News of the Institute

EERI’s Evolving Plans for Japan

Immediately after the great East Japan earthquake and tsunami of March 11, 2011, EERI convened the Earthquake Reconnaissance Advisory Committee, chaired by Jack Moehle. The committee met on several occasions, broadening the participation to include disciplines key to this event.

The special nature of this event, including the extent of the disaster and the availability of Japanese technical expertise, has influenced EERI’s approach to studying it. Rather than sending a large team to conduct independent reconnaissance, EERI is instead coordinating closely to develop agreements for cooperation and data sharing with leaders at the Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ), the Japan Association for Earthquake Engineering (JAEE), and the Disaster Prevention Research Institute (DPRI). Through this collaborative approach, the following six main topical areas were identified, with assigned coordinators on the Japan and U.S. sides: seismology and ground motion; tsunami; geotechnical engineering; buildings; transportation and lifelines; and planning, emergency response, and recovery.

Topical area leaders on U.S. and Japan sides will work out required travel and meeting requirements that will most rapidly and effectively collect information on these specific topics. Findings will be published on EERI’s clearinghouse, in a Newsletter insert, and in a final formal report jointly authored by U.S. and Japan participants.

There are many recent additions to EERI’s clearinghouse web site on this event (http://www.eqclearinghouse.org/2011-03-11-sendai/), including a short interim report from the PEER/EERI/GEER Tsunami Field Investigation Team.

Annual Meeting 2012: Spring in Memphis

Mark your calendar! As the last of a series of bicentennial events marking the 200th anniversary of the historic series of strong earthquakes that struck the New Madrid seismic zone in late 1811 and early 1812, the 2012 EERI Annual Meeting will be held April 10-14 at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis, Tennessee.

Because of the significance of the anniversary, the Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the National Earthquake Conference (NEC) that is organized every four years by the FEMA consortia, which consists of the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC), the Central U.S. Earthquake Consortium (CUSEC), the Northeast States Emergency Consortium (NESEC), and the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup (CREW). Several members of the EERI New Madrid Regional Chapter will serve on the local organizing committee.

Be on the lookout for more information in future newsletters!
2011 Bolt Medal Awarded to Irikura

Kojiro Irikura, professor emeritus at Kyoto University, has been chosen as the 2011 recipient of the Bruce Bolt Medal, which is awarded jointly by the Seismological Society of America (SSA), the Consortium of Organizations for Strong-Motion Observation Systems (COSMOS), and EERI. The medal was established to recognize individuals worldwide whose accomplishments involve the promotion and use of strong-motion earthquake data and whose leadership in the transfer of scientific and engineering knowledge into practice or policy has led to improved seismic safety.

Throughout his career, Professor Irikura has maintained an unwavering commitment to the mitigation of earthquake effects through the collection and analysis of strong-motion data. Because Japan has such a great exposure to seismic hazards, its approach to mitigation ripples throughout the world. It is, in large part, due to Professor Irikura’s influence that researchers have access to the best strong-motion data, which form the foundation for earthquake mitigation. Two of the leading networks in the world for strong-motion data (K-NET and KiK-net) are in Japan. Professor Irikura’s leadership in the construction and operation of the CEORKA Network (Committee of Earthquake Observation and Research in the Kansai Area) was the impetus for both. The CEORKA Network was established to record large motions and to make the data be freely and immediately available to all researchers. Deployment commenced in time to record the 1995 Kobe earthquake. Until then, strong-motion data were not easily or quickly obtainable. Within 18 months of the Kobe earthquake, the National Research Institute for Earth Science and Disaster Prevention (NIED) deployed 1039 free-field accelerometers, K-NET (Kyoshin Net). Professor Irikura was behind the NEID’s decision to distribute the data freely on the Internet. This helped create the culture of sharing that has characterized Japanese seismological networks ever since.

Professor Irikura received the Bolt Medal in April at the SSA Annual Meeting in Memphis, Tennessee.

News of the Institute
Submit Nominations for 2012 Distinguished Lecturer

The EERI Honors Committee will meet soon to consider candidates for the 2012 Distinguished Lecturer Award. The committee welcomes nominations from EERI members. Please send nominations to eeri@eeri.org by May 23, accompanied by a brief justification.

Since 1992, EERI has honored leaders in the earthquake profession through this annual award. The lecture is always presented for the first time at the EERI Annual Meeting and then at a series of student chapter meetings nationwide. Past awardees are listed on page ii of the EERI Roster. For a complete description of the award, visit http://www.eeri.org/site/distinguished-lecture.

Student Resumes Online

As a service to EERI member firms and student members who are exploring the job market, 44 student member resumes have been posted on EERI’s web site at http://www.eeri.org/site/news/resumes. Graduation dates range from June 2010 to June 2012. Degrees include 23 masters, 8 Ph.D.s, and 11 bachelors, representing the following universities: Georgia Tech; Missouri University of Science & Technology; Pennsylvania State (7); Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico; Purdue (5); San Francisco State; Stanford (3); University of British Columbia (3); University at Buffalo (4); University of California at Berkeley (2), Davis (3), Los Angeles (2) and San Diego (2); University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2); University of Memphis (2); University of Texas; University of Southern California (3); and Utah State. Disciplines represented are 30 structural, 6 geotechnical, 4 architectural engineering, and 2 not specified. Seven of the students are seeking internships.

Publications

All World Conference Proceedings Online

The International Association for Earthquake Engineering (IAEE) is pleased to announce that the proceedings for all 14 World Conferences on Earthquake Engineering are now available online at www.iaee.org. The international community has always felt the need for quick and free access to proceedings papers—from the 1st World Conference in Berkeley, California, in 1956 to the 14th in Beijing in 2008. The IAEE’s rich collection will now make it possible for researchers and practitioners to read online or download and archive papers, some of which have long become standard items of reference but are otherwise difficult to find. The collection is fully searchable by titles, authors, keywords, city or country names or the sequence number of the proceedings.

The development of this service has been made possible by the National Information Center of Earthquake Engineering (www.nicce.org) of India, under contract with the IAEE. The IAEE is grateful to all local organizing committees of past conferences that have granted permission to collect this body of information under one roof.
Obituary
L. LeRoy Crandall, 1917-2011

Longtime EERI member L. LeRoy “Buzz” Crandall, 94, passed away on April 3, 2011, in Marina del Rey, California. A native of Portland, Oregon, he was raised in San Diego and received his B.S. degree in civil engineering in 1941 from the University of California at Berkeley. Founder in 1954 of LeRoy Crandall and Associates, LeRoy’s career was innovative and visionary. He pioneered the use of tied-back shoring in southern California, which made possible very deep excavations for new high-rise buildings after Los Angeles eliminated the 13-story height limit in the 1950s. He was also involved with the planning and development of the first base-isolated building in the United States, the Foothill Communities Law and Justice Center in Rancho Cucamonga, California, not far from the San Andreas fault.

In his personal introduction to EERI’s LeRoy Crandall Oral History published in 2008, Marshall Lew wrote, “Working for LeRoy was like working for family, and he treated everyone with respect and was always concerned for their well-being…He is not afraid to kick you in the rear end when you need it, but he is always encouraging and compassionate. His enthusiasm is contagious, and he is an inspiration.” Lew added that after LeRoy’s retirement from Law/Crandall in 1999, he “enjoyed his ‘retirement’ by not working Saturdays and Sundays. He came in early and left late almost every day. His business ethic was ‘do the work right and don’t worry about the budget,’ because in the end, LeRoy believed that everything would work out.” He encouraged participation in professional societies and giving to the community. He was involved with the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California and served on the Board of Directors of EERI, the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the American Council of Engineering Companies. He was instrumental in establishing the ASCE Technical Council on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering. An early supporter of the California Strong Motion Instrumentation Program, he was appointed to the California Seismic Safety Commission by Governor Ronald Reagan and reappointed by Governor Jerry Brown. The LeRoy Crandall Geotechnical Laboratory at the University of Southern California was established in 1994.

News of the Profession
3rd UniQ-UB/MCEER Seminar in Haiti

Quisqueya University (UniQ) and the University at Buffalo (UB)/MCEER held the third installment of professional development seminars March 12-22, 2011, in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Over 300 participants enrolled in one or more of five advanced programs that offered in-depth instruction on seismic design adapted to construction practices in Haiti. Topics included seismic load calculations, seismic design of reinforced concrete, confined masonry and wood structures, and properties and quality control of materials for earthquake-resistant construction. The programs featured both classroom and hands-on instruction. The prerequisite introductory session on earthquake engineering and post-earthquake building assessment was also offered to new participants.

A highlight was an invited lecture given by Eric Calais, professor of geophysics, Purdue University, and scientific adviser to the United Nations Development Program in Haiti and co-chair of the UN Haiti Earthquake Risk Reduction Task Force.

Instructors Andre Filiatrault, M.EERI, MCEER Director and UB professor of civil engineering, and Pierre Fouché, UB Ph.D. candidate, and J. Eric Karsh, principal at Equilibrium Consulting, Vancouver, Canada, were joined by Andre Bergeron, a structural engineer from Quebec who was in Haiti supervising construction projects as part of Engineers without Borders. Sofia Tangalos, M.EERI, senior program officer of MCEER Information Service and education/outreach activities, served as logistical coordinator; Haitian colleagues Evenson Calixte and Tingue Wolfield of the Faculty of Engineering & Architecture organized the event on behalf of UniQ.

Scheduled for August 1-25, 2011, the 4th UniQ-UB/MCEER Seminar will repeat the programs offered in March and will introduce three new sessions on geotechnical earthquake engineering, seismic design of steel structures, and approximate seismic analysis of buildings. For more information, visit http://mceer.buffalo.edu/education/UniQ/default.asp.
News of the Membership

ASCE Awards for Reinhorn, Bruneau

EERI members Andrei Reinhorn and Michel Bruneau, both MCEER investigators and professors in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering at the University at Buffalo, have been recognized by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) for their contributions.

Andrei Reinhorn was awarded the 2011 Nathan M. Newmark Medal in recognition of his contributions to the development of experimental and analytical methods in structural dynamics and in design of response-control systems for earthquake-resistant buildings, as well as his contributions to quantify earthquake resilient communities. The national medal is given to an ASCE member who has substantially strengthened the scientific base of structural engineering through research or other writing.

Michel Bruneau, former MCEER Director, received the 2011 George Winter award in recognition of his contributions to structural engineering and seismic hazard mitigation, and to creative fictional literature that succeeds in telling the hazard mitigation story to a broader audience. The award is given to an active structural engineering researcher, educator, or practitioner who also demonstrates a commitment to the social or artistic needs of the community through work performed in an area not directly related to engineering or science.

Subscribing Member News

ACEC Engineering Excellence Awards

Several EERI Subscribing Members were recognized with Engineering Excellence Awards, bestowed by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), for projects that demonstrate a high degree of innovation, achievement, and value. ACEC named 10 grand award winners and 19 honor award winners, who were selected from National Recognition awardees nominated by state ACECs. The panel of judges were chosen from outside the organization.

The following Subscribing Members and their projects received Grand Awards:

CH2M HILL: Pelton Round Butte Selective Water Withdrawal, Madras, Oregon; Kleinfelder: Bridge-in-a-Backpack, Auburn, Maine

Walter P Moore: Target Field, Minneapolis, Minnesota

The following received Honor Awards:

Arup: (1) Songdo Convention Center, Incheon, South Korea; (2) Yale University Forestry/Environmental Studies Building, New Haven, Connecticut; (3) New Songdo City Central Park and Canal, Incheon, South Korea

CH2M HILL: Prairie Waters Project Peter Binney Facility, Aurora, Colorado

URS Corporation: Dartmouth Dam Piano Key Weir Model Study, Victoria, Australia

Walter P Moore: New Arrowhead Stadium, Kansas City, Missouri

American Concrete Institute Award for CSI

The American Concrete Institute (ACI) recently bestowed the Charles S. Whitney Medal for engineering development upon EERI Platinum Subscribing Member Computers & Structures, Inc. (CSI). The award recognizes CSI for "30 years of development and world-class computer applications for analysis and design of structures that have changed and modernized structural engineering to a level never envisioned just a few decades ago." In accepting the award, Ashraf Habibullah, CSI president and CEO, expressed appreciation to the entire structural engineering community for their invaluable feedback and collaboration that have helped advance CSI products to the forefront of the industry.

Founded in 1961, the Charles S. Whitney Medal may be bestowed for any important contribution to the sciences or arts of concrete design or construction through either the advancement of general engineering practice or through application in specific noteworthy projects.
Call for Expression of Interest

GEM Macroseismic Intensity Tasks

The Global Earthquake Model (GEM) is considering funding activities related to macroseismic intensity and is thus calling for expressions of interest (EOI) in tasks concerning development of the following: a macroseismic database, standards for macroseismic data exchange, ground-motion-to-intensity conversion equations, direct intensity prediction equations (IPEs), tools to allow for non-parametric motion intensity attenuation treatment in probabilistic hazard and risk analyses, ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) for instrumental intensity, site terms for IPEs, strategies for testing and evaluation, and a Global Macroseismic Scale. Visit http://www.globalquakemodel.org/macroseismic-intensity_EOI for more information.

To submit an EOI, email secretariat@gem�acquemodel.org before May 15 with a brief CV, and indicate which tasks you are interested in, what your relevant qualifications or experience are, and if you would be able to provide the proposed activity as an in-kind contribution to GEM.

Publication

2008 China Quake Documentary

China Quake is a new documentary DVD, produced by Natural History New Zealand, that investigates the 2008 M 7.9 earthquake in Sichuan, China, and introduces the science behind seismic activity. Video footage of the quake and its aftermath portray the devastation, and computer graphics illustrate the mechanisms behind the event. China Quake follows a team of international scientists, including geologists, seismologists, and engineers, as they uncover the chain of events. Among the scientists is EERI member Elizabeth Hausler, founder of the nonprofit organization Build Change. Aimed for a grade 9 through adult audience, the DVD’s running time is 47 minutes. The price for colleges, government agencies, and businesses is $195; for K-12 schools and nonprofits, $89. For more information, visit http://www.videoproject.com/chinaquake.html. Friends and supporters of Build Change can get a 25% discount using promo code BCEMAIL. The film received a Golden China Dragon Award from the International Science and Education Producers Conference, China, and was broadcast on TV’s National Geographic Channel International.
Announcements

Registration Open for Quake Summit 2011

Registration is now open for “Quake Summit 2011—Earthquake & Multi-Hazards Resilience: Progress and Challenges,” a joint conference that combines the annual meetings of the Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) and MCEER to be held June 9-11, 2011 in Buffalo, New York. Highlights include one plenary session on both the 2011 New Zealand earthquake and the Japan earthquake and tsunami (organized by EERI) and another involving members of two National Research Council panels on the future of NEES and earthquake science and engineering, as well as three NEEShub workshops and an ASCE (Buffalo Section)-cosponsored Continuing Education Seminar on “Changes to Seismic Provisions of ASCE/SEI 7-10: Minimum Design Loads for Buildings and Other Structures.” The registration fee is $175, or $50 for students. For more information and to register, visit http://www.quakesummit.org.

Registration Open for GeoRisk 2011

Registration is open for GeoRisk 2011, a Geo-Institute (GI) conference on geotechnical risk assessment and management, to be held in Atlanta, Georgia, June 26-28, 2011, hosted by the Risk Assessment and Management Committee of GI-ASCE. Its theme is “Improving the Value and Scope of Geotechnical Services.” For information on the program and to register, visit http://www.georisk2011.org. The registration fee will increase by $100 after May 25.

Disaster Risk Reduction Global Platform

The 3rd Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction and World Reconstruction Conference will be held May 8-13, 2011, in Geneva, Switzerland. The program is now available from http://www.preventionweb.net/globalplatform/2011/programme/. The Global Platform will attract more than 2,000 participants from governments, civil society, NGOs, the private sector, international organizations, regional bodies, and academia. Organizers are reaching out to a new and diverse range of leaders from the private sector, local government and civil society to stimulate commitment and investment in prevention. The Global Platform will be informed by new evidence provided by the Global Assessment Report and the findings of the economics study recently completed by the World Bank and the United Nations. The 3rd Session builds on previous commitments and the approach of past platforms. Priorities will be set and commitment to reducing disaster risk in our communities will be strengthened.

Liu Huixian Scholarship Award

The Huixian Earthquake Engineering Foundation (HEEF) in China and the US-China Earthquake Engineering Foundation (USA) are offering ten Liu Huixian Earthquake Engineering Scholarship Awards in 2011 for graduate students from China, the United States, and Singapore, or who are enrolled in member organizations of the Asian-Pacific Network of Centers for Earthquake Engineering Research (ANCER). Students selected for the award will be issued a certificate and 10,000 yuan (approximately US$1,450) from the two foundations. Applications must be submitted to HEEF by July 31, 2011. For more information, visit http://hxeef.iem.cn or http://www.iem.ac.cn/

News of the Profession

Central U.S. ShakeOut

The largest preparedness event in central U.S. history, the Great Central U.S. ShakeOut, was held at 10:15 a.m. local time on April 28, 2011 (April 19 in Indiana). It involved close to three million people through a broad-based outreach program, partnership with media, and public advocacy by hundreds of partners. Modeled on the success of those that have taken place in California beginning in 2008, the event was organized by the Central United States Earthquake Consortium (http://www.cusec.org) and the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

Registered participants received information on how to plan their drill and how to create a dialogue with others about earthquake preparedness. All organizers asked was that participants register and, at least, practice “drop, cover, and hold on” at the specified time. For more information, visit www.ShakeOut.org/centralus.

Announcement

AEG Annual Meeting

The 54th Annual Meeting of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists will be held September 19-24, 2011, in Anchorage, Alaska, with the theme “North to the Future.” The program will consist of symposia and technical sessions on topics including dam analysis, remediation, and removal; coastal processes; slope stability; volcanic and seismic hazards; railroad transportation; oil and gas pipelines; rock falls; geophysics; and highway geology. Additional options are four short courses, eight field trips and four guest tours. For more information and to register, visit www.aegweb.org. Registration fees increase by $50 after August 1.
Announcement

Conference on PBD for Geotechs

The 2nd International Conference on Performance-Based Design in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering is scheduled for May 28-30, 2012, in Taormina, Italy, organized by the ISSMGE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering) Technical Committee of Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Associated Problems. A symposium in honor of EERI member Professor Shamsher Prakash will be part of the conference.

To obtain the first announcement and to submit abstracts (deadline May 31, 2011), e-mail mmaugeri@dica.unict.it and agiroma@iol.it. While the conference is mainly concerned with the technical performance of geotechnical systems, submissions related to economic and environmental performance are welcome.

CALENDAR

The issue containing the first appearance is indicated at the entry’s end. Items listed for the first time are shown in bold.

2011

MAY


16-18. 6th Int’l Conf. on Seismology & EQ Eng. (SEE6), Tehran, Iran. www.see6.ir (8/10)


JUNE

5-7. ASDSO NE Regional Conf., Lake Placid, NY. www.damsafety.org (4/11)


JULY

4-6. 8th European Conf. on Structural Dynamics (EURODYN 2011), Leuven, Belgium. Info: www.eurodyn2011.org (6/10)

AUGUST

23-26. 4th Int’l IASPEI/IAEE Symp. on Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG4), UC Santa Barbara. esg4.eri.ucsb.edu/ (2/11)


SEPTEMBER

7-9. ERES 2011, Chianciano Terme, Italy. See page 5. (5/11)

18-23. 1st Int’l Conf. on EQs & Structures (ICEAS-2011), Seoul, S. Korea. asem11.citi3.com/ (12/10, 1/11)


21-24. SEAOC Convention, Las Vegas, NV. convention.seaoc.org/ (2/11)


OCTOBER

2-6. 7th World Congress on Joints, Bearings, & Seismic Systems for Concrete Structures, Las Vegas, NV. www.jbrc.org/ (8/10)


DECEMBER


2012

JANUARY


FEBRUARY


MAY

28-30. PBD for Geotechs, Taormina, Italy. See this page. (5/11)

JULY

8-12. 6th Int’l Conf. on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management (IABMAS 2012), Lake Como, Italy. www.iabmas2012.org (12/10, 1/11)

SEPTEMBER

24-28. 15th World Conf. on EQ Eng. (15WCEE), Lisbon, Portugal. www.15wcee.org (8/10)

OCTOBER

News of the Institute

EERI on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter

EERI now has an official Facebook page! EERI members already on Facebook are encouraged to “like” the page, contributing to its momentum and exposure. The Facebook page will feature photo albums on EERI projects, sponsored events, and meetings. It will also inform the Facebook community about EERI projects, programs, and events. In its inaugural state, the page showcases reconnaissance photos by EERI teams in Haiti, New Zealand, and Chile. EERI’s Facebook page is accessible to everyone (http://www.facebook.com/EERI.org), i.e., you do not need a Facebook account to visit. The purpose of the page is to add a new communication tool that publicizes and promotes EERI activities.

In addition to using Facebook, EERI staff is taking over ownership of the EERI group on LinkedIn, a professional networking site. The LinkedIn group was created in 2008 by EERI member Alessandro Rasulo (Italy) as a way for him to acknowledge his EERI membership, and already has 450 members. Through the LinkedIn group, EERI can inform a large interested community about its activities and promote EERI membership. Please check out EERI on Facebook and join the LinkedIn group!

Wanted: Spectra Papers on Earthquake Engineering Practice

In order to make Earthquake Spectra more useful for the practicing engineer, the Editorial Board encourages practitioners to submit articles in the topic category of “Earthquake Engineering Practice.” The publication process for such papers will be expedited. Possible topics include but are not limited to the following:

• Engineering and construction case studies
• Simplified techniques and design tips
• State-of-the-practice reports
• Novel and practical applications of performance-based engineering methods
• Comparative or critical reviews of various seismic code provisions
• Issues and tips related to application of commonly used engineering software
• Proper and improper engineering details and assumptions
• Comparative study of various seismic analysis techniques and the impact of selected methods on the final product
• Committee and organization reports and summaries that may substantially affect engineering practice
• Legal and ethical issues affecting engineering practice

Earthquake engineering practice papers must be clearly marked as such on the cover letter accompanying the paper. While the originality of these papers is important, their usefulness to the practicing engineer will be given priority during the selection process. Papers should be submitted using Earthquake Spectra’s online manuscript submission and peer review system at http://eqs.peerx-press.org.