

# FRIEDMAN FAMILY VISITING PROFESIONALS PROGRAM

Visit to University of British Columbia:  
March 13, 2024



This report summarizes the visit of **Dr. Ramin Golesorkhi** from Langan that took place at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver Campus on March 13, 2024.

## ITINERARY OR AGENDA

TIME:	ACTIVITY:
10:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Campus and laboratory tour
11:30 AM – 12:00 PM	Meetings with faculty members
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch meeting with Engineering for Seismic Resilience Lab
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Meet & greet with undergraduate and graduate students
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM	Friedman Lecture
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Happy hour with student chapter and faculty

## STUDENT CHAPTER VISIT PLANNING COMMITTEE

### LEAD ORGANIZER(S):

- Kristen Blowes, President, [kristen.blowes@ubc.ca](mailto:kristen.blowes@ubc.ca)
- Ehsan Ferdosi, Vice President, [eferdosi@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:eferdosi@mail.ubc.ca)
- Amir Ghahremani Baghmisheh, Event Coordinator, [amirghb@mail.ubc.ca](mailto:amirghb@mail.ubc.ca)
- Anthony Iliouchetchev, Secretary, [ilioucha@student.ubc.ca](mailto:ilioucha@student.ubc.ca)
- Chris Leong, Webmaster, [cleong2@student.ubc.ca](mailto:cleong2@student.ubc.ca)
- Anna Nest, Treasurer, [annan1422@gmail.com](mailto:annan1422@gmail.com)
- Pouria Kourehpaz, past president, [pouria.kourehpaz@ubc.ca](mailto:pouria.kourehpaz@ubc.ca)
- Carlos Molina Hutt, Associate Professor (Structural and Earthquake Engineering), [carlos.molinahutt@civil.ubc.ca](mailto:carlos.molinahutt@civil.ubc.ca)

## VISITING PROFESSIONAL LECTURE OVERVIEW

Dr. Ramin Golesorkhi delivered a distinguished lecture entitled 'Development of Site-Specific Time Series for Performance-Based Design – Art or Science?'. The lecture was held in-person and via zoom in this Civil and Environmental Engineering lecture hall the UBC. The lecture was attended by around 50 students, primarily graduate students in structural and geotechnical engineering, and around 10-12 faculty members and research associates. Ramin also gave an overview of EERI's mission and explained ways that students could get involved with EERI both as students and early career professionals. The presentation was followed by a Q&A and discussion. The audience was grateful to have the opportunity to learn from Ramin.

## Lecture Abstract

Recent seismic design codes are based on Performance-Based Design (PBD). PBD is a methodology that allows for design flexibility and opportunities for enhanced structural performance and innovation. Nonlinear time series evaluations and analyses are an integral part of PBD. As such, development of site-specific time series for PBD is an important part of PBD. This talk discusses the selection, methods of development, advantages and disadvantages of different methods, and some of the issues with the development of site-specific time series.

## Professional Bio

Dr. Ramin Golesorkhi is a Principal/Vice President at Langan's San Francisco office, where he serves as the Director of Seismic Engineering Services. He has over 30 years of work experience doing seismic analyses and foundation engineering, and has experience working on projects around the world, including the United States, Central and South America, India, and the Middle East. Dr. Golesorkhi attended Tufts University in Boston, where he received both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science Degrees, then he later attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his PhD. Since then, his work has contributed to the development of seismic and geotechnical design criteria for many types of buildings and infrastructure, including industrial, residential, government, office, hospitals, bridges, freeways, base-isolated structures, tunnels, and more. Furthermore, he is a primary author of the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Technical Guide on Performance-Based Seismic Design for Tall Buildings (2017).

## SUPPLEMENTAL ACTIVITIES

### Campus and Laboratory Tour

A group of students welcomed Ramin to tour around the University of British Columbia campus. The tour included visiting historic libraries on campus, as well as new mass timber buildings. The campus tour was followed by a tour of UBC's Earthquake Engineering Research Facility (EERF) and Structures Lab. The lab tour included descriptions of various equipment, ongoing experiments, and upcoming research efforts.

### Meeting with Faculty Members

Ramin was given a chance to catch up with and meet geotechnical engineering faculty members.

### Lunch Meeting with Engineering for Seismic Resilience Lab

The Engineering for Seismic Resilience Lab hosted Ramin for lunch. During lunch, graduate students presented their recent research and discussed their findings with Ramin.

### Meet and Greet

We hosted a small meet and greet for undergraduate and graduate students to casually connect with Ramin. The event was mainly attended by graduate students. Ramin provided career advice and offered to review CVs for graduate students entering the profession. Ramin was happy to share his experience as a graduate student and early career professional, providing guidance to students deciding between research and industry.

## RESULTS, FEEDBACK AND LESSONS LEARNED

- The various activities of the Friedman Family Visiting Professional visit were 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 Ramin's lecture and other events through the geotechnical engineering faculty and the department's newsletter. In the future, we plan to reach out to more faculty teaching undergraduate classes to increase undergraduate participation.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

## LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- Flier for Friedman Lecture

The Department of Civil Engineering – Technical Seminar:

## Development of Site-Specific Time Series for Performance-Based Design – Art or Science?

in CEME 1203

3:30 pm to 4:30 pm on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Recent seismic design codes are based on Performance-Based Design (PBD). PBD is a methodology that allows for design flexibility and opportunities for enhanced structural performance and innovation. Nonlinear time series evaluations and analyses are an integral part of PBD. As such, development of site-specific time series for PBD is an important part of PBD. This talk discusses the selection, methods of development, advantages and disadvantages of different methods, and some of the issues with the development of site-specific time series.



Dr. Ramin Golesorkhi is a Principal/Vice President at Langan's San Francisco office, where he serves as the Director of Seismic Engineering Services. He has over 30 years of work experience doing seismic analyses and foundation engineering, and has experience working on projects around the world, including the United States, Central and South America, India, and the Middle East.

Dr. Golesorkhi attended Tufts University in Boston, where he received both his Bachelor of Science and Master of Science Degrees, then he later attended the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his PhD. Since then, his work has contributed to the development of seismic and geotechnical design criteria for many types of buildings and infrastructure, including industrial, residential, government, office, hospitals, bridges, freeways, base-isolated structures, tunnels, and more. Furthermore, he is a primary author of the Council of Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Technical Guide on Performance-Based Seismic Design for Tall Buildings (2017).

*Dr. Golesorkhi will also be hosting an informal meet-and-greet with students and faculty for general technical discussions, career guidance, and to learn more about the research being done at UBC. This is a no-registration required, open event for anyone interested.*

**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm, Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, in CEME 2202**



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA