

EERI New England Regional Chapter Report for 2013-2014

Introduction. This report documents the formation and activities of the New England Chapter (Chapter) of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institution (EERI) from its formation in mid-2013 to the end of 2014. The Chapter encompasses the New England states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Formation. Ivan Wong, a member of the Board of Directors of EERI, solicited interest in the formation of a regional chapter from likely earthquake professionals in a series of emails in January to March 2013. A kick-off meeting was held on 8 April 2013, hosted by Ehsan Kianirad at the offices of Haley and Aldrich (H&A) in Boston. Twenty people attended the Chapter kick-off meeting.

Laurie Baise, Ehsan Kianirad, and Scott Civjan drafted Chapter bylaws that were discussed and finalized at a meeting on 4 June 2013 at the offices of H&A in Boston, and unanimously adopted following a 26 day period of review and comment. The Chapter application and bylaws were approved by the EERI Board on 3 October 2013.

Elections were held online to fill the Chapter Officers and Board of Director positions. The results were determined on 9 December 2013:

President:

Scott Civjan, University of Massachusetts Amherst

President-Elect:

Laurie Baise, Tufts University

Secretary/Treasurer:

Harold Magistrale, FM Global

Directors at Large:

Eric Hines, LeMessurier Consultants

Dominic Kelly, Simpson Gumpertz and Heger

Ehsan Kianirad, Haley & Aldrich (now at AIR Worldwide)

A recent election, ending 14 December 2014, was held to select the next President-Elect. Mario Carnevale of Hager GeoScience was elected. Amy Brown (FM Global), James Kaklamanos (Merrimack College), and Sonia Swift (GEI Consultants) served as the election committee.

On 12 December 2013, EERI announced that they chose Boston as the location of the 2015 Annual Meeting and requested members of the Chapter to serve as the Local Organizing Committee (LOC). After a Chapter meeting at the offices Simpson Gumpertz and Heger (SG&H) hosted by Dominic Kelly on 19 December 2013, the Chapter agreed to be the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).

Activities. At the 19 December 2013 meeting, the Chapter decided to perform three types of activities:

1. A speaker series, with the speakers addressing various issues of interest to the Chapter. About thirty people attended each talk.

- Dominic Kelley of SG&H gave the talk “Potential Changes to Design Requirements for Earthquake Resistance and Its Impact on Design Practice in New England” at the 26 February 2014 Chapter meeting at Northeastern University, sponsored by SG&H.
 - Nicolas Luco of USGS gave the talk “Basis for Maximum Considered Earthquake Ground Motions in New England” at the 3 April 2014 Chapter meeting, hosted by H&R.
 - Ehsan Kianirad, then of H&A, gave the talk “Geotechnical-Earthquake Engineering Building Code Provisions and Impacts on Design” at the 26 June 2014 Chapter meeting sponsored by GEI, in Woburn MA.
 - Harold Magistrale of FM Global gave the talk “Earthquake Risk Maps at FM Global” at the 8 October Chapter meeting, sponsored by SG&H in Waltham.
2. A Working Group, to provide technical discussions and dissemination of information related to the seismic hazard and ground motion mapping in the Northeast. Six to sixteen Chapter members attended each Working Group meeting.
- A Working Group organizational meeting and initial discussion was held 6 January 2014 at Tufts University, hosted by Laurie Baise and Eric Hines.
 - A Working Group meeting with the topic “Soil Effects on Ground Motions” was held 7 May 2014 at Tufts University, hosted by Laurie Baise.
 - A Working Group meeting with the topic “Soil Effects on Ground Motions in the Northeast, Part II” was held 18 August 2014 at Tufts University, hosted by Laurie Baise.
3. The LOC for the 2015 Annual Meeting. The meeting will be March 31 to April 3 2015, at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel.
- The LOC members are (in no particular order) Dave Sykora, Mario Carnevale, Dave Drevinsky, Sergio Brena, Paul Morey, Ehsan Kianirad, Jean Louis Locsin, Jutta Hager, Frank Leathers, Matt Farren, Marc Veletzos, Jerome Hajjar, Laurie Baise, Eric Hines, Dominic Kelly, Harold Magistrale, and Scott Civjan.
 - A LOC organizational meeting was held 17 March 2014 at the Thomas P. O’Neill Federal Building in Boston.
 - A LOC working meeting was held 12 May 2014 at the Thomas P. O’Neill Federal Building in Boston.
 - A LOC working meeting was held 18 September 2014 at Tufts University.
 - A LOC working meeting was held online 19 November 2014.
 - The meetings were supplemented by hundreds of email and phone exchanges.

Roster. The roster lists New England area EERI members, not all have signed up for Chapter affiliation.

Name	Affiliation
Mestu Turel	AIR Worldwide Corp
Tao Lai	AIR Worldwide Corp
Arash Nasseri	AIR Worldwide Corp
Cagdas Kafali	AIR Worldwide Corp
Claire Pontbriand	AIR Worldwide Corp
Jayanta Guin	AIR Worldwide Corp
Karthik Ramanathan	AIR Worldwide Corp
Khosrow Shabestari	AIR Worldwide Corp
Mehrdad Mahdyiar	AIR Worldwide Corp
Ehsan Kianirad	AIR Worldwide Corp
Bonnie Manley	AISI
Yihui Wu	CDR Maguire Inc
John Christian	Christian Consulting
Victor Azzi	Consulting Structural Engineer
David Sykora	Exponent Failure Analysis
Brian Collins	FEMA
Paul Morey	FEMA
Michael Fillion	Fillion Group
Amy Brown	FM Global
Christopher Deneff	FM Global
Harold Magistrale	FM Global
Jochen Carl	FM Global
Yufang Rong	FM Global
Charles Grant	GEI Consultants
Darren Clark	GEI Consultants
Frank Leathers	GEI Consultants
Mary Nodine	GEI Consultants
Matt Farren	GEI Consultants
Mike Paster	GEI Consultants
Mike Yako	GEI Consultants
Sonia Swift	GEI Consultants
David Drevinsky	GSA
Roger Howard	GSA
Jutta Hager	Hager Geoscience
Mario Carnevale	Hager Geosciences
Damian Siebert	Haley & Aldrich
Jean Louis Locsin	Haley & Aldrich
Douglas Ahlers	Harvard Kennedy School
Lawrence Johnsen	Heller and Johnsen

Eric Hines	LeMessurier Consultants
Nathan Roy	LeMessurier Consultants
Richard Henige	LeMessurier Consultants
Steve Mabee	Mass Geologist
James Kaklamanos	Merrimack College
Marc Veletzos	Merrimack College
Maxwell Johnson	Merrimack College
Jesse Richins	Meueser Rutlege Consulting
Sissy Nikolaou	Meueser Rutlege Consulting
Barry Beayen	MIT
Haijiang Zhang	MIT
Miho Mazereeuw	MIT
Zahraa Saiyed	MIT
Andy Myers	Northeastern University
Clayton Brown	Northeastern University
Daniel Gray	Northeastern University
Jerome Hajjar	Northeastern University
Mehrdad Sasani	Northeastern University
Mishac Yegian	Northeastern University
David Odeh	Odeh Engineers Inc
Nicholas Mariani	Parsons Corp
Alfredo Urzua	PEI/BC
Alexa Zilberfarb	Pomona College
Robert Brown	RT Group Inc
Dominic Kelly	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Rabia Sarica-Leclerc	Shaw Group
Glenn Bell	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Mehdi Zarghamee	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Pedro Sifre	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Stan Zagajeski	Simpson Gumpertz and Heger
Praveen Malhotra	StrongMotions
Andres Mendez	Travelers
Bradford Berry	Tufts University
Erkon Yilar	Tufts University
Jessalyn Nelson	Tufts University
Jing Zhu	Tufts University
Laurie Baise	Tufts University
Rosana Martinez	UConn
Albert Sit	UMass Amherst
Alex Testa	UMass Amherst
Alice Alipour	UMass Amherst

Amech Fioklou	UMass Amherst
Brooke Quinn	UMass Amherst
Carlton Ho	UMass Amherst
David Ribbans	UMass Amherst
Don Degroot	UMass Amherst
Jessica Boakye	UMass Amherst
Jose Alvarez	UMass Amherst
Mark Furtado	UMass Amherst
Rami Bahjat	UMass Amherst
Rose (Zhen) Cui	UMass Amherst
Sanjay Arwade	UMass Amherst
Scott Civjan	UMass Amherst
Sergio Brena	UMass Amherst
William P. Clement	UMass Amherst
Arash Esmaili-Zaghi	University of CT
Richard Christenson	University of CT
Ricardo Medina	University of New Hampshire
Shokoufeh Zargar-Shoushtari	University of New Hampshire
Eric Hernandez	University of Vermont
John Lens	University of Vermont
Claudia Flores	USGS
Larry Becker	Vermont Geological Survey
Gershon Larsen	Weidlinger Consultants
John Ebel	Weston Observatory
Vincent Murphy	Weston Observatory
Rubin Zallen	Zallen Engineering
Ali Kazemi	
Andrew O'Donnell	
James Vayanos	
Timothy Blair	
Richard DeConto	