FRIEDMAN FAMILY VISITING PROFESIONALS PROGRAM

Visit to University of British Columbia: March 13, 2025

This report summarizes the visit of **Dr. Lindsey Maclise** from Forell/Elsesser Engineers that took place at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver Campus on March 13, 2025. Unfortunately, we could not host Dr. Maclise in person as she wasn't feeling well.

ITINERARY OR AGENDA

Time	Activity
11:30am – 1pm	Meet with Earthquake Seismic Resilience Lab
2:00pm - 3:30pm	SDC Dry-run
3:30pm - 4:30pm	Friedman Lecture

STUDENT CHAPTER VISIT PLANNING COMMITTEE

LEAD ORGANIZER(S):

- Kristen Blowes, President, kristen.blowes@ubc.ca
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- Pouria Kourehpaz, past president, pouria.kourehpaz@ubc.ca
- Carlos Molina Hutt, Associate Professor (Structural and Earthquake Engineering), carlos.molinahutt@civil.ubc.ca

VISITING PROFESSIONAL LECTURE OVERVIEW

Dr. Lindsey Maclise delivered a distinguished lecture on the critical role that structural engineers can play in reducing embodied carbon in the built environment. The event was held virtually via Zoom and hosted in the Civil and Environmental Engineering lecture hall at the University of British Columbia (UBC). Approximately 50 attendees participated in the session, including graduate students specializing in structural and earthquake engineering, as well as project and construction management. In addition, 8 to 10 faculty members and research associates were present. Dr. Maclise also provided an overview of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)'s mission and outlined opportunities for student and early-career professional involvement. The presentation concluded with an engaging Q&A session and open discussion

Lecture Abstract

Structural Engineers have been working on embodied carbon reduction strategies for more than 20 years, however, these efforts have not previously been recognized in building codes and LEED standards. With the creation of environmental product declarations (EPDs), the availability of robust tracking tools, and a focused shift in urgency of the climate crisis, Structural engineers are stepping into a key role for reducing embodied carbon. What are the main things you can bring to your design team to make a difference in reducing our embodied carbon footprint?

Professional Bio

Lindsey is a Principal at Forell Elsesser with over 15 years of experience in the structural engineering field, during which she has led the engineering effort for many large and complex projects. Lindsey received both a Bachelor's and Master's degree from UC Berkeley where she is currently serving as a member of the Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) Advisory Board. Lindsey is also an active member of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute and has been named a Housner Fellow of the EERI.

Lindsey is passionate about sustainability for the built environment and leads many efforts that promote the design, construction, and operation of buildings that are environmentally responsible and healthy places to live and work. Lindsey currently leads Forell Elsesser's Carbon Neutral Initiative which takes progressive action to help reduce, educate, and implement carbon reduction design strategies in structural systems. Lindsey also served as past chair of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) Sustainable Design Committee and has given many presentations on sustainable design and the vital role that structural engineers can play to design more sustainable and resilient structural systems. In addition, she has lectured nationally and has written many reports and papers that focus on sustainable design strategies for the built environment.

SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITES

Several supplemental activities had originally been planned for the day of the visit, including a campus tour of UBC and a visit to the Earthquake Engineering Research Facility. However, due to the transition to an online format, these in-person events were replaced with virtual alternatives.

The first virtual session was held with members of the Engineering for Seismic Resilience Lab. During this meeting, graduate students presented their ongoing research and engaged in a productive discussion with Dr. Maclise. Another highlight of the day was a dry run conducted by the UBC Seismic Design Team, which provided an excellent opportunity for the team to receive valuable feedback from Dr. Maclise.

RESULTS, FEEDBACK AND LESSONS LEARNED

- Although held online, Friedman Family Visiting Professional lecture was welcomed by graduate and undergraduate students at the University of British Columbia. Participation and engagement of students and faculty were satisfactory.
- The chapter made great efforts to widely advertise Lindsey's lecture and other events through the structural and earthquake engineering faculty, the Civil Engineering department's newsletter, and faculty teaching undergraduate classes.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The University of British Columbia EERI Student Chapter gratefully acknowledges the support of the Friedman Family for sponsoring the travel of Dr. Lindsey Maclise through their Friedman Family Visiting Professional Program endowment.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- Flier for Friedman Lecture