



SECED NEWSLETTER

THE SOCIETY FOR
EARTHQUAKE AND
CIVIL ENGINEERING
DYNAMICS

April 1987 Vol. 1 No. 2

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 25 March 1987. The report of the Committee for 1986/87 was sent along with the agenda and the minutes have been sent to members.

EUROCODE 8

The draft European code for structures in seismic areas was the subject of a SECED meeting in February 1985. Comments were obtained on the existing drafts of Parts 1 and 2. These were collated and included in the UK comments to Brussels by BSI Committee B/15t. Part 2.2 of the code is not yet available, and it is not clear whether there will be a chance to comment on it separately.

The EEC Editing Panel for EC8 is now preparing a draft for comment which should be ready in September 1988. UK action is being considered by a working party under the ICE Ground Engineering Board, the chairman being Dr Bryan Skipp, and a report is being submitted to the Department of the Environment in April. This will consider, among other things, studies related to the code which would be of benefit to the UK.

The period allowed for comment on EC8 will be one year from October 1988.

AN INVITATION

The Engineering Seismology Working Group is exploring the communication channel opened by the SECED Newsletter to try an experimental scheme of operation. The scheme relies on a dynamic interaction with the membership: members willing to participate actively are encouraged to come up with ideas on preferred activities and to contribute towards their realisation. As a first test of the new scheme, the convenor, Dimitri Papastamatiou, is inviting cooperation with interested members around the topic: 'The usefulness of strong motion data banks in research and design'. The topic could be treated with a workshop, a demo of the potential of operating data systems, etc.

The SECED Newsletter is published four times a year by the SOCIETY FOR EARTHQUAKE AND CIVIL ENGINEERING DYNAMICS and is available to all members of the society. Articles for inclusion should be sent to The Editor, SECED Newsletter, Mr. D.A. Howells at The Institution of Civil Engineers, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AA.

SECED CONFERENCE ON CIVIL ENGINEERING DYNAMICS

This conference will be held at the University of Bristol from 22nd to 24th March 1986, and will deal with design, analysis, testing and performance. This will be the second SECED conference and follows the very successful one held at Norwich in 1985.

Papers have now been called for on the dynamic aspects of

- Design codes and statutory regulations
- Design methods and philosophy
- Analysis techniques and computer programs
- Testing of soils and engineering materials
- Testing of models and prototype structures
- Modelling for dynamic loads
- Case histories
- Damage reports
- Predicted and measured performance

The closing date for abstracts (300 to 500 words) is 31st May 1987. Notification of acceptance will be by 31st July 1987 and receipt of final papers by 31st December 1987.

In addition to presenting papers, there will be opportunities to present poster sessions and for commercial displays.

RECENT ADVANCES IN EARTHQUAKE-RESISTANT DESIGN

An intensive five day course with this title has been organised to take place at University of California, Berkeley on 20 - 24 July 1987. Observations of structural performance during recent earthquakes and continued US government support of research in earthquake hazard mitigation have taught much in recent years about earthquake-resistant design. This course is intended to update engineers involved with the design of earthquake-resistant structures. More information may be obtained from:

Continuing Education in Engineering
University of California
University Extension,
2223 Fulton Street,
Berkeley, California CA 94720, U.S.A.

EUROPEAN EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

A new journal is being established with this title, with plans to publish quarterly. Those interested in receiving more information should contact the Editor, Prof. Duilio Benedetti, Dip. Ingegneria Strutturale, Politecnico, Pssa L. Da Vinci 32, 20133 Milan, Italy.

British representatives on the Editorial Board are Dr. R.D. Adams, (International Seismological Centre), and Prof. N.N. Ambraseys, (Imperial College).

I also had discussions with Professor Yarar who is active in the formulation of the new Turkish Code a draft of which he will be sending me.

It was noticeable that a strong contingent had come from US Japan and Canada even though there had in the previous week been a meeting of the US National Committee in Charleston and concurrent with the EAEE meeting an ASCE meeting was taking place in Mexico City. The UK was strongly represented: from IC(2), Bristol University(4), Cambridge(2), BNFL.Ove Arup(3), University College Bangor.

There was a pleasant social programme and together with other members of the Executive Committee I dined at the home of Dr Artur Ravara who is now the Director of the LNEC. The former Director, Professor Ferry-Borges, was present. He is now a leading Portuguese personality with the EC in Brussels.

There were substantial changes in the directorate of the EAEE. Dr A Roussopoulos retired as President and was replaced by Dr A Ravara. Professor N Ignatiev retired by rota from the position of Secretary General to become a Vice President and was replaced by Dr Anicic of Yugoslavia, erstwhile Secretary who in turn was replaced by Dr Studer of Switzerland. Professor Ferry-Borges was made an Honorary Member. The remaining vacancy for Vice-President would be allotted to the USSR where the next Conference would be held. Positions on the EC were assigned to Greece, Turkey, Romania and the UK.

As is usual these days there was some disquiet at the number and quality of the papers, recommendations for 'theme papers' and 'poster sessions' were made. Nevertheless the Proceedings constitute a very useful guide to what is going on and the Conference itself has become, after the International Conference, the most important event in the international calendar.

BRYAN SKIPP

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