

2013 Year-End Report

for the **Northern California Chapter** of the
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

July 2014



This document summarizes the activities conducted by the Northern California Chapter of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI-NC or the Chapter) in 2013.

EERI NC Mission & Goals

As defined in the EERI-NC Strategic Plan, the mission of the Northern California Chapter is to reduce earthquake risk in northern California by advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering, by improving understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political and cultural environment, and by advocating comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes. To meet its mission, the Chapter's goals are to build and **Maintain an Active Chapter** of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute in northern California and to **Encourage, Promote and Facilitate Earthquake Risk Reduction in northern California**. The Chapter works to achieve its goals by carrying out specific strategies and related activities.

Membership in 2013

The EERI-NC Chapter had a total of 189 members in 2013, including 131 regular members, 7 persons who are members of only the Northern California Chapter, 3 honorary members, 7 student members, 20 retired members, and 9 young professional members.

The Board consisted of the following members:

President	Heidi Tremayne
Past-President	Janiele Maffei
Secretary-Treasurer	Marko Schotanus
Director	Danielle Hutchings Mieler
Director	Sharyl Rabinovici
Director	Chuck Real
Director	Laurence Kornfield
Director	Laura Dwelley-Samant
Director	Ken Mark

Board meetings were held monthly, except for August.

Finance

An operating budget of \$4,500 was approved for 2013, which covered expenses for chapter meetings and the email service.

The board approved use of unbudgeted funds for the sidewalk survey in Albany (as part of the Adopt-a-City project), and \$715 was spent to provide a light breakfast and snacks for volunteers. Albany sponsored lunch for the volunteers. The board also approved an unbudgeted donation of \$1000 for San Francisco's Retrofit Fair.

Revenues from membership dues totaled \$4,175, and expenditures \$3,698 (including the above unbudgeted expenses), leaving a net surplus of \$477.

The Chapter has typically operated within budget over its 10-year history, and has built up a surplus of about \$18,000. The Board will continue discussion of the use of the surplus in 2014.

Chapter Meetings

The following six Chapter meetings and two Chapter field trips took place in 2013, organized by the Program Committee consisting of John Liao, Nick Sherrow-Groves, and Pantea Vaziri (chair). Director Ken Mark was the Board liaison.

February Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

Venue: ABAG Auditorium, 101 8th Street, Oakland, CA

"Owner Liability: A New Incentive to Act?"

Speaker:

- Kenneth Moy, Legal Council, Association of Bay Area Governments

April Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Venue: URS Corporation office, 1 Montgomery Street, 8th Floor, San Francisco, CA

"Tsunami Planning Activities in California: Applying Lessons Learned from Recent Events" – annual 1906 San Francisco Earthquake anniversary meeting

Speaker:

- Rick Wilson, Senior Engineering Geologist, California Geological Survey

June Chapter Meeting

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

Venue: SGH San Francisco office, 100 Pine Street, 17th Floor, San Francisco, CA

"FEMA P-58, Seismic Performance Assessment of Buildings, Methodology and Implementation"

Speakers:

- Ron Hamburger, Senior Principal, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger
- Jon Heintz, Director of Projects, Applied Technology Council

July Chapter Field Trip

Wednesday, July 24, 2013

Gathering Venue: Bay Bridge Public Information Office, 311 Burma Road, Oakland, CA

"New Eastern Span of the Bay Bridge"

Tour guide:

- California Department of Transportation

August Chapter Field Trip

Tuesday, August 13, 2013

Gathering Venue: Offices of Arup, 560 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA

"San Francisco Transbay Transit Center"

Tour guide:

- Stephen McLandrich, senior geotechnical engineer, Arup

October Chapter Meeting (jointly with PEER)

Monday, October 14, 2013

Venue: Room 250, Sutardja Dai Hall, University of California, Berkeley, CA

"EERI Distinguished Lecture: Resilience: An Engineering Challenge"

Presenter:

- Mary Comerio, Professor of Architecture, University of California, Berkeley

November Chapter Meeting (jointly with the EERI Student Chapters)

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Venue: EPICENTER, 245 Third Street, San Francisco, CA

"California Earthquake Clearing House"

Speaker:

- Anne Rosinski, California Geological Survey

and "Presentations and Panel Discussion by local EERI Student Chapters"

- Panos Galanis, UC Berkeley Student Chapter
- Katarina Ziotopoulou, UC Davis Student Chapter
- Cristian Acevedo, Stanford Student Chapter
- Hezareigh Ryan, San Francisco State University Student Chapter
- David Bonowitz, David Bonowitz SE (moderator)

December Holiday Party (jointly with San Francisco Earthquake Safety Implementation Program)

Wednesday December 11, 2013

Venue: EPICENTER, 245 Third Street, San Francisco, CA

"Party and Chapter Awards Presentation"

The high number of meetings can be attributed to the program committee, in particular Pantea Vaziri. Attendance ranged from 20 – 50 people for each meeting.

Ken Mark surveyed attending members at each meeting and wrote Chapter Meeting summaries. Surveys consistently showed positive feedback for speakers, with ratings always exceeding an average of 4 (on a 1-5 scale). Ken also took photos for the archives at all events.

It is the goal for 2014 to enlarge the program committee, make it more autonomous, and plan further ahead.

Quarterly Shake

Director Laura Dwelley-Samant was the editor-in-chief of the Chapter newsletter, the Quarterly Shake. It was issued three times in 2013. The winter newsletter was issued in February, a spring newsletter in June, and a fall newsletter in December.

The goal for 2014 is to issue a newsletter in each quarter. Director Jeff Bond will take over as the editor.

YouTube and webinars

President Heidi Tremayne had access to recording and broadcasting equipment through the PEER center. It allowed the Chapter to broadcast the EERI Distinguished Lecture in October. Recordings and webinars of meetings will allow more members to learn from the programs. It provides yet another mechanism to reach the membership base.

Outreach to Local Jurisdictions

The board would like to increase the Chapter's role as an advocate for seismic risk reduction policy in northern California and the state. 2013 offered the following opportunities to support local jurisdictions:

Technical Review of City of Berkeley Hazard Mitigation Plan

Berkeley updated its Hazard Mitigation Plan, and the Chapter offered to help provide feedback from subject matter specialists. Director Hutchings-Mieler approached twelve Chapter members in Berkeley with diverse backgrounds, and seven of them generated feedback on the plan.

San Francisco's Earthquake Safety Implementation Program

The Chapter wrote a letter of support to the Board of Supervisors for the City's mandatory Soft Story program, and Heidi Tremayne spoke on behalf of the Chapter at the Land Use committee meeting in support of the program. The Chapter also supported the Earthquake Retrofit Fair that brought property owners together with the services and professionals they will need to perform and finance their retrofits.

Rockefeller Foundation 100 Resilient Cities grant

The Chapter was approached by the City of Oakland to support their application to the Rockefeller Foundation. Chapter President Tremayne wrote a letter of support, in the hope that this would allow the Chapter to participate as Oakland develops policies as part of this program.

The Chapter will continue to look for opportunities to build relationships with local jurisdictions in 2014.

Adopt-A-City Project

As an outcome of the 2011 strategic planning meeting, the Board decided to launch the "Adopt-A-City" program. Its goal is to engage in a coordinated effort to improve understanding of the risk, vulnerability and impact of a future earthquake for cities along the Hayward fault, and to empower the stakeholders within the cities to develop comprehensive and realistic measures to mitigate the cities' earthquake risk. The first city selected was Albany.

In 2013 work continued, with a subcommittee discussing a HAZUS run, and a subcommittee organizing a sidewalk survey to collect information for a complete building inventory. Over 20 members were engaged in the subcommittee work in the project in 2013, including Jeff Bond, Anne Hersch, Janiele Maffei, Heidi Tremayne, Laura Dwelley-Samant, David Bonowitz, Mahmoud Hachem, Charlie Scawthorn, Keith Knudsen, Marguerite Bello, Guy Morrow, Anni Tilt, Lynne Burks, Rian Firouz, Danielle Hutchings, Keyvan Fotoohi, Ken Mark, Keith Porter, Nuria Casquero, Maggie Ortiz, Fuyen

Yang, Jonathon Tai, Maryam Veisi, Pantea Vaziri, Azin Sharaf, Fabia Terra, Bill Cain, Casey Knudsen, and Marko Schotanus.

A sidewalk survey took place on June 8th, in which close to 60 members and non-members participated. The survey used the FEMA 154 rapid visual screening survey forms, together with the ROVER tool. The ROVER tool allows data collection and entry using a web-based application. Though there were some issues, in general the volunteers did their own data entry. Approximately 320 buildings were surveyed. The subcommittee then processed the information collected in the sidewalk survey, and an approach for conducting several HAZUS risk analyses was developed.

Support from the City of Albany through Jeff Bond was essential in gathering data and organizing the sidewalk survey. The focus for 2014 will be on finalizing the refined exposure model for Albany, doing HAZUS runs for various ground motion scenarios and shake maps, and documenting the project in a report.

Student Chapter Collaboration

The Chapter Board decided that the ties with the student chapters should be strengthened, so that students can more naturally transition from the student chapter to national and regional chapter activities. This year, one Chapter meeting was dedicated to a dialogue with the student chapters, to understand better what the various student chapters do, and how the Chapter may be able to support them. Providing contacts with the profession to find educational speakers and opportunities for field trips was identified as one key area.

Three Board members were identified for 2014 to be liaisons to the 5 Bay Area EERI Student Chapters (UC Berkeley, UC Davis, San Jose State, San Francisco State, and Stanford), and collaboration with the student chapters will continue.

2013 Election Results

The 2013 election was held from October 14 – November 12 using the LimeSurvey software. Ayse Hortacsu (Chair), Keith Kelson, Keith Knudsen, John Osteraas, and Tom Tobin served on the nominating committee. 80 Chapter members completed their online ballots to elect a President-Elect, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three Directors at Large. Because all individuals running for the Director positions were uniquely qualified to help further the Chapter's mission, and because the election results were a virtual tie, the Board decided to create an additional Director's seat on the board for a two year term. The winners were:

- Betsy Mathieson - President-Elect
- Marko Schotanus - Secretary-Treasurer (incumbent)
- Tom Anderson – Director-at-large
- Jeff Bond - Director-at-large
- Gerry Brady – Director-at-large
- Laurence Kornfield – Director-at-large (incumbent)

The newly elected Board members joined the Board officially at the December 11 Board Meeting. Past-President Janiele Maffei and Directors Danielle Hutchings-Mieler, and Laura Dwelley-Samant retired.

2013 "Innovation and Exemplary Practice in Earthquake Risk Reduction" Award Winners

Each year the Chapter gives two awards, to an individual and an institution, in recognition of their hard work and dedication towards the reduction of seismic risk in northern California. The nominating committee consisted of Jennifer Donahue (Chair), Nancy Tennebaum, Yousef Bozorgnia, and Dick McCarthy. The Chapter presented its 2013 "Innovation and Exemplary Practice in Earthquake Risk Reduction" awards during the December 11 Holiday Party at the EPICENTER in San Francisco. The winners were:

- Frank L. Rollo (individual), Treadwell & Rollo, Inc., for having helped increase the Bay Area's earthquake resilience through the knowledge and dedication applied during his 50+ year geotechnical engineering career, and for being an inspiration for the geotechnical engineering profession.
- California Earthquake Authority (institution), for its leadership in supporting ground-breaking research, including the Unified California Earthquake Rupture Forecast (UCERF3), and NGA-West2, essential to the improvement of the state's resilience to future earthquakes.