Opportunities

Two ATC Positions

Director, Wind and Flood Hazard Mitigation: The Applied Technology Council (ATC) seeks a structural engineering professional to open and manage an ATC satellite office in the southeastern United States and lead the development of ATC projects pertaining to wind and flood hazard mitigation. Applicants should have experience in wind engineering, coastal engineering, or flood hazard mitigation as well as success in preparing proposals and winning competitive projects.

Project Manager: ATC also seeks a structural engineering professional to manage projects in its Redwood City, California, office.

Desired qualifications for both positions: leadership skills and experience; postgraduate degree(s) in civil (structural) engineering, and/or a professional license as a civil or structural engineer; experience in supervising and managing personnel and projects, ability to facilitate consensus; and experience in preparing, publishing, and presenting technical reports and papers.

For complete job descriptions and application instructions, visit www.atcouncil.org. The closing date for both positions is April 30, 2008.

NSF Seeks ENG AD

National Science Foundation is seeking an Assistant Director for Engineering (ENG), who would manage a directorate comprised of five divisions: chemical, bioengineering, environmental and transport systems; civil, mechanical and manufacturing innovation; electrical, communications and cyber systems; engineering education and centers; industrial innovation and partnerships; and the Office of Emerging Frontiers in Research and Innovation. Qualifications: leadership ability; a deep sense of scholarship; a grasp of the issues facing the engineering community in the areas of education and research; and proficiency in the administration of large-scale facilities and centers. Responses would be appreciated by April 15, 2008. For more information about the application process, responsibilities of the position, and the search criteria, visit http://www.nsf.gov/od.

USGS Grants

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) will award up to $3.4 million in grants and cooperative agreements for earthquake research in 2009. Interested researchers can apply online at http://www.grants.gov under the funding opportunity number 09HQPA0001. Applications are due May 15, 2008, in an electronic-only format.

“We encourage applicants to focus their proposals on earthquake physics, effects, and geographical areas in the United States that are most at risk from earthquakes,” said Elizabeth Lemersal, external research support manager for the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program.

Last year, the USGS awarded 92 research grants to universities, state geological surveys, and private institutions. Key projects include cataloging earthquakes in Southern California to better prepare emergency responders, the public, and the media about earthquakes; providing seismic hazard estimates so communities and critical institutions can engineer their buildings and roads to be structurally sound; and providing data on ground shaking to help minimize damage. For a complete list of funded projects and reports, visit http://earthquake.usgs.gov/research/external.

Learning from Earthquakes

February 20 Simeulue, Indonesia, Earthquake

A large earthquake struck the island of Simeulue, Indonesia, at 3:08 PM local time, killing three people and seriously injuring 25 others. The earthquake occurred at 2.778° N., 95.978° E., at a depth 35 km, and with a moment magnitude of 7.4 (USGS). The earthquake occurred at the south end of the rupture zone of the great magnitude 9.1 earthquake of December 26, 2004, and at the north end of the rupture zone of the magnitude 8.6 Nias Island earthquake of March 28, 2005, where the 2004 and 2005 rupture zones meet. Since 2000, much of the Sunda trench between the northern Andaman Islands to Eggano Island, a distance of more than 2,000 km, has ruptured in a series of large subduction zone earthquakes. The island had survived the 2004 earthquake without much damage.

Although this type of earthquake can cause tsunami, there is no information that one was generated by this event. The USGS has created a poster for this earthquake at: ftp://hazards.cr.usgs.gov/maps/sigeqs/20080220/20080220.pdf.

Epicentral location of Simeulue event.