

# Tri-Center SLC Conference Call

March 3, 2004

Attendance: Tracy Smith (MAE SLC President, UIUC)  
Jeff Berman (MCEER SLC President, SUNY at Buffalo)  
Mike Gebman (PEER SLC President, UCSD)

Discussed topics:

## 1. PEER Shake Table Competition

- a. Six teams currently registered for the PEER competition being held on May 12:  
MIT, Oregon, UC-Irvine (2 teams), UC-San Diego, UC-Davis
- b. Hoping CalTech, UCLA, and Berkeley will register
- c. Universities that have entered are ones with strong SLC leadership
- d. Mike encourages representatives from MAE and MCEER to come observe the competition in preparation for hosting their own competition
- e. Methods of advertising:
  - Email to student ASCE chapter presidents
  - Distribute copies of the competition rules and flier
  - SLC members give presentations at student organization meetings (such as ASCE)
  - Provide “top-down” incentive by having SLC advisors and students provide leadership and encourage team formation
  - For the May competition, PEER began advertising the second week of January
- f. Rule revision will take place after the May competition, and changes will be made official at the PEER summer retreat in August
- g. MAE and MCEER expansion:
  - Each center will hold its own competition, and top two teams will be sent to compete in national competition
  - The center competitions should be projected for one or two weeks before Thanksgiving so as to avoid the end of the semester crunch. Each center will finalize the date with its own competition.
  - National competition possibly in late January. We need to be careful that it doesn't get pushed back to where it interferes with ASCE competitions held in April. This date will be set after completion of the May competition.
  - PEER will consider hosting the national competition in 2005 in California, possibly Berkeley, because it is the founder of the competition and has the most experience
- h. When scheduling dates, keep in mind that some schools are on quarter systems, especially PEER affiliates.

## 2. PhD Seminar Exchange

- a. MCEER currently has two PhD students from Buffalo who are nearing completion of their degree and are interested in giving a seminar. The topics are on dampers and stochastic processing (probability analysis). A third may be interested, and would have a topic in the social sciences.
- b. Interested candidates should email an abstract to the SLC presidents of each EERC,

who can distribute the abstracts to the Center institutions. Schools can then pick abstracts and offer to host the candidate. The candidate may then work out details with a school that has expressed interest in hosting the seminar.

### **3. Field Mission**

- a. There is some confusion over the dates of the field mission, but the latest from MAE is July 16 – 24. Mike is investigating the confusion.
- b. MAE has chosen who will go on the trip; MCEER and PEER are working on this. Tracy is emailing the web link to the MAE application.  
MAE application:  
<http://mae.cee.uiuc.edu/Education/Student/Graduate/Fieldmission/announce04.htm>
- c. MCEER is considering publishing last year's field mission reports in EERI's Learning from Earthquakes series. This is more appropriate to the nature of the reports than submitting them to Spectra as was discussed in the Tri-Center meeting at the EERI conference. MAE has put the reports on their website.
- d. PEER may try to publish the reports the same way this year.

### **4. Tri-Center SLC Retreat**

The retreat will be commenced again next year at the EERI meeting.

### **5. Next Tri-Center SLC Conference Call**

Week of May 17, after the PEER NSF site review and completion of the May shake table competition.

Note of interest: NSF site reviews

MCEER      1<sup>st</sup> week of June

MAE         June 15-17

PEER        week of May 12