and links to resources for nearly 300 earthquakes. There is an event page for each earthquake with photos and links to reports and *Newsletter* articles — essentially all EERI archived resources for the event. You can search and sort the archive by event, location, magnitude, and date, making it easier to find the information you are looking for. Check out the new Learning from Earthquakes home page at <http://www.eeri.org/projects/learning-from-earthquakes-lfe/> or go directly to the LFE Reconnaissance Archive <http://www.eeri.org/projects/learning-from-earthquakes-lfe/lfe-reconnaissance-archive/>.

**LFE Reconnaissance Archive**

Graphical Representation of Resources

Earthquake Information

Below is a table listing all the earthquakes we have in the EERI Reconnaissance Archive. For specific earthquakes, type in your search criteria in the Search box, and the table will automatically filter your search results.

Sortable by Date, Magnitude, Event, Country, and available resources

(Edit)

Show 50 entries

Searchable

Search:

Date (YYYY-MM-DD)	Mw	Event	Country					
2011-11-05	5.6	Oklahoma	USA					
2011-10-23	7.1	Eastern Turkey	Turkey					
2011-09-18	6.9	Bhutan Western Border	Bhutan					

Legend

- Newsletter Article
- Reconnaissance Team Report
- Earthquake Spectra
- Earthquake Clearinghouse
- Photo Gallery
- Other Resources

## Obituary

### Clarkson W. Pinkham, 1919-2012

EERI Honorary Member Clarkson W. Pinkham (“Pinky”) passed away at his home peacefully in his sleep on January 30, 2012, at the age of 92. Pinky had a distinguished career in structural engineering at the firm of S. B. Barnes Associates in Los Angeles, California, where he worked for 62 years. He became an associate of the firm in 1956 and its president in 1964. He had extensive knowledge of the testing and use of a variety of materials for the design of building components. He played a critical role in developing new criteria for seismic design in California that later became incorporated into national building codes.



*Clarkson W. Pinkham*

Pinky was a member of countless professional and civic organizations. He served a term on the EERI Board of Directors and was the subject of the 13th volume in the oral history series, published in 2006 (<https://www.eeri.org/products-publications/free-publications-and-reports/oral-history-series/>). For several years, he was active on (and chaired for three years) the Seismology Committee of the Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC), leading up to the 1973 edition of the SEAOC Blue Book. In the aftermath of the 1971 San Fernando earthquake, the 1973 edition set the standard for the state-of-the-art seismic provisions dealing primarily with changes for reinforced concrete walls and ductile frames. Pinky’s experience and insights were extremely important in giving a broad perspective to what was included in the Blue Book. During this exciting era, Pinky was also active with the American Concrete Institute (ACI), the American Iron and Steel Institute, the American Institute of Steel Construction, and the American Society of Civil Engineers in developing proper seismic criteria for concrete and steel design. He helped coordinate the seismic effort of all of these groups in the Seismology Committee meetings, resulting in usable and practical code specifications. Changes made under his direction in the ACI-318 standard remain basically unchanged. As load factor design and metric equivalents came into practice, Pinky was vocal in advocating their use and benefits. With new changes, such as in ASCE-7 for seismic provisions in national codes and ASCE-31 for existing buildings, the concept of strength design is now wholly accepted. Pinky’s other work included ASCE 3 for design of composite slabs and criteria for shear studs now universally used for composite design of steel beams. He was an honorary member of SEAOSC and received awards from ACI and the Structural Engineering Institute of ASCE.

A native of Los Angeles, Pinky earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering in 1947 from the University of California at Berkeley. His education was interrupted by a five-year stint in the U.S. Naval Reserve, during which time he served on the hydrographic U.S.S. Pathfinder surveying the Pacific Islands. He and his wife Emma Lu shared a passion for history. Until a week before he passed away, he was reading about both Lincoln and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle. He developed his own genealogy computer template and always included genealogical research on his business trips. He is survived by a daughter, one of two sons, and five great-grandchildren. A memorial service will be held for Pinky on April 21st at 11:00 at the Church of Our Savior in San Gabriel, California.

## News of the Institute

### Next Round of EERI Interns

After four successful rounds, EERI recently started the 5th rotation of its internship program with two interns chosen from another strong pool of candidates.

The Institute would like to introduce Maggie Ortiz and Jonathon Tai. Maggie graduated with a Master of Engineering degree in structural engineering, mechanics, and materials from UC Berkeley last December. As part of her degree, Maggie studied the behavior of precast concrete façade panels through experimental testing. Jon graduated with a Master of Science degree from the same program at UC Berkeley last spring. In addition to his duties at EERI, he is lecturing at San Francisco State University for the semester.

Maggie and Jon are working together to create photo albums of past earthquake events, to research and review field tools for EERI reconnaissance teams, and to prepare for the upcoming Annual Meeting. Working on these projects offers Maggie and Jon relevant professional experience, exposure to the multidisciplinary aspects of earthquake engineering, and the opportunity to network with others in the profession. Their work also benefits EERI’s mission to gather and disseminate information about earthquake risk reduction and to advocate for realistic measures to reduce the harmful effects of earthquakes.



*Maggie Ortiz and Jonathon Tai*

## News of the Institute

### EERI's Concrete Coalition Looking for Help — Summer Interns and Senior Experts

EERI's Concrete Coalition Project recently received an award from the U.S. Geological Survey to better understand the most serious problems associated with older concrete buildings subjected to seismic loads. This project will develop and provide an initial analysis of a photographic database of images collected from past earthquakes illustrating common deficiencies contributing to the collapse of concrete buildings. Professional experts will develop protocols to determine deficiencies in the photos, and student volunteers will conduct a majority of the analyses.

EERI will select four interns to work fulltime on this project for ten weeks during the coming summer. Each will receive a stipend of \$3,000. The students will find and analyze photos and possibly building drawings under the direction of professional volunteers and EERI staff. Some database development work may also be required. The expected timeframe for the work will be approximately June 1<sup>st</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>.

EERI is looking for professional experts who would be willing to spend a few hours a week working with the interns to find and interpret the photos, and possibly to help design the database.

The overarching objective of the USGS project is the development of a more systematic performance database that can help inform modelers, researchers, and practitioners. It offers an opportunity for students to be involved in a meaningful and potentially ground-breaking exercise, and will link students with senior experts in the field.

The product will be a credible and accessible record of concrete building performance in past earthquakes. This database will provide information on (1) the relative importance of deficiencies with respect to collapse and vulnerability and (2)

failure modes for a variety of construction types. This information can improve vulnerability relationships and the accuracy of regional loss estimates.

For buildings where the exact location is known, the protocols may include the use of ShakeMaps from the global atlas to identify ground motions to which the building was subjected. Recommendations will be made by a project technical manager in consultation with the senior advisory panel on how the deficiency factors can be used to modify vulnerability functions for older concrete buildings in various countries.

To apply for one of the internships, send a cover letter and your resume to Maggie Ortiz at EERI ([Maggie@eeri.org](mailto:Maggie@eeri.org)) by April 16<sup>th</sup>. Interviews will be scheduled for the week of April 23<sup>rd</sup>, and decisions made by April 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, contact Maggie or EERI staff member Marjorie Greene at [mgreene@eeri.org](mailto:mgreene@eeri.org).

To volunteer as a senior mentor or expert for the project, or if you have questions, contact Marjorie or Craig Comartin, director of the Concrete Coalition ([ccomartin@comartin.net](mailto:ccomartin@comartin.net)).

The Concrete Coalition is a network of individuals, governments, institutions, and agencies with shared interest in assessing the risk associated with dangerous nonductile concrete buildings and developing strategies for fixing them. It is a program of EERI, the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center at UC Berkeley, the Applied Technology Council, and partner organizations, including the Structural Engineers Association of California, the American Concrete Institute, the Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

### EERI-NEES Webinar on Precast Concrete Floor Diaphragms

"Seismic Design Methodology for Precast Concrete Floor Diaphragms" is the fifth in a series of Research to Practice Webinars co-produced by the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) and EERI. It will be held **Monday, April 23, 2012**, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. PDT (2:30-4:00 p.m. EDT). There is no cost to attend. To register, go to <https://nees.org/webinar>. PDHs will be available for \$30 from EERI after the webinar.

Precast concrete structures are cost-effective and durable systems, but their poor performance in recent earthquakes has limited their use. Reliable designs and details for the precast floor diaphragms are required for these systems to reach a wider market. To address this issue, a five-part seismic design methodology for precast concrete floor diaphragms has been developed as part of a large multi-university research project termed the DSDM (Diaphragm Seismic Design Methodology) Project, with strong industry collaboration.

In this presentation, Associate Professor Robert Fleischman of the University of Arizona, Ned Cleland of Blue Ridge Design, and S. K. Ghosh of SKG Associates will present the research methods, results, and the main aspects of the design methodology, including a practitioner's perspective on the design procedure, tools for the design office, cost comparisons, and codification efforts.

The DSDM Project was co-funded by the National Science Foundation and NEES, the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute, and the Charles Pankow Foundation. The research, led by the University of Arizona, involved both large-scale structural testing at NEES@Lehigh and a half-scale shake table test at the NEES@UCSD equipment site.

## Summary of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of December 6-7, 2011

**Call to order:** President Thomas Tobin called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Present were all Directors, Executive Director Jay Berger, and Publications Manager Eloise Gilland. Special Projects Manager Marjorie Greene and Public Policy Committee chair Arrietta Chakos joined the meeting at 4:15 p.m. to discuss specific agenda items.

**Publications Sales Report:** The Publications Sales Report indicates that total sales for 2011 are equal to 2010's volume.

**Membership Report:** The Board reviewed the Membership Report by Membership Coordinator Julianne Lane. Berger expressed concern that while the total number of individual members has increased since December 2010 by 11% to 2586, Young Professional memberships decreased by 22% (-59).

**Executive Committee meetings since September 6-7, 2011:** Berger reported that at its October 2011 meeting, the Executive Committee decided to use the "opt-in" approach for members to receive printed copies of the *Newsletter* and *Earthquake Spectra* when renewing individual memberships for 2012.

**President's Report:** Tobin reported on the following aspects of his and Berger's trip to Washington, D.C., November 9-10, 2011:

**NEHRP Advisory Committee Meeting:** Chris Poland, chair of the Advisory Committee on the Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR), asked Tobin to prepare and make a statement to the committee. It urges ACEHR to seek appropriate authorization levels for NEHRP, as members of Congress question the levels when the federal agencies fail to ask.

**Meeting with Administrator Fugate:** On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day, Tobin and Berger met with FEMA Director Craig Fugate.

They were joined by Mitigation Administrator Sandra Knight. Tobin and Berger informed them that EERI supports FEMA in carrying out their NEHRP requirements. Tobin and Berger requested of Fugate that a line item for the earthquake program be reestablished in the budget.

**Secretary/Treasurer's Report**  
**Overview of Revenue and Expense Reports:** Considering the original 2011 budget that projected a \$200,000 loss for the year, EERI is doing much better, as the loss will be approximately \$65,000.

**Investment Report and Overview:** Lew said the investment funds are doing well, thanks in part to the fact that the Finance Committee recommended rebalancing them in October.

The combined balance sheet showed year-to-date positive revenue for Association Programs of \$22,695 as of October 31, 2011. Adding this to the opening fund balance for Association Programs (January 1, 2011) of \$384,037 results in a total fund balance of \$406,732. Association Program liabilities as of October 31, 2011, were \$218,010, resulting in total assets of \$624,742. The Endowment Fund's total assets on October 31, 2011, were \$1,539,977. The balance for the combined Association and Endowment Programs is \$2,164,719.

**Office Move:** Berger said he had signed the lease for EERI to occupy a 3,400 sq. ft. office downstairs within its current building. The overall savings over 90 months is in the range of \$175,000-\$200,000.

**EERI 2011 Technical Seminar Wrap-up:** Berger said the fall seminar on the Seismic Design and Performance of Nonstructural Elements was good quality but not as well attended as hoped. Berger suggested the Board talk about how EERI delivers knowledge. Tobin suggested that EERI do one of each type per year – a live all-day seminar and a webinar.

**Special Issues of *Spectra* on Haiti, Chile and Japan:** The Board expressed appreciation to DesRoches

and Mary Comerio for their outstanding accomplishments as technical co-editors of the special issue of *Earthquake Spectra* on the Haiti earthquake. Berger said the special issue on the Chile earthquake and tsunami is scheduled for publication in June 2012. Progress is being made in discussions on outstanding issues regarding a special issue on the Japan earthquake and tsunami.

**Executive Director's 2011 Performance Measures:** The Board reviewed Berger's outline of 2011 performance measures. The Board agreed that the list of goals was well chosen and Berger's accomplishments were impressive.

**Housner Fellows Program:** Greene reported that 55 applications for the Housner Fellows Program were received. The Board approved the nine applicants recommended by the management committee.

**Public Policy Committee Report:** The Board approved changing the name of the Public Policy Committee to the "Public Policy and Advocacy Committee" as requested by the committee. The Board approved the committee's recommendation that EERI establish a presence in Washington, D.C., to advocate on issues of importance to EERI. Committee chair Arrietta Chakos defined this presence as a networked person or organization experienced with lobbying and the work done by earthquake professionals. This effort would require a financial commitment of up to \$30,000 annually and could begin as a two-year pilot program. Chakos will develop a statement of work to include in a Request for Proposal to the Special Projects and Initiatives Committee.

**Increasing Staff Support for Committees:** Berger said he would like guidance from the Board in dealing with 23 administrative and five technical committees that have varying levels of activity and effectiveness. Rathje said the most important issue is whether committees have clear charges and active committee members, and are held accountable.

The Board agreed with Tobin's request that the Social Science Committee be given the task of developing a social science monograph.

**Publications Policy Committee Report:** DesRoches reported on the deliberations of the Publications Policy Committee teleconference of November 29, 2011. Three issues were addressed:

(1) Revising the Monograph Series:

The Board approved a motion to establish a new publication series focusing on particular topics of interest to members, undertake a process of identifying topics including polling members, and make a decision on who can take the lead on a topic when it is identified.

(2) Format of *Earthquake Spectra* Reconnaissance Reports:

The committee consensus was that EERI is unique in producing peer-reviewed technically credible publications focused on reconnaissance.

(3) Printed Membership Roster:

DesRoches said that the committee favors moving away from print publications or charging an additional amount for printed versions. Many organizations have secure, searchable, and sortable rosters online.

**Learning from Earthquakes Committee Appointments and Charge:**

LFE is at a crossroads, having no NSF funding except for RAPID grants, and having received a World Bank grant in the amount of \$115,000 for developing country reconnaissance and lessons. Joe Maffei summarized in an e-mail to the Board that the new committee's charge is to address the following aspects of EERI's role in reconnaissance:

- EERI's relationships, interactions, and coordination with other reconnaissance groups,
- dissemination of information through online clearinghouses, *Spectra*, seminars, and other products,
- promotion of the multidisciplinary value of what EERI stands for and what its values are,
- the processes involved in assem-

bling teams and the provision of training opportunities for younger professionals, and

- possibilities for beyond-reconnaissance studies of recovery issues.

The Board approved a motion to establish an LFE Committee with the above-described charge.

**Younger Members Committee**

**Appointment:** The Board approved Nick Sherrow-Groves to serve as the new chair of the Younger Members Committee.

**Tsunami Committee:** The Board approved a motion to establish a new EERI Committee on Tsunamis with Lori Dengler as chair.

**New Regional Chapters:** Wong reported on his progress in helping to establish EERI regional chapters in Utah and Portland, Oregon. Tobin said he had met with 20 members in New York City. Seventeen people have signed pledges to launch a Northeast Corridor chapter, intending to draw members within a two-hour commute from Penn Station, including Pennsylvania, the Albany area, and southern Connecticut. Anderson said he had sent information on chapter formation to 44 members in Washington, D.C., Virginia, Delaware, and Maryland.

**Institute Objectives for 2012:** Tobin said he sees EERI's objectives as (1) building the Institute by creating new chapters and reinvigorating existing chapters; (2) a real membership growth strategy supported by staff, as EERI's activities have grown but its membership has not; (3) serving members through (a) a seminar and a webinar in 2012; (b) the successful transition of *Spectra* to a new publisher; (c) a successful Annual Meeting; (d) rebuilding the LFE Program; (e) greater involvement of younger members; (f) wider member participation geographically; (g) reducing the deficit; (h) staff development through training, mentoring, and building a bench in all positions to deal with the unforeseen; (i) Washington, D.C. presence; and (j) increased outreach.

Anderson said prioritizing among

these objectives is crucial given the distribution of resources. A key goal should be to increase the size and capacity of the staff. Anderson said he has always been impressed at how lucky EERI has been to have a competent, resilient staff that can be relied on no matter how the environment changes.

**Adoption of 2012 Budget:** Berger said the proposed 2012 budget includes the Finance Committee's recommendations for (1) an 8% dues increase across most individual membership categories; (2) a staff salary increase averaging 3%, the first in three years; and (3) offering members the choice to "opt-in" for printed and delivered newsletters and issues of *Spectra*. The Board approved the 2012 budget with an additional \$40,000 for the Washington, D.C., lobbyist program and support for the LFE Committee.

**World Bank Project with Japan**

**Knowledge Notes:** Naeim discussed his experience as chair of the Global Expert Group tasked with reviewing knowledge notes, developed by the World Bank, summarizing lessons for developing countries learned from the Japan earthquake and tsunami. It is the fourth task in the EERI-GFDRR (World Bank) agreement.

**Adjourn:** Tobin thanked Lew for his six years of service, representing tremendous effort and contributions. Tobin thanked Naeim for devoting more time to EERI than anyone else he knows of. Naeim said it had been a distinct honor and privilege to be a member of the Board. Tobin said he had known Anderson since the mid-1980s and noticed he always brings humanity and values to EERI's identity and how the Institute functions. Anderson said it had been a real pleasure to work with this Board and serve the membership. Tobin adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m. in memory of Jack Martin, a pioneer who helped define the profession and who passed away within the past week.

## Publications

### Nuclear Facilities Publications

Two new publicly available documents about nuclear facilities are available: (1) *The Central and Eastern U.S. Seismic Source Characterization Model for Nuclear Facilities* (NRC NUREG 2115) is available at [www.ceus-ssc.com](http://www.ceus-ssc.com). This is a regional seismic source model that will be used in probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA) for both new nuclear plants and reevaluation of existing nuclear plants as part of the Generic Issue 199 program of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC). (2) An International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Safety Guide, *Meteorological and Hydrological Hazards in Site Evaluation for Nuclear Installations* (IAEA Safety Standards Series SSG-18), covers international standards for tsunami in addition to other topics. It contains an appendix on approaches for tsunami hazard assessments that includes submissions by the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization and the USNRC.

To access the document, visit <http://www-pub.iaea.org/books/iaeabooks/8635/Meteorological-and-Hydrological-Hazards-in-Site-Evaluation-for-Nuclear-Installations>.

### Report on Health Response to Haiti EQ

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has published *Health Response to the Earthquake in Haiti January 2010: Lessons to Be Learned for the Next Massive Sudden-Onset Disaster*. The 194-page report focuses on the first three months of the response. Emphasis has been given to lessons for countries where main cities could be suddenly devastated. To download the report at no charge, visit <http://new.paho.org/disasters/>. It is currently available in English, with French and Spanish versions in the works.

## Call for Papers

### SMiRT-22 Conference

The organizing committee of the 22nd International Conference on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (SMiRT-22) invites the submission of abstracts by September 17, 2012. The conference will take place August 18-23, 2013, in San Francisco, California, sponsored by the International and American Associations for SMiRT. The conference theme is "Safety and Reliability," as the events at Fukushima Daiichi have triggered a mandate for an assessment of safety and reliability for all nuclear power plants. The assessment for beyond-design events both in the U.S. and Europe is now required in the next three to five years, including all operating plants and plants under licensing, design and construction. Instructions for submitting extended abstracts will be posted on the conference web site, <http://www.smirt22.org/>, which has a list of the 10 divisions of SMiRT that will be included in the conference.

## Announcements

### USGS Research Grants

The U.S. Geological Survey will award up to \$7 million in grants and cooperative agreements for earthquake research in 2013. "These grants have a distinguished history...Some of our current USGS operational products began as earthquake research grants that were then handed over to the agency for long-term implementation," said USGS Director Marcia McNutt. The USGS awards approximately 90 research grants to universities, state geological surveys and private institutions. Interested researchers can apply online at [GRANTS.GOV](http://GRANTS.GOV) under the funding opportunity number G12AS20013. Applications are due May 17, 2012.

### Liu Huixian Scholarships

The Huixian Earthquake Engineering Foundation (HEEF) in China and the US-China Earthquake Engineering Foundation (USA) are offering ten Liu Huixian Earthquake Engineering Scholarships in 2012 for graduate students from China, the United States, and Singapore, or who are enrolled in member organizations of the Asian-Pacific Network of Centers for Earthquake Engineering Research (ANCER). Students selected for the award will be issued a certificate and RMB 10,000 (approximately US\$1,500) from the two foundations. Applications must be submitted by April 20, 2012. For application information, visit [http://hxeeef.iem.cn/hxeeefeng/1-Home\\_Page/xw8.html](http://hxeeef.iem.cn/hxeeefeng/1-Home_Page/xw8.html)

### Summer Workshop in Germany for Graduate Students

A maximum of 40 applicants will be selected to participate in a Workshop on Model Validation and Simulation to be held August 6-17, 2012, in Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Germany, funded by the European Commission Lifelong Learning Programme. The course is tailored to advanced master's and doctoral candidates in the fields of structural engineering and modeling, natural hazards and risk management, geodynamics, and foundation engineering. The course language is English. The course fee is €450. Participants will be required to give a short presentation on one of six topics and must submit their papers (max. 10 pages) by July 31. A letter of application and an abstract are due by May 31. For more information, visit <http://www.uni-weimar.de/summerschool/en/welcome/engineering-environment/model-validation-and-simulation.html>.

## CALENDAR

The issues containing the first and subsequent appearances are indicated at the entry's end. Items listed for the first time are shown in bold.

### 2012

#### APRIL

10-13. EERI Annual Meeting/Nat'l

EQ Conf., Memphis, TN. <http://2012am.eeri.org/>. See page 1.

(11/11, 12/11, 1/12, 2/12, 3/12, 4/12)

13-15. New Zealand Soc. for EQ Eng. Annual Conf., Christchurch, NZ. [conference.nzsee.org.nz/](http://conference.nzsee.org.nz/) (10/11)

17-19. Seismological Soc. of America Annual Mtg. San Diego, CA. [www.seismosoc.org/meetings/2012/index.php](http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/2012/index.php) (10/11, 1/12)

18-20. Steel Conference, Grapevine, TX. [www.aisc.org/nascc](http://www.aisc.org/nascc) (2/12)

19. Liquefaction State-of-the-Art Forum, St. Louis, MO. <http://dfi.org/conferencedetail.asp?id=208> (2/12)

20. Khan Distinguished Lecture, Lehigh Univ., Bethlehem, PA. <http://www.lehigh.edu/~infrk/> (11/11)

**23. EERI-NEES Webinar on Pre-cast Concrete Floor Diaphragms.** See page 3. (4/12)

#### MAY

4. Los Angeles Tall Bldgs Struct. Design Council Conf., LA, CA. <http://www.tallbuildings.org> (3/12)

16-17. SuperPile 2012, Portland, OR. [dfi.org/conferences.asp](http://dfi.org/conferences.asp). See this page. (12/11, 4/12)

18-21. Int'l Conf. on EQ Eng.: Research Challenges, Harbin, China. e-mail Ms. Bing Bai, [iceer2012@iem.cn](mailto:iceer2012@iem.cn). (9/11)

28-30. 2nd Int'l Conf. PBD in EQ Geotech. Eng., Taormina, Italy. <http://www.2pbd-taormina.org/>. See page 6. (5/11, 3/12)

#### JUNE

17-20. 11th ASCE Joint Specialty Conf. on Probabilistic Mechanics & Structural Reliability (EMI/PMC 2012), South Bend, IN. <http://www.nd.edu/~emipmc12/> (12/11)

18-22. Short Course on Grouting Fundamentals & Current Practice, Golden, CO. <http://csmospace.com/>

events/grouting/ (2/12)

20-22. Int'l Conf. on Public Works for Public Learning, San Francisco, CA. [www.pwplconference.com](http://www.pwplconference.com) (2/12)

#### JULY

8-12. 6th Int'l Conf. on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management (IABMAS 2012), Lake Como, Italy. [www.iabmas2012.org](http://www.iabmas2012.org) (12/10, 1/11)

#### AUGUST

**21-22. 6th Australasian Natural Hazards Management Conf. 2012.** See this page. (4/12)

26-30. 4th Int'l Disaster & Risk Conf. (IDRC), Davos, Switzerland. <http://www.idrc.info/> (2/12)

31-September 1. 5th Int'l Tsunami Symp. (ITS), Davos, Switzerland.

***Abstract deadline extended to June 30.*** <http://www.tsunamisociety.org/5thTsunamiSymposiumDAVOS2012.pdf> (2/12)

#### SEPTEMBER

12-15. SEAOC Convention, Santa Fe, NM. <http://convention.seaoc.org/> (2/12, 3/12)

19-21. Council on Tall Buildings & Urban Habitat (CTBUH) World Cong., Shanghai, China. <http://www.ctbuh.org/shanghai2012/> (11/11)

19-21. 18th IABSE (Int'l Ass'n for Bridge & Structural Eng.) Cong., Seoul, Korea. [www.iabse.org/Seoul2012](http://www.iabse.org/Seoul2012) (12/11)

24-28. 15th World Conf. on EQ Eng. (15WCEE), Lisbon, Portugal. [www.15wcee.org/](http://www.15wcee.org/) (8/10, 8/11, 11/11, 12/11)

#### OCTOBER

3-6. Symp. on Life-Cycle Civil Eng. (IALCCE), Vienna, Austria. [www.ialcce2012.org](http://www.ialcce2012.org) (12/10, 1/11)

15-17. 8th Int'l Conf. on Structural Analysis of Historical Construction (SAHC 2012), Wrocław, Poland. [www.sahc2012.org](http://www.sahc2012.org) (1/12)

16-19. Deep Foundations Institute (DFI) Annual Conf., Houston, TX. [www.dfi.org/conferencedetail.asp?id=193](http://www.dfi.org/conferencedetail.asp?id=193) (12/11)

#### 2013

#### APRIL

3-5. Architectural Eng. Institute Conf., University Park, PA. <http://www.engr.psu.edu/ae/AEI-2013/>

**Call\_for\_Papers.asp** (3/12)

29-May 4. 7th Int'l Conf. on Case Histories in Geotech. Eng., Wheeling, IL (Chicago area). <http://7icchge.mst.edu> (12/11, 2/12)

#### MAY

19-23. 4th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, Geneva Switzerland. <http://www.internationaldisasterconference.com/> (1/12)

#### AUGUST

18-23. 22nd Int'l Conf. on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology (SMiRT-22), San Francisco, CA. [www.smirt22.org](http://www.smirt22.org) (2/12, 4/12)

### Call for Abstracts

## Australasian Conf.

A call for abstracts (deadline April 15) has been issued for the 6<sup>th</sup> Australasian Natural Hazards Management Conference 2012, to be held August 21–22, 2012, at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch, New Zealand. Optional workshops are scheduled both before and after the conference, on August 20, 23, and 24. The pre-conference one-day Workshop on the Christchurch Earthquakes (limited to 400 persons) is being organized in partnership with EERI and will focus on preliminary research findings and further research questions. EERI will be seeking funds to support the travel of U.S. participants. For more information, visit [www.hazardseducation.org/conference](http://www.hazardseducation.org/conference).

### Announcement

## SuperPile 2012

Registration is open for SuperPile 2012, to be held May 16-17 in Portland, Oregon, on the subjects of driven piles, augered cast-in-place/drilled displacement piles, micropiles, marine construction, testing and evaluation of foundation systems, seismic design, and drilled shafts. The nonmember registration fee is \$645 (DFI members \$545). For more information, visit <http://dfi.org/conferences.asp>.



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EERI Newsletter, April 2012 Volume 46, Number 4

## News of the Institute

### Stone Masonry Tutorial in Print

The World Housing Encyclopedia (WHE) tutorial *Improving the Seismic Performance of Stone Masonry Buildings* is now available in print. Authored by Jitendra Bothara of New Zealand and EERI member Svetlana Brzev of Canada, the tutorial explains the underlying causes for the poor seismic performance of traditional stone masonry dwellings and offers techniques for improving both new and existing buildings.

The tutorial can be ordered from EERI's online store ([https://www.eeri.org/cds\\_publications/catalog/](https://www.eeri.org/cds_publications/catalog/)) for only the cost of shipping and handling (\$10 within the U.S., \$15 to Canada and Mexico, and \$20 to other countries). The Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery of the U.N. Development Programme is distributing copies in Asia for use in training programs. Copies are also available from the National Information Centre of Earthquake Engineering (NICEE) at the Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur ([nicee.org](http://nicee.org)).

Production of the tutorial was supported in part by generous contributions from the New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering and the Earthquake Engineering Center of the University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar, Pakistan. To download the electronic version, visit <http://www.world-housing.net/tutorials/stone-tutorials>. The WHE is a joint project of EERI and the International Association for Earthquake Engineering (IAEE).

## News of the Membership

### Shafei Named ASCE "New Face of CE"

EERI member Behrouz Shafei, assistant professor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, was named a 2012 New Face of Civil Engineering by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). Shafei believes his service as an officer of the EERI Student Leadership Council for four years (2007-2011) helped him to receive this recognition. Shafei earned a doctorate in civil engineering from the University of California at Irvine (UCI) after receiving his master's degree from the University of Tehran in Iran.



*Behrouz Shafei*

Shafei received the Henry Samuelli Endowed Fellowship (2007-2008) and Public Impact Distinguished Fellowship (2011) from UCI. With research funding provided by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, he developed a unique risk assessment methodology for civil infrastructure systems under distressed conditions. Shafei believes the outcome of this research will significantly enhance the resilience and sustainability of such systems around the United States and potentially worldwide. Shafei is a member of the Seismic Effects Committee of ASCE's Structural Engineering Institute.

## News of the Profession

### Oregon School Seismic Legislation

SB 1566, a bill requiring that seismic safety of schools be addressed annually in the statutes of two state agencies, recently passed in both the Oregon House of Representatives and the Senate. A February 26 article in the *Salem Statesman-Journal* reported that Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, has been frustrated that only a few million dollars have been spent ten years after voters approved \$1 billion in state bonding authority. He blames political infighting for stalling the effort. SB 1566 calls for listing each school's seismic rating on annual report cards. Courtney hopes that parents of students in high-risk schools will demand an end to the infighting.

## M 7.4 Mexico Quake

A magnitude 7.4 earthquake struck southern Mexico near the border of Guerrero and Oaxaca states on March 20, 2012. At least two people were killed and approximately 13,500 homes were damaged near the epicenter, according to the Associated Press. Mexico has been shaken by at least 280 aftershocks, with the strongest reported by the USGS as M 6.0 occurring on Monday, April 2. A reconnaissance team with members from the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana and the Sociedad Mexicana de Ingeniería Sísmica traveled to the epicentral area the last week of March. They will submit a report for an upcoming *EERI Newsletter*.