

2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

University of Notre Dame Student Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute



Report Date: May 2, 2016

This report summarizes the membership and activities conducted by the University of Notre Dame Student Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute during the 2015-2016 academic year.

MISSION & GOALS

In light of the recent disasters, which have claimed so many lives and destroyed so much property, it is essential that engineers become aware of the increasing threats of natural hazards and techniques to mitigate them. While research at the University of Notre Dame focuses in many of these areas, a vast majority of the undergraduate population is unaware of such efforts. Thus, EERI@UND was established to provide the next generation of practicing engineers with a venue to discuss the latest developments in the areas of Earthquake Engineering to better prepare them for the challenges which will await them in their careers.

Awareness, however, should not be limited solely to engineers as earthquakes affect every aspect of human life. Thus EERI@UND will also extend its mission to educate and increase awareness of natural disasters and mitigation techniques across this campus and the wider community.

Our parent organization, EERI, is a nationally recognized organization dedicated to reducing earthquake risk by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering by improving the understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political, and cultural environment, and by advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes.

MEMBERSHIP

The University of Notre Dame Student Chapter had a total of 7 members in 2015-2016.

OFFICERS

The Board consisted of the following members:

Role	Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
President	Kevin Fink	17678	kfink2@nd.edu	Graduate student
Vice-President	Theresa Aragon	14609	taragon@nd.edu	Graduate student



FACULTY & INDUSTRYADVISORS

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MEMBERS

A complete list of members is shown below.

Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
Erik Jensen	17600	ejensen3@nd.edu	Graduate student
Robert Devine	18215	rdevine@nd.edu	Graduate student
Yenan Cao	18263	ycao2@nd.edu	Graduate student
Shuo Yang	18217	syang5@nd.edu	Graduate student
Evan Gerbo	15778	egerbo@nd.edu	Graduate student
Kevin Fink	17678	kfink2@nd.edu	Graduate student
Theresa Aragon	14609	taragon@nd.edu	Graduate student

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

REGULAR CHAPTER MEETINGS

Meetings: September 24, 2015, January 13, 2016, March 9, 2016, April 27, 2016

During our meetings throughout the year, the goals that the group wanted to accomplish throughout the school year were discussed. The group decided that it wanted to pursue bringing in a guest speaker through the Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program, and after being selected to host Dr. Elizabeth Hausler Strand, held meetings to plan and organize her meetings. The group also identified potential community outreach events at local schools and planned one such event this February. A few graduate students also presented their research at various group meetings.

FRIEDMAN FAMILY VISITING PROFESSIONAL

EERI@UND was honored to host Dr. Elizabeth Hausler Strand as part of the Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program. Dr. Hausler Strand gave an incredibly insightful and engaging presentation regarding the barriers to seismic resiliency facing construction efforts on developing nations. Dr. Hausler Strand discussed her journey to becoming the founder and CEO of Build Change, and her organization's approach to promoting safe building practices. During her visit, Dr. Hausler Strand was able to meet with both undergraduate and student members of Notre Dame's Department of Civil Engineering, where she was able to share her experiences and learn about the work being done by our students.

Northpoint Elementary Science Night

Northpoint Elementary invited us to participate in their Science Night. EERI@UND set up a portable shake table and demonstrated steel building responses to earthquakes using K'NEX models. Club member then helped the elementary students build their own K'NEX structures and tested them on the portable shake table, explaining why some structures performed well while others failed. This was an incredible fun event that EERI@UND hopes to continue to participate in for years to come.

ELECTION & ELECTION RESULTS

An election for officers for the 2016-2017 academic year was held in April 2016. The table below shows the new officers appointed to the Chapter board who will take office in May 2016.

Role	Name	EERI Member Number	Email	Student Status
President	Yenan Cao	18263	Ycao2@nd.edu	Graduate student
Vice-President	Robert Devine	18215	rdevine@nd.edu	Graduate student