

EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Founded in 1948, EERI's mission is to reduce earthquake risk by (1) advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering, (2) improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political, and cultural environment, and (3) advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes.

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

▶ Register Before Rates Go Up on Saturday, March 5



David Gallagher photo

Register for the 2016 EERI Annual Meeting before the sun sets on early bird rates!

The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute will hold its 68th Annual Meeting, April 5-8, 2016, in San Francisco, California. With a theme of "Beyond the Epicenter: Expanding Our Risk Perspective," the meeting program will delve into unanticipated effects, blind spots, and new insights in earthquake engineering. Registration rates for the full meeting will **increase by \$100 this Saturday, March 5, 2016.**

[Register for the Annual Meeting today.](#)

More than 80 poster abstracts on new research and case studies were accepted from students and professionals from around the world. Posters include "Disaster, Decisions, Development: A Case Study for International Partnerships and Pedagogy for Tsunami Hazard Risk Mitigation" by **Zahraa Saiyed** (M. EERI, 2011), and Jenny Suckale; "Study on Interaction Between Rocking-Wall System and Surrounding Structural Systems" by **Qingzhi Liu** (M. EERI, 2012); and "San Diego-Tijuana Earthquake Scenario" by **Konstantinos Kosmidis** (M. EERI, 2016), **Lelli Van Den Einde** (M. EERI, 1998), **Alvaro Celestino** (M. EERI, 2005), and **Amine Aboufirass** (M. EERI, 2015). Poster sessions will take place on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and evenings during the meeting.

The earthquake risk reduction community has responded to support the 2016 EERI Annual Meeting! We thank our lead sponsors **FEMA** and **Computers and Structures, Inc.** (CSI), as well as the many companies and firms sponsoring lunches, breaks, poster sessions, and the Student Design Competition. View the current [list of sponsors](#) and see what [opportunities still remain](#) on the annual meeting website.

For full program, logistics, and to register before rates go up, visit the 2016 Annual Meeting website: <http://2016am.eeri-events.org>

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NEWS OF THE INSTITUTE

▶ Housner Fellows in Nepal

In the second week of February, the [2014-16 Class of Housner Fellows](#) conducted field work in Nepal for their group project, "Building Code Compliance: A Case Study on Nepal." With the help of the National Society of Earthquake Technology – Nepal (NSET), the fellows facilitated workshops on building code adoption, implementation, and compliance conducted at three different municipalities in both the Kathmandu Valley (Lalitpur City) and outer districts (Bhimeshwor and Kamalamai). Each workshop had a diversity of professionals participating, including engineers, masons, social mobilizers, and political and social leaders. In addition to conducting the three workshops, the Housner Fellows also interviewed local home owners to get a personal view of the current efforts on building code compliance, and visited the mountain town of Chautara, one of the heavily hit areas by the M7.8 April 2015 Earthquake.



A news segment on the Lalitpur workshop, and interviews with participants, including Housner Fellows, was televised on Channel 24 in Nepal. The following is a link to the video segment: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oOpSCZBY9_Q

The Housner Fellows are now back in their home countries and working on developing a report summarizing the findings of their interviews and workshops. The report is scheduled to be completed in early Summer 2016.

[Read more about EERI's Housner Fellows program.](#)

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▶ New Zealand Data Management Case Study Released

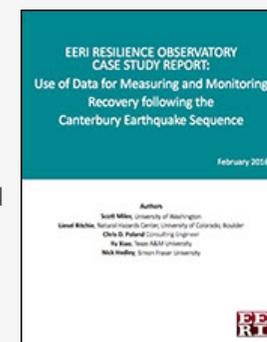
EERI's Resilience Observatory project has just released its first case study, "Use of Data for Measuring and Monitoring Recovery following the Canterbury Earthquake Sequence," now available as a free download (PDF) on the EERI website: https://www.eeri.org/wp-content/uploads/NZ-EERI-Resilience-Observatory-Report_2016-02-17.pdf

In March 2014, EERI sent an interdisciplinary research team to New Zealand to study issues related to Canterbury's recovery from the 2010-2011 earthquake sequence. The reconnaissance effort was the first case study for the Resilience Observatory project, and its primary aim was to observe and understand how stakeholders in New Zealand were measuring, monitoring, and acting upon data-driven indicators of recovery.

The EERI New Zealand team was led by **Scott Miles** (M. EERI, 2009), University of Washington (formerly Western Washington University), and included **Chris Poland** (M. EERI, 1978); **Liesel Ritchie** (M. EERI, 2012), Natural Hazards Center; **Yu Xiao** (M. EERI, 2011), Texas A&M University; and **Nick Hedley** (M. EERI, 2014), Simon Fraser University.

The team interviewed a wide range of decision-makers and researchers. They found that a large variety of data are being collected as part of the recovery, but it does not appear the available data significantly contributes to ongoing decision making. Additionally, the large volume of data is making it challenging for organizations to analyze and interpret it for decision-making.

This research further highlights the necessity of facilitating the analysis of existing data, promoting access to data that can be compared across disasters, and the need for specific guidance on what data should be collected by researchers.





Nick Hedley (M. EERI, 2014), Chris Poland (M. EERI, 1998), Scott Miles (M. EERI, 2009), Liesel Ritchie (M. EERI, 2012), and Yu Xiao (M. EERI, 2011)

[Read more about the EERI Resilience Observatory project.](#)

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LEARNING FROM EARTHQUAKES

► New Information on EERI's Taiwan Earthquake Virtual Clearinghouse

In the last month, new information has been gathered and posted on the EERI virtual clearinghouse website created for the M6.4 Meinong Earthquake in Southern Taiwan on February 5, 2016:

<http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/2016-02-taiwan/>

The clearinghouse [photo gallery](#) and [data map](#) now contain nearly 50 damage photos, taken within two days of the earthquake, by Professor **Yi-Hsuan Tu** (M. EERI, 2010) of National Cheng Kung University. More than 1,500 additional images from members of reconnaissance teams that visited the region, including from Kevin Moore and Anindya Dutta from SGH, will be posted in the next two weeks. Teams from Degenkolb Engineers, Gilsanz Murray Stefiecek, University of Washington, and GEER are also expected to contribute photos. EERI is seeking volunteer young members to support the processing and uploading of these images in collaboration with the EERI Young Members Committee. Interested individuals should contact EERI intern Shizza Fatima (shizza@eeri.org), who is coordinating photo upload.



Yi-Hsuan Tu, National Cheng Kung University, Taiwan

Taiwan's National Center for Research on Earthquake Engineering (NCREE) has been closely collaborating with EERI and all the field teams, and has shared its list of 39 damaged sites in the Tainan area, along with coordinates, photos, and nature of structural damage. These damaged sites, along with photos, are also displayed on the EERI Map as a data layer.

EERI's Young Members Committee has also helped prepare some building damage reports on the Weiguan building, Kings Town Bank, Tachi Market, Shangshang Junior High School, and other buildings, based on information gleaned from reconnaissance information and media reports. Thanks to contributors Alvaro Canga, Pratik Deogekar, Gengrui Wei, Antonio Zaldivar, and **Siang Zhou** (M. EERI, 2016) from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. These reports and the NCREE damaged building list can be accessed on the Reconnaissance Info and Reports page of the clearinghouse: <http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/2016-02-taiwan/reconnaissance-reports/>

In late March, EERI will host a live webinar briefing for this earthquake in collaboration with several other organizations. Presentations on findings for a variety of disciplines will be made by members from reconnaissance teams that traveled to investigate earthquake impacts. EERI plans to process a recording from the briefing and post it online for viewing after the event. Stay tuned for more information.

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NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

▶ Structural Engineering Engagement and Equity Survey

The Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) is conducting a study of compensation, employee engagement, and career satisfaction for structural engineers. The overarching objective is to identify ways in which firms can adapt their practices to retain an engaged and productive workforce. Whether you are a practicing structural engineer or started your career as one but moved onto a related field, we need your input! The online survey is completely voluntary and should take between 10-15 minutes to complete. You can reach the survey on the following link:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2599543/SE3> ↗

Any questions or comments on the survey can be directed to SE3@seaonc.org ↗

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▶ Links to Recent News and Views

Ten recent stories, reports, or opinions from around the Web:

- 1 As Roads Crumble, Infrastructure Spending Hits a 30-Year Low** (The Fiscal Times) Federal investment in infrastructure has dropped by half during the past three decades <http://www.thefiscaltimes.com> ↗
- 2 How an Earthquake Turned This New Zealand Town into the Art Deco Capital of the World** (Smithsonian.com) Napier turned its tragic past into an architectural wonder. <http://www.smithsonianmag.com> ↗
- 3 How NASA Accidentally Found a Way to Make Buildings Safer During Earthquakes** (Government Employee) Transfer of stabilizing technology created for a violently shaking rocket. <http://www.govexec.com> ↗
- 4 "Holistic engineering" in the wake of disaster** (Baltimore Sun) Highlighting the work of **Judith Mitrani-Reiser** (M. EERI, 2001) examining physical and human infrastructure. <http://www.baltimoresun.com> ↗
- 5 Afghanistan's new "Pentagon" not built to withstand major earthquake?** (RT.com) Failure to meet engineering standards for earthquakes is a glaring oversight, says inspector. <https://www.rt.com> ↗
- 6 Breaking the strongest link triggered Big Baja Earthquake** (EurekAlert) A spate of major earthquakes on small faults could overturn traditional views about how earthquakes start. <http://www.eurekalert.org> ↗
- 7 Scientists develop new app that uses your cellphone to detect earthquakes** (Los Angeles Times) "MyShake" designed to make mobile phones into data collection points and warn of shaking on the way. <http://www.latimes.com> ↗
- 8 Weak concrete blamed in Weiguan Jinlong collapse** (Taipei Times) The collapse of the 17-story complex in Tainan's Yongkang District caused 115 deaths. <http://www.taipeitimes.com> ↗
- 9 Can earthquake analysis predict the futures for stocks?** (Bloomberg Business) When pitching investors, you normally don't want "hedge fund" and "earthquake" in the same sentence. <http://www.bloomberg.com> ↗
- 10 "San Andreas" Sequel in the Works** (MoviePilot) After raking in a shocking \$473 million worldwide, epic disaster movie to get sequel. <http://moviepilot.com> ↗

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

▶ Request for Qualifications - CSMIP 2016 Data Interpretation Projects

The California Strong Motion Instrumentation Program (CSMIP) of the California Geological Survey in the Department of Conservation plans to fund several data interpretation projects for the analysis and interpretation of strong-motion data recorded from earthquakes. These projects are intended to further understanding of strong ground shaking and the response of structures during earthquakes, and to increase the utilization of strong motion data in improving seismic code provisions, seismic design practices and post-earthquake response.

The CSMIP Program is soliciting for proposals from private engineering firms and universities to interpret and analyze the strong-motion data on the topics given in the Request of Qualifications (RFQ). The RFQ includes a description of the data interpretation topics, the required proposal contents, and the contract conditions. Proposals must be received by CSMIP no later than **April 12, 2016**. To receive a copy of the RFQ, send an e-mail to Shirley Rowley at Shirley.Rowley@conservation.ca.gov, or contact by phone at (916) 322-3105.

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▶ Short Course on Grouting Fundamentals and Current Practice at University of Texas at Austin, June 13-17

The 37th Annual Short Course, "Grouting Fundamentals and Current Practice," will take place at University of Texas at Austin, **June 13-17, 2016**.

Since 1979, the five-day Grouting Fundamentals and Current Practice course has covered pressure grouting as a method to improve geotechnical characteristics of soils and rock masses, with special focus on mechanisms, theories, and practical applications of grouting to ground densification and strengthening, permeability reduction, groundwater cutoffs, and infrastructure remediation. The course faculty includes recognized international authorities and leaders of the grouting industry. For additional information visit <http://lifelong.engr.utexas.edu/epd/grouting.php> 

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▶ 16th U.S.-Japan-New Zealand Workshop on the Improvement of Structural Engineering and Resiliency

The 16th U.S.-Japan-New Zealand Workshop, sponsored by ATC, Japan Structural Consultants Association, and QuakeCoRE, will be held on **June 27-29, 2016**, at the Todaiji Temple in Nara, Japan.

This workshop will develop policy recommendations for improved community resilience based on the current state-of-practice, innovative engineering solutions, and new and emerging technologies.

The program will be designed around participation from practicing engineers, researchers, planners, policy makers, and other risk reduction specialists, with the format including technical presentations, panel discussions, and policy-development discussions. For more information, visit the workshop page on the [Applied Technology Council website](#). 

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▶ 1st International Workshop on Resilience in Torino, Italy, September 20-22

The 1st International Workshop on Resilience will take place in Torino, Italy, **September 20-22, 2016**. The workshop will comprise both presentation and discussion sessions examining the state of knowledge on disaster resilience in the light of lessons learned from recent major earthquakes. Participants from Asia, Europe, Oceania, and America will discuss the new directions for performance-based seismic engineering,

and provide a review of resilience theory and its theoretical and methodological approaches across cultures and contexts. More information on the [workshop website](#). 

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CALLS FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

▶ Call for Abstracts: ICBEST 2017

The International Conference on Building Envelope Systems and Technologies (ICBEST) will take place May 15-18, 2017, in Istanbul, Turkey. Jointly organized by the Working Groups of Building and Construction Technologies in Architecture and Structural & Earthquake Engineering, Istanbul Technical University (ITU), Faculty of Architecture, ICBEST Istanbul is the premier conference for attendees to benefit from the cutting edge information on building envelope systems and technologies. Abstract submission deadline for the conference is **April 1, 2016**. More details on the conference website: <http://icbestistanbul.com> 

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▶ Call for Abstracts: AEG 2016 Annual Meeting September 18-24

The 59th Annual Meeting of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG) will take place in Waikoloa Village, Hawaii, September 18-24, 2016. The meeting planning committee invites abstract submissions for technical sessions and symposia. Session topics include "Dams: Repair and Removal Projects," "Rock Mechanics," and "Volcanic and Seismic Hazards of the Circum-Pacific Region." Abstract submission deadline is **May 1, 2016**. More information on meeting logistics and abstract submissions at <http://www.aegannualmeeting.org> 



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▶ Call for Papers: GeoMEast 2017

The GeoMEast2017 International Conference will be held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, **July 15-19, 2017**. The organizing committee invites papers and abstracts for this sustainable civil infrastructures conference with a theme of "Sustainable Civil Infrastructures: Innovative Infrastructure Geotechnology." GeoMEast2017 will provide a showcase for recent developments and advancements in design, construction, and safety inspections of transportation infrastructures, and offer a forum to discuss and debate future directions for the 21st century. Details on the conference and abstract submissions can be found at <http://www.geomeast2017.org/> 

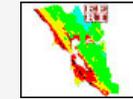
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CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT

▶ NorCal Chapter Discussion: Vulnerable Concrete Buildings

Concrete buildings with known design flaws continue to be responsible for a large percentage of earthquake fatalities. The 2011 Christchurch earthquake and recent Kaohsiung, Taiwan event highlight devastating failures of deficient concrete buildings. The Northern California Chapter of EERI will host a conversation on vulnerable concrete buildings in the Association of Bay Area Governments auditorium in Oakland, CA, from 6:00-7:00 pm, on **March 15, 2016**.



RSVP by March 9. More information on the meeting at <http://www.eerinc.org> 

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PUBLICATIONS

▶ Earthquake Spectra: February 2016 Issue

The February 2016 issue of *Earthquake Spectra* (volume 32, issue 1) is now available online at <http://earthquakespectra.org/toc/eqsa/32/1>

Print copies of the new issue of *Earthquake Spectra* have been mailed, and you may order additional copies at <https://www.eeri.org/earthquake-spectra/>

This issue features over 25 research manuscripts and an "Analytical Study of Mobile Home Response to the 2014 South Napa Earthquake" by **Bruce Maison** (M. EERI, 1990) and **Kelly Cobeen** (M. EERI, 2000).

If you have questions about this, or any issue, contact Managing Editor Liz Stalnaker at liz@eeri.org

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▶ Earthquake Spectra: Preprint Manuscripts

Four preprint manuscripts have been posted to the *Earthquake Spectra* website prior to formal publication. The papers to be published are:

- "Response-History Analysis for the Design of New Buildings in the NEHRP Provisions and ASCE/SEI 7 Standard: Part IV - A Study of Assumptions" by **Jordan A. Jarrett** (M. EERI, 2013), **Reid B. Zimmerman** (M. EERI, 2013), **Finley A. Charney** (M. EERI, 1983), and **Afshar Jalalian** (M. EERI, 2012).
- "Experimental Study on Lateral Strength Evaluation of Unreinforced Masonry-Infilled RC Frame" by Kiwoong Jin, Ho Choi, and **Yoshiaki Nakano** (M. EERI, 2001).
- "Relative Differences between Nonlinear and Equivalent-Linear 1-D Site Response Analyses" by **Byungmin Kim** (M. EERI, 2014), **Youssef M. A. Hashash** (M. EERI, 1999), **Jonathan P. Stewart** (M. EERI, 1994), **Ellen M. Rathje** (M. EERI, 1996), **Joseph A. Harmon** (M. EERI, 2013), Michael I. Musgrove, **Kenneth W. Campbell** (M. EERI, 1975), and **Walter J. Silva** (M. EERI, 1988).
- "Physically Parameterized Prediction Equations for Significant Duration in Active Crustal Regions" by **Kioumars Afshari** (M. EERI, 2015) and **Jonathan P. Stewart** (M. EERI, 1994)

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SPECTRA**

To read all current preprint manuscripts posted, visit [Earthquake Spectra preprints](#). [↗](#)

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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

▶ New Bronze Subscribing Member: Haselton Baker Risk Group

EERI welcomes new Bronze Subscribing Member, **Haselton Baker Risk Group**, created in 2014, to produce software that meets the needs of cutting-edge engineering design professionals and enables engineers to quickly implement advanced assessment methods into their practice



The Seismic Performance Prediction Program (SP3), created by the Haselton Baker Risk Group, brings the next generation of seismic loss assessment to the engineering world. Placing the advanced FEMA P-58 methodology into the hands of engineers, SP3 enables quick and unprecedented understanding of the relationship between building-specific features and seismic risk. With a user-friendly interface and advanced numerical methods, in-depth probabilistic seismic loss results can be obtained in minutes, enabling efficient and effective decision-making. More information at <http://www.hbrisk.com> [↗](#)

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▶ Happy 60th Birthday to SGH



Our congratulations to EERI Bronze Subscribing Member **Simpson Gumpertz & Heger**, which turns 60 this year and is celebrating with a series of videos highlighting SGH offices, educational opportunities, and anniversary events: <http://www.sgh.com/sghturns60> [↗](#)

Happy Birthday SGH!

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CALENDAR

Follow these steps to add EERI Calendar to your own Google calendar.

1. Open [Google Calendar](#)
2. On the left, above "My Calendars," click Add + and then **From URL**.
3. Enter the EERI calendar's address in the field provided. EERI Calendar ics link
https://calendar.google.com/calendar/ical/eeri.org_s9151tit0ab26dnf2epn25d7rg%40group.calendar.google.com/public/basic.ics
4. Click **Add Calendar**. The calendar will appear on the left side under "Other calendars."

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 - October 30

APGCE

The Asia Petroleum Geoscience Conference & Exhibition (APGCE)

29 – 30 October 2019

KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE, MALAYSIA

[REGISTER](#)

Monday, December 09, 2019 - December 13

AGU 2019 Fall Meeting

9-13 December 2019 San Francisco, California

Tuesday, March 03, 2020 - March 06

EERI 2020 Annual Meeting/Natl EQ Conference

National Earthquake Conference & 72nd EERI Annual Meeting

March 3 - 6, 2020

Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina

San Diego, California

[website](#)

Wednesday, March 04, 2020 - March 06

2020 RBDCC

5th Residential Building Design & Construction Conference (RBDCC)

Hosted by The Pennsylvania Housing Research Center

March 4-6, 2020

Penn Stater Conference Center

State College, PA.

[website](#)

Monday, April 27, 2020 - April 30

SSA 2020 Annual Meeting

SSA 2020 Annual Meeting

27-30 April 2020 — Albuquerque, New Mexico

The 2020 Annual Meeting will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

[Check back later for more information.](#)

Monday, September 14, 2020 - September 18

17th WCEE

The 17th WCEE will be hosted in Sendai, Japan, from September 14th to 18th 2020. Check <http://www.iaee.or.jp/> for more information.



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