



## Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance Association

Turning Disaster into Knowledge

Sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation



**Webinar: September 10, 2020**

(2:00 pm EDT; 1:00 pm CDT; 12:00 pm MDT; 11:00 am PDT)

<https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/register/jkaczrty>

Please use the link above to register in order to join and receive a calendar invite. Registration is free.

### Introduction to GEER and GEER Activities Q&A Panel Session

**Participants:** Dr. David Frost (Georgia Tech), Dr. Youssef Hashash (UIUC), Dr. Shideh Dashti (CU Boulder), Dr. Jon Stewart (UCLA), Dr. Joe Wartman (UW) and Dr. Demetrios Zekkos (UC Berkeley).

**This webinar will consist of several elements as follows:**

**(15 minutes) - Introduction to webinar series – Dr. Youssef Hashash**

**(45 minutes) - Introduction to GEER – Dr. David Frost**

**(30 minutes) – GEER Activities Q&A Panel Session – All participants**

**Introduction to GEER Abstract:** Documenting and learning from observations after "extreme events" is central to advancing the state-of-art in multi-hazards infrastructure engineering. Recorded observations serve as benchmarks for the effects of these events, their underlying causative mechanisms, and for validation of design procedures. The NSF-sponsored **Geotechnical Extreme Events Reconnaissance (GEER)** Association organizes and supports the reconnaissance efforts of geotechnical academics and practitioners and develops techniques to capture perishable data to learn from these events. The scope of GEER reconnaissance activities includes earthquakes, landslides, and debris flows, and associated impacts such as liquefaction, and fault rupture, building and bridge foundation failures, as well as dam, levee and retaining structure collapses. The primary objectives of GEER include: documenting geotechnical effects of important extreme events to advance research; employing innovative technologies for post-event reconnaissance; and advancing the capabilities of individuals performing research based on field observations. Much of the data generated during extreme events is perishable and therefore must be collected soon after the event. The challenge is to develop the most effective approaches for documenting the results of "full-scale experiments" that often occur with limited advance warning, if any. This webinar will provide an overview of GEER activities over the past two decades and more importantly, outlines activities planned for the future that go beyond the actual reconnaissance missions. GEER has served as the model for a number of similar organizations across multiple disciplines that now form what is called the CONVERGE Leadership Corps. The presentation will describe new activities by which GEER members can become more actively involved in reconnaissance related activities before, during and after an extreme event. Details of selected research and education activities will be presented.



**GEER Activities Q&A Panel Session:** During the panel session, the participants will briefly describe an experience they each had as a member of a GEER mission and how that impacted their future research. They will also provide insights on how new and early career individuals can become engaged in GEER activities.