

University of Puerto Rico Chapter hosts a visitor sponsored by the Friedman Family Program

On April 12, 2004 David Friedman, P.E., S.E., president of Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Inc. of San Francisco, visited the Student Chapter of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPR-M). The UPR-M Chapter was established in 2002 and it currently has 23 active members. Prof. Luis Suárez is his academic advisor and mentor.

Mr. Friedman had a very busy agenda which included a two hours talk to members of the EEIR Chapter. As usual, the academic community was also invited to the presentation. Over 80 persons attended the meeting, including many undergraduate students and faculty members of the Civil Engineering Department. The title of David's presentation was "*Base Isolation: why, where, how?*" and it was enthusiastically received by the audience.

In addition, Mr. Friedman met with the EERI graduate students to discuss their research projects and offer his input and comments. Mr. Friedman also met with professors from the Structural and Geotechnical Engineering area and visited the facilities of the department. He advised them about the academic programs based on his experience as professional engineer and manager of a leading structural engineering consulting company. The department has more than 950 undergraduate students in its two programs in civil engineering and surveying, in addition to about 90 graduate students.

The members of the UPR-M Student Chapter gratefully acknowledge the support of EERI through the Friedman Family Visiting Professionals program for this opportunity and are looking forward to participate in this activity next year.



David Friedman talks with Prof. Martínez-Cruzado, director of the Strong Motion Program of Puerto Rico during his visit to the campus.