PROJECT SUMMARY

The Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) is an Earthquake Engineering Research Center administered under the National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center Program. The mission of PEER is to develop and disseminate technology for design and construction of buildings and infrastructure to meet the diverse seismic performance needs of owners and society. Current approaches to seismic design are indirect in their use of information on earthquakes, system response to earthquakes, and owner and societal needs. These current approaches produce buildings and infrastructure whose performance is highly variable and may not meet the needs of owners and society. The PEER program aims to develop a performance-based earthquake engineering approach that can be used to produce systems of predictable and appropriate seismic performance.

To accomplish its mission, PEER has organized a program built around research, education, and technology transfer. The research program merges engineering seismology, engineering, and socio-economic sciences in coordinated studies to develop fundamental data, tools, and methodologies that are tested and refined using testbeds in collaboration with practicing professionals. Primary emphases of the research program at this time are on older and new concrete buildings, bridges and highways, and electric power distribution and transmission systems. The education program promotes engineering awareness in the general public and attracts and trains undergraduate and graduate students to conduct research and implement research findings. The technology transfer program involves practicing earthquake professionals, government agencies, and specific industry sectors in PEER programs to promote implementation of appropriate new technologies. Technology transfer is enhanced through a formal outreach program.

The *intellectual merit* of the proposed program lies in the multi-disciplinary challenge of understanding performance metrics for complex systems and how they can be simulated and controlled. This requires collaborative, cross-disciplinary research among earth scientists, engineers, and social scientists.

The *broader impacts* of the proposed program are extensive. The research program tackles an important and challenging problem, the pursuit of which will advance discovery and understanding of earthquake engineering. Integration of research and education components demonstrates a commitment to teaching, training, and learning at multiple educational levels. The project has a diverse group of PIs and constitutes a multi-disciplinary research partnership that did not exist before. The education program will expose a diverse population of undergraduates to the program and promote top candidates into graduate research. The project contributes to NSF's Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation. Results are disseminated in several ways, including: involvement of a broad spectrum of faculty, students, and government and industry partners; dissemination through print and Internet means; and broadly used databases and software. By better understanding performance of the built environment under earthquake effects, this project also contribute to knowledge on vulnerability and toughening of infrastructure against effects of explosive and impact hazards.

PEER PERSONNEL

Key personnel and participating principal investigators are identified below. Participating principal investigators include those who have received funds in the current reporting period or are scheduled to receive funds in the next period. Names with an ASTERISK* denote investigators not funded in Year 7, but funded in the previous year and whose projects were granted no-cost extensions that lasted into Year 7. Bio sketches are not provided for investigators marked with an asterisk.

KEY PERSONNEL:

Jack Moehle, Director and Thrust Area Leader, University of California, Berkeley Gregory Deierlein, Deputy Director for Research, Stanford University Darlene Wright, Administrative Director, University of California, Berkeley Scott Ashford, Assistant Director for Education Programs, University of California, San Diego Yousef Bozorgnia, Assoc. Director for Sponsored Projects, University of California, Berkeley Parshaw Vaziri, Director of Public Relations and Outreach, University of California, Berkeley Ross Boulanger, Co–Thrust Area Leader, University of California, Berkeley Ahmed Elgamal, Co–Thrust Area Leader, University of California, San Diego Gregory Fenves, Co–Thrust Area Leader, University of California, Berkeley Helmut Krawinkler, Co–Thrust Area Leader, University of California, Berkeley Peter May, Research Committee Member, University of Washington

FUNDED INVESTIGATORS:

(Names in **BOLDFACE** denote Directors; names in *ITALICS* denote Thrust Leaders; names with an ASTERISK* denote investigators not funded in Year 7, but funded in the previous year and whose projects were granted no-cost extensions that lasted into Year 7.)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY (LEAD)

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Jack Moehle (Director/Thrust Leader) Gregory Fenves (Co-Thrust Leader) Stephen Mahin (Co–Thrust Leader) Jonathan Bray Armen Der Kiureghian Filip Filippou Nicos Makris* Khalid Mosalam Michael Riemer Raymond Seed Nicolas Sitar* Bozidar Stojadinovic Department of Architecture *Mary Comerio (Co–Thrust Leader)* Department of Geology & Geophysics Douglas Dreger

CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Division of Applied Science and Civil Engineering James Beck Keith Porter

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Gregory Deierlein (Deputy Director for Research) Helmut Krawinkler (Co-Thrust Leader) Sarah Billington C. Allin Cornell Anne Kiremidjian Kincho Law* Charles Menun* Eduardo Miranda Department of Geophysics Gregory Beroza*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Ross Boulanger (Co–Thrust Leader) Yue-Yue Fan Boris Jeremíc Sashi Kunnath Bruce Kutter

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, IRVINE

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Tara Hutchinson Gerard Pardoen* Roberto Villaverde*

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Jonathan Stewart Ertugrul Taciroglu John Wallace* School of Public Health

Kimberly Shoaf

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

Department Structural Engineering **Scott Ashford (Education Director)** *Ahmed Elgamal (Co-Thrust Leader)* Joel Conte José Restrepo Chia-Ming Uang San Diego Supercomputing Center Michael Bailey

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Department of Civil Engineering Geoffrey Martin Robert Nigbor*

Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering James Moore II Southern California Earthquake Center Thomas Jordan

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

Department of Political Science Peter May (Research Committee) Business Program Jacqueline Meszaros Ufuk Ince UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON (continued)

Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering Pedro Arduino Marc Eberhard Steve Kramer Dawn Lehman Laura Lowes John Stanton Geography Department Stephanie Chang*

OUTREACH ORGANIZATIONS

ABS CONSULTING Hope Seligson

AIR WORLDWIDE, INC. Paolo Bazzurro* Nicolas Luco*

APPLIED TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL Christopher Rojahn*

CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY Chris Wills

CONSORTIUM OF ORGANIZATIONS FOR STRONG–MOTION OBSERVATION SYSTEMS J. Carl Stepp

DEGENKOLB ENGINEERS Jon Heintz* James Malley

DENNIS OSTROM Dennis Ostrom*

GEOMATRIX CONSULTANTS Maurice Power Z.L. Wang Robert Youngs

IMBSEN AND ASSOCIATES, INC. Roy Imbsen*

LAN ENGINEERING Mohan Char* William Nascimento*

OPAC ENGINEERS Mark Ketchum* PACIFIC ENGINEERING AND ANALYSIS Walter Silva

RUTHERFORD & CHEKENE Joe Maffei*

SAN DIEGO STATE UNIVERSITY Department of Geological Sciences Steven Day

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY David Boore* Robert Kayen Paul Spudich UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN Department of Civil Engineering

Kenneth Stokoe II*

URS CORPORATION Nancy Collins Robert Graves Paul Somerville Ivan Wong

PEER EXTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND MEMBERS:

Scientific Auvisory Commute			
Member	Title	Affiliation	
Ron Hamburger, <i>Chair</i>	Principal	Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Inc.	
Don Anderson	Principal Geotechnical Engineer	CH2M Hill	
Jacobo Bielak	Professor	Carnegie Mellon University	
Roger Borcherdt	Engineering Seismologist	US Geological Survey	
Raymond Burby	Professor	Univ. of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	
James Jirsa	Professor	University of Texas at Austin	
Tom Jordan	Professor	Southern California Earthquake Center	
Ronald Mayes	Staff Consultant	Simpson Gumpertz & Heger, Inc.	

Scientific Advisory Committee

Implementation Advisory Board

Member	Title	Affiliation
James Malley, <i>Chair</i>	Vice President and Senior Principal	Degenkolb Engineers
Fadel Alameddine	Senior Bridge Engineer	California Dept. of Transportation
Robert Bachman	Consultant	Private Sector
David Chambers	Associate Engineering Geologist	California Energy Commission
Lloyd Cluff	Manager, Geosciences Dept.	Pacific Gas & Electric Company
John Hooper	Director of Earthquake Engineering	Skilling, Ward, Magnusson, Barkshire
Karl Kirker	Structural Design Unit Manager	Washington Dept. of Transportation
Clifford Roblee	Senior Research Engineer	California Dept. of Transportation
Christopher Rojahn	Executive Director	Applied Technology Council

Firm Name	Location	Representative
AIR Worldwide, Inc.	San Francisco, CA	Paolo Bazzurro
Bechtel Corporation	San Francisco, CA	Joe Litehiser
Comartin-Reis	Stockton, CA	Craig Comartin
Degenkolb Engineers	San Francisco, CA	James Malley
Earth Mechanics	Fountain Valley, CA	Po Lam
Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Inc.	San Francisco, CA	David Friedman
Geomatrix Consultants	Oakland, CA	Maury Power
Magnusson Klemencic Associates	Seattle, WA	John Hooper
The St. Paul Companies	Fairfield, CA	Nesrin Basoz
URS Corporation	Pasadena, CA	Paul Somerville
Wiss Janney Elstner Associates	Emeryville, CA	Kent Sasaki

LIST OF CURRENT INDUSTRIAL/PRACTITIONER MEMBERS:

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