



MULTIDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING RESEARCH

A National Center of Excellence in Advanced Technology Applications

Bulletin

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



■ George C. Lee

On December 17, 1998, Dr. Eugene Wong, assistant director for engineering at NSF, announced that the three Earthquake Engineering Research Centers (EERCs), MCEER, the Mid-America Earthquake (MAE) Center and the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research (PEER) Center, would be transferred to the Division of Engineering Education and Centers, directed by Dr. Marshall Lih. Within this division, the three EERC's will be managed by Dr. Joy Pauschke.

The Division of Engineering Education and Centers seeks to stimulate new paradigms in engineering research and education that will speed technological innovation and improve the quality and diversity of engineering graduates and the technical workforce. To achieve its mission, the Engineering Education and Centers Division forms partnerships across sectors. Disciplines are integrated to focus on technological systems, academe is linked with industry and the states, and diverse academic institutions are joined in curricular and educational innovations. The objective is to yield well-rounded, professionally-oriented engineers with a global outlook and the ability to assume leadership roles in industry, academe, and society.

MCEER has enjoyed a long and mutually respectful working relationship with the hazard reduction program directors Dr. Anderson, Dr. Astill and Dr. Liu in the division of civil and mechanical structures. Over the last 15-20 years, the earthquake engineering research program at NSF has significantly expanded the knowledge base and elevated the U.S. international leadership role in earthquake hazard reduction engineering. MCEER has participated in many activities initiated by this division, including the coordination projects, special initiatives such as civil infrastructure systems (CIS) research, the U.S.-Japan programs, the center approach (integrated team efforts) to deliver NEHRP objectives, and the recent major research equipment initiative.

We at MCEER are looking forward to continuing our efforts to enhance U.S. progress in earthquake engineering within the Division of Engineering Education and Centers, and to working with Dr. Pauschke. ♦

George C. Lee
Director

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