

2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

Cornell University Student Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

Report Date: June 26, 2015

This report summarizes the membership and activities conducted by the Cornell University Student Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute during the 2014-2015 academic year.

MISSION & GOALS

The objective of the EERI/CU Student Chapter is to encourage and inform students and the community about reducing earthquake risk by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering, by improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political and cultural environment, and by advocating comprehensive and realistic measure for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. The purpose of the EERI/CU Student Chapter shall be the dissemination of knowledge of the theory and practice of all phases of earthquake engineering and other related fields as well as the furtherance of student professional development.

MEMBERSHIP

The Cornell University Student Chapter had a total of 16 members in 2014-2015.

OFFICERS

The Board consisted of the following members:

Role	Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
President	Brad Wham	14767	Bpw37@cornell.edu	Graduate student
VP	Victoria Rhodes		var32@cornell.edu	Graduate student
Social Chair	Christina Argyrou		Ca353@cornell.edu	Graduate student
Treasurer	Kimberly Bernstein		Kjb92@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Secretary	Shannon Spiers		Sss270@cornell.edu	undergraduate

FACULTY & INDUSTRY ADVISORS

Thomas D. O'Rourke	tdo1@cornell.edu	Chapter Faculty Advisor
Mircea Dan Grigoriu	mgd12@cornell.edu	UG Seismic Design Team Advisor
Sissy Nikolaou	snikolaou@mrce.com	Industry Advisor

MEMBERS

A complete list of members is shown below.

Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
Brad Wham	14767	Bpw37@cornell.edu	Graduate student
Alin Radu		Acr99@cornell.edu	Graduate student
Christina Argyrou		Ca353@cornell.edu	Graduate student
Victoria Rhodes		Var32@cornell.edu	undergraduate
Carleen Altinok		Cma98@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Kimberly Bernstein		Kjb92@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Justyna Bujno		Jb956@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Julian Couto-Carter		Jrc338@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Mitchell Fanning		Mpf45@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Justin Guo		Jg776@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Scott Kaufman		Sk963@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Stella Kim		Mk979@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Charis Lin		Cl857@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Juan Meriles		Jim53@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Jason Schwab		Jrs436@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Shannon Spiers	16655	Sss275@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Sean Thompson		St622@cornell.edu	Undergraduate

Daniel Wilentz		Djw297@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
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BUDGET & FINANCIALS

Briefly describe the chapter budget and financials, with text description or any tables and charts as needed.

List any financial sponsors of your chapter.

Sponsor Name/Organization	Contact Person	Amount
FEMA		\$130.00
Cornell School of CEE		

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Describe chapter meeting activities including, at a minimum, a summary statement of the meetings held during academic year, giving the date of each, the attendance, the principal meeting activity, the invited speaker (if there is one) and his or her subject, and any other pertinent information about the meeting activity. Consider including images for each activity in this section, and consider adding any fliers, documents or other supporting information in an appendix as needed. The section headers below are intended to be a guide to help you organize information about your activities, however feel free to edit them as necessary to best reflect your chapter's activities.

REGULAR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Regular chapter meetings were held in Takeo Mogami Geotechnical Laboratory in Hollister Hall. Typical meetings included discussion and planning of upcoming events, updates from the Undergraduate Design team, discussion of earthquake related current events and informal presentations from members about their earthquake related research.

Holiday Can Food Drive

The chapter helped plan and contribute to a school wide canned food drive competition and social. EERI/CU competed against ASCE and other student run organizations to collect the most non-perishables for donation to the local food pantry. The collections were used to prepare meals for those in need during the holiday season.

EERI Annual Meeting

Along with the undergraduate design team, chapter members attended the 2015 Annual Meeting in Boston to present research, connect and socialize with EERI members, attend lectures and workshops, and support the UG design competition.

SEISMIC DESIGN COMPETITION TEAM

The purpose of the Seismic Design Team at Cornell University is to create a competitive format in an area of engineering that the school had not previously given to their students. In the School of Engineering, there are

several project-oriented teams that are created for undergraduate students to learn and compete. While there are many disciplines covered in these project teams, the SDC Team is the first of its kind at Cornell to study earthquakes and compete in a structural design competition.

SDC Team Members

A complete list of members is shown below.

Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Role
Carleen Altinok		Cma98@cornell.edu	Member
Kimberly Bernstein		Kjb92@cornell.edu	Coordination Lead
Justyna Bujno		Jb956@cornell.edu	Member
Julian Couto-Carter		Jrc338@cornell.edu	Captain
Mitchell Fanning		Mpf45@cornell.edu	Architecture Lead
Justin Guo		Jg776@cornell.edu	Member
Scott Kaufman		Sk963@cornell.edu	Member
Stella Kim		Mk979@cornell.edu	Safety Officer
Charis Lin		Cl857@cornell.edu	Member
Juan Meriles		Jim53@cornell.edu	Member
Jason Schwab		Jrs436@cornell.edu	Design Lead
Shannon Spiers	16655	Sss275@cornell.edu	Construction Co-Lead
Sean Thompson		St622@cornell.edu	Member
Daniel Wilentz		Djw297@cornell.edu	Construction Co-Lead

SDC Team Financial Sponsors

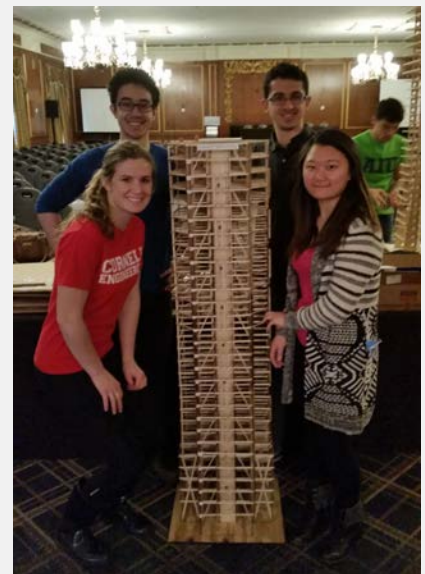
A list of financial sponsors for the SDC team.

Name	Email	Amount	Note

Simpson Gumpertz & Heger	Smereves-Carolan@sgh.com	\$1000	
Casey Stevenson	CRStevenson@sgh.com	\$250	

Team results and lessons learned

The Cornell Seismic Design Team placed 21st overall at the 2015 competition, down from 9th place the previous year. While we improved by more than 10 ranks in most scoring subcategories, our structural model collapsed which heavily impacted our overall position. We partially attribute this to damage our model suffered during shipping. Regardless, the 2015 competition was a great time as well as an excellent learning experience for attending members. Moving forward, we'll take more precautions to ensure our model arrives undamaged, as well as incorporate the innovative ideas and design strategies employed by more successful teams. Some photos of our model and competition experience are attached.



ELECTION & ELECTION RESULTS

The chapter election for officers for the 2015-2016 academic year will take place in September 2015. The table below shows the new officers appointed to the undergraduate design team who will take office on September 2015.

Role	Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
President	Brad Wham		Bpw37@cornell.edu	Graduate Student
UGDT Captain	Daniel Wilentz	16854	Djw297@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Coordination Lead	Justyna Bujno		Jb956@cornell.edu	Undergraduate student

Design Lead	Carleen Altinok		Cma98@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Construction Lead	Stella Kim	16848	Mk979@cornell.edu	Undergraduate
Construction Lead	Scott Kaufman		Sk963@cornell.edu	Undergraduate