

## ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL & ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Southern California Section

*"Connecting Professionals, Practice, and the Public."*

### *NEWSLETTER – October 2005*

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**Meeting Date:** **Tuesday, October 11**

**Location:** **Steven's Steak House, 5332 Stevens Place, Commerce, CA**

**Time:** **Social Hour: 6:00 PM; Dinner: 7:00 PM; Presentations: 7:45 PM**

**Reservations:** **Call (323) 889-5366, or email Rosalind Munro, by Noon, Monday, October 10**

**Cost:** **\$30 per person with reservations, \$35 at the door; \$15 for students with valid student ID.**

**Presenter:** **Dr. John Foster**

**Topic:** **Echo Arch Landslide**

#### **Abstract:**

The Monterey Formation crops out in the bluffs southeast of the Cristianitos Fault in San Onofre State Park, Southern California. The Park lies along the marine terrace bluffs between Interstate 5 and the Pacific Ocean and is an area of active landsliding. Echo Arch Landslide is clearly identifiable as two large concave alcoves that notch into the bluffs due southeast of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station which sits on unaffected long straight bluffs of terrace deposits covering San Mateo Sandstone. Movement is indicated by cracks and block falls that result from oceanward movement in a block glide. The geology of the landslide is light gray Monterey Shale (well weathered) capped by 20-30 meters of terrace deposits composed of thin marine gravel and sand with alluvial sand and minor

gravel above. The landslide base is controlled by sheared soft weathered shale that is inclined oceanward at about 5 to 10 degrees but has an oceanward flattening bowl shape due to the geologic structure. The northwest boundary is controlled by the Cristianitos fault and the southeast boundary is structurally controlled by a northwest plunging anticline. In reality, however, the original landslide mass has long been consumed by the ocean and what remains and is still moving is a hummocky area of weathered Monterey Shale covered by headwall debris composed mostly of the terrace deposits. The headwall is slowly encroaching on the park road as topples and falls occur due to movement of the debris accumulating on the slide surface.

<b>Speaker Bio</b>
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Dr. Foster is Professor of Engineering Geology at California State University Fullerton and is a registered professional geologist and engineering geologist in California. Dr. Foster has taught engineering geology for 16 years. His areas of expertise include the geology of landslides, active fault assessment and the geology of groundwater basins. He is currently working on a large contract with his colleague Dr. Richard Laton for the Mojave Water Agency to assess water flow, storage and capacity in natural rock basins of the Mojave Water Agency.

<b>Chair Column</b>
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Charles Nestle

You may have noticed something different about the top of this page — ***The Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists: Connecting Professionals, Practice, and the Public.*** The proposal to change the name of our association was approved by a majority of AEG members across the nation. The tagline was changed based on a recommendation by a consultant retained by AEG as part of AEG's overall communications plan development. This process includes a complete redesign of the web site that is anticipated to go live by the end of the year. The acronym – *AEG* – remains unchanged, and the only change to the AEG logo will be to replace "Association" with "Environmental."

The San Diego Chapter of the Southern California Section of AEG was officially welcomed during the Board of Directors meeting in Las Vegas. Congratulations San Diego!

There has been much discussion nationally about how to fund Chapters so that they can cover their operating expenses. Each of the Sections that have Chapters handle funding in a variety of ways: some transfer 100% of the section dues of the Chapter members to the Chapters, others only a portion, and some loan money to the Chapters. In order to standardize the process, a proposed change to AEG's bylaws was discussed at the board meeting that would provide 2/3 of the Chapter members' Section dues to the Chapter. Most Sections' expenses generate a monetary return so that they break even or earn a small profit that can be used for other functions. Dinner meetings, field trips, short courses, etc. are examples of these. The Southern California, Sacramento, and San Francisco Sections may be the only Sections that have substantial expenses that provide a benefit to the members, but no monetary return. These include our lobbyist and the lobbying efforts of the Section officers. The past year was unusually expensive for our Section and resulted in a net loss. Because of the size of the three Chapters in Southern California, the Section may not be able to afford our lobbyist if this bylaw was approved, and so I requested an analysis to determine what effect the proposed bylaw change would have on Section dues income. The bylaw proposal was tabled for further review.

*AEG News* is looking for technical articles to publish. SoCal Section members work on interesting projects that have very different technical issues from projects your colleagues in the rest of the country work on. Consider sharing your expertise, knowledge, and experience by submitting an article for publication in *AEG News*.

I'm looking forward to an interesting and exciting year as we plan for hosting the 2007 national meeting. Volunteers are needed, so come to the Section meeting for discussion and information on how you can help. I'll see you there.

**AEG's 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, September 24-29, 2007, Sheraton Universal, Los Angeles, CA**

This announcement is repeated in the current newsletter as another reminder to the AEG membership to the Golden Anniversary of AEG. A few folks responded to the earlier announcement, but more comments would be appreciated.

**AEG's Outstanding Environmental and Engineering Geologic Project Award** requires quite a bit of lead time. It does not have to be a local, Southern California project, but I suspect that some qualified projects are in our backyard. The Outstanding Project Award in 1995 went to the West Coast Basin, Dominguez Gap, and Alamitos Seawater Intrusion Barrier System, Los Angeles, California. Check out page 49 in your January 2005 AEG News 48 (Annual Report and Directory) for past projects and criteria for nomination.

I am looking forward to working with a bunch of you Southern California Section AEG members to put on a memorable 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting for the Association membership. A few folks have indicated willingness to participate, but more are needed. Please get in touch with me with any ideas and suggestions at the address listed below.

Jeffrey R. Keaton, PhD, PE, PG  
**MACTEC Engineering and Consulting, Inc.**

200 Citadel Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90040  
phone: (323) 889-5300  
cell: (323) 215-8454; texe-message: 3232158454@cingularME.com  
fax: (323) 889-5308  
e-mail: [jrkeaton@mactec.com](mailto:jrkeaton@mactec.com)

**AGI GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS MONTHLY REVIEW**

From the American Geological Institute Government Affairs Program Newsletter  
September 2005

**Hazards Caucus Earthquake Briefing**

On September 20, 2005, the Congressional Hazards Caucus Alliance sponsored an earthquake briefing in the Rayburn House Office Building. The briefing was entitled "Earthquakes: Mitigation Through Effective Design and Getting the Public Involved." The first speaker was David Wald, a USGS seismologist, who discussed ShakeMap, which provides near-real-time maps of ground motion and shaking intensity following significant earthquakes and "Did You Feel It?," which produces maps of the shaking felt by people who fill out an online questionnaire after an event. The second speaker was Cliff Roblee, a geotechnical engineer, who discussed how to design and build more earthquake-resistant structures and summarized the work of the Network for Earthquake Engineering (NEES), Inc.. The third speaker was Stuart Nishenko, a seismologist at Pacific Gas and Electric, who discussed the cost-effectiveness of seismic monitoring and how to protect our lifelines (communication lines, oil and gas pipelines, water and sewage systems and others). Seventeen congressional staff members from 6 states (California, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina, Minnesota and Utah) and the House Science Committee attended the briefing. The presentations and a summary of the briefing is available at [http://www.hazardscaucus.org/briefings/earthquake\\_briefing0905.html](http://www.hazardscaucus.org/briefings/earthquake_briefing0905.html)

## IGS Announces: **SHORT COURSE - LANDSLIDES**

Saturday November 5, 2005, UC Riverside Extension, Riverside, California.

The Instructor in Charge is Dr. Tien-Chang Lee, Professor of Geophysics and Hydrogeology, R.G., P.G., C.H.G., Department of Earth Sciences, University of California, Riverside. Topics to be presented by guest speakers are, as follows:

“The climate of southern California” Richard Minnich, UCR Earth Sciences;

“Some aspects of landslides in southern California” by Doug Morton, US Geological Survey;

“Types of Landslides and Landslide Maps - Tools for Assessing Landslide Hazards in California” and “Seismically Induced Landslide Mapping in California” Pam Irvine, California Geological Survey;

“2004-2005 El Nino Debris Flows in southern California” Rachel Alvarez, US Geological Survey;

“Hardrock landslides and their failure mechanism” Michael Hart, MW Hart Engineering Geology;

“Geotechnical photography” Woodrow Higdon, Geo-Tech Imagery International.

**Description:** Relate climate to landslides and debris flows in southern California; provide an overview and mechanism with site specific case histories, including slides in sedimentary layered areas and crystalline bedrock areas; identify historic landslides from airphotos; describe methods on mapping and assessing slides induced by rainfalls and earthquakes.

The Inland Geological Society in cooperation with the Association of Engineering Geologists (Inland Empire Chapter) are sponsoring this short course centered on landslide topics in partnership with the Department of Earth Sciences, University of California, Riverside.

If you are interested in presenting or attending, have ideas for other courses, or need information, please contact Rick Gundry: [rick.gundry@verizon.net](mailto:rick.gundry@verizon.net)

**ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION  
PUBLICATION ORDER FORM**

Ordered By/Shipping Address:

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TITLE / DESCRIPTION	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
Baldwin, J.E. and Sitar, N., 1991, <b>Loma Prieta Earthquake: engineering geologic perspectives</b> , AEG Special Publication No. 1, 170p	\$10.00		
Bishop, K, and Tandy, 1995, <b>Ground Failure during the January 17, 1994 Northridge earthquake</b> : Association of Engineering Geologists, Southern California Section, Annual Field Trip Guidebook, November 11, 1995, 106p.	\$20.00		
Briggs, R.P. and Parke, C.D., 1990, <b>Guide to Field Trips in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia</b> , AEG 33 <sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, October 1-5	\$15.00		
<b>Highway and Railroad Slope Maintenance</b> : AEG, 34 <sup>th</sup> annual meeting, September 29 <sup>th</sup> – October 4 <sup>th</sup> , 1991	\$10.00		
Leighton, F.B. <b>Mitigation of geotechnical litigation in California</b> : Munson Book Associates, Huntington Beach, California, 274p.	\$20.00		
Sieh, K.E., and Matti, J.C., 1992, <b>Earthquake geology, San Andreas fault system, Palm Springs to Palmdale</b> : AEG, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 3-4, 1992	\$10.00		
Stout, M.L., ed., 1992, <b>Proceedings of the 35<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, Association of Engineering Geologists</b> , October 2-9, 1992: 740p.	\$5.00		
Tepel, R, 1995, <b>Professional Licensure for Geologists, an Exploration of Issues</b> , Association of Engineering Geologists Special Publication No. 7, 1995	\$12.00		
Cann, L.R., Cobarrubias, Hollingsworth, B., 1992, <b>Engineering Geology Field Trips Orange County, Santa Monica Mountains, and Malibu</b> : AEG 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Field Trip Guidebook, October 2-9, 1992	\$10.00		
<b>Los Angeles Metro Rail System Field Trip Guidebook</b> , Association of Engineering Geologists, 35 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting October 2-9, 1992 Long Beach, California	\$10.00		

**DELIVERY CHARGES ARE \$3.50 FOR THE FIRST BOOK,  
\$1.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL BOOK**

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**Prices for Corporate Sponsorship**  
**AEG SoCal Section as of January 1, 2005**

**Section Sponsors**

Platinum	\$1,000
Gold	\$ 500
Silver	\$ 250

**Platinum Sponsors Receive:**

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- A portion of your donation (\$50) is placed into our Student Outreach Fund.

**National Business Donation**

- Platinum - \$1,000
- Gold - \$500
- Silver - \$250

Company name, address and contact information are presented in AEG News and section receives 10% of donation. A national donation does not yield a line in our local section newsletter.

**Company & Employment Advertising**

	<u>Month</u>	<u>Year</u>
▪ <b>Business Card</b>	<b>\$10</b>	<b>\$100</b>
▪ <b>¼ Page</b>	<b>\$20</b>	<b>\$200</b>
▪ <b>½ Page</b>	<b>\$35</b>	<b>\$350</b>
▪ <b>Full Page</b>	<b>\$50</b>	<b>\$500</b>

\* The deadline for submitting an advertisement for next month's newsletter is Friday, October 28.

**YEAR 2006 CONTRIBUTORS NEEDED**

Contributions from corporations and individual members are greatly appreciated. Contributors will be listed in our newsletter throughout the year and can post their logo or business card in the newsletter if so desired. Please mail contributions made out to **AEG** to our section treasurer, Rosalind Munro.

**2006 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

For those of you who have not yet renewed **(the deadline is November 1)**, are unsure about your membership status, or did not receive your membership dues statement, please contact AEG Headquarters at [www.aegweb.org](http://www.aegweb.org). You can renew your membership online. Please update your membership if you wish to continue to receive future issues of the newsletter.

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES & ADVERTISING**



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LGC is looking for dynamic individuals to join our team and work on some of southern California's most interesting and technically challenging projects. If you are an experienced geotechnical professional, or just starting your career, please do not hesitate to contact us. All inquiries will be considered in the utmost confidence. We look forward to hearing from you.



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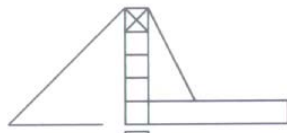
URS Corporation, a nationwide, multidisciplinary consulting firm and the largest design firm in the country, is seeking qualified candidates for the following positions for their San Diego operations:

**Tunnel Inspector (Requisition # URS7001):** Inspector with 5 to 10 years of experience in monitoring tunnel construction. Should be familiar with underground construction techniques and logging of ground conditions.

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Please apply on-line at: <http://www.urscorp.com/careers/index.html> and submit resumes to [christine\\_eary@urscorp.com](mailto:christine_eary@urscorp.com) or: Christine Eary, URS Corporation  
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AEG Southern California Section  
J. Relyea  
Earth Resources, Inc.  
18302 Sierra Highway, #102  
Santa Clarita, CA 91351