

CUREE is a nonprofit corporation devoted to the advancement of earthquake engineering research, education, and implementation.

A Message from CUREE's President

The year 2005 was challenging for CUREE as it passed from four years of steady support from the National Science Foundation for developing NEESinc to new endeavors and a changing funding environment. Importantly, the Board of Directors was downsized from 20 to 10 in an attempt to streamline our operations and reduce costs.

The CUREE mission is to advance earthquake engineering research and education across our Nation. In the past twelve months we have developed multi-campus, multi-investigator, multidisciplinary proposals and initiatives that serve our mission and we have partnered with other earthquake-related organizations to expand our opportunities for funding. Our work in the past twelve months has been funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the California Earthquake Authority, and Kajima Corporation. We have met with non-traditional agencies and organizations for the purpose of funding CUREE research and opening doors to new funding opportunities for our members. We will continue to do so in 2006 and will keep the CUREE membership informed of new developments and opportunities as they arise.

Recently, CUREE submitted a proposal to the U.S. National Science Foundation to conduct a literature mining effort on the 13th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering proceedings with an interdisciplinary team of approximately a dozen professor-graduate student pairs. The aim of that project would be to reveal patterns and statistics about our field that are not apparent when smaller fragments of it are viewed. Such proposals involve a number of CUREE faculty members who were engaged in the proposal through an open solicitation to the CUREE membership. Only CUREE members were invited to submit a statement of interest for participation in the proposals.

The CUREE faculty involved in this proposal are:

Admitted University Members:

- **J.-P. Bardet**, University of Southern California
- **Ian Buckle**, University of Nevada at Reno
- **Finley Charney**, Virginia Polytechnic Institute
- **Mervyn Kowalsky**, North Carolina State University
- **Stephen Mahin**, University of California at Berkeley
- **Khalid Mosalam**, University of California at Buffalo-SUNY
- **Gilberto Mosqueda**, University at Buffalo-SUNY
- **Adrian Rodriguez-Marek**, Washington State University

Individual Faculty Members:

- **Thalia Anagnos**, San Jose State University
- **Halil Sezen**, Ohio State University
- **John van de Lindt**, Colorado State University

Last month, one NEESR Grand Challenge and two NEESR Small Group proposals were submitted to the National Science Foundation with CUREE listed as a subawardee. The lead universities/PIs for these proposals recruited the involvement of CUREE to play roles ranging from the development and maintenance of a professional quality website through Education, Outreach, and Training; and project and subcontract management.

The CUREE Board of Directors is eager to provide the membership with services and resources. One example of possible services and resources was emailed to each of you in December 2005 – a flyer that highlighted the Education and Outreach experience and capabilities of the CUREE staff. Keep in mind that CUREE members have been offered the opportunity to provide information about themselves at the Members Database accessed through our website. We already know of several instances where CUREE members have been included in proposals because of their listings in this directory.

I encourage you to identify other services and resources related to research and education that CUREE could provide, to either me (awhittak@acsu.buffalo.edu) or Bob Reitherman (reitherman@curee.org). My best wishes for 2006. ■

- Professor Andrew Whittaker
University at Buffalo, SUNY

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BUILDING A NETWORK BETWEEN CIVIL ENGINEERS AND SCIENCE MUSEUMS

With funding from the Informal Science Education branch of the National Science Foundation, CUREE is conducting a project to build an ongoing network connecting civil engineers and science museums to the mutual advantage of both communities. The project results from assembling a team of CUREE engineers from our members who responded to a Request for Statements of Interest addressed to all CUREE members, and pairing up with those engineering backgrounds expertise from the world of science museums and science centers. ("Science center" is a broad term that can include a science museum as well as exhibits in a visitor's center, mobile science resources that travel to schools, virtual (e.g. web) centers, and other kinds of venues.)

The goal of the project is to assess the need for an ongoing Network that will provide a two-way line of communication between civil engineers and science museums. The branch of civil engineering to be featured is earthquake engineering, but broader applications will be explored as well.

A strategic goal of the project is to provide the CUREE membership with a "pipeline" for education and outreach to the large and expanding world of science centers. Professors have often struggled with the challenge of communicating and interacting with grades K through 12, and/or general public education and outreach clientele, this initiative is designed to provide an entrée to this audience. As for the science museums, they stand to benefit from increased access to current engineering developments via this clearinghouse function.

CUREE members will receive an email request to participate in a survey to identify what needs or benefits they foresee from such a Network. A parallel but different survey is underway to catalog science center offerings in the area of civil engineering and to assess their needs for access to well-organized engineering information.

Project Team

Bob Reitherman, Executive Director of CUREE is the project PI.

The CUREE members on the project team are:

Thalia Anagnos, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, San Jose State University, San Jose, CA

Gilbert Mosqueda, Asst. Professor of Civil, Struct., and Env. Eng. University at Buffalo, State University of New York

Joseph Nicoletti, Consulting Structural Engineer, San Francisco, CA. (Current and past practicing engineer members of the CUREE Board of Directors, are among the CUREE membership.)

Adrian Rodriguez-Marek, Asst. Professor of Civil and Env. Eng. Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Representing the community of science centers and providing expertise in education and outreach are:

Jill Andrews, Assistant to the Provost for Educational Outreach California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California.

Dr. Charles Trautmann, the Sciencenter, Ithaca, New York.

Christine Reich, Manager of Informal Education Assessment & Evaluation, Museum of Science, Boston, MA.

Greg Brown, Vice-President of Operations and Technology, Tech Museum of Innovation, San Jose, California.

Sandra E. Menke, Education Program Specialist for the Mid-America Earthquake Center, headquartered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Dr. Peter Y. Wong, Director of University Relations of the Museum of Science in Boston, MA, and Research Associate Professor in Mechanical Engineering Department, Tufts University, Medford, MA. Dr. Wong is the Project Co-PI.

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Reminder to Participate in the Online Directory to Showcase CUREE Members' Qualifications

We know of several cases where this directory has added value to CUREE members, for example when other organizations are looking for a professor of particular background to include on a proposal or in a project, when workshop organizers develop invitation lists, and when consultants are sought.

If you wish to participate or have any questions, please contact us today at curee@curee.org

www.curee.org/CV

