News of the Institute

Register for “LFE Lessons for Practice” Seminar

Registration is now open at www.eeri.org for a new one-day EERI technical seminar on “Learning from Recent Major Earthquakes: Lessons for Practice,” with support from FEMA/Department of Homeland Security. Dates and locations are Wednesday, October 24, in Salt Lake City; Thursday, October 25, in Los Angeles; Monday, October 29, in San Francisco; and Tuesday, October 30, in Seattle. Registration fees are $225 for EERI and cosponsor members, $300 for nonmembers, and $125 for EERI student and young professional members.

The online registration site has a link to the seminar brochure PDF with details on the program, presenters, venues, and a printable form to register by fax or mail, if preferred. The brochure is also included in this issue of the Newsletter going to the U.S. and British Columbia. Please share it with your colleagues!

The recent major earthquakes in Chile, New Zealand, and Japan provide many relevant and implementable lessons for U.S. practice. All three countries have advanced levels of earthquake awareness, modern seismic building codes, and unique experience responding to and recovering from damaging earthquakes. Across the range of earthquake professions, this seminar will provide an in-depth understanding of the major lessons from these events.

Topics and presenters include Seismology and Ground Motions (David Wald), Geotechnical Engineering and Lifelines (Ross Boulanger), the Built Environment: Buildings and Bridges (Bill Holmes or Jack Moehle), and Social Impacts: Preparedness, Response and Recovery (Rich Eisner or Laurie Johnson).

The seminar presenters — all EERI members — are leading experts in their respective fields and are especially adept at translating complex findings into practical knowledge. No matter your disciplinary specialty, you will leave this program with lessons useful in your practice that have been learned from research into these once-in-a-generation earthquakes.

New EERI Store: Member Appreciation Sale

The EERI online store has undergone a remarkable transformation! It is now the EERI Knowledge Center and Online Store. EERI is holding a Member Appreciation Sale to mark the opening of this improved and expanded publication website (https://www.eeri.org/store-landing-page/). As a thank you to members, every item in the store is at least 40% off, with many items 75% off! The 40% member discount will be applied to all sale and regular priced items at check-out.

The new site is much more complete and easier to navigate than the old one. You can peruse EERI’s one-of-a-kind collection that includes past issues of Earthquake Spectra, Monographs, Oral Histories, Conference Proceedings. Special Reports, Learning from Earthquakes resources, and World Housing Encyclopedia reports and tutorials. Many PDFs are downloadable at no charge.

The sale ends on September 30th. Stock up now before some items run out. Be sure to log-in with your EERI membership credentials to get the member discount. For orders over 30 pounds, customers will be prompted to download a form to scan and e-mail or fax for a shipping quote.
News of the Institute

Data Papers for Spectra

EERI is pleased to announce the creation of a new type of manuscript for the journal Earthquake Spectra called Data Papers. They are concisely written articles that describe publicly available data related to earthquake engineering or earthquake science. The objectives of a Data Paper are to publicize the existence of publicly available data shared in a repository, to explain the important details of the data, to give necessary guidance to describe how the data might be of value and to re-use the data. These papers do not include interpretations of the data. The Data Paper and associated data will be peer reviewed to ensure that the paper and data are consistent with these objectives.

The overall aim of Data Papers is to increase the re-use and value of data and promote productive collaboration in the research community. Experience has shown that the creation of a data repository on its own does not necessarily catalyze data sharing. It is expected that a Data Paper will complement available data and provide exposure to important datasets.

Data Papers will be published in addition to the traditional papers already being published in Spectra, rather than taking their place. While the George E. Brown, Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) is funding the set-up and production costs for Data Papers, for the first year, they will not be limited to NEES data, but rather will be open to any data associated with earthquake engineering or earthquake science.

The data described in a Data Paper are required to be publicly available and have an assigned Digital Object Identifier (DOI), which ensures that the data has a permanent digital location. NEEShub (nees.org) contains a data repository that assigns DOIs and is available to researchers at no charge.

If you are a researcher with useful data to share, please consider submitting a Data Paper to Spectra. Additional information about the review criteria for Data Papers will be developed soon by the Data Papers Working Group, after which EERI will issue a formal call for papers.

2013 Board Nominees

The 2013 EERI Nominating Committee has submitted a slate of candidates for the two director positions that will become open when directors Joseph Maffei and Ellen Rathje complete their terms next January. The nominees are:

For Director A:
- Scott Ashford, interim dean, College of Engineering, and professor of geotechnical engineering, Oregon State University, Corvallis
- Jorge Meneses, senior seismic engineer, Kleinfelder, San Diego, California

For Director B:
- Marcial Blondet, professor of civil engineering and dean of the graduate school, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru, Lima
- Kenneth Elwood, associate professor of civil engineering, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Additional nominations may be made by the membership in accordance with Article VII of the EERI Bylaws (Sections 4 and 5), upon submission of a petition with signatures of 25 members. Petitions must be received before November 1. Biographies of the candidates and short vision statements will be published in a future issue of the Newsletter and posted on the EERI web site.

2013 Member Dues

EERI membership dues will not change for 2013. This marks the fourth time in the last five years membership dues have not increased. To maintain affordable membership rates while keeping up with rising expenses, the Board of Directors decided to require that those members choosing to receive printed issues of Earthquake Spectra pay the costs associated with printing and mailing. Members will still have unlimited online access to all current and past issues of Spectra, enabling them to read, download and print all articles. Special Issues of Spectra will still be printed and mailed to all eligible members, as well as oral histories and other special publications. For U.S. members choosing to receive printed copies of Spectra, the annual charge for the four regular issues will be only $40.

EERI Bids to Host 16WCEE

On August 20th, EERI submitted a first-rate bid to host the 16th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering in San Francisco in 2016. The Institute previously hosted the 1st WCEE in Berkeley in 1956 and the 8th in San Francisco in 1984. The 16WCEE proposal is built around the theme of Earthquake Engineering for the Resilient Community and features San Francisco as a living classroom of seismic mitigation. The proposed program includes many fresh ways of sharing and learning as cutting-edge elements within a traditional conference format. To view the proposal, visit https://www.eeri.org/wp-content/uploads/EERI_16WCEE_PROPOSAL.pdf.
News of the Institute

Nominations Sought for Shah Innovation Prize

Do you know a young academic or professional who is making a difference in reducing global earthquake risk? Individuals are encouraged to nominate candidates for the Shah Family Innovation Prize from government, private firms, academia, and the international community. EERI membership is not required for either the nominator or candidate. Nomination packages are due in the EERI office by October 15, 2012. Candidates must be less than 35 years of age on January 1, 2013. The selection process recognizes a combination of past accomplishments and future potential, emphasizing creative and innovative thinkers who have demonstrated at early stages in their careers the potential to make major contributions. For more information about the required nomination package, selection criteria, and past winners, visit https://www.eeri.org/about-eeri/honors-awards/shah-family-innovation-prize/.

The Shah Family Innovation Prize was created with a substantial gift to the EERI Endowment Fund by the Haresh C. Shah family of Stanford, California. The intent of the prize is to stimulate further creativity and leadership in the earthquake risk mitigation community and EERI.

E-Affiliate Membership Survey

EERI has an electronic international membership level for new members in identified developing countries, known as E-affiliates. For only $25 a year, E-affiliate members get the following benefits: access to the online Newsletter and Roster, a list of members broken down by state, country, and discipline, access to reconnaissance reports and selected relevant Spectra papers (one to two articles per issue), member rates for all conferences and meetings, and a certificate of EERI membership by email. To better engage the E-affiliate membership, a survey was emailed to gauge their satisfaction and needs from EERI.

Out of 279 surveys sent, 55 E-affiliate members responded. The responses came from 22 countries, with the highest amounts from India and Mexico. More than half are 36-60 years of age and identified their disciplines as civil and structural engineering and education. Ninety-four percent of the members read the monthly online Newsletter. Also, 89% make use of their access to Spectra, reading or downloading one or two articles per issue. Only 18% have attended an EERI meeting due to the cost and time required for travel to the U.S.

For questions that dealt with improving their membership experience, there were many similar responses among E-affiliate members. When asked whether or not webinars would be an attractive incentive for their membership, there was an overwhelming interest in the given topics: construction materials (mainly RC, steel, wood, and masonry), construction quality, lessons learned from recent earthquakes, and sharing practices (design, engineering, policy) from different countries. Lessons learned from recent earthquakes were of the greatest interest. When asked how EERI can better serve them, the most-repeated response was to increase the number of Spectra articles available for download. They also requested design and construction guides. Also desirable would be a forum for discussion of professional issues and interests. Loosening the criteria to establish an EERI chapter in developing countries was proposed. Respondents rated EERI’s overall performance as very good compared to other organizations they belong to.

NEES-EERI Webinar on Precast Concrete Walls

"Precast Concrete Walls for Seismic-Resistant Design: From PRESSS Research to PreWEC" is the 8th in the Research to Practice Webinar Series co-produced by the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) and EERI, scheduled for Wednesday, October 17, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. PT. There is no cost to attend. To register, visit https://nees.org/PreWECwebinar. PDHs will be available from EERI after the webinar for $30.

The Precast Seismic Structural System program (PRESSS) introduced the use of unbonded post-tensioned walls for seismic-resistant design about a decade ago. To improve cost-effectiveness and resiliency, the precast wall with end columns (PreWEC) was subsequently introduced. Today, an investigation of PreWEC — focusing on understanding the influence of various components and their interaction with rocking walls — is being conducted in the NEES Rocking Wall Project (RWP). The webinar will provide (1) a summary of the PRESSS wall system, (2) details of PreWEC and its performance, (3) analysis results that examined the interaction of a PreWEC system with floors and gravity columns, and (4) directions for implementing research in design practice.

Presenters are Sri Sritharan, Wilson Engineering Professor at Iowa State University in Ames, and Suzanne Dow Nakaki, the principal of Nakaki Structural Design, Tustin, California. Both presenters were involved in the PRESSS program and the codification effort. Sritharan and Nakaki are, respectively, the principal investigator and consulting engineer for the ongoing RWP (http://128.150.4.107/awardsearch/showAward?AwardNumber=1041650&WT.z_pims_id=6192).
News of the Institute

EERI Summer Interns Complete Projects

Concrete Coalition Interns

At a reception at the end of August, EERI said goodbye to the four Concrete Coalition interns who have been hard at work this summer collecting information on concrete buildings damaged in earthquakes around the world. Over the course of the summer, they compiled data on over 50 concrete buildings in eleven countries. EERI wishes them continued success as they return to school this fall and in all their future endeavors.

EERI is grateful to all the industry professionals who served as mentors and peer reviewers, contributed information, and hosted field trips for the interns. Special thanks go to Craig Comartin, technical director of the Concrete Coalition, who was a great mentor and teacher this summer.

In the coming months, the data the interns collected will be moved into an online database that will help illustrate the problems associated with nonductile reinforced concrete buildings and will also serve as a valuable teaching resource and public awareness tool.

While the interns may have departed, the Concrete Coalition can still use your help. Visit the website at http://www.concretecoalition.org to learn how you can get involved with the project.

Public Policy Intern

EERI also bade farewell to Sahar Derakhshan, the summer public policy intern. She is a master’s student in UC Berkeley’s Goldman School of Public Policy and worked under the supervision of Arrietta Chakos, chair of EERI’s Public Policy & Advocacy Committee.

In addition to updating the content on the advocacy portion of the EERI website (https://www.eeri.org/advocacy-and-public-policy/), Sahar worked on a policy report entitled “School Earthquake Safety Case Studies.” The goals of the report are to:

1. identify the challenges and strategies of implementing school earthquake safety in different countries and regions,
2. provide a guide for public policy makers in different parts of the world,
3. examine experiences in school earthquake safety in various nations,
4. identify good practices in integrating disaster risk reduction in developing school safety programs, and
5. identify policies for institutionalizing school safety into national and global development programs as well as identify advocacy opportunities for school seismic safety.

Sahar’s report will be posted online after final editing.

Intern Maggie Ortiz Joins EERI Staff

Former EERI intern Maggie Ortiz recently joined the EERI staff as a Program Associate. Other staff members are thrilled she is joining the team full-time to apply her considerable skills, initiative, and get-it-done attitude. Maggie will be a utility player, dividing her time working with Publications Manager Eloise Gilland (who is cutting back her hours), Special Projects Manager Marjorie Greene, and Executive Director Jay Berger on association initiatives such as membership services, social media, and chapter support.

Maggie earned a Master of Engineering degree in structural engineering, mechanics, and materials from UC Berkeley in December 2011, where she studied the behavior of precast concrete façade panels through experimental testing. From her first day as an intern, Maggie has been a major contributor on projects such as helping to manage Concrete Coalition Phase 2, leading the investigation and evaluation of reconnaissance field tools, co-organizing the NSF workshop on research needs arising from the New Zealand and Japan earthquakes, and making improvements to EERI websites.
News of the Institute

NY-NE Regional Chapter’s 1st Meeting

On July 26th, EERI President Tom Tobin kicked off the first meeting of the New York-Northeast Chapter of EERI. Organized by Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, the meeting was hosted at the offices of URS Corporation in midtown Manhattan. The event was attended by nearly 50 people from as far north as Boston and as far south as Philadelphia, representing a broad range of engineers and seismologists in practice and academia.

The meeting included short presentations by chapter President Sissy Nikolaou, and Board Members Aspa Zerva, Frank Clemente, and Jesse Richins. Discussion topics included future events and ways in which the chapter can best serve the region and members in collaboration with other local organizations. There was a consensus that the chapter can address regional needs in terms of awareness and design. Future events will be held bimonthly.

Two New EERI Regional Chapters in Northwest

EERI is pleased to announce the recent formation of two new EERI regional chapters in Oregon and Washington state.

The Oregon Regional Chapter encompasses the entire state. While the majority of the state’s population resides west of the Cascade Mountain Range, the chapter plans to engage other areas by offering remote access to meetings and encouraging other means of participation. The local organizing committee consisted of Michael Hagerty (Talbot Associates), David Bugni (structural engineer), Brandon Erickson (structural engineer), Alan Gaylord (structural engineer), Maddie Heidari (MWH Americas), Franz Rad (Portland State University), Don Rondema (Geotech Solutions), and Jeffrey Soulages (Intel Corporation). If you wish to join the chapter, contact Mike Hagerty (hagertymr@gmail.com).

The Washington Regional Chapter is already hard at work organizing the 2013 EERI Annual Meeting in Seattle. The following EERI members expressed interest in joining the chapter: Cale Ash, David Gonzalez, Luke Ruggeri, and Kyle Steuck (Degenkolb Engineers), William Elliott (consultant), Neil Hawkins (retired, University of Illinois), Cindy Hoover (Macro Z Technologies), Pooja Jain (Moffatt & Nichol), Steven Kramer (University of Washington), Patrick Leewens (Leewens Corp.), Scott Miles (Western Washington University), Arvind Nerurkar (Coffman Engineers), John Newby (CDM), Lynn Salvati (geotechnical engineer), Paul Spitznas (civil engineer), Andrew Taylor, (KPFF), Dean White (E3RA), Bill Williams (Coffman Engineers), Mike Wongkaew (Hatch Mott MacDonald), and Michael Wright, (structural engineer). If you wish to join the chapter, contact Cale Ash (cash@degenkolb.com).

New Student Chapter at NC State University

EERI is pleased to announce that a new EERI student chapter was recently established at North Carolina State University (EERI-NCSU) in Raleigh. Its faculty advisor is Mervyn Kowalsky of the Department of Civil Engineering. The chapter’s local contact is Satrajit Das, principal engineer and Southeast Structures Group manager at WSP Sells in Cary, North Carolina.

Opportunity

UND Faculty Position

The Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Earth Sciences at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana seeks candidates at all levels (assistant, associate, or full professor) for a full-time tenure-track or tenured position in structural engineering.

Encouraged to apply are candidates who have a research focus on, for example, infrastructure systems, high-performance and sustainable civil structures, reliability and performance of structures under extreme loading, innovative structural systems, computational mechanics, and foundation-structure interaction.

Required: a Ph.D. in an appropriate field, the ability to develop and sustain an externally funded research program, and a strong commitment to teaching excellence at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

For more information and to apply, visit http://ceees.nd.edu/position-available.
Summary of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of April 10, 2012

Call to order: President Thomas Tobin called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m. Also present were Directors Ian Buckle, David Friedman, Janiele Maffei, Joseph Maffei, Ellen Rathje, Kathleen Tierney, and Ivan Wong; Executive Director Jay Berger; and Publications Manager Eloise Gilland. Director Roberto Leon was unable to attend.

Membership Report: The Board reviewed the report by Membership Coordinator Juliane Lane. E-affiliate membership has grown most dramatically (up 285% from June 2011) in part because GeoHazards International designated that its Subscribing Member dues pay the dues of 120 E-affiliate members. Berger said the E-student member category is proving so popular that regular student membership will probably be eliminated. Several new student chapters were established as a result of the new chapter requirement for schools to participate in the student Seismic Design Competition.

Secretary/Treasurer’s Report: Balance Sheet & Revenue and Expense Reports: The Board reviewed the Combined Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expense Report, both dated February 29, 2012. Secretary/Treasurer Janiele Maffei observed that for G&A programs such as publications (including Spectra), expenses are higher than revenues, meaning they are subsidized by dues.

Investment Funds Report: The Board reviewed the Investment Funds Report dated February 29, 2012, indicating how each fund is allocated. The Finance Committee has the responsibility to decide on investment strategies and set risk tolerances within a long-term profile. Berger said all the funds are invested fairly conservatively and should not move much. EERI’s 2011 budget deficit of $84,000 was substantially less than the $204,000 deficit originally projected. EERI is not in immediate danger because of a carefully managed surplus in operating funds that helps the Institute maintain stability in lean years. However, as the surplus is finite, the Board’s strategy is to increase membership and reduce costs while not sacrificing service to members. The projected deficit of $112,000 for 2012 is worst-case and will decrease as a result of savings in IT services, rent, mailing printed versions of Spectra and the Newsletter only to members who request them, and a financially successful Annual Meeting.

The combined balance sheet showed a gain for Association Programs of $488,097 as of February 29, 2012. Adding this to the opening fund balance for Association Programs (December 31, 2011) of $299,661 results in a balance of $787,758. Association Program liabilities as of February 29, 2012, amounted to $176,714, resulting in total assets of $964,472. The Endowment Fund’s total assets on February 29, 2012, were $1,677,771. The balance for the combined Association and Endowment Programs was $2,642,243.

IT Providers: The Board reviewed a four-page assessment by Mortimer Smythe Designs, EERI’s new IT contractor, of EERI’s current IT environment and recommendations for improvements to increase productivity and enhance cyber security. Following their recommendations would mean upgrading and hardening EERI’s whole IT system and would be a major needed step forward.

Spectra Transition from AIP: Berger reported that the transition of Earthquake Spectra from the American Institute of Physics (AIP) is nearing completion. Managing Editor Liz Stalnaker did well at vetting all firms under consideration.

Spectra Summary for 2011: Berger observed that trends in Spectra publication statistics are going up; submissions of new manuscripts to regular issues increased by 13%, and there was a 35% increase in total manuscripts published. In 2012, total manuscripts to be published will increase by 26% over 2011 because there will be an extra issue on the 2010 Chile earthquake, and all other issues are longer than usual.

Tierney said a social science Spectra theme issue would help motivate younger social scientists to submit manuscripts, as they are under pressure to publish in mainstream social science journals for indexing and tenure.

New Grants Update: Berger said EERI has received verbal notification of an award from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnerships for a proposal spearheaded by Ken Topping titled “Achieving Community Disaster Resilience: Planning for Adaptation in the Face of Hazards, Risk and Uncertainty.” Berger reported EERI has already commenced working on three projects for the World Bank (Tohoku Knowledge Notes, LFE funding to develop capacity in developing countries, and the Housner Fellows Program).

Board Member Discussions with Committee Chairs: Rathje will talk to IT Committee chair Charlie Huyck about broadening the charge of his committee to include the area of field tools for reconnaissance. Friedman said Bill Iwan, chair of the Housner Fellows Management Committee, indicated the group still has to determine how mentorships with the Fellows will work. Buckle said the Special Projects & Initiatives (SPI) Committee still needs a new chair. Berger reported that Greene would like the help of a group with institutional memory to develop recommendations for reworking the SPI Committee to get the best value from donated Endowment funds.

Technical Seminar and Webinars: The Board reviewed recommenda-
tions by Berger and Jim Malley, chair of the Technical Seminars Committee. They recommend a new EERI webinar series in addition to the ongoing EERI-NEES program, which focuses on NEES projects that have direct impacts on professional practice. Malley and Berger also favor continuing the technical seminar series, in spite of the challenges of organizing them, as appealing topics draw large attendance and benefit members greatly.

10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering (10NCEE): The Board reviewed Berger’s memo containing recommendations for organizing 10NCEE, scheduled for July 2014 in Anchorage, Alaska. John Aho, Alaska Regional Chapter president, is eager to provide local support and to work with Alaska organizations that might be interested in supporting the conference. NEES may be interested in holding their 2014 Annual Meeting in conjunction.

New Regional Chapters: The Board unanimously approved the formation of the EERI New York-Northeast Regional Chapter and the EERI National Capital (Washington, D.C.) Regional Chapter.

Meetings with Committee Chairs and Regional Chapter Leaders

Sudhir Jain, International Activities Committee: Jain said he was hoping the World Bank Global Facility for Disaster Reduction & Recovery (GFDRR) could help finance internships of people from developed countries to visit developing countries. E-affiliate membership needs more publicity to fulfill its potential.

Polat Gulkan, Earthquake Spectra Editor: Gulkan reported that the composition of the 30-member Spectra Editorial Board is more international than it was five years ago. The number of manuscripts submitted to Spectra overall has increased since its inclusion in the Scitation index, which has created a self-sustaining flow of one incoming manuscript per day. It is difficult to get published in Spectra, as the rejection rate is 35-40%.

Dominik Lang, World Housing Encyclopedia Editorial Board: Lang, an associate editor of the World Housing Encyclopedia (WHE), said the WHE now has a state-of-the-art web site, primarily due to the efforts of EERI non-IT staff and interns. A new initiative is underway to enlarge and complete the database by encouraging international students to do housing reports on their home countries as part of obtaining masters degrees. WHE’s visibility would increase by an order of magnitude, and more submissions would come in if housing reports were to become a category in Spectra, so that authors would receive a benefit for doing reports. They could be shortened for Spectra to include only what is essential for seismic safety.

John Aho, Alaska Regional Chapter: Aho observed that the Alaska Chapter was EERI’s first regional chapter. Members are now interested in quarterly meetings or twice yearly, as it is harder to get people to come to meetings more often with other competing organizations. Berger said the 10NCEE is an opportunity for the chapter to gain new members.

Jorge Meneses, San Diego Regional Chapter: Meneses said the San Diego Chapter has about 60 members. It was founded 2½ years ago and organized the 2011 Annual Meeting in La Jolla. They have held joint meetings with the local chapter of the ASCE Geo-Institute and the Structural Engineers Association of San Diego. In March 2012, they hosted a one-day short course on pile foundations attended by 60 people. The chapter would like to develop a scenario to increase awareness.

Marshall Lew, Southern California Regional Chapter: Lew said in the last few years it is becoming more difficult to get people to become active in the chapter, with competition from other organizations. It can take an hour to get to a meeting in Los Angeles from other areas of Southern California.

Jessie Richins, New York-Northeast Corridor Regional Chapter: Richins introduced himself as the Secretary-Treasurer of the new EERI New York-Northeast Chapter. Promotional efforts are underway with a first meeting planned for the summer.

Janiele Maffei, Northern California Regional Chapter: Maffei said the chapter Board meets once a month, and a regular meeting or field trip is scheduled every other month. The chapter bestows two awards per year and involves the community in that effort. The chapter recently launched an Adopt-a-City Program for the City of Albany.

Phil Gould, Seismic Safety of Schools Committee: The committee has developed an email list, and their meetings have attracted good attendance. They have organized a session at this year’s Annual Meeting. Gould would like to find new leadership to push the committee to the next stage.

Jack Moehle, Learning from Earthquakes Committee: Friedman read a message written by Jack Moehle, chair of the LFE Committee, who could not attend the Board meeting. He plans to convene a small experienced group to identify (1) what works and does not work in the current LFE Program, (2) new opportunities and ways of doing business, and (3) ways to work with EERI membership to direct funds to the LFE Program or, alternatively, leverage activities of the membership to increase what LFE can do. Moehle favors some flexibility in the Board’s policy regarding use of the Endowment Fund, if not the principal then the earnings, for some support of the LFE Program, as it is so central to what EERI does. At the same time, he has ideas to find ways to make the program self-supporting.

Adjourn: Tobin adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m.
Learning from Earthquakes
Northwestern Iran
Earthquakes of August 11, 2012

Two earthquakes struck northwestern Iran on Saturday, August 11. According to the U.S. Geological Survey, the M 6.4 first earthquake occurred at 16:53 local time 60 km northeast of the city of Tabriz at a depth of 9.9 km. The M 6.3 second event struck 11 minutes later (17:05) 50 km northeast of Tabriz at a depth of 9.8 km. The IIEES reported that the earthquakes occurred on the South Ahar Fault. The previous earthquake in this region occurred in 1780.

As reported by Iranian television, at least 20 villages were totally destroyed in the twin earthquakes, which were followed by more than 200 aftershocks, including 40 with magnitudes greater than 3. Government sources said more than 5,000 tents were set up to shelter the thousands of displaced who spent the night outdoors. The water system is damaged, and people do not have access to clean water.

State TV reported that the death toll had risen to 306 the day after rescuers called off the search for survivors. The news agency ISNA reported more than 5,000 injured in the area. Approximately 44,000 food packages and thousands of blankets have been distributed. Roads have been damaged, making the rescue process difficult.

Bahram Akasheh, professor of geophysics at the University of Tehran, said this earthquake resulted in fewer casualties than the M 6.6 2003 Bam earthquake because it occurred in the afternoon, whereas the Bam event, which caused more than 30,000 fatalities, struck early in the morning while most people were asleep. Most buildings in this region are constructed of wood and mud, making them vulnerable to earthquakes. Old heavy roofs without frames were largely responsible for the death toll in the rural areas. Interior Minister Mostafa Mohammad Najjar said the government will allocate funds to rebuild the houses with earthquake-resistant construction, aiming to finish before winter.


Rescue teams search for victims in the village of Varzaqan in the province of East Azerbaijan, August 12 (photo: REUTERS/Arash Khamooshi/ISNA).

Publication
ShakeCast Quarterly


ShakeCast is an application for automating ShakeMap delivery to critical users and for facilitating notification of shaking levels at user-selected facilities. ShakeMap sites provide near real-time maps of ground motion and shaking intensity following significant earthquakes. These maps are used by federal, state, and local organizations, both public and private, for post-earthquake response and recovery, public and scientific information, preparedness exercises, and disaster planning.

The ShakeCast Quarterly features profiles of prominent ShakeCast users and their systems, upcoming features and capabilities, tips and tricks to optimize your system, new support website announcements, and more. To receive future issues, email shakecast-help@usgs.gov.

Announcement
PEER Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) will be held October 26–27, 2012, at the Hotel Shattuck Plaza in Berkeley, California. Practicing professionals, faculty, students, and other interested individuals are encouraged to attend and learn about PEER’s recent and ongoing research. Concurrent sessions will cover high-performance structures, transportation structures, simulation/analysis, dams and levees, as well as a two-session track for practitioners that will serve as a researcher-practitioner idea exchange. For more information and to register, visit http://peer.berkeley.edu/events/annual_meeting/2012AM/.
The Project Warehouse on the NEEShub is the centralized data repository for sharing and publishing earthquake engineering research data from experimental and numerical studies. In addition to displaying research data from specific research projects in the Project Warehouse, a database resource (http://nees.org/resources/databases) has been developed in the NEEShub that presents datasets with a common theme. The ACI 445 Punching Shear Collected Databank, developed through a partnership with American Concrete Institute Committee 445C, is summarized below.

ACI 445 Punching Shear Collected Databank (http://nees.org/resources/3660). Authors: ACI Committee 445C.

The ACI 445 Punching Shear Collected Databank presents data from tests of reinforced concrete slabs loaded statically to simulate concentric slab punching due to gravity loads. The data are fundamental in understanding the resistance of slabs to punching shear, which is critical in structures in regions of both low and high seismicity. The data come from over 500 static tests dating as far back as 1938, and were compiled and vetted by ACI committee 445C under the guidance of Carlos E. Ospina, Gerd Birkle, Widianto, Dan Kuchma, and Neil Hawkins. The database contains information on material properties, modes of failure, reinforcement details, support conditions, shape of slab, etc.; and it allows for rapid searching and sorting of data. The information can be easily downloaded for analysis.

SEAONC Award Goes to David McCormick

The Public Outreach Committee of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) recently bestowed upon EERI member David McCormick its 2012 Community Involvement Award. Dave is a senior principal with an EERI Subscribing Member, Simpson Gumpertz and Heger in San Francisco. Specializing in seismic engineering and concrete rehabilitation, he has more than 30 years of experience in structural engineering and has been with SGH for nine years. Dave was recognized for his efforts on behalf of EERI’s Concrete Coalition (CC). He started counting concrete buildings in his own community of Alameda by riding his bike around on weekends and evenings. His mobilization of SEAONC volunteers ultimately led to a detailed inventory for San Francisco. As a result of his efforts and that of other CC volunteers, over a million dollars in research funding from the federal agencies of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program have been devoted to discovering better ways to find and fix dangerous concrete buildings.

Dave will be recognized at a future SEAONC meeting, and $500 will be donated to the charity of his choice. The award exemplifies the SEAONC endeavor to “enhance life safety, environmental health, and economic well being of the public.”
Announcements

COSMOS Technical Session
The Consortium of Organizations for Strong Motion Observation Systems (COSMOS) will be holding its Annual Meeting and Technical Session on Friday, November 16, 2012, in Emeryville, California. Co-sponsored by the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) and the California Geological Survey (CGS), the day-long session will focus on two topics: "Issues Associated with Adjusting Next Generation Attenuation (NGA) Ground Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs) for Directivity and Fling" when developing near-fault design ground motions, and "Short Term Impacts of Serious Aftershocks on Building Code Ground Motions." The latter topic deals with how developers of building code design ground motion should react when serious aftershocks will likely be greater than current code ground motions. This subject is of particular concern in moderate areas of seismicity such as Christchurch, New Zealand. The last part of the session will include a lively panel session. For more information and to register, visit www.cosmos-eq.org.

Bridges & Highways Conference
The 7th National Seismic Conference on Bridges & Highways, with the theme "Bridge Resilience for Earthquakes and Other Natural Hazards," will be held May 20-22, 2013, in Oakland, California. Co-organized by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, the Transportation Research Board, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), Caltrans, and the earthquake research centers PEER-UC Berkeley, and MCEER-University at Buffalo. For more information, visit http://www.7nsc.info/default.asp.

Call for Papers

JSE Special Issue on Structural Field Testing
The ASCE Journal of Structural Engineering (JSE) will publish a special issue on Structural Field Testing in mid to late 2013, covering experimental research performed in-situ on structural components, subassemblages, and systems. The focus of the issue will be destructive testing, and papers related to seismic performance assessment are preferred; however, articles presenting research from nondestructive testing and monitoring will also be considered. Development of field testing methods or design of associated testing equipment and laboratory testing of structures that are taken out of service are also within the scope of the issue. Interested researchers are encouraged to contact guest editor Bora Gencturk (M.EERI) at bgencturk@uh.edu.

Subscribing Member Postings

Opportunities with AIR Worldwide

Senior Seismologist, AIR Worldwide, Boston, Massachusetts: AIR models the risk from natural catastrophes and terrorism in 90 countries. Required: ability to develop regional seismic hazard models by collecting and processing earthquake-related data, writing seismicity-related computer codes, documenting and presenting the results, knowledge of probabilistic analysis techniques, strong scientific communication and presentation skills, two or more years of practical experience, and an M.S. or a Ph.D. in seismology or a related field. For more information and to apply, visit https://aircareers-isofamily.icims.com/jobs/21667/job.

Engineer or Senior Engineer, Catastrophe Risk Engineering Consulting Services, San Francisco, California: This position combines risk engineering consulting and engineering assessment with quantification of insurance and financial risk. It also contributes to research and model development. Required: an M.S. or Ph.D. in civil engineering and knowledge of earthquake and wind engineering, with structural engineering experience a plus. For more information and to apply, visit https://aircareers-isofamily.icims.com/jobs/24365/job.

2013 Khan Distinguished Lecture Series
The following speakers and topics will be featured in the 2013 Fazlur Rahman Khan Distinguished Lecture Series, honoring Khan’s legacy of excellence in structural engineering and architecture, sponsored by Lehigh University’s Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering and its Department of Art & Architecture. To access videos of previous lectures, visit http://www.lehigh.edu/~infraK/. The following three Friday lectures all begin at 4:30 p.m. in Lehigh’s Sinclair Lab Auditorium in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with receptions preceding at 4:10:

February 15: R. Shankar Nair, senior vice president, exp U.S. Services and Past Chairman, CTBUH, on “The Evolution of the Skyscraper;”

March 22: John M. Kulicki, chairman/CEO Modjeski and Masters, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, on “Observations on AASHTO Bridge Design;”

April 19: Alfredo H-S. Ang, research professor, University of California, Irvine, on “Minimizing the Effects of Uncertainties in Developing Reliability-Based Design Criteria.”
CALENDAR

The issues containing the first and subsequent appearances are indicated at the entry’s end. Items listed for the first time are shown in bold.

2012

SEPTEMBER
3-5. 5th Int’l Tsunami Symposium (SITS), Ispra, Italy. http://tsunami
society.org/5thTsunamiSymposium
ISPRASA2012.pdf (2/12, 5/12, 6/12)
12-15. SEAOC Convention, Santa
Fe, NM. http://convention.seaoc.
org/ (2/12, 3/12)
12 thru November. Seismic De-
design on the Edge Exhibit, Toronto,
news/25264. (8/12)
13-18. The Masonry Society Annual
Meeting, Greenville, SC. http://
www.masonrysociety.org/html/
events/meetings/annual/ 2012/
AnnMtg2012.htm (6/12)
Urban Habitat (CTBUH) World Con-
ctbuh.org/shanghai2012/ (11/11)
19-21. 18th IABSE (Int’l Ass’n for
Bridge & Structural Eng.) Congress,
Seoul, South Korea. www.iabse.
org/Seoul2012 (12/11)
24-28. 15th World Conference on
EQ Engineering (15WCEE), Lisbon,
Portugal. www.15wcee.org/ (8/10,
8/11, 11/11, 12/11, 7/12)

OCTOBER
3-6. Symp. on Life-Cycle Civil Engi-
neering (IALCCE), Vienna, Austria.
www.ialcce2012.org (12/10, 1/11)
11. SEAOSC 2nd Annual Buildings
at Risk: Earthquake Loss Reduction
Summit, Los Angeles, CA. http://
seaosc.org/events_bar.cfm (8/12)
12-14. South Coast (California)
southcoastgeo.org (7/12)
15-17. 8th Int’l Conference on Struc-
tural Analysis of Historical Construc-
tion (SAHC 2012), Wroclaw, Poland.
www.sahc2012.org (1/12)
16-19. Deep Foundations Institute
(DFI) Annual Conference, Houston,
TX. www.dfi.org/conferencedetail.
asp?id=193 (12/11)
23-27. 6th China-Japan-US Sympo-
sium on Lifeline Earthquake Engi-
neering, Chengdu, China. www.
nac-gea.org (5/12)
24, 25, 29, 30. Learning from Re-
cent Major Earthquakes: Lessons
for Practice Seminar, Salt Lake
City, Los Angeles, San Francisco,
Seattle. See page 1. (9/12)
26-27. PEER Annual Mtg, Berke-
ley, CA. http://peer.berkeley.edu/
events/annual_meeting/2012AM/
. See page 8. (9/12)
28-30. Annual Meeting, Eastern
Section of the Seismological Society
of America, Blacksburg, Virginia.
http://www.geol.va.edu/outreach/vtso/esssa2012/ (7/12)
NOVEMBER
16. COSMOS Annual Meeting &
Technical Session, Emeryville, CA.
www.cosmos-eq.org. See page
10. (9/12)
2013
FEBRUARY
12-15. EERI Annual Meeting,
Seattle, WA. www.eeri.org (6/12)
15. Khan Lecture Series: The
Evolution of the Skyscraper,
Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA.
See page 10. (9/12)
20-21. Residential Building Con-
ference, Bethlehem, PA. http://
www.engr.psu.edu/PHRC/
2013Conference/RBDCC/default.
htm (8/12)
MARCH
22. Khan Lecture Series: AASHTO
Bridge Design, Lehigh University,
Bethlehem, PA. See page 10. (9/12)
APRIL
3-5, Architectural Eng. Institute Con-
ference, University Park, PA. http://
www.engr.psu.edu/ae/AEI-2013/
Call_for_Papers.asp (3/12)
17-19. Annual Meeting, Seismologi-
cal Society of America, Salt Lake
org/meetings/ (7/12)
19. Khan Lecture Series: Reliabil-
ity-Based Design Criteria, Lehigh
University, Bethlehem, PA. See
page 10. (9/12)
22-24. Int’l Federation for Structural
Concrete (fib) Symposium, Tel Aviv,
co.il/ (5/12, 6/12)
29-May 4. 7th Int’l Conference on
Case Histories in Geotechnical
Engineering, Wheeling, IL (Chicago
area). http://7icchge.mst.edu
(12/11, 2/12)
MAY
19-23. 4th Session of the Global
Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction,
preventionweb.net/english/profes-
Sional/trainings-events/events/v.
php?id=23896 (1/12, 7/12)
20-22. 7th National Seismic Con-
ference on Bridges & Highways,
Oakland, CA. http://www.7nsc.
info/default.asp. See page 10.
(9/12)
JUNE
16-20. 11th Int’l Conference on
Structural Safety & Reliability
(IC OSSAR2013), New York City.
http://icossar2013.org/ (8/12)
AUGUST
18-23. 22nd Int’l Conference on Struc-
tural Mechanics in Reactor Technol-
ogy (SMirT-22), San Francisco, CA.
www.smirt22.org (2/12, 4/12)
28-30. Vienna Congress on Re-
cent Advances in Earthquake Engi-
neering and Structural Dynamics
(VEESD2013), Vienna, Austria. http://
veesd2013.conf.tuwien.ac.at (8/12)
2014
APRIL
30-May 2. Annual Meeting, Seismo-
logical Society of America, Anchor-
age, Alaska. http://www.seismo-
soc.org/meetings/ (7/12)
JULY
20-26. 10th National Conference
on Earthquake Engineering, EERI
Annual Meeting, & NEES Quake
Summit 2014, Anchorage, Alaska.
See page 12. (9/12)
SAVE THE DATE

10th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering
2014 EERI Annual Meeting & NEES Quake Summit

July 20-26, 2014 • Anchorage, Alaska

10th Anniversary of NEES

50th Anniversary of the 1964 Alaska Earthquake and Tsunami

Undergraduate Seismic Design Competition

Earthquake Engineering Research Institute: www.eeri.org