

NHERI Council Monthly Meeting No. 12 (November 7 and March 6 meetings postponed), Y-9
August 7th, 2025, 11:00 – 12:00 PM, Eastern (8:00 AM, Pacific)

NHERI Council Meetings

Title: NHERI Council – Spring 2025

Location: [Council Zoom Link](#)

When: August 7th, 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM Eastern

Attending:

- Oregon State University: Dan Cox (EF Dir. and Council Chair) and Pedro Lomonaco (Fac. Dir.) Hinsdale
- University of California, Berkeley: Matt DeJong (Co-Dir.), and Matt Schoettler (Assoc. Dir. – Ops), Stanford University: Greg Deierlein (Co-Dir), SimCenter
- University of California, Davis: Jason DeJong (EF Dir) and Dan Wilson (Assoc. Dir.) CGM
- University of California, San Diego: John McCartney (EF Dir.,) LHPOST
- University of Colorado Boulder: Lori Peek (Dir., CONVERGE)
- University of Florida: Jennifer Bridge (EF Dir.) Powell Lab
- University of Texas at Austin: Ellen Rathje (CI Dir. and Council Vice-Chair) and Tim Cockerill (Dep. Proj. Dir.) DesignSafe-CI)
- University of Texas at Austin: Ken Stokoe (EF Dir.), Tricia Clayton (CoPi), and Sungmoon Hwang (syongmoon@utexas.edu) (Operations Manager) Texas Mobile Equipment Facility
- University of Washington: Joe Wartman (EF Dir.) and Jeff Berman (CoPI and Fac. Manager) RAPID
- National Science Foundation: Giovanna Biscontin (Prog. Dir, NHERI)
- Purdue University: Julio Ramirez (NCO Dir., Council Secretary), JoAnn Browning (NCO ECO Leader), Cheryl Ann Blain (NCO-Comms Leader) and Dan Zehner (NCO Sch./Ops. Coord.)
- Florida International University: Arindam Chowdhury (EF Dir.), Ioannis Sizis (CoPI) and Steve Diaz (Site Operations Manager) WOW
- Lehigh University: Jim Ricles (EF Dir.), Liang Cao (lic418@lehigh.edu), Joe Saunders, (Facility Manager), and Claudia Reis (Co-PI Lehigh NHERI Facility)
- Guests:

Minutes

1. (5 min) Attendance and introductions (All)



The Council welcomed Dr. Giovanna Biscontin, NHERI Program Director to the meeting. After her opening remarks there was a free flowing discussion of important NHERI items.

2. (5 min) Minutes of 7/17/25 Meeting No. 11 in Y-9 (Cox)

Minutes of 7-17-25 were approved as distributed

Approved Minutes posted at: <https://www.designsafe-ci.org/facilities/nco/governance/nheri-council/>

3. (40 min) Ongoing Business –

a) (10 min) Sharing the Impact of NHERI-Update (JoAnn Browning)

Work continues and the one-page impact flyers are almost ready to share with the community and NSF. Continue sending your impact data from workshops and network wide activities.

b) (5 min) Discussion on messaging to the NHERI Community about the network's post-Sept. 30 status- continues (all)

The Facility Dashboard will be brought up to date and cover until 2026 at least. NHERI Presents series will be launched with a once-a-month feature.

Action Item: Dan Zehner will be reaching out to the laboratories and RAPID to collect the date and have it available to the community before the next Council meeting where it will be discussed again.

An appropriate message will be developed to alert the community that the labs are open for business and to make sure to reach out to the labs researchers plan to include in their proposals.

c) (15 min) NHERI Updates (All)

NCO: the NHERI Special Session during the 13th National Conference on Earthquake Engineering (13NCEE) was awarded. It will take place at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon from July 13-17, 2026. The 90-minute session will be held in the panel format with brief opening remarks from the moderator and panelists. The focus of the session is on the impact of NHERI work. Panelists already include Claudia Reis, Jim Ricles, and JoAnn Browning with Julio Ramirez as the moderator. An invitation was extended to the Council to express the interest in joining the panel. Since this announcement Matt DeJeong has joined as a panelist. The commitment is to attend the sessions and to submit an abstract (no more than 500 words) or a short paper (up to 4 pages including figures etc.) before September 30th, 2025.

Action Item: there is room for one or more panelists, let Julio know if you would like to join or if preferred to nominate someone.

d) (5 min) Council Officers (Julio): Plans for Council Officers after September 30, 2025.

Dan and Ellen extended their terms to Sept 30th, 2025, with Council endorsement. Julio queried the Council about continuing with the same officers during the No-cost extension and there were no objections. Dan agreed to stay.

Action Item: Julio will follow up with Ellen before the next Council meeting to confirm her continuation as vice-chair.

e) (5 min) At the July 17 meeting the Council expressed its desire to continue monthly meetings during the No Cost Extension to Sept. 30, 2026. Schedule of meetings in Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec 2025. Proposed dates are Sept 4th, Oct 2nd, Nov 6th, and Dec 4th, at 11:00 AM Eastern (Julio)

Action Item: individual meeting calendar invites will be sent out by the NCO.

4. (5 min- available) New Business

NHERI after Sept 30, 2025: At the end of the meeting, there was additional discussion about the ‘visibility’ of NHERI while we are in a holding pattern regarding the solicitation, etc. Dan Cox proposed something simple like a monthly webinar series titled “**NHERI Presents ...**”

A possible scenario is that given that the plans of NSF involve renewals for NCO, SimCenter, RAPID, DesignSafe, it might make sense if this activity was coordinated by the four components. However, input/

involvement from the other NHERI components would be welcomed. Dan Cox also has suggested additional elements for the series:

- Aim for a 30 min (total) webinar.
- Can use the same time slot at our NHERI council meeting and switch from the first Thursday to the third Thursday.
- Record and post for folks who can't attend live
- Have a standard agenda
 - 1-2 min intro by host (NCO/Simcenter/RAPID/DesignSafe)
 - 20 min presentation
 - 5 min Q&A
 - 1-2 min other announcements, including who's next
- Solicit names from NHERI Council by Aug 20 to get the Fall series lined up.
 - From HWRL, I'd recommend Barb Simpson at Stanford who is doing interesting work on Fluid-structure interaction, including hybrid (numerical/physical) experiments. Or Pat Lynett at USC who is working on digital twin & VR
 - NCO possible speakers could include JoAnn Browning and/or Karina Vielma given possible reduced scope REU program and Summer Institute Plans.
 - Other suggestions are welcomed.

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 AM EDT.