



Good evening NHERI GSC!

Thank you to all who attended our NSF NHERI GSC General Meeting on **February 21, 2025**. In the meeting, Edward M. Laatsch, P.E. – former Director of the Planning, Safety, and Building Science Division at FEMA, disaster resilience expert, and leader in national hazard mitigation programs – shared insights from his 25-year career at FEMA. He described his professional background and various leadership roles, including his tenure as Director of the Planning, Safety, and Building Science Division and discussed key strategies for advancing hazard mitigation, focusing on managing within large systems and effectively navigating leadership structures.

Below you will find the minutes from the meeting:

- **Announcements:**
 - Welcome to all new NHERI GSC members.
 - Reach out to [Daniel Yahya](#) and [Diako Abbasi](#) to learn how to get involved!
- **NSF NHERI Community Statement**
 - The DEI Standing Committee will now be renamed the Community Engagement Standing Committee, and DEI-specific language will be removed from our Constitution in alignment with the new requirements.
- **Natural Hazards Center Awards**
 - Apply for 50th Annual Natural Hazards Research & Applications Workshop (July 13 - 16, 2025) and the 2025 Researchers Meeting (July 16 - 17, 2025) Award by 23rd February 2025
 - Award recipient (5 SC members) will receive funds for meals and registration.
 - Awardees responsibilities
 - **Submit an abstract** for either: NHC Poster Session or Researchers Meeting
 - **Record two sessions** during the Natural Hazards Workshop.
 - **Apply for funding:** https://bit.ly/2025funding_NHW
- Also apply to be a volunteer at Natural Hazards Workshop & Researcher's Meeting July 13-17, 2025, by February 23rd 2025
- <https://hazards.colorado.edu/workshop/2025/volunteer-application>
- **2025 NSF NHERI Summer Institute**
 - GSC members who attend 2 meetings between August 1, 2024-February 23, 2024, are eligible to apply for funding to apply for the Institute.
 - Learn more about the event <https://www.designsafe-ci.org/learning-center/summer-institute/>
 - **APPLY** https://bit.ly/2025NHERI_SummerInstitute
- **NHERI GSC Election February 24-26, 2025**
 - Vote for:

- Vice Chair of Workshops & Mentoring Nominee- **Alireza Mirghafouri**
- Vice Chair of Community Engagement Nominee- **Rajee Tamrakar**

- Conference opportunities:

Conference	Dates	Abstract
AAG: 2025 American Association of Geographers	March 24-25, 2025	Closed*
EMI: ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute	May 27-30, 2025	Closed*
IWSHM: International Workshop on Structural Health Monitoring	September 2025	Closed*
YCSEC: Young Coastal Scientist and Engineers Conference	April 3-4, 2025	Closed*
ACWE: 15th Americas Conference for Wind Engineering	May 19-25, 2025	Closed*
ANNSIM: Annual Modeling & Simulation Conference	May 26-29, 2025	Open, Paper deadline January 19, 2025
Geotechnical Frontiers Conference	March 2-5, 2025	Closed*
Natural Hazards Workshop	July 13-16, 2025	Poster Abstract -Friday, March 7, 2025 Research and Practice Highlights - June 6, 2025

*Conferences that are closed are open for registration

- **Today's Speaker:**

Thank you, Edward M. Laatsch for sharing your expert presentation. A recording of this presentation can be found on our website in the coming days (<https://www.designsafe-ci.org/learning-center/nheri-graduate-student-council/explore/meetings/>).

- Our next meeting will be on **Friday March 21, 2025, 11:00 am CT.**

Welcome to New Members:

Agaman	Subedi	Naomi	Rahman
Mohammad	Bakhshandeh	Sadia Jahan	Noor
Sarbesh	Banjara	Phyoe	Hein
WeiChieh	Chen	Sadia Jahan	Noor
Ashim	Rimal	Corina	Tecu
Aman	Karki	Peter	Tsouroukdissian
Abinash	Silwal	Mohana	Debnath
Amirhosein	Vakili	Omar	Abukassab
Mengting	Chen		
Alireza	Monavarian		

Standing Committee Leadership and Contact

Standing Committee	Chair & Vice-Chair	Contact
Workshop & Mentoring	Rajendra Gautam	rgautam.nepal@gmail.com
	Alireza Mirghafouri	alirezamirghafouri@gmail.com
Community Engagement	Parisa Movaghar	ptoofani@nd.edu
	Rajee Tamrakar	rajee.tamrakar@siu.edu
Research	Pooria Mazaheri	mazaheri@IASTATE.EDU
Networking & Community	Shelley McMullen	shelley.mcmullen@ucdenver.edu
Membership	Daniel Yahya	diy0001@auburn.edu
	Diako Abbasi	dabbasi@umd.edu
Social Media and Outreach	Avipriyo Chakraborty	avipriyo.chakraborty@students.jsu.edu

Research Subcommittee Representatives and Contact

Research Subcommittee Representatives and Contacts

Research Subcommittee	Representative	Contact
Earthquake Engineering	Anoop Tiwari	s23ce09004@iitbbs.ac.in
Geotechnical Engineering	Mohamed Hassan	mhasa9@lsu.edu
Reconnaissance	Mohammad Movahedi	eng.mohammadmovahedi@gmail.com
Simulation & Computational Methods	Bijan Sayyafzadeh	b.sayyaf@yahoo.com
Social Science	Erin Boyle	erinyafen@vt.edu
Wind Engineering	Arezoo Bakhshizadeh	ab22cd@fsu.edu

Attendance taken via zoom:

Robin Nelson
Solomon Ajasa
Harman Singh
Connor Pezeshk
Syed Asif
Moe
Ed Laatsch
Rajee Tamrakar
Arezoo Bakhshizadeh
read.ai meeting notes
Jordan Nakayama
Amirhosein Vakili
Pezhman's iPhone (2)
mazaheri
anamika malla
Ferial Ahmadi
Kushnernaiva Laurent
Aman Karki
Parisa Toofani Movaghar
Shelley McMullen
Alireza Eskandarinejad (skndrnjd)
Shailaja's Notetaker (Otter.ai)
Dilruba Akter

Alireza
M.BAKHSHANDEH
Peter Tsouroukdissian
Richard Campos
Tahereh Torabi
Daniel Yahya
mengting chen
Burak Duran
Anna Gasha (she/her)
Luke Mangney
aemofikoya
Erin Boyle (she/her)
Rajendra Gautam
Hamidreza Allahdadi
Estovio Timothy
Rahul Biswas
Maria Porada
kate mcneely
Sadegh Nouri
Abinash Silwal
Bijan Sayyafzadeh
Utkuhan Genc (he/him)
Felipe Vicencio
Arezoo's iPhone
Samir Nepal

Best,



Anamika Malla
Vice-Secretary, NHERI GSC
PhD student
National Wind Institute
Texas Tech University