



## KUDOS



☆ For his dedication to the advancement of lifeline earthquake engineering and furthering the ideals of Dr. C. Martin Duke, **Jeremy Isenberg** was honored with the 1998 ASCE Charles Martin Duke Lifeline Earthquake Engineering Award. Dr. Isenberg is the president and CEO of Weidlinger Associates Inc., New York, NY, and has been associated with MCEER since its inception in 1986.

☆ **George Deodatis**, long time MCEER researcher, and associate professor and director of the program in mechanics, materials, and structures at Princeton University, was awarded the ASCE's Walter L. Huber Research Prize for his "research on developing probabilistic methodologies to model earthquake ground motion, wind and wave forces, and mechanical properties of civil engineering materials and on establishing spectral-distribution-free upper bounds for the response variability of structures with uncertain material/geometric properties." Professor Deodatis has been an MCEER investigator for many years, in both the NSF and FHWA-sponsored research programs.

☆ The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) has awarded **Joseph M. Bracci, Rebecca S. Cook and David Pollock** the Collingwood Prize for their paper "Seismic Performance of Confined Steel Plate Connections," *Journal of Structural Engineering*, November 1996. **Dr. Bracci** is an assistant professor in the civil engineering department at Texas A & M University. He was a former student at the University at Buffalo, working under Professor Andrei Reinhorn. His Ph.D. dissertation focused on the seismic evaluation and retrofit of reinforced concrete frame structures designed only for gravity loads. He co-authored six MCEER technical reports on reinforced concrete structures.

☆ The University at Buffalo Alumni Association presented awards to two engineers who have been heavily involved in MCEER's research program. **Douglas Taylor**, President of Taylor Devices, received the Clifford C. Furnas Memorial Award for his outstanding achievement in the field of engineering. Mr. Taylor has collaborated with MCEER researchers since 1991 to adapt fluid damping devices previously used in military applications for seismic hazard mitigation. Several years of experimental and analytical testing resulted in the selection of fluid damping devices for use in the newly constructed San Bernardino Medical Center in California and in over 60 other major building and bridge structures throughout the U.S. Mr. Taylor received his B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from UB in 1971.

**Anoop Mokha**, Vice President of Earthquake Protection Systems in Richmond, California, received the Thorn Award for his significant contributions to the engineering professional field, made by a person younger than 40. Dr. Mokha was previously a senior project structural engineer and associate with the architectural/engineering firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill in San Francisco. He received his Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo in 1990. At UB, he studied under Professor Michael Constantinou in developing a friction pendulum system for seismic isolation. While project engineer at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, he supervised the retrofit of the historic San Francisco Court of Appeals building with this isolation system. He also co-authored three MCEER technical reports on experimental and analytical studies of sliding seismic isolation systems.