

NHERI GSC

March General Meeting



2025



Agenda

11:00-11:10 Welcome & Announcements

11:10-11:45 Dr. Ian Robertson

11:45-11:55 Questions

11:58-12:00 Wrap up

12:00-12:30 RSR Breakout Rooms



Welcome!

EBRAHIM
Ahmed
Ola
RICCARDO
Sunil
Aashish
Komal
Zhujun
Santosh
Rodrigo
Nyla
Trinity
Rehinatu
Sara
Jackie
Brad
Carolyn
Piyali
Caitlyn
Robyn
Ali
K. Nishanthi

HASHEMIFASAEI
Mohamed
El khatib
NEGRI
Bista
Gautam
Gulati
Wang
Ranabhat
Leal
Howell
Johnson
Usman
Stith
Laundon
Bottoms
Cornelio
Mishra
Sutherlin
Lea
Lesani
Perera

Fuad
Samjhana
Aidin
Inam
Araz
Joahua
Margaret
Daniel
Docean
Petros
Martha
Semachew
Asmita
Abhay
ABBAS
Nicolás
Ernesto
Danial
Zihui
Alexandra
Rosette

Hasan
Sharma
Behroozi
Ullah
Hasheminezhad
Adjei - Yeboah
Miles
Saavedra Maldonado
Park
Lazaridis
Karabini
Kassa
Adhikari
Singh
FATHIAZAR
Bastias
Guades
Golbaz
Ma
Schueller
Niyirora

*Reach out to [Daniel Yahya](#) and [Diako Abiass](#) to learn how to get involved!



Conference Opportunities!

Conference	Dates	Abstract
ACWE: 15th Americas Conference for Wind Engineering	May 19-22, 2025	Closed
AAG: 2025 (American Association of Geographers)	March 24-25, 2025	Closed
AGU24: American Geophysical Union	15-19 December 2025.	July 30, 2025
ASA: American Sociological Association	August 8-12, 2025	Closed
ASAV: American Sociological Association Virtual	January 30-31, 2025	Closed
ANNSIM: Annual Modeling & Simulation Conference	May 26th-29th, 2025	Closed
EMI: ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute	May 27-30, 2025	Closed
SEI: ASCE Structure Congress	April 9-11, 2025	Closed
APPAM: Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management	Nov 13-15, 2025	April 23, 2025
IWSHM: International Workshop on Structural Health Monitoring	September 2025	Closed
NHERI Summer Institute	June 11-13, 2025	
SRA: Society of Risk Analysis Conference	December 7-11, 2025	Not announced yet
YCSEC: Young Coastal Scientist and Engineers Conference	April 3-4, 2025	Closed
Natural Hazards Workshop	July 13-16, 2025	Closed





NHERI GSC 
Graduate Student Council

MINI CONFERENCE

2025
MAY 16

FRIDAY
10 AM - 5 PM CT

Register today!



- *Showcase Your Research*
- *Engage with Leading Research*
- *Inspiring Keynote Speaker*



NHERI GSC 
Graduate Student Council

Call for Abstracts

Submit your abstract for the NSF NHERI GSC Mini-Conference

Submission Deadline

Friday, March 28, 2025, at
11:59 PM CT

Abstract Requirements

Research question(s)

Data and method(s)

Theoretical or empirical
motivations/framing

Expected findings from data
analysis

Apply now!



Call for Reviewers

Review abstract for the NSF NHERI GSC Mini-Conference

Reviewer Requirements

Sign-up during registration for the Mini-Conference

Review up to 3 abstracts (max 500 words each)

Abstracts are anonymized for fairness

Submission Date

Reviews due by Friday, April 18, 2025

Apply now!



NHERI GSC Research Subcommittee Meetings!

Group Breakout Rooms!

Breakout Rooms (30 Minutes):

1. Simulation & Computational Methods Subcommittee:

Dr. Angeliki Gerontati will present on integrating structural modeling, computational techniques, and probabilistic methods for assessing the seismic risk of power plants.

2. Geotechnical Engineering Subcommittee:

Dr. Zhan Weiwei will discuss landslide hazard assessment, machine learning applications, and multi-hazard resilient infrastructure design.

3. Social Science Subcommittee:

Dr. Jennifer Johnson will provide insights on faculty job applications, interview expectations, and job talks based on her experience with R1 university hiring committees.

Organized by:

Bijan Sayyafzadeh

RSR of Simulation

Mohamed Hassan

RSR of Geotechnical
Engineering

Erin Boyle

RSR of Social Science



Speaker Introduction



Dr. Ian Robertson
Professor Emeritus of
Structural Engineering
at the University of
Hawaii at Manoa

ianrob@hawaii.edu



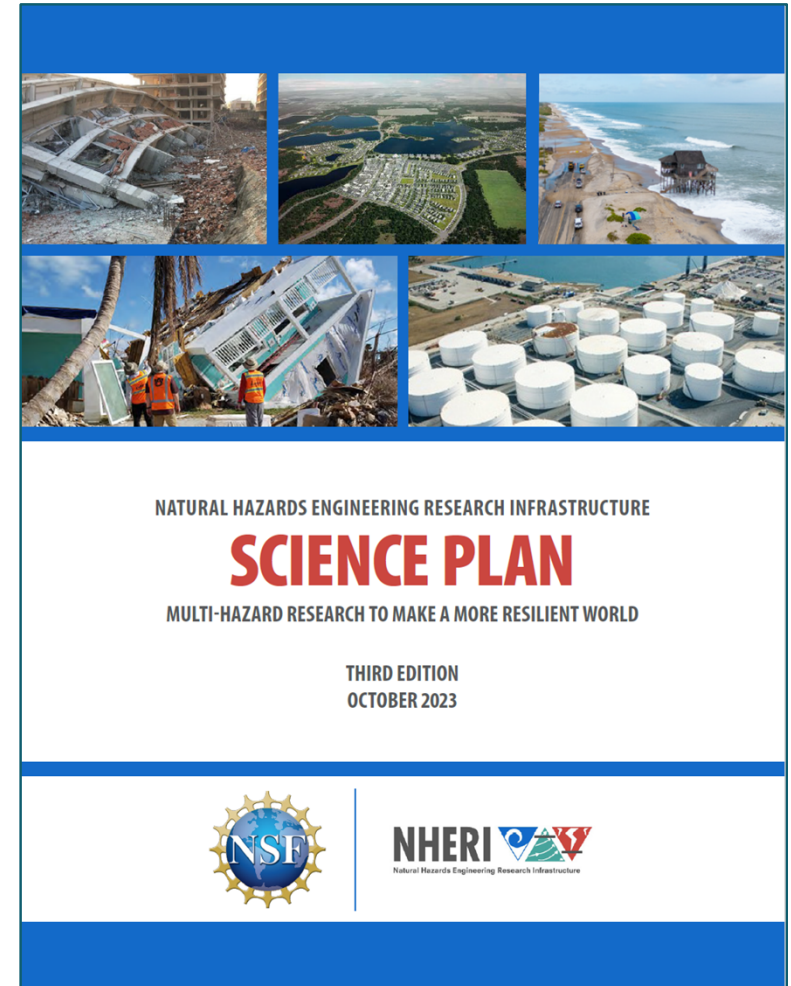


CAREER PATH AND NHERI SCIENCE PLAN

Ian Robertson

NHERI Science Plan Lead

GSC Meeting March 21, 2025



SOUTH AFRICA TO HAWAII

9 hrs

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
US Dept of State Geographer
© 2013 Google
© 2009 GeoBasis-DE/BKG

Google earth

33°48'47.90" N 119°47'39.96" W eye alt 8287.79 mi

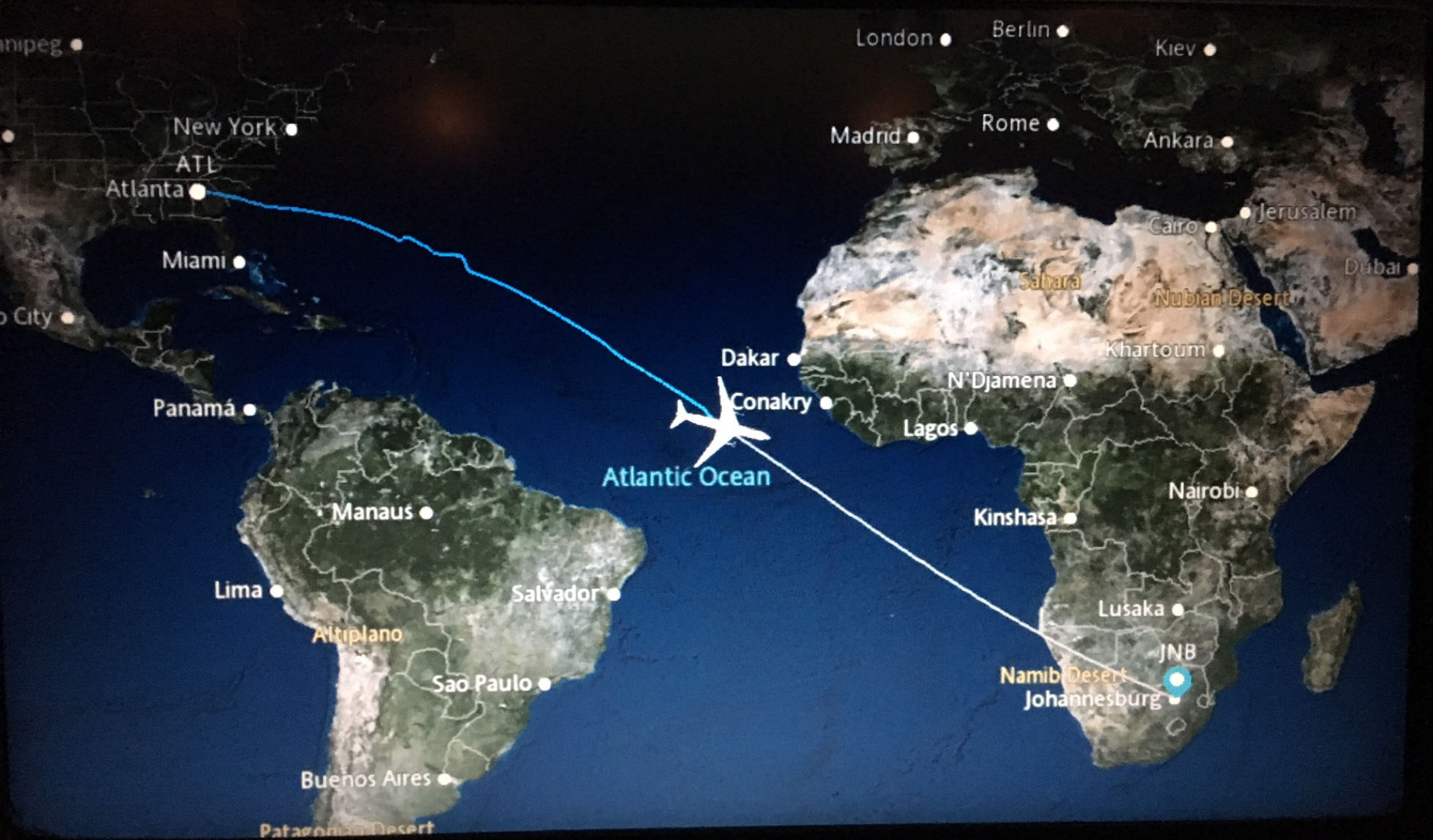


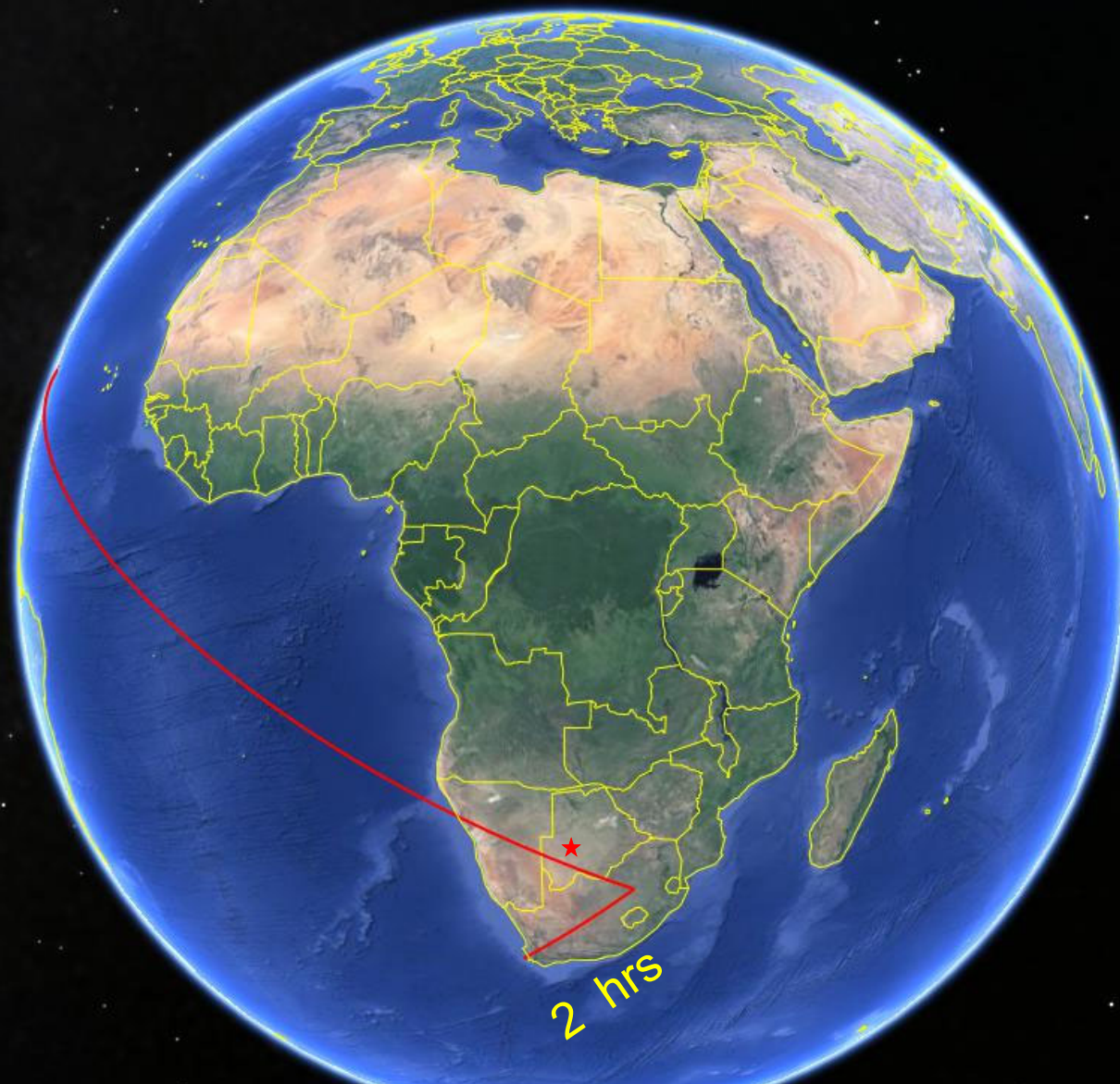
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
US Dept of State Geographer
© 2013 Google
© 2009 GeoBasis-DE/BKG

Google earth

3°10'46.18" N 29°44'35.24" W eye alt 8301.14 mi

HALF WAY THERE





Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
US Dept of State Geographer
© 2013 Google
Image Landsat

Google earth

0°53'36.19" S 22°30'31.82" E eye alt 8303.72 mi

NHERI NCO
Network Coordination Office



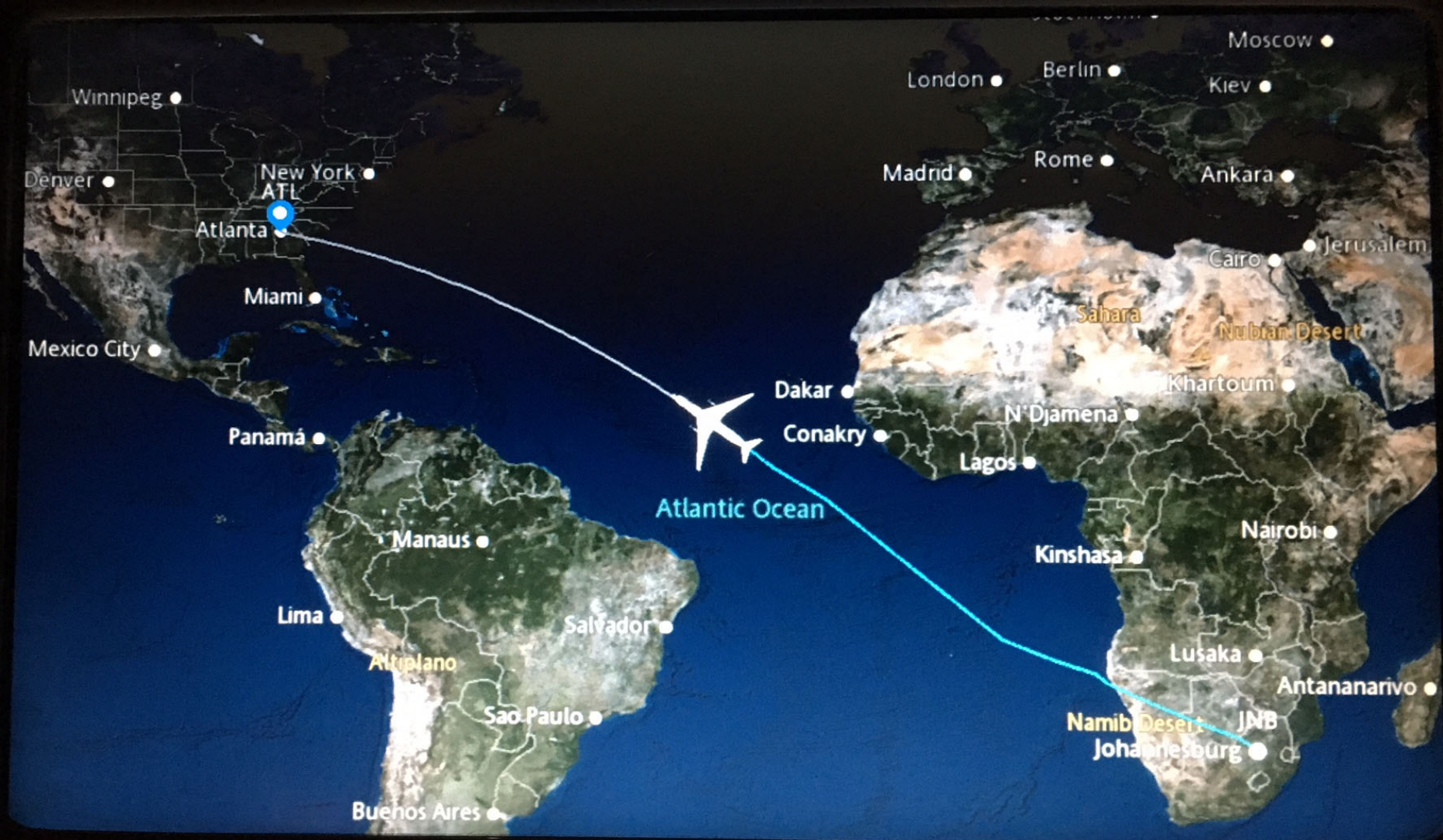
AIRPLANE ENGINE

Atlanta to Johannesburg - 16 hour flight
3,000 rpm engine speed

$$\text{revolutions} = 16 \times 60 \times 3000 = 2,880,000 \text{ rev}$$

- 2 hour layover to change passengers
- Return to Atlanta
- Repeat for years with monthly service





AIRPLANE SAFETY

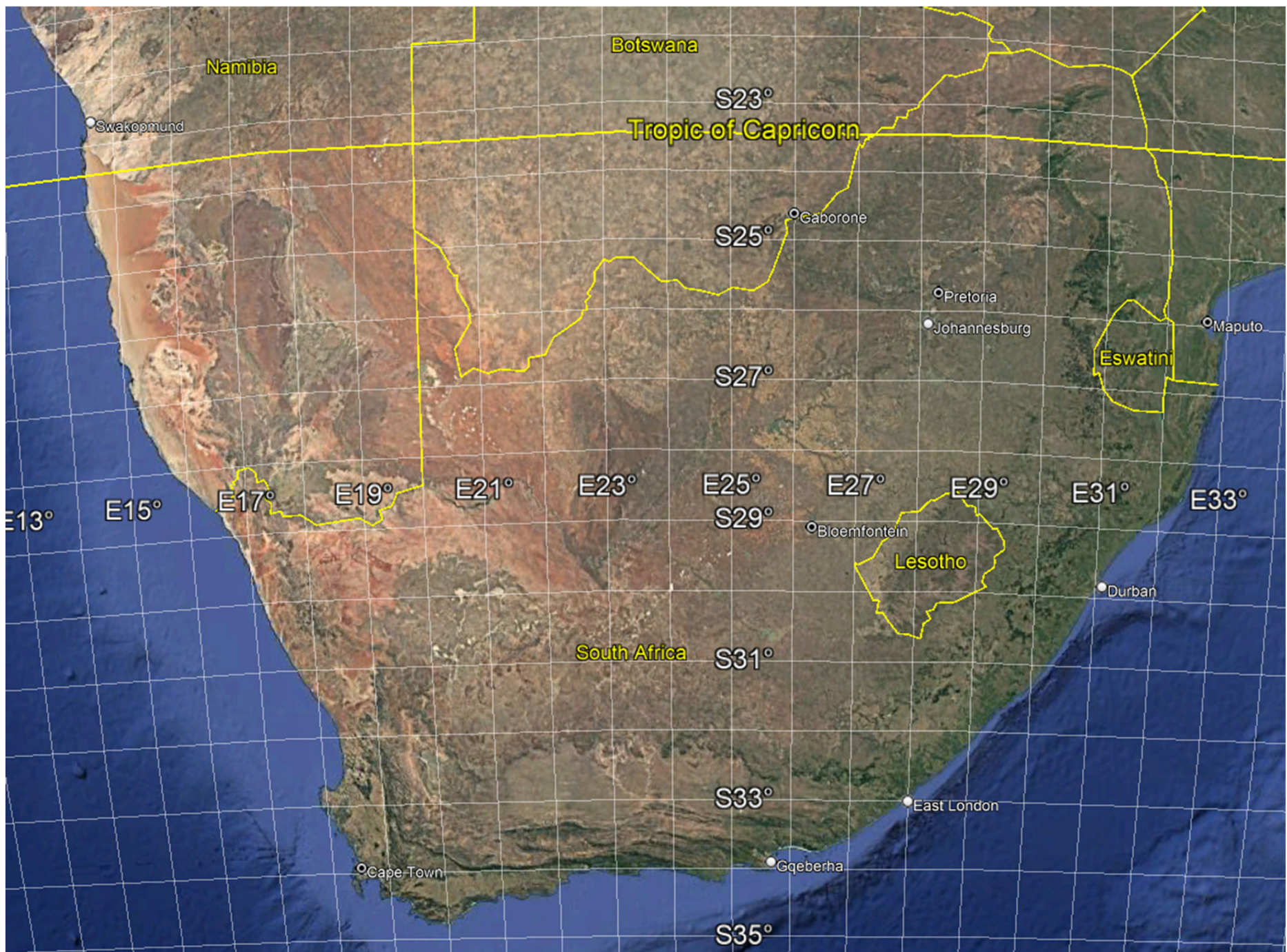
Thousands of planes in the air at any time.

Why are there not more accidents?













South African Background

- I was born in Apartheid South Africa in 1957 to a middle class white family
- Father – electrical engineer turned to Presbyterian ministry
- Mother – math teacher



Blacknest, Parktown North,
Johannesburg, SA.

South African Background

- Grew up in small coastal town of East London
- We lived in one of the few remaining integrated communities



South African Background

- My father started the first racially integrated Presbyterian congregation in South Africa



North End Presbyterian Church Youth Group

South African Background



University of the Witwatersrand



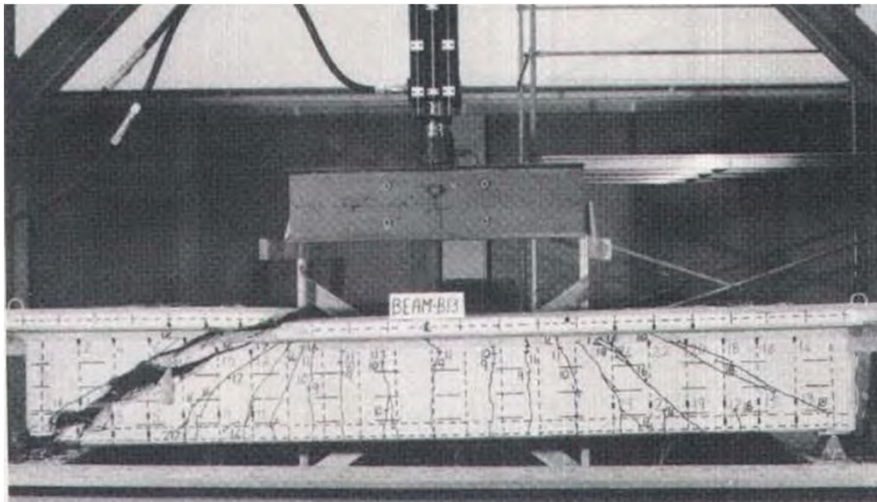
CE Graduating Class 1978



Ove Arup Engineer-in-Training



MS at Rice University



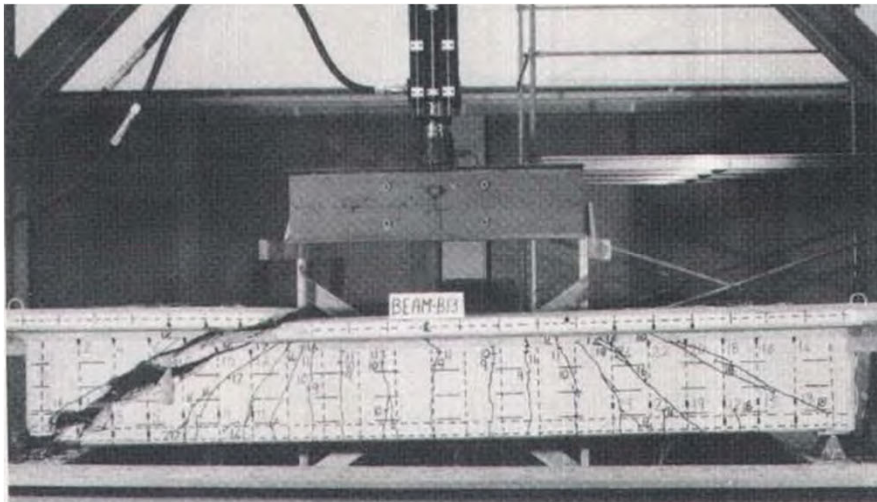
Shear Strength of Prestressed
Concrete T-Beams with Welded
Wire Fabric as Shear Reinforcement
PCI Journal, 1987

Ove Arup Engineer-in-Training

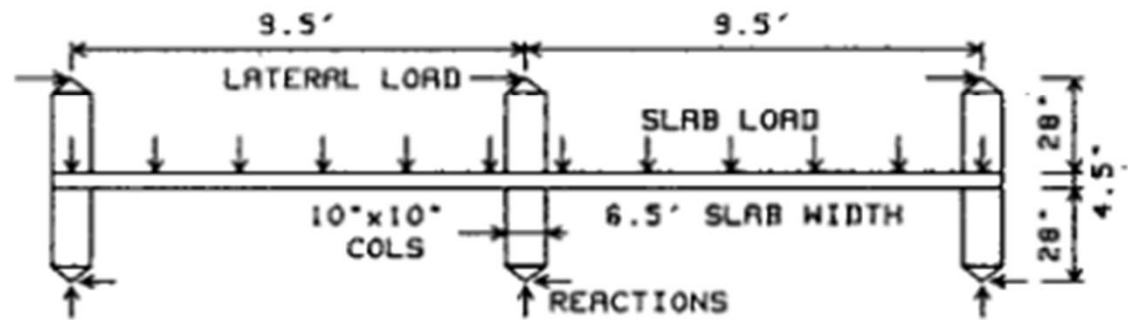


Dwaalboom Cement Factory, Western Transvaal

MS and PhD Rice University

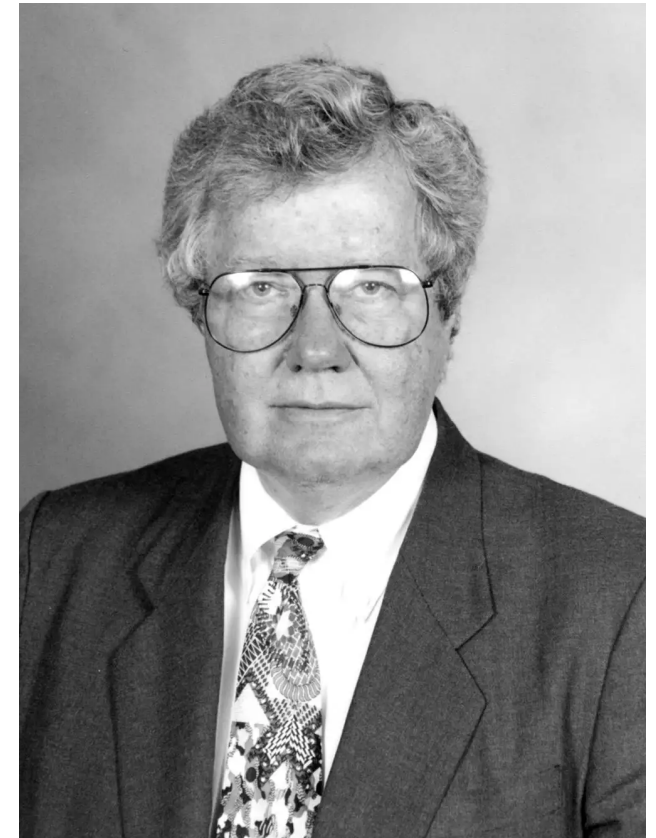


Shear Strength of Prestressed
Concrete T-Beams with Welded
Wire Fabric as Shear Reinforcement
PCI Journal, 1987



Gravity Load Effect on Seismic Behavior of
Slab-Column Connections
ACI Journal, 1992

Walter P. Moore and Associates

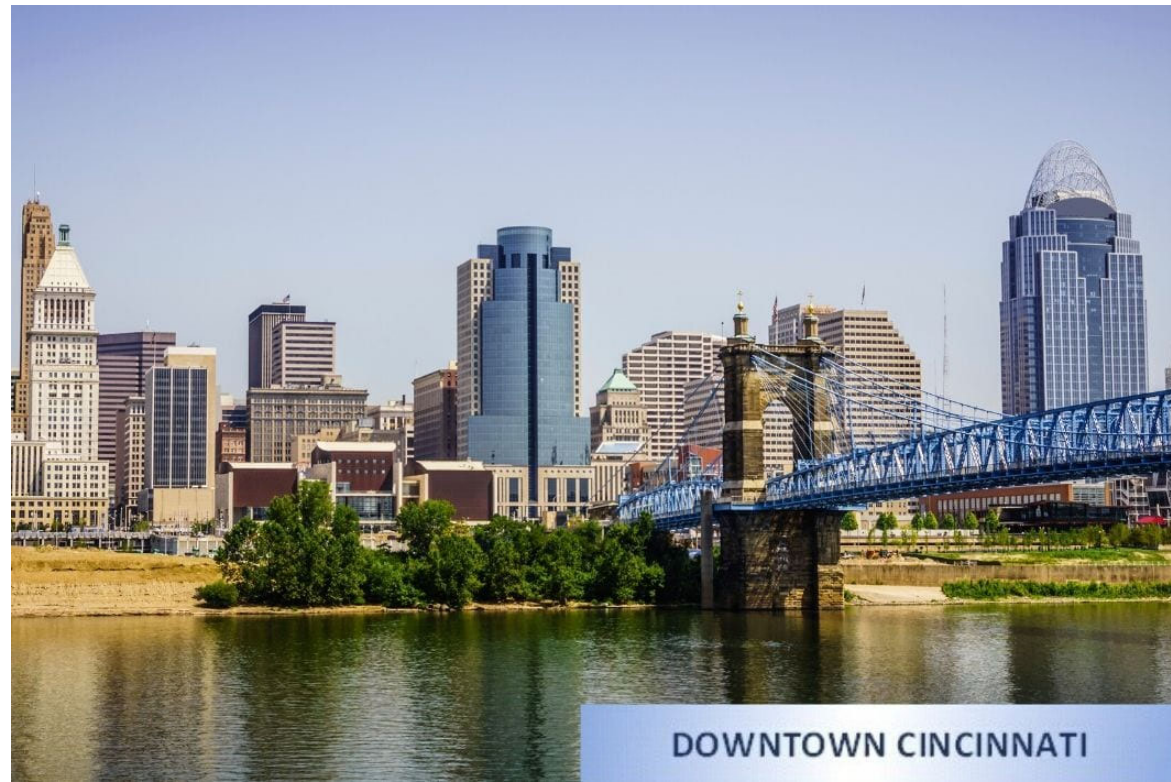


Walter P. Moore Jr.

- Joined WPMA in 1990 - 1992
- Worked on a number of building and arena projects
- Obtained Greencard and PE license

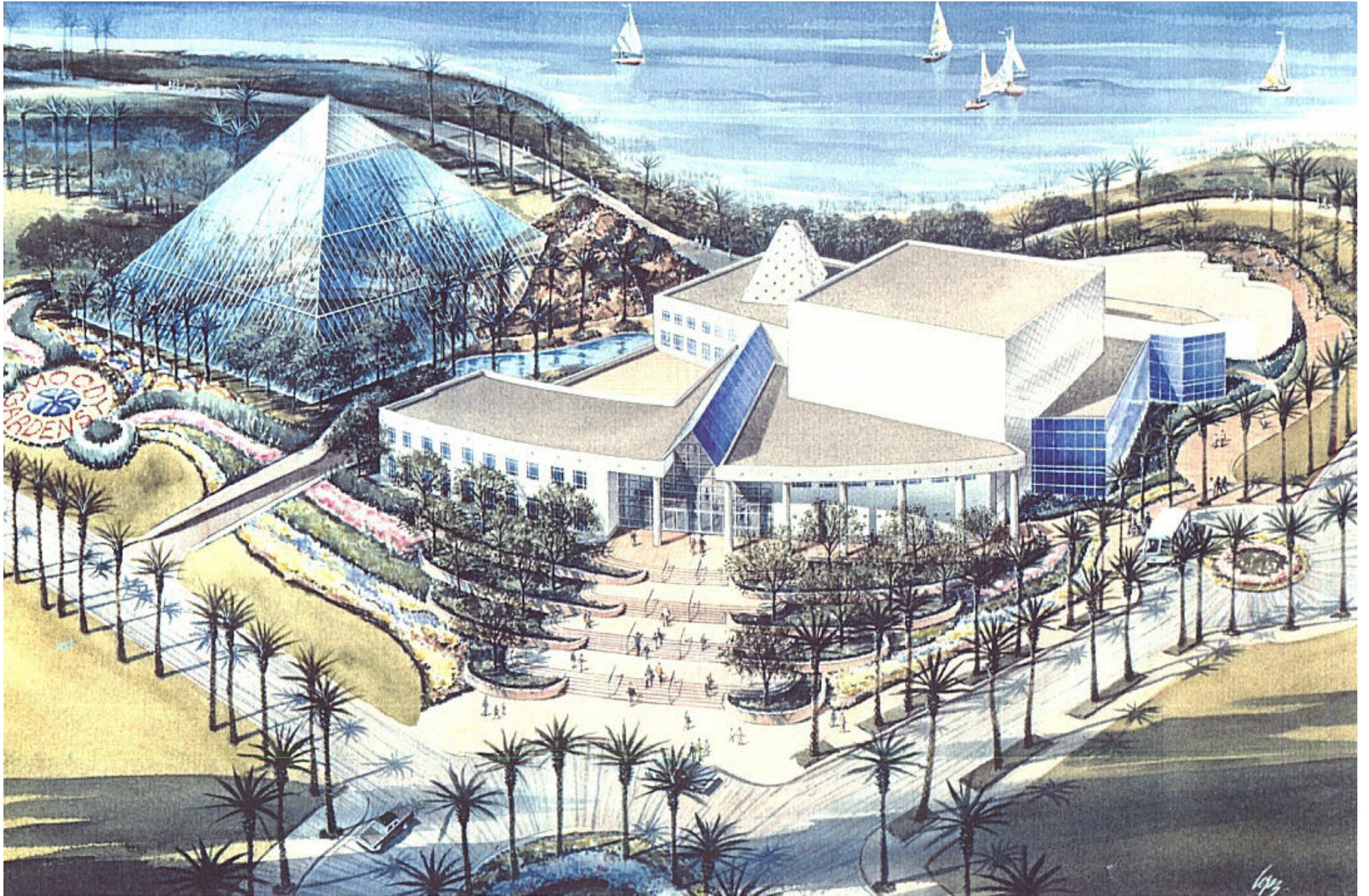
WPMA Projects

312 Walnut
Cincinnati, OH



Moody Gardens
Galveston, TX

Moody Gardens, Galveston, TX

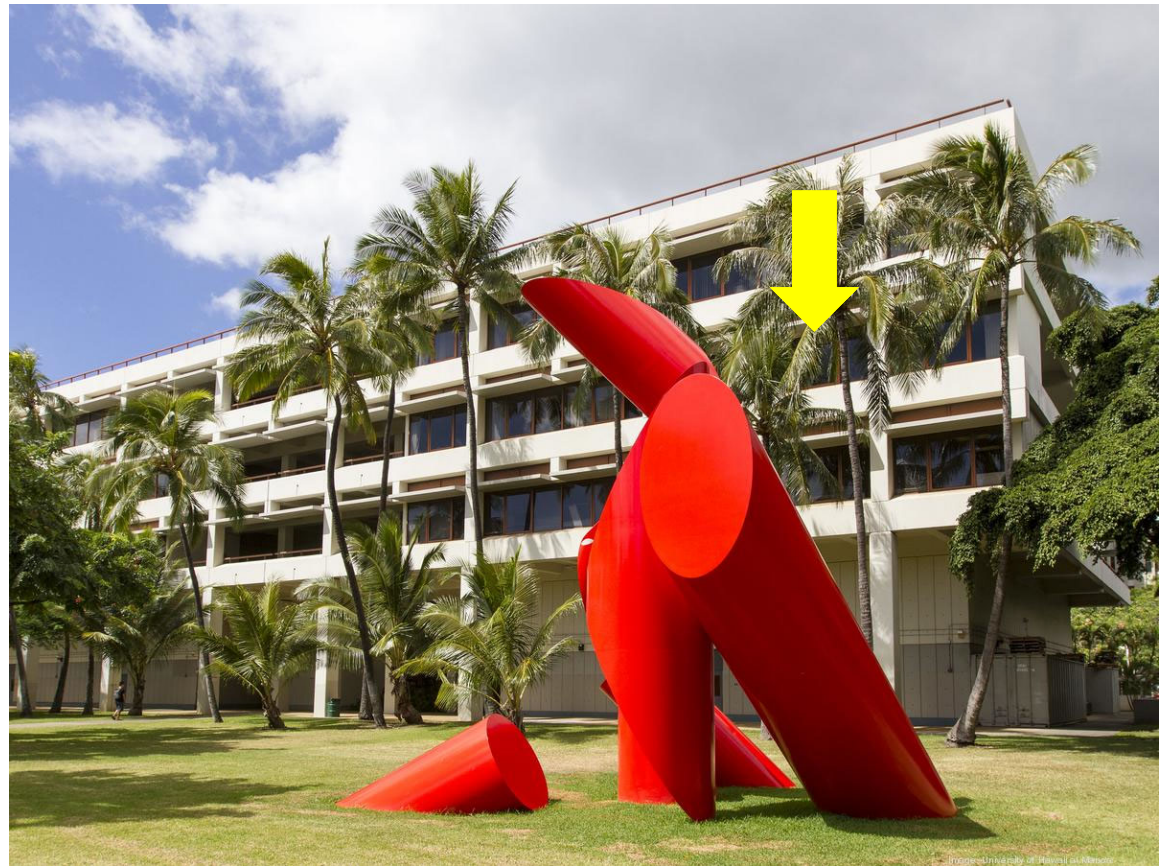


Moody Gardens, Galveston, TX



University of Hawaii

- Hired as Asst. Prof.
Aug. 1992
- Asso. and Full. Prof. in
1997 and 2005
- Dept. Chair 2020-2023
- Prof. Emeritus 2024



Gate of Hope (1972) by Alexander Liberman in front of Holmes Hall, College of Engineering

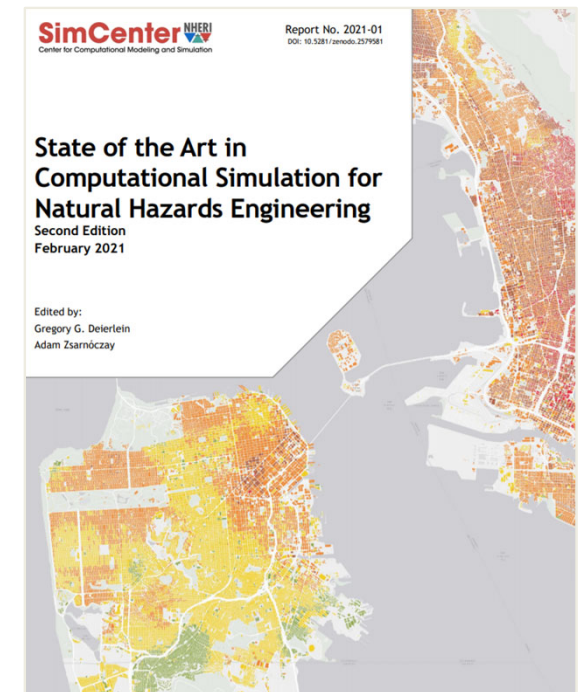
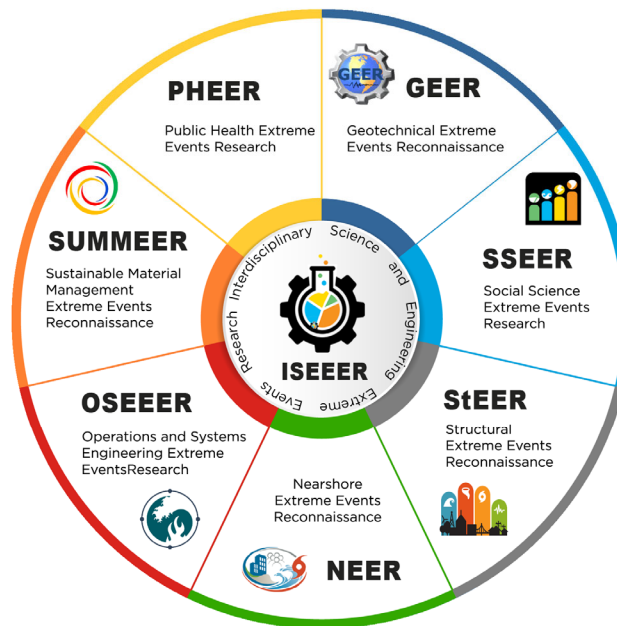
University of Hawaii



NHERI Science Plan – 3rd Edition

The new edition better synthesizes **social sciences, equity issues, climate change, field reconnaissance, laboratory research, simulation tools, and practitioner guidance** to address more holistically community resilience to future natural hazard events.

The NCO convened an enhanced Science Plan Task Group to develop the 3rd Edition of the Science Plan.



NHERI Science Plan – Workshop

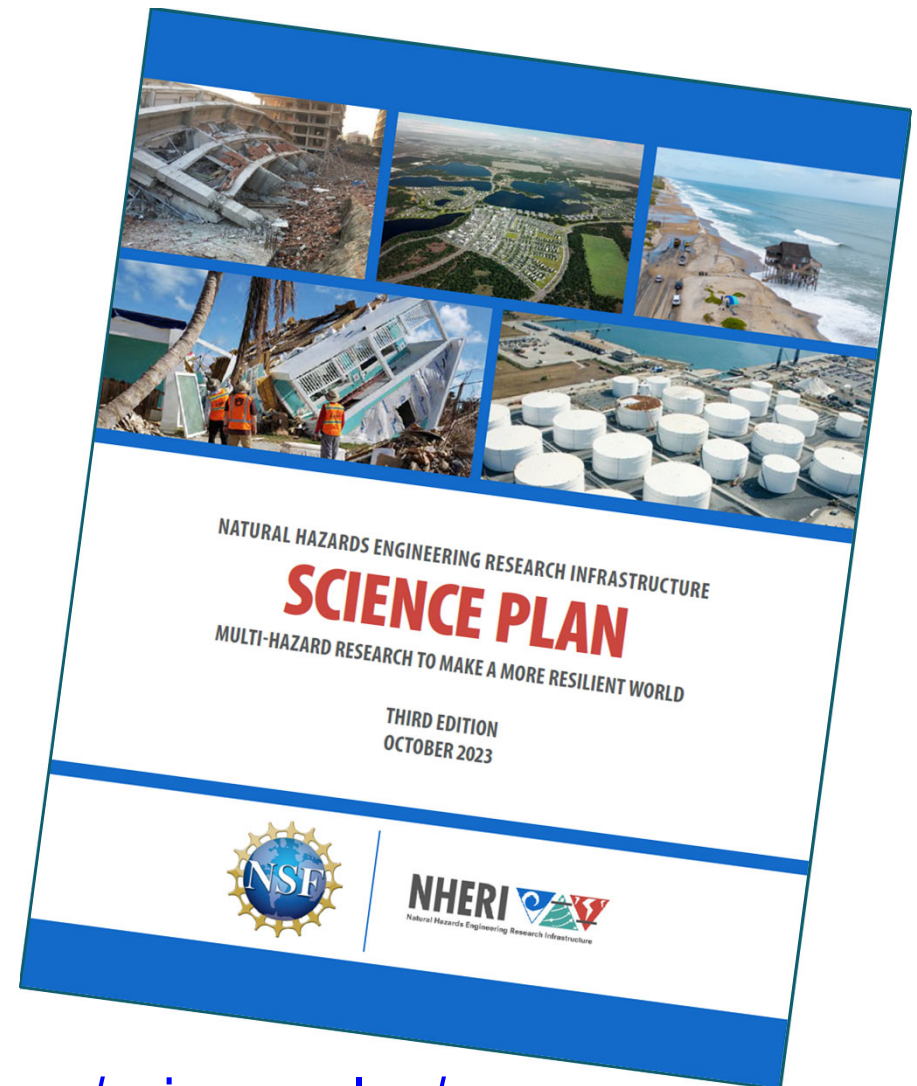
- The NHERI NCO organized a workshop held June 16-17, 2022 in Alexandria, VA
- 63 diverse attendees including, NHERI researchers, NSF and NIST, practitioners, early career faculty, and EF reps.
- Five excellent Keynote speakers to stimulate discussion and creativity
- Five break-out groups that developed a new set of seven Research Campaigns



NHERI Science Plan – Third Edition

- Published October 2023
- Wide dissemination
- Podcast introduction
- Video vignettes planned
- Presentations like this.

Science Plan
available at:



<https://www.designsafe-ci.org/facilities/nco/science-plan/>



Purpose

The NHERI Science Plan provides the natural hazards research communities (geophysical and atmospheric hazards), including NSF and other funding agencies, a roadmap for high-impact, high-reward, hazards engineering research at NHERI facilities.

The research community is encouraged to organize coordinated campaigns to fulfill the vision articulated by the hazards community in this plan.

The research results are intended to prevent loss of life, reduce damage and economic losses, and improve community resilience to these natural hazards.



Audience

- Researchers working on geophysical and atmospheric hazards
- Agencies funding hazards research
- Junior researchers and graduate students



Summer Institute, 2022

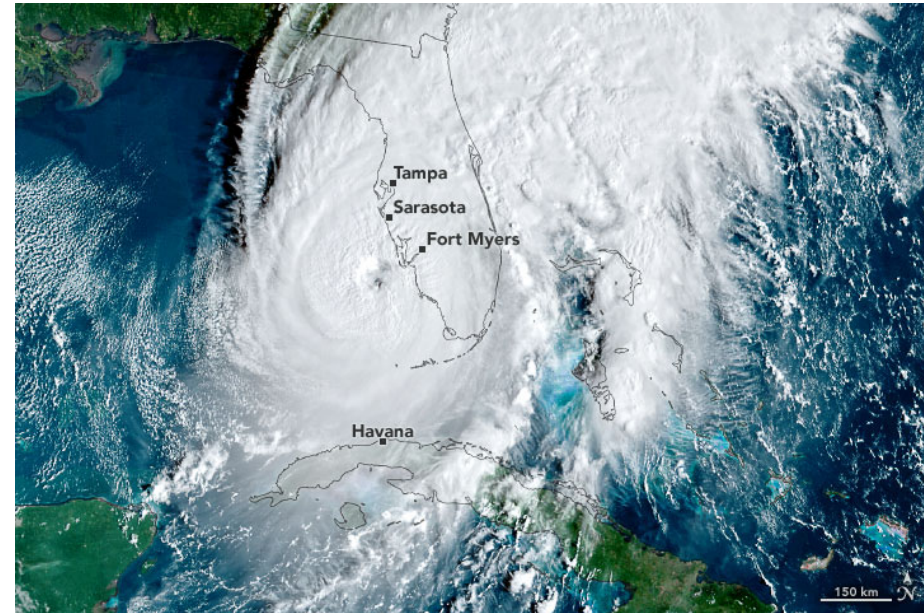
- Provide the broader hazards community with a common vision for improving community resilience and sustainability of existing and future built environment



Three Grand Challenges

Hurricane Ian, 2022

- Identify and quantify the characteristics of *single, co-occurring, and compounding natural hazards* - whether of *geophysical and/or atmospheric origin* - that have the *potential to harm people, damage civil infrastructure, and to disrupt communities*.
- Assess the *exposure, vulnerability, and adaptive capacity* of *civil infrastructure and social systems* in areas threatened by natural hazards.
- Invest in a *diverse hazards workforce* and develop the technologies and tools to support the *design, construction, retrofit, and operation of equitable, sustainable, and resilient civil infrastructure for the nation*.



NEHRI Technology Transfer Committee, TTC

- TTC initiated by the NHERI NCO in Dec. 2017
- Consists of 15-20 volunteers – mostly practicing engineers knowledgeable of implementation paths of research, not only into building codes, but also directly into practice
- Expertise in all areas of natural hazards research
- Developed “Common Mechanisms for Implementation of NHERI Research Results” available from DesignSafe at this QR Code
- Reviewing all NHERI projects for potential implementation.



TTC White Paper

“NSF long has sought to accelerate the development of technology from fundamental research to move innovations into practice and create those partnerships that make it all happen”.

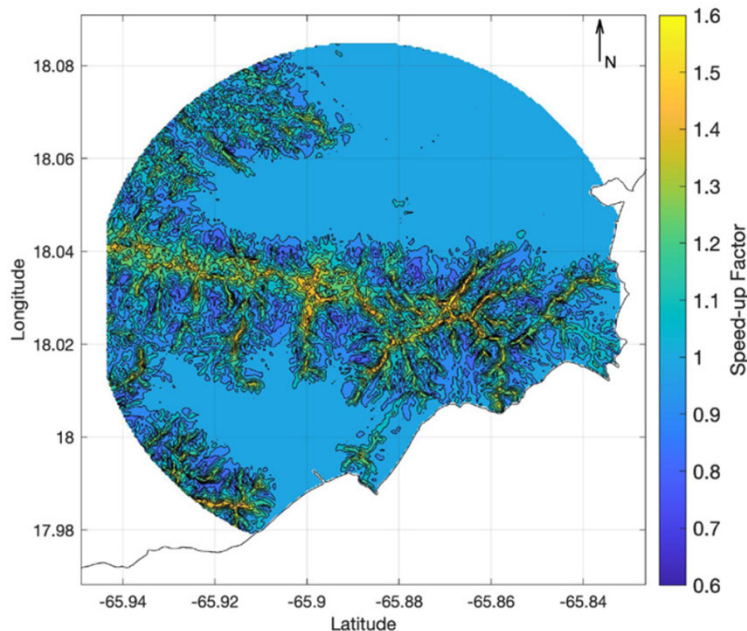
Susan Margulies – Asst. Director, NSF - Engineering Directorate



Five Technology Transfer Success Stories

Performance of Elevated Wood Buildings during Hurricane Michael – Elaina Sutley

1



Machine Learning and Atmospheric Simulation to study Topographic effects on extreme wind speeds – Forrest Masters

2



Modeling of above-ground storage tanks during storm events – Jamie Padgett

3



Five Technology Transfer Success Stories



4

A Resilience-based Seismic Design Methodology for Tall Wood Buildings, also known as NHERI Tallwood – Shiling Pei

Liquefaction Mitigation of Silts using Microbially Induced Desaturation (MID) and Field Testing with NHERI UTexas Large Mobile Shakers – Edward Kavazanjian and Arash Khosravifar

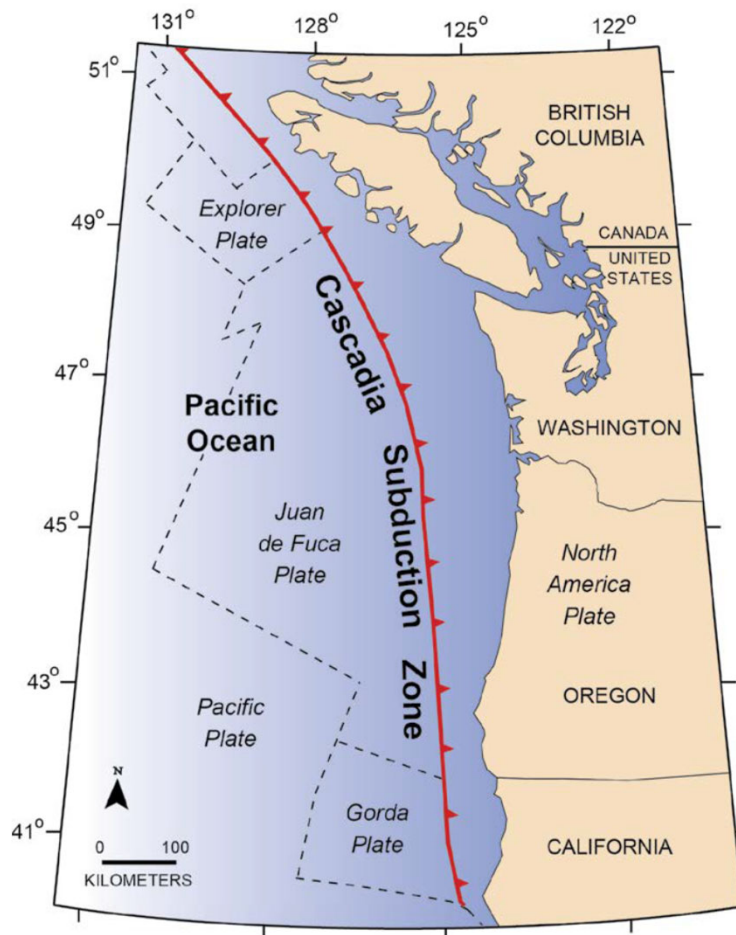
5



Appendix A: Seven Research Campaigns

Understanding and Reducing Vulnerability of Low-Income Communities to Windstorms

1



2

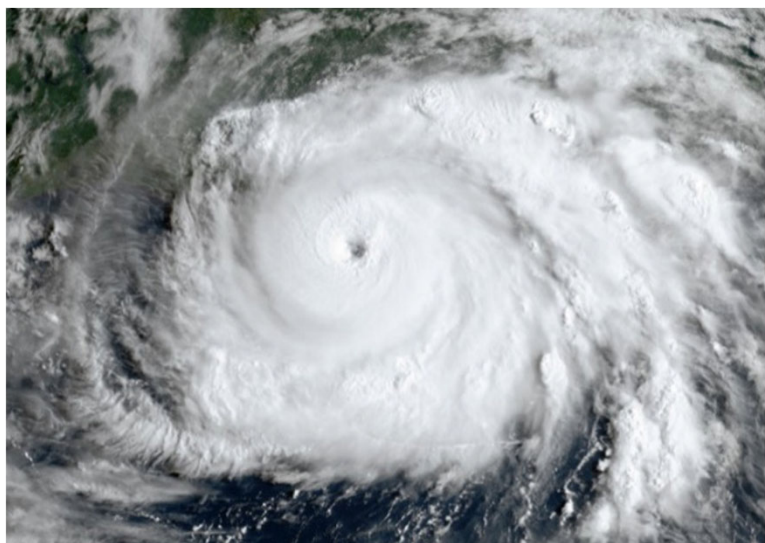
Increasing Regional Resilience to Mega Seismic Events: Cascadia Subduction Zone Earthquake and Tsunami



Appendix A: Seven Research Campaigns

Cascading and Compounding Impacts of Natural Hazards

3

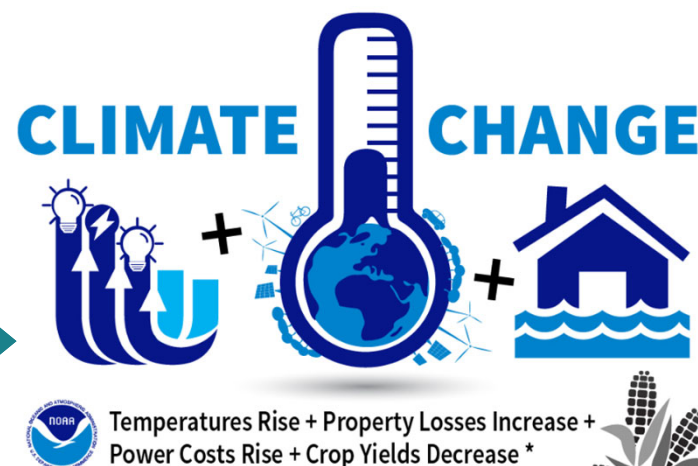


4

A Community-Driven Integrated Research Campaign for Hurricanes

Infrastructure Impacts of Climate Change-Induced Migration

5



**If we continue on this path!*



NHERI NCO
Network Coordination Office

Appendix A: Seven Research Campaigns

Net-Zero Building Materials and Construction

6



7

Securing our Nation through Communication and Education (SeNCE)

5 Additional Research Campaigns in the 2nd Edition of the NHERI Science Plan!



Keys to Success for NHERI Proposals

1. Develop credible research questions with *multi-hazard applications*
2. Include demographically and functionally *diverse research teams*
3. Include *social scientists*, such as an economist, urban planner, or policy analyst to evaluate cost effectiveness of societal impact of a new technology. Convergent research requires integration of inputs and outputs from different team members inextricable woven together.
4. *Build a credible team*: Convergence is one of NSF's Ten Big Ideas.
5. Contact any *NHERI facility* involved in the proposed research.
6. Get *letters of collaboration* from any supporting partners, but not simply recommendation letters.
7. If your research project involves testbed implementation in existing communities, it is imperative that you *involve representatives of those communities* in the proposal development process and throughout the project.

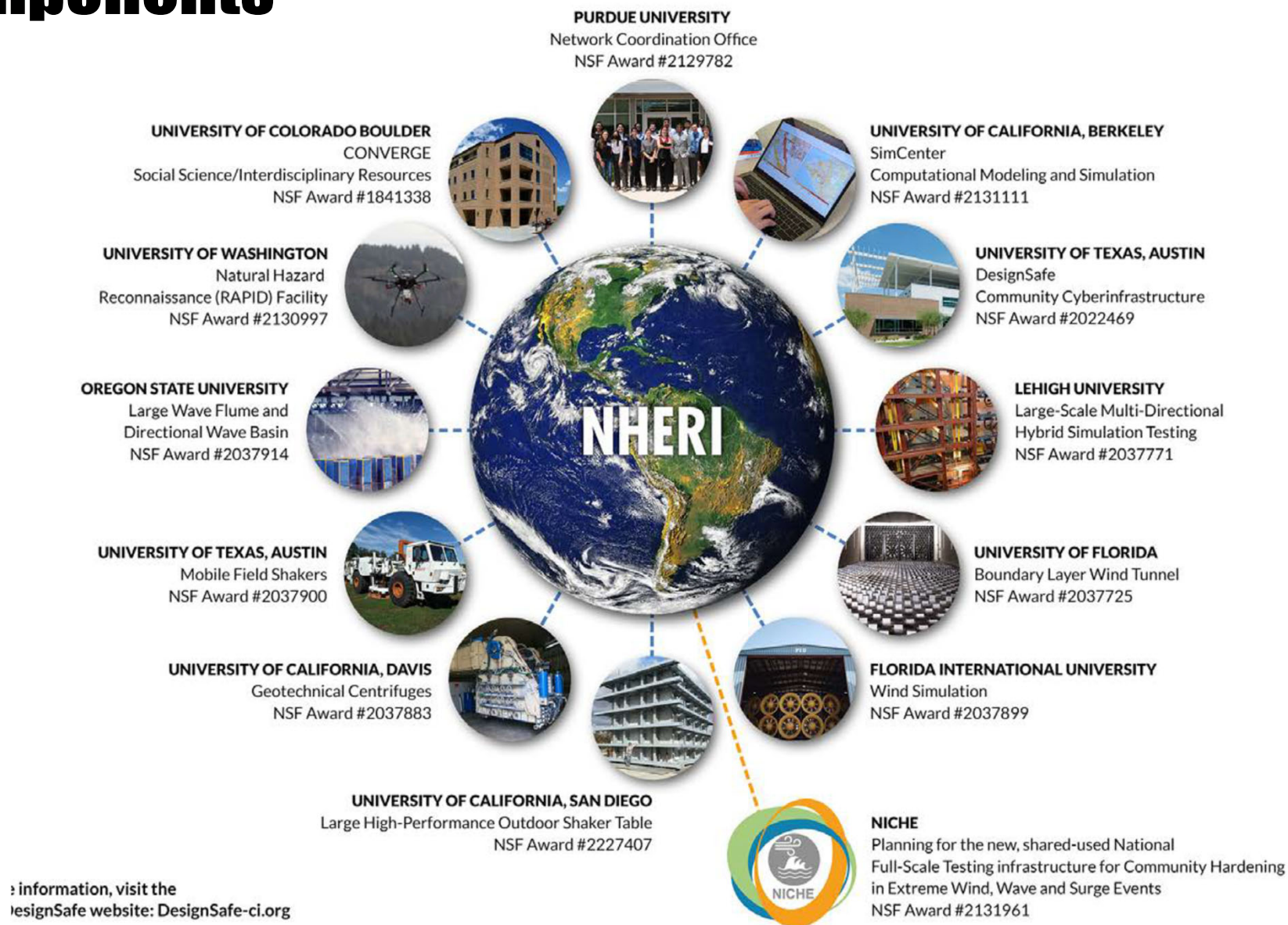


Keys to Success for NHERI Proposals

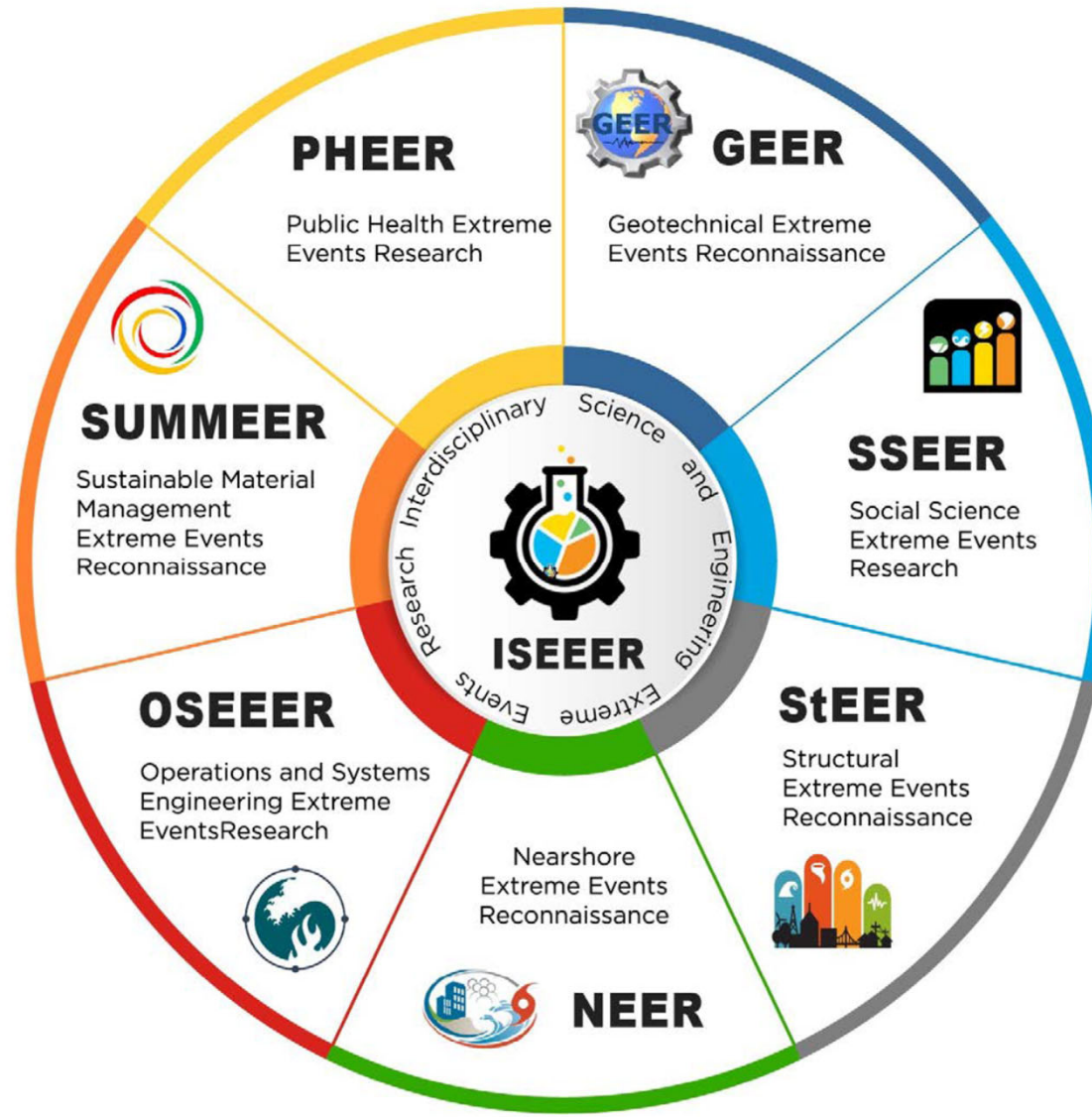
8. Where appropriate, include a team member experienced with *industry implementation* of the anticipated research findings. The NHERI Technology Transfer Committee (TTC) can assist with locating experienced practitioners willing to join research teams.
9. Plan from the outset how the research can be incorporated into *academic curricula and practice*, and what steps might be needed to accomplish the transfer.
10. Include a *time horizon* for potential implementation of the research findings in order to maximize societal impact.
11. “*Red team*” your draft proposal: Share your draft with trustworthy colleagues not involved in your team to get their feedback as a preliminary peer review of your proposal.



Appendix C: NHERI Experimental Facilities and Components



Appendix D: Extreme Event Reconnaissance and Research Networks (EERs)



NHERI Science Plan Version 3.0

This 3rd Edition will serve as a roadmap for NHERI researchers and others working on mitigating the effects of natural hazards on our communities.

“NHERI and other scientific networks are critical to move quickly, at speed and scale, to go from basic research, fundamental engineering research, to implementation by individuals, communities and other agencies.”

Susan Margulies – Asst. Director, NSF - Engineering Directorate

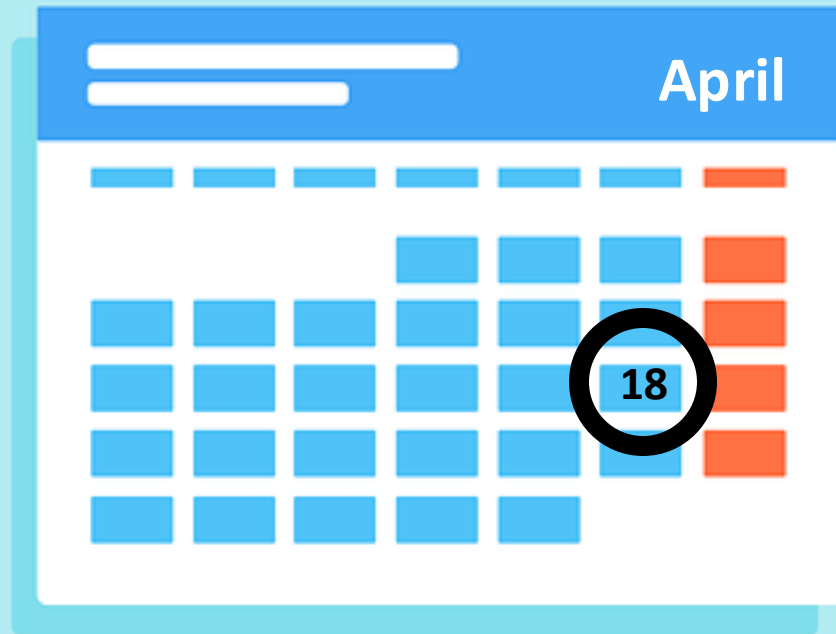




Thank You – Any Questions?

Future Meeting Dates

3rd Friday of
every month
at 11:00am
CST



NHERI GSC Research Subcommittee Meetings!

Group Breakout Rooms!

Breakout Rooms (30 Minutes):

1. Simulation & Computational Methods Subcommittee:

Angeliki Gerontati will present on integrating structural modeling, computational techniques, and probabilistic methods for assessing the seismic risk of power plants.

2. Geotechnical Engineering Subcommittee:

Dr. Zhan Weiwei will discuss landslide hazard assessment, machine learning applications, and multi-hazard resilient infrastructure design.

3. Social Science Subcommittee:

Dr. Jennifer Johnson will provide insights on faculty job applications, interview expectations, and job talks based on her experience with R1 university hiring committees.

Organized by:

Bijan Sayyafzadeh

RSR of Simulation

Mohamed Hassan

RSR of Geotechnical
Engineering

Erin Boyle

RSR of Social Science



Simulation & Computational Methods RSR Meeting



Technical Overview on Intensity Measures for Short-Period Structures and Their Non- Structural Components

Friday, March 21, 2025,
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm CT

Angeliki Gerontati



NHERI GSC 
Graduate Student Council

Speaker Introduction



**Angeliki Gerontati,
PhD Candidate**

National Technical
University of Athens
(NTUA)

AGerontati@mail.ntua.gr



Thank you!

Speaker

Angeliki Gerontati

PhD Candidate

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

AGerontati@mail.ntua.gr

Organizers

Bijan Sayyafzadeh

Simulation & Computational
Methods RSR

B.Sayyaf@yahoo.com

Pooria Mazaheri

Chair of Research

mazaheri@iastate.edu



Social Science RSR



**Applying to Faculty
Positions at R1
Universities**

**Friday, March 21st, 12:00 to
12:30 CT**

Dr. Jennifer Johnson



NHERI GSC 
Graduate Student Council

Speaker Introduction



**Dr. Jennifer Johnson,
Professor and
Department Chair of
the Sociology
Department**

Department Sociology,
Virginia Tech



Thank you!

Speakers

Dr. Jennifer Johnson

Professor & Chair of Sociology
Virginia Tech University

jjohnson@vt.edu

Organizers

Erin Boyle

Social Science RSR

erinyafen@vt.edu

Pooria Mazaheri

Chair of Research

mazaheri@iastate.edu





The NHERI Network Coordination Office is supported by the National Science Foundation award [CMMI 2129782](#). Any statements in this material are those of the presenter(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

