

MCEER Hosts Earthquake Information Providers Network (EQNET)

The MCEER Information Service is hosting EQNET, the redesigned web site of the Earthquake Information Provider's Group (EqIP). EqIP is a volunteer consortium of 20 national organizations and federal agencies, including representatives from the three earthquake engineering centers. EqIP is dedicated to enhancing access to authoritative earthquake information, and is located at <http://www.eqnet.org>. EQNET provides one-stop access to members' earthquake information resources, as well as quick links to many quality earthquake information web sites.

Presently maintained by a web-master at MCEER supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), EQNET receives content and technical support from MCEER and oversight from a team of representatives from the Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center (NHRAIC) in Boulder, CO, the National Information Center for Earthquake Engineering (NISEE) at the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) in Richmond, CA, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in Washington, DC, and the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) in Los Angeles, CA. Among the other members of EqIP are representatives from the Middle America Earthquake Center (MAE) and EERI, as well as representatives from CUREe, Disaster Research Center (DRC), USGS, NOAA, IBHS, and many more. EQNET currently includes over 200 links to EqIP member sites, plus many additional links.

EQNET is continually developing. New features of the site include a comprehensive calendar of national and international earthquake-related meetings, conferences, and short courses. By using the online form provided, members of the earthquake community can easily submit new meetings and courses to the calendar. In addition, links to current sources of information about the catastrophic earthquakes in Izmit (Kocaeli), Turkey on August 17, 1999 and in Taiwan on September 20, 1999 were added to EQNET within days of these events.

The webmaster for EQNET for the 1999-2000 year is Ms. Yi Chen Wang, a graduate assistant in the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (NCGIA) at the University at Buffalo. Ms. Chen has been hard at work assigning descriptors that will permit more efficient searching of EQNET. She has also submitted EQNET information to numerous large search engines to enhance EQNET retrieval.

For additional information about EQNET, contact Dorothy Tao at the MCEER Information Service (e-mail: singtao@acsu.buffalo.edu). Comments, submissions, and suggestions are welcome. For additional information about EqIP, contact Jill Andrews of SCEC, Chair, EqIP Steering Committee, via e-mail: jandrews@terra.usc.edu. ❖