



2016 Year-End Report

for the **Northern California Chapter** of the
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

Submitted February 2017

This document summarizes the activities conducted by the Northern California Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute ("EERI-NC" or "the Chapter") in 2016.

EERI NC Mission & Goals

As defined in the 2015 update of the EERI-NC Strategic Plan, the mission of the Chapter is to support people with a common interest in reducing earthquake impacts in Northern California. The Chapter's vision is for a dynamic and visible Chapter with diverse membership and engaging events that helps members serve as leaders in the earthquake hazard mitigation field. Four specific goals are contained in the plan: (1) Govern Responsibly; (2) Engage Membership; (3) Share Knowledge; and (4) Have Impact.

Membership in 2016

The EERI-NC Chapter had a total of 192 members as of October 2016, including 130 regular members, 3 student members, 20 retired members, 24 young professional members, and 10 persons who are members of only the Chapter. The Board consisted of the following members:

President	Betsy Mathieson
President-Elect	Sharyl Rabinovici
Secretary-Treasurer	Dana Brechwald
Director	Jeff Bond
Director	Ibbi Almufti
Director	Zahraa Saiyed
Director	Gerry Brady
Director	Ken Mark
Director	Patricia Grossi

Board meetings were held 9 times, in January, March, May, June, July, September, October, November, and December.

Finance

An operating budget of \$4,475 was approved for 2016. Chapter expenses for 2016 totaled \$3,236, and revenues \$5,315. In addition to membership dues, revenue for 2015 included donations for the student teams participating in the Seismic Design Competition collected at the March Chapter Meeting. The chapter had a significant surplus this year (\$2,078).

The Chapter has typically operated within budget over its 15-year history, and has built up a surplus of about \$21,267. The Board will continue discussion of the use of the surplus in 2017.

Table 1 below shows the objectives identified by the Board for 2016 and 2017 period, along with notes on progress.

2016 and 2017 Chapter Objectives	2016 Progress Notes
1. Increase membership by 15% per year.	<i>Membership remains stable from previous years, at 192 as of October 2016.</i>
2. Build new or deeper relationships with at least two businesses or professional groups that share an interest in reducing earthquake impacts in northern California (e.g., host a joint educational or networking event, produce a white paper).	<p><i>The Board is exploring two possibilities:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Initiating contact with the local American Planning Association chapter, which issued an open call for local partners.</i> • <i>Joining the USGS SAFRR as it launches a year of community discussions about the Haywired Scenario.</i>
3. Select and facilitate one significant volunteer action or project, ideally in partnership with an outside organization or jurisdiction.	<p><i>Three special projects took place in 2016:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chapter members, led by Dana Brechwald, participated in a sidewalk survey of soft-story buildings with the City of Hayward.</i> • <i>Volunteers worked to bring the Albany Adopt-a-City effort to a successful conclusion.</i> • <i>Board and Events Committee members worked to plan field trips for and otherwise support the 2016 annual EERI meeting.</i>
4. Develop a process and prepare a plan for what the Chapter will do in the wake of a local major earthquake, potentially setting aside up to 50% of the reserve to support local post-earthquake response activities.	<i>The Board, led by Zahraa Saiyed, began discussions with representatives from GEER and USGS about developing pre-reconnaissance training and coordination activities for local professionals. The scope of the effort is yet to be determined, but the Board sees a strong need for involving national EERI in this effort to coordinate with its existing LFE program.</i>
5. Update the Chapter's logo.	<i>The Chapter successfully designed and approved a new logo, as shown on the letterhead to this report. The logo was announced to members at the December holiday party. One 2017 goal is to revise the Chapter brochure, website, and newsletter formats to use the new logo.</i>
6. Streamline member communications activities (e.g., newsletters, social media, and other offerings).	<i>A new LinkedIn Group was created. Facebook likes stand at 110.</i>
7. Establish a process for tracking progress and revisiting objectives annually.	<i>The format for the year-end report was amended to include this kind of explicit reporting on goal progress.</i>

The Chapter works to achieve its goals by carrying out regular events for members and other interested persons as well as through special initiatives and partnerships and responsible Chapter governance.

Chapter Meetings

Michael Germeraad and Director Zahraa Saiyed led the Events Committee in 2016. A representative from the committee occasionally attended Board meetings. **Table 2 following** shows the timing and content of each 2016 Chapter meetings and the annual field trip.

Chapter Meeting	Topic	Speakers	Location
March 15, 2016	Vulnerable Concrete Buildings and the Taiwan Earthquake	Bill Holmes	ABAG Offices Oakland, CA
June 9 th , 2016	Communicating Earthquake Risk in 2016	Ross Stein	EPICENTER, San Francisco, CA
July 19 th , 2016	Chapter Happy Hour		Drakes Brewery, Oakland, CA
September 1, 2016	Field Trip Tour: 181 Fremont Tower	Ibbi Almufti Adrian Crowther	San Francisco, CA
October 20 th , 2016	From Performance-Based Engineering to Urban Resilience	Greg Deierlein Dr. Henry V. Burton	Arup Offices San Francisco, CA
December 7, 2016	Holiday and Awards Party	Individual Awardee: Patrick Otellini	Tipping Structural Engineers Berkeley, CA

The number of events was down slightly from the previous year. Attendance ranged from 20 – 35 people for each meeting. Director Ken Mark surveyed attending members at selected meetings and wrote Chapter Meeting summaries. Surveys consistently showed positive feedback for speakers. Ken also took photos for the archives at various events.

At the end of 2016, Events Committee chair Michael Germeraad stepped down after his dedicated and terrific service of several years. Zahraa Saiyed put significant effort into reconstituting the committee. The Board is optimistic that a new group of young committee members will be ready to take on planning events in 2017.

In 2017, the Board intends to continue the trend of planning events addressing a mix of technical and more-policy oriented topics, using a variety of locations including in the east bay and peninsula/Silicon Valley, and experimenting with meeting formats to increase member participation and participation of younger professionals.

Chapter Newsletter: The Quarterly Shake

Director Jeff Bond was the editor-in-chief of the Chapter newsletter, the Quarterly Shake. It was issued twice, in March and October. The goal for 2017 is to issue more regular, shorter newsletters.

2016 EERI Annual Meeting Involvement

The Chapter worked to support the 2016 EERI Annual meeting, held in San Francisco. Ken Marks served as Board liaison to the organizing committee, and also facilitated planning of several field trips for the conference.

Albany Adopt-a-City Project

Since 2011, Chapter members have been working with the city of Albany, CA in a coordinated effort to improve understanding of the risk, vulnerability and impact of a future earthquake and to empower the its development of comprehensive and realistic measures to mitigate the city's earthquake risk.

The project committee made some progress on its 2016 goal of performing HAZUS runs for various ground motion scenarios and shake maps. A final report is expected in 2017. Board will also consider whether, and if so, how, to implement projects similar to this in the future. Many lessons were learned about initiative scope and the importance of having deadlines and maintaining momentum.

Student Chapter Collaboration

The Chapter Board continued its efforts to build ties with the local student chapters. Three Board Directors served as liaisons to the five Bay Area EERI Student Chapters (UC Berkeley, UC Davis, San Jose State, San Francisco State, and Stanford).

In March 2016 meeting, chapter members heard presentations and were invited to donate to help local student chapters participate in the Seismic Design Competition. The Board matched the proceeds from a collection at the Chapter meeting with Chapter funds (refer to the Finance section). A total donation of \$580 was split between the four participating teams.

The Chapter intends to repeat the Seismic Design Competition fundraiser in 2017, and will continue to look for opportunities to build relationships with and support local student chapters.

2016 Election Results

The 2016 election was held from October 24 through November 14 using the LimeSurvey software. Marko Schotanus (Chair), Heidi Tremayne, Greg Deirlein, and Alan Kropp served on the nominating committee. 52 Chapter members completed their online ballots to elect two Directors at-large. The confirmed candidates were:

- Anne Wein
- John Egan

Newly elected and re-elected Board members started their terms officially at the December 7th Board Meeting. Director Ken Mark retired and Director Patricia Grossi stepped down after relocating to the east coast.

2016 "Innovation and Exemplary Practice in Earthquake Risk Reduction" Award Winner

The Chapter traditionally gives two awards annually, to an individual and an institution, in recognition of their hard work and dedication towards the reduction of seismic risk in northern California. The nominating committee Board liaison for 2016 was Jeff Bond.

The Chapter presented its 2016 "Innovation and Exemplary Practice in Earthquake Risk Reduction" awards during the December 7 Holiday Party at Tipping Structural Engineers in Berkeley. The honoree was Parick Otellini, formerly the City of San Francisco's Chief Resilience Officer.

Patrick was unanimously selected for his energy and impact working for the City of San Francisco on its earthquake mitigation and resilience programs. Patrick joined the City in 2012, just as the Community Action Plan for Seismic Safety project was wrapping up and the new Earthquake Safety Implementation Plan was being launched. Patrick enthusiastically took on leadership during this critical transition time. His vision and formidable political skills contributed to passage of ESIP's milestone soft-story ordinance. Other successful initiatives followed, including a private school evaluation ordinance, completion of a lifelines study, and a number of topical working groups.