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## **Editorial**

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**Biographical notes:** Ehsan Noroozinejad Farsangi is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Earthquake Engineering at the Graduate University of Advanced Technology, Iran. His research expertise is in the area of performance based evaluation and design of structures under extreme loadings. He has been a member of the scientific and organising committee of more than 45 international conferences worldwide, and has published various articles in the field of structural/earthquake engineering. He is also serving on the Editorial Board of more than 20 international indexed journals in the field of civil, structural and earthquake engineering.

Michael C. Constantinou is Samuel P. Capen Chair and SUNY Distinguished Professor at the University at Buffalo, State University of New York. He is best known for contributions in the development, understanding of behaviour and modelling of sliding and elastomeric seismic isolation systems and on the development of methods of analysis and design of structures with damping systems, areas in which he authored over 300 papers and reports. He is the 2015 ASCE Nathan M. Newmark Medal recipient. He has been involved as consultant, inspector or peer reviewer in over 100 structures with seismic protective systems in twenty countries.

Polat Gülkan was a Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering, Middle East Technical University until his retirement in 2011. He has served on the Board of Directors of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering (IAEE) during 1996–2004. He was then appointed for a four-year term as executive vice president of the same organisation in 2004 and elected to the presidency of IAEE in 2008, and following a two-year period as President Elect he has served as President during the period 2010–2014. He has also been the Editor for Earthquake Spectra during 2008–13, the leading journal in the civil and earthquake engineering field.

Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl is currently a Professor of Structural Engineering in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. He has over 48 years of experience in design, research and teaching courses in structural engineering, earthquake engineering and protection of structures against blast and impact. He has published more than 300 journal papers, conference papers, technical reports and other scholarly publications in his fields of interest. He has been practicing structural engineering and design of buildings, bridges and other structures since 1968 and has designed more than 2 million square meters of building structures.

Stavros A. Anagnostopoulos is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Patras. He served as elected Head of the Structures Division for 15 years and was the University of Patras Professor in Charge of the European Master's degree programs for Earthquake Engineering and/or Engineering Seismology (MEEES). Currently, he is serving as the Chief Editor of the *International Journal of Earthquakes and Structures* (Technopress). He is also a member of the editorial board of *Journal of Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering* (Elsevier) and *Journal of Earthquake Engineering and Structural Dynamics* (Wiley).

Izuru Takewaki graduated in Architectural Engineering at Kyoto University, Japan. After a PhD in 1991 on structural optimisation and inverse vibration problems at Kyoto University, he focused on critical excitation method and earthquake resilience at Kyoto University, where he is currently professor. He is serving as the Field Chief Editor in *Frontiers in Built Environment* (Switzerland) and an editorial board member in many leading international journals in the field of earthquake structural engineering. He published several monographs on critical excitation method and earthquake resilience.

David Alexander is a Professor of Risk and Disaster Reduction at University College London. His books include *Natural Disasters, Confronting Catastrophe, Principles of Emergency Planning and Management, Recovery from Disaster* (with Ian Davis) and *How to Write an Emergency Plan*. He is currently the Chief Editor of the *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction* (Elsevier). His research and teaching interests include natural hazards, earthquake disasters, culture and disasters, and emergency planning and management. He is the Vice-President of the Institute of Civil Protection and Emergency Management.

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We are proud to introduce the inaugural issue of *International Journal of Earthquake and Impact Engineering* to the wide spectrum of scientists and engineers in earthquake-related fields. Our goal is to create a worldwide transnational and interdisciplinary publication platform on issues of earthquake and related hazards and impact. This new journal provides a forum for the publication of papers in all aspects of engineering related to the effects of earthquake and impact loads on natural and manmade structures. Topics include seismic resilience, earthquake resistant analysis and design, soil-structure interaction, seismic protective systems, structural control, seismic assessment and retrofit of existing structures, seismology, ground motion, effects of impact forces on structures, protection of structures against impact, probabilistic methods, review and assessment of building standards and seismic code provisions, and also general topics in dynamics that relate to seismic and impact engineering. The international nature of these issues is reflected in the composition of its editorial board and will be further reflected in the collection of its published papers.

The *International Journal of Earthquake and Impact Engineering* encourages the submission of manuscripts especially those with direct interest to practising engineers, architects, planners and other professionals, in an effort to provide a balanced collection of articles of interest to both the academic and professional communities. In doing so, we aspire to reduce the gap between research and engineering practice. In recent years, seismic resilience has become one of the challenges in earthquake engineering. This is defined as the ability of a system to reduce the chances of a shock, to absorb such a shock if it occurs, and to recover quickly after its occurrence. To this end, contributions on

resilience-based analysis and design of structures and infrastructure systems are a priority of this journal. We are committed to ensuring that a quick review will be performed on them.

The title of the journal includes impact engineering in addition to earthquake engineering; because these two themes can be correlated to include a wider set of topics related to dynamic effects on structures. It aims to attract recent research on all aspects of earthquake and impact engineering including new developments in this field, innovative concepts, systems, and devices, seismic control assemblages and engineering seismology as well as response analysis and protection of structures against impacts. Collisions of adjacent structures (mostly buildings and bridge deck segments), during earthquakes is another priority of the journal, which is a shared topic of earthquake and impact engineering communities.

The benefit to its readers of any journal is decided ultimately by the scientific merits of the articles it publishes. The attributes of a scientific treatise decide how many other researchers will find it to be useful and relevant for their own work, and apply the principles it sets out toward perfection of a particular trade. Scientific advancement is thus slow and arduous, with flashy progress coming only infrequently. It is the sincere hope of the editorial board that *IJEIE* will serve as an attractive platform where high-level articles will be offered to its readership. The longevity of the journal will be enhanced by the innovation, skill and professionalism of the contributors it attracts. We express our indebtedness to all authors who will choose to use *IJEIE* for their journal of choice.