



**Northern California Chapter
Earthquake Engineering Research Institute**

**Candidate Biographies & Statements
2017 Election**

For the Position of Director At Large:

Chiara McKenney

Chiara McKenney, PE, is a Design Engineer at Estructure, a structural engineering company in Oakland that specializes in seismic design of nonstructural components, existing building renovations, and hospital projects. Chiara is honored and excited for the opportunity to join the EERI Northern California Chapter Board as a Director.

Since interning at EERI in 2011, Chiara has been involved with EERI through work on the World Housing Encyclopedia, the UC Davis student chapter, and the EERI NC Programs Committee. Participation in EERI has had a profound impact on her life, specifically for connecting her with others who share a passion for earthquake risk reduction and for helping her understand earthquake engineering from a wide range of perspectives. Chiara has always felt wholeheartedly welcomed by the EERI professional community, and as a Director she will work to maintain the inclusive and supportive nature of the EERI NC Chapter. She will also focus on creating avenues for members to contribute expertise on a local level to reduce earthquake risk in Northern California and facilitate opportunities for members to share knowledge, experience, and perspectives with one another.

Chiara is a lead instructor with Engineers Alliance of the Arts, a program that engages local high school students in engineering and architectural design. In the past, she has also interned with Build Change's Haiti office and volunteered remotely with Build Change's Nepal office. Chiara was a member of FEMA's reconnaissance team for the 2014 South Napa Earthquake and part of the working group for FEMA P-1024 "Performance of Buildings and Nonstructural Components in the 2014 South Napa Earthquake". Chiara has an M.S. in Civil Engineering from UC Davis and a B.A. in Architecture from Barnard College.

Curt Haselton

Curt B. Haselton, Ph.D., P.E., Professor of Civil Engineering at California State University, Chico, and Co-Founder of Haselton Baker Risk Group (hbrisk.com) and the Seismic Performance Prediction Program (SP3); SP3 is a

commercial tool to implement FEMA P-58 analyses, with the goal of making broad use of resilience-based design and risk assessment feasible in structural engineering practice. Dr. Haselton's research is in the area of performance-based and resilience-based earthquake engineering, with focuses on building code development, collapse safety assessment, ground motion selection and scaling, damage and loss estimation, and the treatment of uncertainties. Dr. Haselton was recently the chair of the Building Seismic Safety Council team to rewriting Chapter 16 of the ASCE 7 national building code.

Mike Mieler

I firmly believe that engineers have an important role in developing and implementing policies that will create more resilient cities. I am running for the position of Director on the EERI Northern California Board to continue my passion for mitigating the destructive impact of earthquakes. As part of my doctoral studies at the University of California, Berkeley, I investigated the social and economic consequences of seismic code provisions on community recovery following large earthquakes. After graduating, I worked in New Zealand with researchers at GNS Science as they crafted new seismic policies in response to the 2011 Christchurch earthquake. I also worked at Johns Hopkins University where I helped develop models of hospital performance during earthquakes. Currently, I am a consultant at Arup in San Francisco where I am developing risk-informed strategies to help universities, businesses, and cities take concrete steps towards enhancing their disaster resilience.

I have participated in several EERI committees and initiatives, including the Public Policy and Advocacy committee, the Learning From Earthquakes program, and the Resilience Observatory. As a Board Director, I greatly look forward to working with local EERI members and stakeholders on initiatives to improve the resilience of the communities in which we live.

For the Position of President-Elect:

Dana Brechwald

Dana Brechwald is a Resilience Planner at the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. She received a B.A. in Architecture from UC Berkeley and a Master of Urban Planning from the Graduate School of Design at Harvard University.

Dana works with local governments, earthquake professionals, businesses, and residents on hazard mitigation and long-term disaster recovery planning for the San Francisco Bay Area. Her work ranges from helping jurisdictions develop and implement seismic retrofit policy, to working with cities during the disaster recovery phase. She has also led projects looking at social vulnerability in resilience, the intersection between climate adaptation and traditional hazard mitigation, and incorporating resilience visioning into long-range regional planning.

Dana also regularly participates in extracurricular activities in the resilience arena, including speaking events and advisory committees. She is currently serving as an advisor to the Resilient by Design competition. She has been a member of EERI since 2012 and traveled to New Zealand in 2013 with support from EERI to develop a reconnaissance report on earthquake recovery for the World Bank's Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery. She joined the Northern California chapter board in 2014 and became Secretary/Treasurer in 2015. She is honored and excited to serve as President and hopes to continue to develop the chapter to help members develop as earthquake professionals while they meet peers and develop a meaningful community.