



**NEES Education, Outreach, & Training Forum
August 2, 2006, 12:30 p.m. PDT**

MINUTES

I. Welcome by Jay Berger, NEES Site Operations Manager

NEESinc announcements: Parshaw Vaziri has resigned from NEESinc as of yesterday (8/1/06). Cynthia Steimle, Chief Operating Officer will act as the interim EOT Manger, she can be reached by email at cynthia.steimle@nees.org. An announcement for the EOT Manager position will be going out next week. We would appreciate your assistance during the recruitment process. Please refer any exceptional candidates to the position posting on the NEES web site.

II. Introductions: Name and Title of each EOT Site Participant

ES	Name/Title
NEESinc	<i>Jay Berger, Site Operations Manager</i>
NEESinc	<i>Cynthia Steimle/Chief Operating Officer</i>
NEESinc	<i>Melanie Brown/Education & Diversity</i>
NEESinc	<i>Aydé Pérez, EOT Assistant</i>
Colorado	<i>Jessa Ellenburg/EOT Coordinator</i>
Lehigh	<i>Chad S. Kusko/Site Operations Manager</i>
Illinois	<i>Dan Kuchma/ EOT Coordinator</i>
Minnesota	<i>Cathy French/PI & EOT Coordinator</i>
Nevada, Reno	<i>Sherif Elfass/Site Operations Manager</i>
Oregon State	<i>Alicia Lyman-Holt/EOT Coordinator</i>
UC Berkeley	<i>Nancy Nelson/EOT Coordinator & Admin. Assistant</i>
UC Davis	<i>Cypress Winters/EOT Coordinator & Admin. Assistant</i>
UC Los Angeles	<i>Steve Kang/Site Operations Manager</i>
UC San Diego	<i>José Restrepo/PI</i>
UCSB	<i>Jamie Steidl/Site Operations Manager</i>
Texas	<i>Ellen M. Rathje/Co-PT</i>
NEESit	<i>Tess Lacuesta/EOT Coordinator</i>

III. Overview by Melanie Brown, NEES Education & Diversity Coordinator

Melanie gave a brief overview of the Forum format and goals. A copy of the goals document was provided to all participants via email and is posted on NEES Central.

IV. Call for Nuggets (see template attached).

Melanie went over the provided template and stated the importance of submitting nuggets to NEESinc. NSF uses the nuggets for renewed funding, and it is a good way to keep track of accomplishments. A template for nuggets was emailed to the group, a revised one is attached. Please note that NEESinc staff can categorize the nuggets as to People, Ideas, Tools etc., and can edit text to make it easier for you to present the material.

V. Multi-Site Proposal

Melanie gave an update on the proposal. This idea originated when Shirley Dyke, Melanie, and Jessa Ellenburg discussed a possible idea for a proposal that would showcase several NEES sites and would involve an EOT activity. An idea emerged for sites to create educational modules for K-12 that would teach earthquake concepts in an interactive or game format. Teacher input would be required, and a workshop would be held where teachers would learn concepts at a site, then would virtually attend other sessions at three more equipment sites. All would be videotaped and made available to the public for teaching purposes. The teachers would then return to the classroom with the materials and knowledge to teach. Materials would also be available on the NEES web site. Most sites are interested in participating; the responses have been overwhelmingly positive. There is still a need to identify a PI, although several people are interested in being Co-PIs on the proposal. For more details on the multi-site proposal email Melanie at melanie.brown@nees.org.

VI. Most exciting or memorable EOT activity to date – each EOT Site Participant

Jessa at Colorado: small tours at the site with a map activity for 100 high school girls from Colorado.

Chad at Leigh: The NEESreu Program. One of the students developed a program that has been used by the site and may be used for educational modules in the future. Group tours to high school students with shakes and quakes, student really enjoyed the tours.

Dan at Illinois: activity: Discover Engineers. Sophomore underrepresented students were divided into groups to build cement walls to be tested for structural behavior and shared the results of the test.

Cathy at Minnesota: Hands-on activities including shake tables, building models and testing them. Students operated the shake tables themselves at the Civil Engineering Department. In general, a tour of the MAST Laboratory is accompanied by a brief powerpoint presentation giving some background on earthquakes, their effects on the infrastructure, and NEES.

Sherif at Reno: Summer Camps, 1-day tour of the lab with hands-on activities, and field trips. Field trip for Middle-School students, at the end of the field trip students got to do a PowerPoint presentation in front of their parents on what they learned.

Alicia at Oregon: Summer Science and Engineering for Youth Project (hands-on). Week-long project, three freshman girls did a presentation at the end of the week and it was great. July open-house, it takes place every 3 years. Researchers and experts talk to public throughout the day, about 500 people.

Nancy at Berkeley: National Leaders Conference lectures and tours were given. A full scale size wall was built and tested at the Lab. PowerPoint presentations were given by kids and all lectures were taped.

Cypress at Davis: REU Program, four students participating. Students will be doing PowerPoint presentations at the REU conference in Oregon. The Annual Davis/RPI Centrifuge Workshop, November 2006.

Steve at UCLA: Hosted the 7th Annual Building Structure, walls were tested to see which one could withstand two different types of shakes.

Jose at UCSD: Hands-on Workshop: a Saturday with girls interested in engineering. The Blind Prediction Contest, which brought together researchers from overseas and locally. There will be a follow-up workshop in Dec. 2006.

Jamie at UCSB: Participated in Science Night at the local schools (K-12). Had the equipment site grand opening back in 2004. Training workshops between the researchers.

Ellen at Texas: Worked with the University to do the open house, it is one of the biggest open houses in Texas. It is open to the university and the entire public, with an audience of about 1,000 people. The shakers are displayed: T-Rex Truck and Liquefaction. The T-Rex truck was also taken to local schools.

Tess at NEESit: collaboration with Japan, Korea, and New Zealand. Conducted workshops/trainings, teacher's workshop, and the REU Program.

At future meetings one or two EOT contacts will be asked to do a short presentation of their outreach event. PowerPoints and other materials that can be transferred to other sites are highly encouraged. We will be posting these materials on the NEES education page on the web site.

VII. What do you need from us? (Symbiotic relationship)

The group was asked for suggestions/comments on how to make the relationship between the NEESinc and the Equipment Sites stronger; the following suggestions were made:

- Jose: Open communication
- Alicia: Create a bulletin board for site to share information (tips and lessons learned). Be able to upload materials/products from activities that take place at the sites
- Ellen: have information on the NEES web site that teachers can easily download and use at their schools. Check out <http://www.teachengineering.com> for more ideas.
- Have an EOT activities calendar in the Education page of the NEESinc website.

The general response was positive - that this is a good step in sharing information and promoting EOT activities.

VIII. Monthly Meetings – Structure

NEESinc suggested having the meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. PDT and asked for feedback. It was suggested that a couple of dates and times be emailed to the group to review. An alternate day would be the first Thursday of the month at 10 a.m. PDT.