



## NEES 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL MEETING – MAY 13-14, 2005

### Presentation Summaries

#### **Speaker:**

*Professor Roberto Leon*  
Georgia Institute of Technology

#### **Session:**

*New NEES Resources for 2004-05*  
10:30–11:30am

#### **Presentation title:**

*Facility Users Guide*

#### **Major points/topics:**

- Developed by a group of six representatives from equipment sites and end users over two years.
- Conceived as a “living” document and not originally intended to be a policy document.
- Much effort devoted to developing “best practices” and providing advice to end users.
- The most difficult issue = assessment –external and internal measures will be used.
- Safety concerns given top priority in any adjudication.
- Individual laboratory rules respected as much as possible.
- Conflict resolution portions will hopefully never be used

#### Chapter 6

#### Assessment of Shared Use

- Are the MOM funds and NEES resources being used effectively?
- Are the Equipment Sites in compliance with the various NEES requirements, such as data archiving support, IT component functionality, and user support?
- Are the Equipment Sites being effective in making their shared use resources accessible to the earthquake engineering community?

#### Range of Issues

- What is “shared use” and what is a NEES “shared use” project?
- What are the rights and responsibilities of both sites and users?
- How much information for shared use assessment can reasonably be expected from the sites?
- Who controls scheduling at the sites?
- What is the role of the Consortium staff?
- How does the SOC/NEES handle conflicts?

#### **Abstract/Summary**

The intent of the *Facilities User's Guide* is to provide NEES users with an overview of the policies and procedures governing the use of the NEES shared-use facilities. The *Guide* serves as a general introduction to the shared use of NEES facilities. While many of its procedures are described as mandatory, it is intended to be a flexible and changeable document. The *Guide* is divided into six sections. The first section provides introductory information and the definition of shared use. The next three sections (Sections 2 through 4) provide broad guidelines about preparing proposals and planning experiments. Proposers are urged to read these sections carefully and to develop their testing plans in accordance with these guidelines and tips. The high anticipated utilization and demand for these unique facilities will require both a sophisticated scheduling effort and the exercise of flexibility and patience on the part of users. These sections are written as guidelines rather than policies to ensure flexibility in implementation during the early development of the NEESinc. Section 5 describes the rights and responsibilities of both the users and the sites with respect to site operations, maintenance and information technology issues. Section 6 provides guidelines for the assessment of shared use. These guidelines provide sample assessment metrics on how shared use of the facilities will be evaluated and how the results will be utilized.