

MCEER Hosts Annual Investigators Meeting

The Annual Investigators Meeting for researchers participating in MCEER's NSF-sponsored research program was held October 29-30, 1999 in Buffalo. The annual meeting provides researchers with an opportunity to coordinate research activities and develop common schedules. The meeting also provides MCEER management with an opportunity to present its overall research strategy and obtain feedback on Center policies.

Over 25 investigators attended this year's meeting, which featured briefings on the recent Izmit, Turkey and Chi-Chi, Taiwan earthquakes, with particular emphasis on the use of advanced technology in the post-earthquake period. Presentations were given by G. Webb (Izmit, Turkey), M. Bruneau (Chi-Chi, Taiwan) and R. Eguchi (use of advanced technology after the Izmit, Turkey earthquake). Also new to this year's meeting, undergraduate and graduate students participating in current research projects were given the opportunity to present their work.

MCEER's director George C. Lee welcomed everyone to the meeting, and provided an overview of recent Center activities and developments. He was followed by MCEER deputy director, Michel Bruneau, who discussed new issues and priorities under



About 40 people participated in the Annual Investigators Meeting in Buffalo. Attendees included researchers, students and MCEER staff members.



This year's meeting featured brief presentations by student research participants. Shown above is Christopher Roth of Cornell University.

NSF's earthquake engineering research centers division. Emphasis was placed on MCEER's strategic plan for research and education, and the roles and responsibilities of the researchers within the plan. Next, program coordinators gave brief presentations on research progress and direction. These were: Program 1, Lifelines, M. Shinozuka; Program 2, Hospitals, M. Bruneau; Program 3, Response and Recovery, K. Tierney; Program 4, Networking, M. Maragakis (on behalf of A. Reinhorn); and Program 5, Education, A. Dargush. The second day of the meeting was primarily devoted to breakout sessions in each of the five program areas. The meeting concluded with reports from the program coordinators on action items and/or outstanding issues. ❖