

Invitation to Observe 4-Span Bridge Shake Table Test in Reno

On **December 11**, a long awaited event will occur in the **James E. Rogers and Louis Wiener Jr. Large-Scale Structures Laboratory**. Students, faculty, and laboratory staff have been hard at work building a large size 4-span, 110-foot long bridge. The structure incorporates several innovative features to be explored for the first time anywhere in the world and will be tested using the unique and world famous shake table system at UNR. The bridge utilizes Nickel/Titanium bars, elastomeric materials, and fiber concrete to potentially revolutionize seismic design of future bridges. Over 330 channels of sensors have been installed to monitor its shaking. The research team will conduct a series of earthquake simulations, with the final test reaching 2 times that of Northridge Earthquake 1994 in terms of acceleration intensity.

The experiment is part of a larger multi-university project funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) under the George E. Brown Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) research program and is led by UNR under my direction with a total funding of \$2.4M. Other UNR faculties involved in the project are Dr. I. Buckle and Dr. G. Pekcan. Researchers from Berkeley, UCSD, Florida International University, Georgia Tech, Stanford, Kansas University and University of Illinois, Chicago, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and the University of Ljubljana have been involved in other aspects of the project.

We would like to invite you to join our faculty and students and observe this exciting, cutting edge research live test on the live web-cam at <http://nees.unr.edu/4-spanbridges/index.html>. In case this link is saturated, you may use http://tpm.ce.unr.edu/portal?section=local_video. Note that the link to live test will not be activated until 10:30 on Dec. 11. Additional information about the project is posted at <http://nees.unr.edu/4-spanbridges/announce.html>.

Please save **Thursday, December 11th at 10:30 a.m., Pacific Time**, on your calendar. We look forward to having you be part of this exciting event.

Sincerely,

M. Saiid Saiidi, PhD, PE

Principal Investigator