



Feb. 5, 2008

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Architectural Engineering Student Shakes National Competition with Award-Winning Earthquake Essay

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Cal Poly Architectural Engineering student Alma Garcia will represent the university at the 2008 Earthquake Engineering Research Institute’s 60th annual meeting in New Orleans Feb. 6-9.

Garcia earned the honor of attending the prestigious meeting for winning EERI’s Student Paper Competition. Her essay titled “Experimental Seismic Fragility Assessment of Nonstructural Components” received first place in the undergraduate category.

The theme of this year’s EERI meeting is “Hurricane Katrina: Lessons for Earthquake Risk Reduction.” In addition to accepting an award for her essay, Garcia will have an opportunity to hear the latest advancements and interact with principals of many of the leading firms that specialize in earthquake engineering.

Cal Poly’s Architectural Engineering Department is celebrating its 60th anniversary in 2008. For more information, visit <http://www.arce.calpoly.edu/index.html>.

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