



EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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March 12, 2020

Notice to EERI SESI Classroom Committee volunteers

Due to escalating public health concerns, EERI has decided to cancel all classroom outreach activities to local elementary and high schools through our SESI program that are planned in the months of March and April 2020.

EERI volunteers are requested to notify their local school contacts of this cancellation. Any canceled visits may be rescheduled for the 2020-2021 academic school year. Please inform the EERI staff and SESI Classroom Committee Chairs of all planned outreach activities that have been canceled.

At this time, any visits currently planned for May and June may remain in a tentative status or be canceled/postponed at the discretion of the SESI volunteers and the school. EERI will revisit cancellation of these visits in April based upon the latest information available at that time. This program relies on a partnership between the SESI volunteer, school teacher, and EERI, and is influenced by the policies of the host school and the volunteer's employer (in some cases), thus these visits will not continue unless all parties agree. Since there is still time before these visits would take place, and the situation is evolving quickly, we would like to keep the possibility open in case the situation improves. Please also notify EERI staff and SESI Classroom Committee Chairs of any visits currently planned for May and June, and please notify local school contacts of the new tentative status for these visits.

EERI further requests that any EERI chapters or universities conducting outreach activities with reusable physical materials sanitize them. EERI can reimburse the costs for sanitizing supplies. Please submit any reimbursements per EERI policies at <https://www.eeri.org/about-eeri/policies-and-plans/reimbursement/>

During this time EERI SESI Classroom member volunteers can consider alternate activities, such as updating lesson plans and written documentation for the outreach programs, or developing virtual materials or activities that could support teachers during this time.

Thanks for your understanding of this sensitive situation.

Heidi Tremayne
Executive Director