



17th Annual Seismic Design Competition

## Mailer #1



December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Dear SDC team,

Congratulations! You have been invited to participate in the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Undergraduate Seismic Design Competition (SDC) which will be held at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina in San Diego, California from Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> to Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We hope your preparations are going well!

This mailer (Mailer #1) contains necessary travel and registration information for the 2020 SDC including how to register for the competition, how to arrange hotel accommodations, when to book travel, competition location, visa information, and a preliminary draft schedule. **Please read everything carefully!**

Another mailer (Mailer #2) will be sent out in early 2020 with exact scheduling details and competition day instructions. Please note: models must be in the display area by Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm in their **final state**. Also, the SDC Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to 2:00pm along with the final session of the EERI 2020 Annual Meeting which will feature presentations from the EERI-FEMA NEHRP Graduate Fellows.

### **Competition Registration Important Dates:**

Registration Opens: December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Registration Deadline: January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, 11:59 pm PST

### **Code of Conduct:**

All conference and competition attendees will be required to abide by the NEC Code of Conduct, available here: [http://earthquakeconference.org/pdf/NEC\\_Code\\_of\\_Conduct.pdf](http://earthquakeconference.org/pdf/NEC_Code_of_Conduct.pdf).

### **Registration Fees:**

The SLC has worked hard to keep the cost for the teams reasonable. Putting on a professional event like this one is very costly. Although registration costs may seem high, all teams have the opportunity to take advantage of a hotel deal to reduce the trip costs. We welcome any feedback on registration fees and packages for future competitions.

The following table shows the registration tiers, pricing, and included items:

Registration Tier	SDC team of up to 4 members	Each additional team member	Team supporter
<b>Base Cost</b>	<b>\$500</b>	<b>\$125</b>	<b>\$125</b>
Hotel Deal (see table below for details)	✓		
T-shirts	✓	✓	✓
SDC Welcome Event	✓	✓	✓
Admission to Presentations and Shake Day	✓	✓	✓
Refreshments	✓	✓	✓
Awards Ceremony	✓	✓	✓
SDC Wrap Up Event	✓	✓	
Walking Tour	✓	✓	
PERW	✓	✓	
SESI	✓	✓	

**Hotel Deal:** Stay 4 or more nights at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina to receive 1 night credit as part of the registration. This deal is generously provided by EERI to help reduce the travel expenses for the teams. An illustration of how the deal is applied, how to sign up, and redeem the hotel deal is included below. Please note, each team is only eligible for one hotel deal; only one room will be reimbursed for each team.

This year, teams will pay for the hotel up front, and fill out a reimbursement form for the discount (if applicable) after the event. The SLC will distribute this form during the competition. Teams will need to provide proof of purchase, including their receipt from the hotel and a credit card statement or other document showing the charge, so please keep this in mind.

**T-Shirts:** Each registered team members will receive a 2020 SDC T-shirt showcasing the winning design from the upcoming T-shirt Design Competition. Additional t-shirts will be available for purchase during the competition.

**SDC Welcome Event:** All registered team members are invited to attend the session where the SLC will introduce themselves and welcome all participating teams to the 2020 SDC!

**Refreshments:** Snacks and refreshments (including coffee!) will be provided on Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> for Presentation Day and Shake Day.

**SDC Wrap-Up Event:** All registered team members are invited to celebrate the end of the

competition with the SLC on Wednesday evening. There will be more details to come about this exciting event, which is generously sponsored by CSi!

**Awards Ceremony:** All registered team members are invited to attend the SDC Awards Ceremony on Friday, March 6 from 12:30 to 2 pm, held in conjunction with the EERI 2020 Annual Meeting Final Session. A lunch will be included.

### **Registration Details:**

Each team is **required to register for the competition** by filling out the online registration form by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Team captains will receive an email with the registration link and instructions.

Each registered team member must be an undergraduate student who is an EERI member. We will check each registrant for this requirement.

- Online EERI membership can be completed by selecting the \$25.00 Student Membership at: <https://www.eeri.org/member-center/get-involved/become-a-member/>
- To confirm that team members are indeed EERI student members before you register, please search for each team member's name on the EERI Online Membership Directory, which includes all current EERI members. The team captain can verify the membership for all team members by visiting the following website: <https://www.eeri.org/cohost/member-resources/> selecting 'Member Directory' and logging in as a member. Remember, your email address is your user name, and your EERI Member ID number is your default password (unless you changed it). If you can't remember your password, there is a "Forgot your Password?" feature that can be used to reset your password if you've forgotten it.

Before you register, please contact your team members to find out how many will attend the Post Earthquake Reconnaissance Workshop, Walking Tours, Earthquake Engineering Classroom Outreach Workshop, SDC Welcome Event, SDC Auction, SDC Wrap-Up Event, and the Awards Ceremony. See details for each of these events below.

Please note, teams/individuals do NOT need to register for EERI 2020 Annual Meeting (this has happened at past competitions).

While you are registering for the competition, we will ask you to also fill out a google survey with some relevant information, to help with our data compilation.

**\*\*Please read all instructions on the registration webpage: [www.eeri-members.org/2020-sdc-registration](http://www.eeri-members.org/2020-sdc-registration). Each Team is accountable to ensure your registration is completed accurately.\*\***

### **Hotel Accommodations:**

The competition will be hosted at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, located at:

1380 Harbor Island Drive  
San Diego, California 92101

Hotel rooms can be reserved by following the link on the National Earthquake Conference webpage, [earthquakeconference.org](http://earthquakeconference.org), or at: <https://book.passkey.com/event/50005129/owner/563/home>. The EERI group rate will be applied for reservations made before **February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. This date may be subject to change. In this case, each team will be notified by email and in Mailer #2

As mentioned above, EERI has a **special hotel deal** for teams that book 4 or more nights between Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, and Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. If a team books 4 or more nights at the hotel, 1 night of lodging will be covered by participation in the EERI Hotel Deal through a reimbursement request. **Teams are only eligible for one hotel deal.** If teams reserve two rooms, only one of those rooms is eligible for the hotel deal. Teams must pay for their stay at the conference hotel, and one of the nights will be reimbursed by EERI. You are not obligated to stay at the conference hotel, but many teams find this to be a convenient and immersive way to experience the competition. An illustration of how the hotel deal works is included in the table below. The table is only an example and is not a reflection of this year's hotel rates.

<b>How does the hotel deal work?</b>		
For example, for a team of 4 staying 4 nights at the conference hotel*		
	<b>Hotel deal</b>	<b>No hotel deal</b>
Registration	\$500	\$500
Hotel bill for 4 nights	\$1000 <sup>‡</sup>	\$1000
<b>EERI Reimbursement</b>	<b>-\$250<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>-\$0</b>
<b>Total cost (registration + hotel)</b>	<b>\$1250<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>\$1500</b>
<p>* Must stay at the hotel a minimum of 4 nights in order to be compensated for one night. You may stay more than 4 nights. The credit will remain one night and does not increase proportional to the length of stay. Only one deal is available per team. You are responsible for making the hotel reservation directly through the hotel in order to redeem this credit. You must notify EERI SLC with the name on the reservation by <b>February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020</b>.</p> <p><sup>‡</sup> Please note that these numbers are for illustrative purposes only. The actual cost of the hotel will vary with taxes and fees.</p>		

**Book early!** Teams are responsible for finding hotel accommodations elsewhere if the hotel is fully booked. Please keep in mind that the SDC daily schedule starts early, and the convenience of staying in the conference hotel is often welcome at the time of competition.

**Booking Travel and Visa Information:**

Teams with members requiring visas should contact us ([slc@eeri.org](mailto:slc@eeri.org)) to obtain information EERI staff needs to provide invitation letters.

Considerations when arriving:

- We recommend teams **arrive by noon on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>** at the latest. Structures may be unpacked as early as Monday morning (see attached competition schedule). A mandatory team meeting will take place on **Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm**.
- Models may not be altered in any way after being placed in the display area on **Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6 pm**. Preliminary judging will begin **promptly at 6 pm on Monday evening**.
- **Teams will not be allowed to compete** if any alterations occur after the end of preliminary judging on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

- Please ensure enough time is available upon arrival to unpack your model and make any necessary alterations before dropping the model off.
- The display room will be available on **Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am to 6 pm** for teams to unpack and work on their models in a designated area. These times are subject to change. A SLC member may or may not be present to supervise but will not be in charge of any unattended items, including models. The room will be secured during evenings.

Considerations when leaving:

- The SDC Awards Ceremony will be held **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to 2 pm**. The awards ceremony will take place during the final session of the EERI 2020 Annual Meeting. A light lunch will be served, and the Awards Ceremony and lunch is included in the cost of each team member's registration.

### **Competition Location:**

The competition will be hosted at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina:

Venue: Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina  
 Address: 1380 Harbor Island Drive, San Diego, California 92101  
 Room: Grand Ballroom A  
 Website: <https://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/sansi-sheraton-san-diego-hotel-and-marina/>

### **Model Shipping:**

Models will be shipped directly to the hotel. Detailed information and instructions will be sent to team captains, once finalized.

Please note that the National Earthquake Conference and EERI Annual Meeting will be held between March 4<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup>, but the SDC will begin on Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The room will be available to finalize structures beginning Monday morning, please keep this in mind when making travel plans.

### **Competition Events:**

**SDC Welcome Event and Captains Meeting:** All SDC participants are invited to attend the SDC welcome event on **Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5 to 6 pm**. The SLC will introduce themselves and welcome all the teams to the competition.

- Please indicate how many team members will be attending on the online SDC Team Registration Form and corresponding spreadsheet.

**SDC Reception and Calcutta Auction:** All SDC participants are welcome to attend the SDC reception and Calcutta Auction on **Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6 to 8 pm**. This is an opportunity to socialize and network with fellow SDC teams and conference participants. It will also be a chance for teams to advertise their structures to conference attendees. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served. More information about this event will be included in Mailer #2.

- Please indicate how many team members will be attending on the online SDC Team Registration Form and corresponding spreadsheet.

**SDC Wrap-Up Event:** On Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, you are invited to join other SDC teams for a wrap-up event hosted by CSI. More information about this exciting event will be included in Mailer #2.

- The cost to attend this workshop is included in the team member registration fee.
- Please indicate how many team members will be attending on the online SDC Team Registration Form and corresponding spreadsheet.

**Post-Earthquake Reconnaissance Workshop (PERW):** The Student Leadership Council is jointly organizing a post-earthquake reconnaissance workshop for students on the afternoon of **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12:30 pm**. This workshop will provide an overview of how to conduct post-earthquake reconnaissance as a structural and/or geotechnical engineer and demonstrate EERI field data collection tools. The workshop will include an exercise that will give participants the opportunity to practice making reconnaissance observations using the demonstrated tools. EERI members who complete this training will be well-positioned to contribute effectively to reconnaissance efforts following an earthquake in their area.

- The cost to attend this workshop is included in the team member registration fee.
- There is a registration cap of 60 students. Sign up early!

**Earthquake Engineering Classroom Outreach Workshop:** The EERI School Earthquake Safety Initiative (SESI) Classroom Outreach Committee is hosting a workshop for SDC students interested in learning more about how they can conduct classroom outreach at schools in their communities. The workshop is tentatively scheduled to take place on **Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 pm**. More information about this workshop will be available in Mailer #2.

**Downtown San Diego Walking Tour:** The EERI Younger Members Committee is organizing earthquake engineering related walking tours for SDC participants. More information about this event will be included in Mailer #2.

**Awards Ceremony:** An invitation to attend the SDC Awards Ceremony on **Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 to 2 pm**, held in conjunction with the EERI 2020 Annual Meeting Final Session. A light lunch will be included.

### **Competition Feedback:**

The SLC will solicit feedback from teams on how to improve the competition at the end of the competition. Please keep in mind improvements you would like to see at the competition next year and include them in the post-competition survey.

### **Changes to the 2020 SDC Rules Reminder:**

Pay close attention to the changes made to the 2020 rules. Failure to follow the 2020 rules will negatively affect your final ranking. Major rule changes for 2020 include but are not limited to: the footprint of the building, revenue per floor, presentation requirements, architectural rubric, and annual building cost values. **If the structural model, damping devices, base plate and roof plate exceeds 5.0 lbs, your team will be disqualified.** We *strongly recommend* weighing your structure prior to arriving in San Diego to avoid any complications.

## Preliminary Competition Schedule

Please note that some event times are still **subject to change**, but the following is provided as a current best-estimate. Events are unlikely to change days, but may shift in time or location from the listing below. All events are in the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, except for the Walking Tour.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>
Sunday March 1, 2020	<b>Teams Arrive in San Diego</b>	All Day
Monday March 2, 2020	<b>Teams Arrive in San Diego</b>	All Day
	<b>Model and Display Setup</b>	8:00 am – 6:00 pm
	<b>SDC Welcome Event</b>	5:00 pm – 5:30 pm
	<b>SDC Team Captains Meeting</b>	5:30 pm – 6:00 pm
	<b>Preliminary Judging</b> Note: Teams will have specific window for judging	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Tuesday March 3, 2020	<b>SDC Presentations Setup and Review</b>	7:30 am – 9:30 am
	<b>Team Presentations</b> Presentation Session A (14 teams) Presentation Session B (12 teams) Presentation Session C (12 teams) Presentation Session D (12 teams)	4 Sessions 10:00 - 11:30 am 11:45 - 01:00 pm 01:15 - 02:30 pm 02:45 - 04:00 pm
	<b>Architectural &amp; Poster Judging Session</b>	12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
	<b>Calcutta Auction</b>	6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday March 4, 2020	<b>Violations meeting</b>	7:00 am – 8:30 am
	<b>Model Shaking</b> Session I (13 teams) Session II (13 teams) Session III (12 teams) Session IV (12 teams)	4 Sessions 8:30 - 10:40 am 10:50 - 1:00 pm 1:10 - 3:10 pm 3:20 - 5:20 pm
	<b>CSI Reception / Wrap Up Party</b>	7:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Thursday March 5, 2020	<b>Post-Earthquake Reconnaissance Workshop</b>	9:00 am - 12:30 pm
	<b>Student Walking Tours</b> Co-organized with EERI YMC	TBD
	<b>SESI Workshop</b>	2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
Friday March 6, 2020	<b>Awards Ceremony</b> Light lunch served	12:30 pm – 2:00 pm