Meet the EERI Leaders
7:00 – 8:00 am, Wednesday June 27, 2018
Westin Bonaventure, Los Angeles, CA
Beaudry B Room

At the 11th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering, the EERI Younger Members Committee is hosting an event for Young Professionals and Academics! During this one-hour session, younger members will identify leaders they wish to meet, and join the leaders at their numbered table for a 15-minute discussion each about their experiences within the earthquake engineering industry and EERI community. We encourage younger members to ask leaders beneficial ways to get involved within the EERI organization. The leaders’ bios and photos are provided within this document to assist younger members in making their decisions!

Thalia Anagnos, Ph.D. | San José State University
2018 EERI Honorary Member

Dr. Thalia Anagnos first became interested in earthquakes when her mother dragged her out of bed as the house shook wildly on the morning of February 9, 1971. At first, she was intrigued by the three glorious days when middle school was canceled, but later became interested in how earthquakes affect the whole community. After earning her PhD in earthquake engineering from Stanford, she became a professor at San José State University where she has focused her research in the areas of earthquake risk and loss estimation. In addition, she has a strong interest in engineering education and recently published a statics textbook. She was the Assistant Project Manager of the development team for HAZUS, the national standardized loss estimation methodology. Most recently, as a team member of the NEES Grand Challenge on the Mitigation of Collapse Risk in Older Concrete Buildings, she helped develop approaches to inform mitigation priorities. This work has supported efforts by the City of Los Angeles to develop policies to reduce risk from older concrete buildings. She is a past-president of EERI, former member of the Spectra Board, and former Co-Leader for Education, Outreach, and Training for the George E. Brown Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES). As current Chair of the Learning From Earthquakes Travel Study Program, she led a team of EERI students and young professionals to Chile in January 2016 to study resilience from recent tsunamis and earthquakes.
Lucy A. Arendt, Ph.D. | St. Norbert College
Secretary/Treasurer - EERI Board of Directors

Dr. Lucy Arendt, Professor of Management at St. Norbert College, is an expert on decision making in the aftermath of natural disasters. She has published in Earthquake Spectra, the Journal of Structural Engineering, the Journal of Leadership and Organization Studies, the Journal of Management, the Journal of Management Education, Psychological Reports, SAM Advanced Management Journal, and others. Arendt is the first author of “Long-term community recovery from natural disasters” (Taylor & Francis, 2014) along with Daniel J. Alesch. She is also the co-author of “Natural hazard mitigation policy: Implementation, organizational choice, and contextual dynamics” (Springer, 2012) along with Alesch and William J. Petak. She is also the co-author of “Managing for long-term recovery in the aftermath of disaster” (PERI, 2009), with Alesch and James Holly. Arendt received her Ph.D. in Management Science from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, focusing on strategic management and organizational behavior. Arendt belongs to several professional associations and serves as the Secretary/Treasurer on the Board of Directors of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. She is also the lead trainer for the Housner Fellows Leadership Development Program, a leadership program for members of EERI in which Fellows complete a group project focused on seismic risk reduction.

Fun Fact: Lucy’s favorite activity is traveling. She has visited all but three states in the U.S. and six of the seven continents (sorry, Antarctica!).

Veronica Cedillos, P.E. | ATC
2017 Housner Fellow

Veronica Cedillos has ten years of professional experience in the field of structural engineering with a primary focus on managing projects to reduce the impacts of natural hazards. She has managed various earthquake and tsunami mitigation projects throughout the world, including major projects in Armenia, Haiti, Kyrgyz Republic, Indonesia, Peru, and the United States. Veronica is currently a Director of Projects at the Applied Technology Council where she manages projects developing technical resources for risk mitigation. In recognition of her work, Veronica was selected as the 2010 American Society of Civil Engineers national representative for “New Faces of Engineering” and in 2011, was the recipient of the EERI Shah Family Innovation Prize. In 2017, Veronica was selected as an EERI Housner Fellow. Veronica is a member of the Executive Committee of EERI’s School Earthquake Safety Initiative. She has been an invited speaker at numerous national and international conferences, events and universities and participated in post-earthquake investigations following the 2008 Wenchuan, 2009 Padang and 2010 Haiti earthquakes. She holds an M.S. in Structural Engineering from Stanford University and a B.S. in Civil Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and is a licensed Professional Engineer in California.

Fun Facts: Veronica is a violinist and currently plays in a symphony orchestra.
David Cocke, S.E. | Structural Focus
Former EERI Board of Directors

David Cocke is the founder and President of Structural Focus in Gardena, CA. He has been practicing Structural Engineering since 1981 and is a registered Structural Engineer in California and several other states, with expertise in seismic evaluation, historic preservation, retrofits and new design.

David joined EERI in 1992 and is a Charter Member of the Southern California Chapter. He is an active member of the EERI Initiatives Development Committee and currently participates in the Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program. David has served on the Board of Directors of numerous other organizations including the California Preservation Foundation, Pasadena Heritage, USC Architectural Guild, SEAONC, SEAOSC, and SEAOC. He recently finished his term on the Board of Directors of EERI, serving last year as the Vice President of EERI. Currently, David is on the Board of Directors of Los Angeles Conservancy, is the President-Elect of the Structural Engineers Institute of ASCE and the Co-Chair of this 11NCEE. In 2014, David was named to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Mayoral Seismic Safety Task Force to perform a year-long study of seismic risk in Los Angeles, resulting in the Mayor’s Resilience by Design report. David has also been leading the effort to bring Back to Business (B2B), a building occupancy resumption program, to Southern California.

Fun facts: David rides a road bike three times a week and loves to play golf in his free time. He also loves to travel and spend time with his wife and family.

Mary C. Comerio, Ph.D. | UC-Berkeley
Former EERI President

Mary Comerio is an internationally recognized expert on disaster recovery. She joined the faculty in the Department of Architecture at UC Berkeley in 1978 and served as Chair of the Department from 2006-2009. As an architect, she has designed numerous public and private facilities including market rate and affordable housing. Her research focuses on seismic rehabilitation, post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, and loss modeling. She is the author of Disaster Hits Home: New Policy for Urban Housing Recovery and hundreds of other research reports and scientific papers. In 2011, she received the Green Star Award from the United Nations for her work in post-disaster reconstruction in China and Haiti. In 2013, she received the UC Berkeley Chancellor’s Award for Public Service for Research in the Public Interest, and the EERI Distinguished Lecturer Award. She currently serves as president of EERI and is on the Governing Board of the QuakeCoRE Center for Earthquake Resilience in New Zealand.

Fun Fact: Mary is an avid swimmer.
Dr. Reginald DesRoches is the William and Stephanie Sick Dean of Engineering at the George R. Brown School of Engineering at Rice University. In this position, he provides leadership to a top ranked engineering school with 9 departments, over 125 faculty, and 2500 students. His primary research interests are in design of resilient infrastructure systems under extreme loads and the application of smart and auto-adaptive materials. His research is highly interdisciplinary and spans micro-to macro-scale. He has published approximately 300 articles and served as thesis advisor to 30 doctoral students. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Master of Science in Civil Engineering, and Ph.D. in Structural Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was recently elected to the civil engineering department’s Academy of Distinguished Alumni (2015).

Dr. DesRoches received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) in 2002 — the highest honor bestowed upon scientists and engineers in the early stages of their careers. Most recently, he was elected Fellow of the Structural Engineering Institute (2016), Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineering (2015) and was a recipient of the 2015 ASCE Charles Martin Duke Lifeline Earthquake Engineering Award, the Georgia Tech Outstanding Doctoral Thesis Advisor Award (2010), the 2007 ASCE Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize, and the Georgia Tech ANAK Award (2008). The ANAK award is the highest honor the undergraduate student body can bestow on a Georgia Tech faculty member.

**Fun Fact:** Reginald likes to run and bike and enjoys watching college football.

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Dr. Ken Elwood serves as the MBIE Chair in Earthquake Engineering and Director of the newest Centre of Research Excellence (CoRE) in New Zealand, QuakeCoRE: NZ Centre for Earthquake Resilience. Ken joined the University of Auckland in July 2014 after 11 years on faculty at the University of British Columbia, Canada. Ken was drawn to New Zealand to pursue the numerous opportunities for research and implementation in earthquake risk reduction. He is actively involved in research related to the seismic response of existing concrete and masonry buildings.

Ken received his PhD in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 2002, M.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1995, and BASc from the University of British Columbia in 1993. Ken is a member of several international code committees including the seismic provisions of the American Concrete Institute Building Code (ACI 318). He has also chaired a committee for MBIE to set guidelines for the seismic assessment of buildings with precast floors.

**Fun facts:** Ken enjoys hiking (called tramping in New Zealand) and kayaking.
Ashraf Habibullah, S.E. | Computers & Structures, Inc.
2018 Opening Plenary Lecturer

Ashraf Habibullah is a Structural Engineer and is President and CEO of Computers and Structures, Inc. He founded CSI in 1975. Today, CSI is recognized globally as the pioneering leader in the development of software tools for structural and earthquake engineering. The software is used by thousands of engineering firms in over 160 countries for the design of landmark projects such as the Freedom Tower in New York City, the Burj Khalifa Tower in Dubai and the Bird’s Nest Stadium in Beijing.

Ashraf has led the development of CSI’s products for over four decades and has been active as a researcher and educator, conducting international seminars on analytical techniques used in software for structural and earthquake engineering.

**Fun fact:** Ashraf has a keen passion for the arts. He is a co-founder of the critically acclaimed Diablo Ballet and the founder of the Engineer’s Alliance for the Arts, an organization that involves school children with technology, focusing on the artistic aspects of bridge engineering. Ashraf’s other interests include friends, fitness, food, fashion, music, concerts, dance, plays, photography, parties and anything else that is fun!! And human behavior!!

Izzat M. Idriss, Ph.D., P.E., N.A.E. | UC-Davis
2018 George W. Housner Medal Recipient

Professor Izzat M. “Ed” Idriss received a Bachelor of Engineering degree from RPI in 1958, and MS and PhD from Caltech and UC, Berkeley in 1959 and 1966 respectively. Dr. Idriss is an internationally-recognized leader in the field of geotechnical earthquake engineering. He developed or co-developed many of the procedures used in the profession today for evaluating the behavior of sites and soil structures during earthquakes.

Dr. Idriss has had a profound impact not only through his research, teaching and practice in earthquake geotechnical engineering, but also through his engagement in public policy. His technical contributions are well known and have been previously recognized through the Thomas A. Middlebrooks Award (1971), J. James Croes Medal (1972), Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize (1975), Normal Medal (1977), H. Bolton Seed Medal (1995), Ishihara Lecture (2007), Ralph B. Peck Award (2010), Carrillo Lecture (2016), and numerous named lectures and other honors.

Dr. Idriss has contributed to public earthquake safety through his life-long service. Together with George W. Housner, he was a member of the Governor's Board of Inquiry to investigate the collapse of the Cypress section of I-880 and the damage to the Bay Bridge during the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, and coauthored the Competing Against Time report to Governor Deukmejian in 1990.

Dr. Idriss was a coauthor on the 1st and 2nd Monographs regarding liquefaction, and has participated in EERI seminar series, has published in Earthquake Spectra (most notably the NGA West and NGA West2 issues). He has been a champion of educating the next generation of geotechnical earthquake engineers with a broader perspective of their discipline, obligations and roles.
**Abbie Liel, Ph.D., P.E. | CU-Boulder**  
**2014 Shah Family Innovation Prize Recipient**

Dr. Abbie Liel is an Associate Professor of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She earned undergraduate degrees in Civil Engineering, and the Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy, at Princeton University. She started her graduate studies in the United Kingdom on a Marshall Scholarship, where she received a M.Sc. in Civil Engineering and a M.Sc. in Building and Urban Design and Development. Abbie did her Ph.D. at Stanford University, under the guidance of Professor Gregory Deierlein, focusing on collapse risk of older non-ductile concrete frame structures. At the University of Colorado, Abbie has worked on problems related to performance of concrete buildings, snow loads on structures, and flood damage in the 2013 Boulder, CO floods, and advised 13 doctoral students. This work has been funded by eight grants from the National Science Foundation, as well as the Applied Technology Council and other organizations. She has been the recipient of Shah Family Innovation Prize from the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, and recently received the Charles A. Hutchinson Memorial Teaching Award from the University of Colorado's College of Engineering.

**Fun fact:** Abbie loves to cook and is enjoying watch her one-year old Flora learn to walk, talk, and eat new foods.

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**Janiele Maffei, S.E. | California Earthquake Authority**  
**Former EERI Board of Directors**

As Chief Mitigation Officer of the CEA, Janiele Maffei is responsible for planning and directing the statewide residential retrofit program; leading the processes of developing and promoting educational programs that stress the importance of mitigation; collaborating with academic institutions, and industries to promote and support mitigation research and activities; and other actions that promote seismic mitigation and support mitigation-related insurance-premium discount for CEA policyholders. Ms. Maffei also serves as the Executive Director of the California Residential Mitigation Program, a Joint Power Authority of the CEA and Governor’s Office of Emergency Services since its inception in August 2011. She is a registered structural engineer who has worked in the earthquake engineering industry for over 35 years. Her experience includes the design of new building structures and seismic strengthening of existing structures. Ms. Maffei earned her AB in Architecture and M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. Ms. Maffei served on EERI directors board from 2012 to 2017. She worked on the organizing committee of the 2010 EERI Annual Meeting in San Francisco. She is a member of the Structural Engineers Association of California and served on their Board from 1995-1997. She participated in post-earthquake reconnaissance investigations following the Loma Prieta, Northridge, and South Napa earthquakes.
Michael Mahoney is a Senior Geophysicist with FEMA for 33 years. He currently leads FEMA’s seismic problem-focused studies, and has investigated a variety of earthquake-related issues to develop design and construction guidance under the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). This work currently includes the development of FEMA’s Performance-Based Seismic Design Guidelines (FEMA P-58) and Seismic Evaluation of Older Concrete Buildings for Collapse Potential. His earlier projects include: the FEMA/SAC Steel Moment Frame Buildings Project after the Northridge earthquake, Quantification of Building Seismic Performance Factors (FEMA P-695 and P-795), and Seismic Evaluation and Retrofit of Wood Frame Buildings with Weak First Stories (FEMA P-807).

Mr. Mahoney is also responsible for FEMA’s earthquake-related work with the International Codes, and has been involved in the model code development process dating back to 1984. He serves as the FEMA Headquarters representative to the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program, where he led a project to develop guidelines for vertical evacuation refuge structures. He previously worked in FEMA’s Office of Loss Reduction where he managed the development of the first FEMA guideline for flood retrofitting and investigated building performance in disasters dating back to Hurricane Hugo. From 1978 to 1984 he was a Senior Loss Prevention Consultant with what is now FM Global. He holds a Masters and Bachelor’s degrees in physics.

Steven McCabe, Ph.D., P.E. | National Institute of Standards and Technology

Dr. Steve McCabe is the Director of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) and Group Leader of the Earthquake Engineering Group in the Materials and Structural Systems Division Engineering Laboratory at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He holds a B.S. (1972) and a M.S. (1974) in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University and a Ph.D. (1987) in Civil Engineering from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Prior to joining NIST, Dr. McCabe was Chief Executive Officer of NEES Consortium, Inc. from 2007 to 2010. There he was responsible for management and operation of the George E. Brown, Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), which was funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). From 1985 to 2007, McCabe was a professor of structural engineering in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering at the University of Kansas. His research interests included earthquake engineering and structural dynamics as well as application of computer-based nonlinear analysis techniques to static and dynamic analysis problems.

During 2002–2005 Dr. McCabe served as program manager for the Structural Systems and Hazard Mitigation of Structures Program in the Division of Civil and Mechanical Systems at NSF. Before beginning his academic career, Dr. McCabe worked at several engineering firms as a design and resident engineer primarily in the nuclear- and fossil-power industries. He is a registered professional engineer and has been active in many national and international professional societies.
Danielle Hutchings Mieler, P.E. | City & County of San Francisco
EERI Vice President

Danielle Hutchings Mieler, P.E. is a Principal Resilience Analyst for the City and County of San Francisco where she brings her passion for working with local governments, infrastructure operators, engineers, planners, and residents to jointly plan and act to create a more climate and earthquake resilient Bay Area.

Danielle previously served as the Resilience Program Coordinator for the Association of Bay Area Governments and interim deputy Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Oakland. Danielle has also worked as a research engineer for GNS Science, New Zealand’s Crown Research Institute and several geotechnical engineering firms where she particularly enjoyed performing field investigations and seismic hazard assessments. She received a B.S. and M.S. in Civil Engineering from UC Berkeley and a B.A. in Sociology from UC Santa Cruz. Danielle was selected as an EERI Housner Fellow in 2012, served on the Northern California chapter board from 2012-2013, and is currently Vice President of the EERI Board of Directors.

Fun fact: Danielle is mother to 2.5-year-old and 3-month-old boys who she loves to take on adventures. Their favorite is the beach. Danielle also loves traveling, surfing, camping, hiking, reading, gardening, and hopes to take up windsurfing this year.

Judith Mitrani-Reiser, Ph.D. | National Institute of Standards and Technology
EERI Board of Directors

Dr. Judith Mitrani-Reiser is the Director of the Disaster and Failure Studies Program, where she leads a multidisciplinary staff responsible for conducting fact-finding investigations focused on: building and infrastructure failures; successful building and infrastructure performance; evacuation and emergency response systems; and disaster recovery and community resilience. These investigations can be carried out under four different statutory authorities at NIST: National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP), National Wind Impact Reduction Program (NWIRPM), National Construction Safety Team (NCST) Act, and the NIST Organic Act. The results of these investigations are intended to inform recommendations to improve codes, standards, and practice.

Dr. Mitrani-Reiser earned her B.S. from the University of Florida, M.S. from the University of California at Berkeley, and Ph.D. from the California Institute of Technology. During her B.S., Mitrani-Reiser worked at a forensic engineering firm, where her curiosity for understanding the technical causes of failures first began. Mitrani-Reiser maintains a strong professional involvement to ensure her research has practical applications. She is currently a member and a Director of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI). She is also a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), where she serves as Vice Chair for SEI’s Committee on Multi-Hazard Mitigation.

Fun Facts: Judy enjoys rock, alternative, and punk concerts with her husband on a regular basis.
Farzad Naeim, Ph.D., S.E., Esq. | Farzad Naeim, Inc.
Former EERI President

Dr. Farzad Naeim received his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering in 1982 and his J.D. with highest honors in 2002. He is a registered California civil and structural engineer, a member of California bar and a patent attorney. Farzad is a recipient of the Fazlur Khan Medal for lifetime achievements in seismic design of tall buildings from the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat and the Bruce Bolt Medal for worldwide contributions.

Farzad has served two terms (1995 and 2011) as the President of the Los Angeles Tall Buildings Structural Design Council. He is a Past-President and an honorary member of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI). In addition, Farzad currently chairs California’s Strong Motion Instrumentation Advisory Committee and Board of Expert Consultants of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP).

Farzad has published four textbooks, more than 160 peer-reviewed papers, and has developed 45 different software systems for earthquake engineering design and education. He has served as Technical Director for many landmark structures in California and across the United States.

Fun Facts: Farzad is an avid dog lover. He says that probably knows more about dogs than engineering.

Sissy Nikolaou, Ph.D., P.E. | WSP
EERI Board of Directors

Dr. Sissy Nikolaou is Assistant Vice President and Principal of WSP with 20+ years of global engineering experience. She oversees the WSP’s geotechnical earthquake engineering practice and leads the multi-hazard resilience initiative of the firm’s Geotechnical & Tunneling Technical Excellence Center. Her consulting approach emphasizes performance-and resilience-based design, soil-structure interaction, and geo-risk assessment and mitigation. Her experience involves numerous critical infrastructure projects, high-rise structures in New York and Mexico cities.

Driven by a desire to find innovative solutions that protect populations and help them emerge stronger from natural disasters, Sissy has been part of reconnaissance and studies after major earthquakes, including the 2016 Muisne, Ecuador and 2017, Pueblas-Morelos earthquakes. Her recognitions include the Prakash Prize for Excellence in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering, the 2017 ACECNY Principal of the Year, and leadership Board positions in the Applied Technology Council (ATC) and the Geo-Institute of ASCE. A dedicated EERI member, Dr. Nikolaou serves on the Board of Directors, the SESI Codes and Standards Committee and is part of the EERI leadership that has conceived and develops the On-Site Learning LFE program.

Fun Facts: Sissy’s hobbies include photography, art collection (including rare earthquake lithographs and posters). One of her interests is the understanding, outreach, and educational developments for children with learning disabilities.
Chris Poland, S.E., N.A.E. | Chris D Poland
Consulting Engineer
2017 EERI Housner Medal Recipient

Chris Poland is an internationally recognized authority on earthquake engineering and champion of disaster resilience. His consulting practice today focuses on community resilience and the buildings and systems that contribute to it. Currently, Chris is a Community Resilience Fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and member of the team of authors that developed and are now implementing a Community Resilience Planning Guide. Among his many past leadership positions, he is a past President of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, an Honorary member and recipient of the Housner Medal.

Chris’ structural engineering career spans over 42 years and includes hundreds of projects related to the design of new buildings, seismic analysis and strengthening of existing buildings, structural failure analysis, as well as the development of guidelines and standards that are used worldwide. He was a Senior Principal, Chairman and CEO of Degenkolb Engineers during his 40 years with the firm from 1974 through 2014.

Fun Facts: Chris now lives in a small community in Southern California and plans to run for the Property Owners Association Board and eventually the City Council.

Vitor Silva, Ph.D.|Global Earthquake Model Foundation
2018 Shah Innovation Price Recipient

Dr. Vitor Silva is the Seismic Risk Coordinator at the Global Earthquake Model (GEM) Foundation, a non-profit organization with the goal to calculate and communicate earthquake risk worldwide. He has participated in studies in structural vulnerability and probabilistic seismic risk assessment in dozens of countries such as Portugal, Iran, Peru, Colombia, Costa Rica, and Canada. He is currently leading or participating in international programs supported by the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery of the World Bank, the European Commission, and the United States Agency for International Development, which aim at improving the understanding of earthquake risk in regions such as Central America and the Caribbean, Europe, Sub-Saharan Africa and South-East Asia. As part of his role at the GEM Foundation, Vitor has conducted workshops to improve the local capacity in assessing the impact from earthquakes in various parts of the world (e.g. Pavia, Kathmandu, Bogota, Medellin, Santiago, Lima, Addis Ababa, San Jose) for more than 300 participants from 43 countries. Vitor has documented his research in more than 80 publications in international peer-reviewed journals, conference proceedings and book chapters. He received the Carlos Sousa Oliveira award in 2016, and the EERI Shah Family Innovation Prize in 2018.

Fun Facts: Vitor recently became a father, so his 6-month-old daughter will be with him at the 11NCEE! One of his main challenges in earthquake engineering results from the fact that he is almost total color blind, so evaluating hazard and risk maps is complicated.
Dr. Jonathan P. Stewart is Professor and Chair of the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department at UCLA, where he has been a faculty member since 1997. All of his degrees (BS, MS, PhD) are from UC Berkeley.

Stewart’s technical expertise is in geotechnical earthquake engineering and engineering seismology, with emphases on soil-structure interaction, ground motion characterization, performance of levees and other embankments, and ground failure.

His work has impacted the US National Seismic Hazard Maps; the Global Earthquake Model; building code documents (NEHRP Provisions and ASCE-7); and guidelines documents for tall buildings (Tall Buildings Initiative project), existing structures (ASCE-41), soil-structure interaction (NIST, 2012), and landslide hazards (SCEC, 2002). He is a former Chief Editor for the ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering and is the current Editor of Earthquake Spectra.
Meet the EERI Leaders
7:00 – 8:00 am, Wednesday June 27, 2018
Westin Bonaventure, Los Angeles, CA
Beaudry B Room

The following is the schedule for the Meet the EERI Leaders Event at the 2018 EERI Annual Meeting and 11th US National Conference on Earthquake Engineering.

7:00 am  Coffee and breakfast.

7:05 am  Event begins – leaders sit at pre-assigned tables. Younger members filter into event sitting at tables with leaders they would like to meet.

7:05-7:15 am  YMC Co-chairs (Maria, Anahid, and Guillermo) provide short introduction to the event and short introduction to leaders that are attending.

7:15-7:55am  Networking. Leaders and attendees discuss. Attendees will have an opportunity to switch tables after about 20 minutes to talk with other leaders.

7:55-8:00am  YMC Co-chairs (Maria, Anahid, and Guillermo) conclude session and encourage attendees to sign up for EERI Committees at sign-up sheets at the door.

8:00am  Adjourn.
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7:00 – 8:00 am, Wednesday June 27, 2018
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The Younger Members Committee (YMC) has compiled the following list of questions that may be useful if there is a lull in the conversation. We will distribute these questions at the Meet the Leaders event as well. This list of questions are only suggestions, and do not need to be consulted if you feel the conversation is flowing smoothly. Please note that not all of the people sitting at the table are graduate students. Many of them are young professionals.

1. Understand the background of everyone at the table. We are targeting all younger members and therefore many of these people are not graduate students:
   a. Where do you work?
   b. What do they do at work?
   c. Where do/did they go to graduate school (if applicable)?
   d. If in graduate school, do they do research? What type?

2. What is everyone’s current involvement with the EERI organization?
   a. Have they previously participated in the Seismic Design Competition?
   b. Have they ever had a paper in EQ Spectra?
   c. Do they have a poster at the EERI Annual Meeting?
   d. Have you been a member of any EERI committees?
   e. Does/did your university have an EERI student chapter? If not, are you interested in starting one (as a current student or industry mentor)?
   f. How active is your local EERI chapter? What are your local chapter needs?
   g. Are you interested in continuing to be active within EERI after graduation?
   h. Have you ever presented at an EERI event? – This might be a good time to encourage submissions of abstracts for the next NCEE Conference.

3. Where do you want to see yourself be in 5 years?

4. How did you hear about YMC? How did you hear about this event?

5. Is your employer/university supportive of being active with EERI?

6. Are you involved in any other organizations? (ASCE, AISC, ACI, SEA, etc.)

7. How do you feel that EERI approaches Younger Members and what activities/initiatives do they want to see implemented?

8. If from out of town – what is the one thing you want to do before they leave Los Angeles?

9. If local – what is your favorite thing to do in Los Angeles?
Quick Tips for First-Time Conference Attendees

These quick tips from the EERI Younger Members Committee are meant to provide some guidance for first-time conference attendees (or, first-time EERI Annual Meeting/NCEE attendees). These tips are aimed at how to prepare prior to the conference to network with people you would like to meet. Do not be shy, everyone at the conference wants to meet others that are interested in earthquake science and engineering!

1. **Prepare ahead of time**
   It is important to prepare for the conference before you arrive. This includes, but is not limited to:

   - Get business cards printed to bring, if you do not already have some. For graduate students, contact your university document services to have professional cards printed.
   - Pack a notebook or tablet-device to take notes during conference sessions/meetings, or after you speak with a new individual you would like to follow up with via email later.
   - Identify where the conference is located (what hotel/convention center in the city and where in the building). Determine the route from your hotel to the conference location.
   - Verify the conference check-in time and location where you can pick up your registration packet. It is recommended that you check-in prior to the conference.
   - The conference schedule is included in your registration packet. It outlines the panel sessions, speaker presentations, workshops, tours, etc. Review the schedule to come up with a plan of what you would like to attend. For the 2018 EERI Annual Meeting/11th US National Earthquake Conference refer to: [https://11ncee.org/program](https://11ncee.org/program)
     - In planning your schedule, consider coordinating with your academic/work colleagues and any new contacts you have made while at the conference.
     - Review the networking opportunities that will allow you to make new contacts, such as: cocktail hours, coffee breaks, events for younger members, and exhibit halls.
     - Note: the Younger Members Committee is hosting a Meet the Leaders breakfast on Wednesday, June 27th, 7-8am in the Beaudry B Room; this is a great opportunity to interact with EERI leadership. Contact the current Younger Member Committee co-chairs, Maria, Anahid, or Guillermo, with any questions you might have ([ymc@eeri.org](mailto:ymc@eeri.org)).
   - Conduct an online search about presenters to have a few speaking topics prepared if you have the opportunity to meet them.

Think about the following questions:

- **Which presentations do you definitely want to see?** Print out a detailed technical program and highlight which sessions you want to attend. You may be interested in concurrent sessions, and you can make a final decision closer to the conference!
- **If you could meet three people during the conference, who would you like to meet?** Make a list of people you want to meet (i.e. heads of committees, speakers, conference organizers, exhibitors). Refer to the conference schedule to attend events that would increase the likelihood you would be able to talk to them.
● What social/non-technical events do you want to attend? Are there exhibit hall events or events specifically for younger members? Having a timeline and schedule planned out beforehand makes figuring out where you are supposed to be easier!

● Are there committee meetings being held? Many conferences have committee meetings that are open to conference attendees. As a younger member, you should listen in on meetings you are interested in!

● Are there individuals you could talk to for additional guidance while at the conference? The current co-chairs of the Younger Members Committee would love to talk to you! Look for their photographs in the Meet the Leaders bio packet.

2. What to look for at the EERI Annual Meeting

The EERI Annual Meeting has many different events to offer you. If you have questions during the conference feel free to reach out to the current and incoming co-chairs or ask questions to the knowledgeable EERI staff members at the registration desk:

Technical Sessions:

● Technical sessions span broad topics from structural engineering, geotechnical engineering, policy development, post-disaster reconnaissance. Look through the schedule and see what you would be interested in attending. Many of these sessions are built around having structured discussions with the audience. Engaging in or listening to the discussions can expose you to new topics!

Conference Workshops:

● Workshops can take place before, during, or after the conference and can be a great way to meet people and learn about new topics in a relaxed environment. Make sure to sign up for these during your registration: [https://11ncee.org/program/workshops](https://11ncee.org/program/workshops).

● The EERI Student Leadership Council will host an afternoon LFE Earthquake Reconnaissance Training Workshop on Friday, June 29, 2-5pm, where industry representatives and younger members share lesson learned from reconnaissance experiences. Attendees have the opportunity to participate in a post-disaster reconnaissance simulation activity. Information about the workshop can be found at: [https://11ncee.org/program/workshops](https://11ncee.org/program/workshops).

Committee Meetings:

● Many of the committee meetings are open to the public. Sit in and learn about the different opportunities within EERI. Additional information on the committees can be found at: [https://www.eeri.org/about-eeri/committees/](https://www.eeri.org/about-eeri/committees/).
Younger Members Committee

Current Co-chairs (2017-2019)

Maria Koliou, Ph.D.
Texas A&M University

Guillermo Diaz-Fanas, P.E.
WSP, New York

Anahid Behrouzi, Ph.D.
Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo