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in Earthquake Engineering: Challenges of the New Millennium

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Sharon L. Wood

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University of Texas, Austin



A Comparison of the Response of Precast Construction during the 1994 Northridge and 1999 Turkey Earthquakes

Friday, March 1, 2002

4PM – C100 Hesburgh Center Auditorium
Reception to follow the lecture

Over the years, Wood's research interests have focused on the behavior of reinforced concrete structures. For example, she studied the seismic response of buildings in Via del Mar, Chile, after the 1985 earthquake, evaluated the performance of precast parking garages during the 1994 earthquake in Northridge, Calif., and is currently analyzing the performance of precast construction in Turkey following the 1999 quakes. She has also conducted static and dynamic laboratory tests of reinforced concrete frame and wall structural systems and developed nonlinear analytical models to interpret responses. Most recently, Wood conducted diagnostic load tests on existing reinforced concrete slab, pan girder, and prestressed girder bridges in Texas, while also investigating techniques for strengthening these structures using composite materials. Her current projects include fatigue tests to evaluate damage in stay cables and the development of a passive wireless sensor for detecting cracks in welded structural steel connections.

A fellow of the American Concrete Institute (ACI), Wood is a member of ACI's Technical Activities and Structural Concrete Building Code committees. She also serves as chair of the ACI Publications committee and is on the editorial board of *Earthquake Spectra*. In 1993 she received the Alfred Noble Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers and will receive the Joe W. Kelly Award from ACI later this year.

Wood received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Virginia and graduate degrees from the University of Illinois, where she taught for 10 years before joining the University of Texas faculty.

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