



# Earthquake Engineering Research Institute Utah Chapter

October 2014 Newsletter



## President's Message Les Youd

The Utah Chapter of EERI is pleased to add a newsletter to our regular chapter activities and hope to make it available to a wide audience as well as chapter members. The Utah Chapter was organized in 2011 with the objectives of fostering professional educational and societal activities aimed at better understanding of earthquake hazards and reducing risk in Utah, advancing the science and practice of earthquake engineering to improve understanding of the impact of earthquakes on the physical, social, economic, political and cultural environments, and to advocate for comprehensive and realistic measures for reducing the harmful effects of earthquakes.

Last year the chapter sponsored several activities to meet these objectives, including a presentation of the 2012 Joyner Lecture by Jon Bray, UC Berkeley, a "Meet Mentors" evening in which Walt Arabasz and Les Youd made short presentations outlining their successful careers and answering questions from attendees, and a one-day short course on liquefaction to discuss methods for predicting its occurrence and mitigating its effects. W.D. Liam Finn, University of British Columbia, an experienced expert, was the primary lecturer. We are planning additional activities for the coming year and invite all to attend.

On October 16, the Utah chapter will join with SEAU in sponsoring the SEAU Fall Seminar on the topic of Structural and Geotechnical Lessons Learned from the 2010 and 2011 Christchurch, New Zealand earthquakes. Speakers will be Dan

Bech, S.E., Principal at Holmes Culley in San Francisco and Russell A. Green, PhD, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech. Both speakers spent considerable time in Christchurch conducting investigations after the earthquakes. (See announcement in this newsletter for further details.)

The chapter is also planning a spring short course on assessing ground motions for engineering design. Further information on this course will be published in future newsletters. We have also invited David Wald from the USGS to come to Salt Lake and discuss the latest tools that the USGS has to assist engineers and building owners to understand the expected damage following a significant earthquake. Once this event is scheduled, we will provide you with the information. We look forward to having the opportunity to mingle with each of you and learn together at these future activities.

Les Youd, President, Utah Chapter EERI

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## **Together We Can Reduce the Risk of Earthquakes in Utah**

Brent Maxfield, President Elect

This article reaches out to those who are in a position to help us reduce the risk of earthquakes in Utah. You may be an architect, a public official, a building code regulator, a structural engineer, a civil engineer, a planner, a social scientist, a geologist, a seismologist, an emergency planner, a first responder, a building owner, or just someone who is interested in earthquake information. We all have something in common – earthquakes.

The Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) is unique in that it can bring together a diverse group of people who each have unique expertise and experience. Each member brings something valuable to the table. The EERI Utah Chapter shares the same goals as the national organization, and we encourage you to visit the [www.eeri.org](http://www.eeri.org) website. The benefit of belonging to the EERI Utah Chapter is that we can focus on issues unique to Utah. We also live and work near each other and will all be affected when the Wasatch Fault decides to slip.

We view reducing risk in three areas: Prepare, respond, and recover. If you fit into any of these three categories, we need you. The preparation involves ensuring that the latest codes and standards are enforced for new buildings, mitigating the hazards in existing buildings, understanding the nature of the hazards, and preparing to respond and recover. The response will happen in the days and weeks following an event, and the

recovery will occur in the months, years, and even decades following a major seismic event. The best way to reduce the impact of the response and the recovery will be to prepare. That is where you come in. Let's work together to be better prepared.

This is the inaugural issue of the EERI Utah Chapter Newsletter. We feel that it is an excellent way to unite our efforts. We view the newsletter as a means of collecting and disseminating information related to reducing seismic risk in Utah. If you or your organization has published an article relating to seismic issues, we seek your help and permission to reprint it in this newsletter. We want to be the clearinghouse for disseminating seismic information to as many people as possible. Articles that would benefit many people are only being published in local society newsletters. If these same articles can be reprinted in the EERI Utah Chapter Newsletter, they will be able to benefit many more people.

We are seeking your help in providing us articles for the newsletter. Please forward articles, announcements, or information to our newsletter Chair, Chris Garris. His email is: [garrisct@pbworld.com](mailto:garrisct@pbworld.com). Please provide a permission statement with the email.

In this newsletter, our president Les Youd describes some of the past and future activities of the Chapter. We would love the opportunity to cosponsor some of these activities with you, or maybe you have activities that you would like our assistance to cosponsor. Please let us know.

Lastly, we invite you to join the EERI Utah Chapter. You do not need to belong to the



national chapter to join. The cost is only \$25.00 per year. By joining the EERI Utah Chapter, you can assist us in reducing the

seismic risk in Utah. For more information, please visit the EERI Utah Chapter website at: <http://utah.eeri.org>.

### **Upcoming Events:**

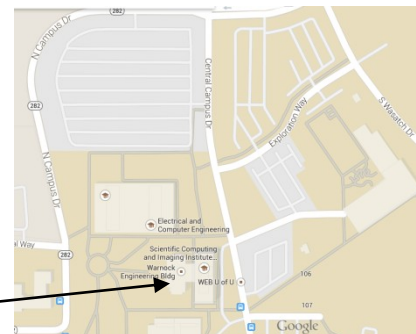
**EERI/SEAU Fall Seminar: October 16, 2014, 5:30p Refreshments, Presentation at 6:00p**

## **STRUCTURAL AND GEOTECHNICAL LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE**

**Invited instructors:** Dan Bech, S.E., Principal at Holmes Culley in San Francisco and Russell A. Green, PhD. Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Virginia Tech.

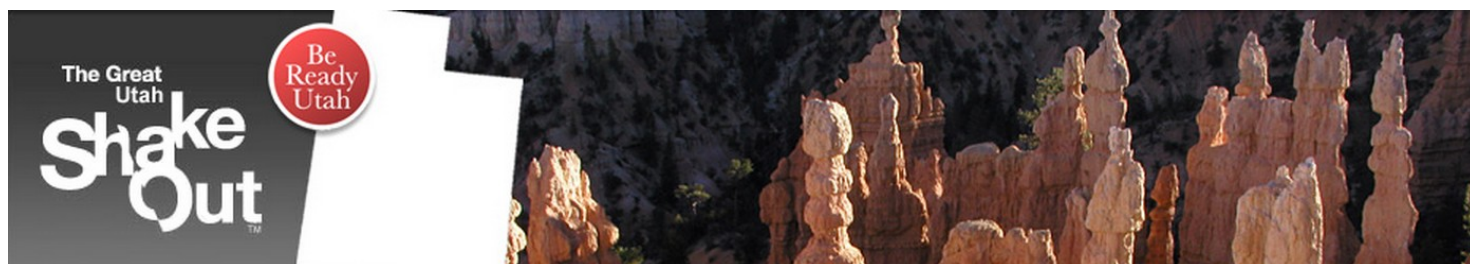
**Who Should Attend?** Geotechnical/Structural Engineers, Geologists, Emergency Preparedness Managers/Planners, and non-technical folks who may be interested in learning about earthquakes.

- Warnock Engineering Building, Room L104, University of Utah
- Refreshments at 5:30pm, Presentation at 6:00pm
- More information at: <http://utah.eeri.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/EERI-Fall-Seminar-2014.pdf>



*Partial funding of this training program has been provided by the Utah Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing from the Professional Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor Education and Enforcement Fund.*

## **The Great Utah ShakeOut Event: April 16, 2015**



Millions of people worldwide practice how to [Drop, Cover, and Hold On](#) each year during [Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drills!](#)

Utahns can join them by [registering](#) today for the **Great Utah ShakeOut**. The next Utah ShakeOut Day of Action will be April 16, 2015, though you can register to hold your ShakeOut drill on any day of the year (including Fall, 2014). Participating is a great way for [your family or organization](#) to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from big earthquakes— wherever you live, work, or travel.

Click to see the YouTube video '160 Fires' depicting the potential effects of an earthquake along the Wasatch Front: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXIM4Nf3gZk>



## 2014 EERI Utah Chapter Leadership

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<b>Board Member</b>	Rob Snow	<a href="mailto:robert.w.snow@urs.com">robert.w.snow@urs.com</a>	(801) 904-4048

### Helpful Earthquake Engineering Links:

Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) - Utah	<a href="http://utah.eeri.org">http://utah.eeri.org</a>
National EERI	<a href="http://www.eeri.org">http://www.eeri.org</a>
Structural Engineering Association of Utah (SEAU)	<a href="http://www.seau.org">http://www.seau.org</a>
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) – Utah	<a href="http://www.sections.asce.org/utah/">http://www.sections.asce.org/utah/</a>
ASCE GEO-Institute	<a href="http://www.asce.org/geo/">http://www.asce.org/geo/</a>
American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) - Utah	<a href="http://www.acecutah.org">http://www.acecutah.org</a>
Seismological Society of America (SSA)	<a href="http://www.seismosoc.org">http://www.seismosoc.org</a>
Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC)	<a href="http://www.scec.org">http://www.scec.org</a>
Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC)	<a href="http://ussc.utah.gov">http://ussc.utah.gov</a>
Utah Geological Survey (UGS)	<a href="http://www.geology.utah.gov/utahgeo/hazards/index.htm">www.geology.utah.gov/utahgeo/hazards/index.htm</a>
University of Utah Seismology and Active Tectonics Research Group	<a href="http://www.uusatrg.utah.edu">http://www.uusatrg.utah.edu</a>
Utah Division of Occupational and Professional Licensure (DOPL)	<a href="http://www.dopl.utah.gov">http://www.dopl.utah.gov</a>
United States Geological Society (USGS)	<a href="http://earthquake.usgs.gov/">http://earthquake.usgs.gov/</a>
Be Ready Utah	<a href="http://www.utah.gov/beready/">http://www.utah.gov/beready/</a>
Utah ShakeOut Website:	<a href="http://www.shakeout.org/utah/">http://www.shakeout.org/utah/</a>
Homebuyer's Guide to Earthquake Hazards in Utah	<a href="http://geology.utah.gov/online/pdf/pi-38.pdf">http://geology.utah.gov/online/pdf/pi-38.pdf</a>

*EERI Utah Chapter is seeking articles and announcements for upcoming newsletter editions. Please forward submissions to be considered by the Utah Chapter leadership to Chris Garriss at [garrisct@pbworld.com](mailto:garrisct@pbworld.com).*