



# ENGINEERING SEMINAR



## Cities, Earthquakes, and Time

**Abstract:** Earthquakes occur suddenly, in a brief instant of time. But their effects — and the actions we take to reduce their effects — stretch over many years. In this talk, I explore some of the characteristics of the relationship between earthquakes and time. More importantly, I explain how these various time characteristics affect policy decisions. I draw four policy conclusions from this rumination on time, relating to: mitigation, speed and quality of recovery, planning for resilience, and construction standards.



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Robert Olshansky's (M. EERI, 1987) research and 25 years of teaching cover land use and environmental planning, with an emphasis on planning for natural hazards. He has extensively studied recovery planning and management after several major disasters across various countries including China, India, Japan, Indonesia and Haiti. His expertise in disaster management and planning has been honored by naming him as the EERI Distinguished Speaker for 2015. The EERI Distinguished Lecture Award is given to members of the Institute to recognize and encourage communication of outstanding professional contributions of major importance for earthquake hazard mitigation.

**Date:** March 25, 2016  
**Time:** 10:30 AM

**Location:** 140 Ketter Hall, North Campus,  
University at Buffalo

*Refreshments will be served!*

*You can check for upcoming events here: <http://gsa.buffalo.edu/eeri/activities/>*