



# BULLETIN OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

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## EDITORIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD OF 2002-2005

It has been approximately three years since the first issue of Bulletin of Earthquake Engineering was published by Kluwer Academic Publishers in 2003. The plan was to publish three issues per year. In the beginning, as we had anticipated the inflow of manuscripts was slow, however, as time passed the inflow reached a sufficient level to support the publication of three issues per year. Interestingly the same number, 26 manuscripts were submitted for publication in 2003 and in 2004. The number of submitted manuscripts during the first six months of 2005 is 18. It seems possible that this will go up to 36 if the rate stays the same over the next 6 months. In this case it would mean a 38% increase.

The contents of the first issue of the first volume, composed of invited papers, were forwarded to Kluwer on March 8, 2003 and were in print sometimes in August 2003. The remaining two issues were forwarded to Kluwer on August 11, 2003 and December 17, 2003. These two issues were in print in the last quarter of 2003 and the first quarter of 2004. The first volume of BEE had 13 papers, 2 technical notes and an editorial.

The three issues of the second volume were forwarded to Kluwer respectively on March 5, 2004, July 16, 2004, and September 11, 2004. The issues of this volume were printed in 2004 and in the first quarter of 2005. The second volume of BEE had 13 papers, one discussion and one reply. The third issue of this volume was the first issue of BEE that included a discussion and reply.

During this period Kluwer Academic Publishers merged with Springer Verlag and this process sometimes caused delays in the production process. After this merger, the third issue of Volume 2 was the first issue printed under the new Springer imprint.

The two issues of Volume 3 that were forwarded to Springer on December 28, 2004 and on January 19, 2005 were in print in February and April 2005. The third issue is expected to be ready to be sent to Springer before the end of June 2005. Volume 3 Issue 2 was the first special issue of BEE containing the Mallet-Milne Lecture delivered by Prof. W. Liam

Finn. Volume 3 is expected to have 11 papers, 1 technical note and an introduction to the Mallet-Milne lecture.

Up to present 70 manuscripts were submitted to BEE for publication. Almost all of the papers were reviewed by two referees. 35 manuscripts have already been published. 18 manuscripts are under review and 15 manuscripts were declined and 2 manuscripts were withdrawn by the authors.

During these three years as the Editor, I handled all the correspondence with the authors and referees during the submission and review stages. All the reviews were conducted based on the manuscripts forwarded as e-mail attachments or downloading from the editors ftp site. As the Editor, I would like to acknowledge all the support given by the Editorial Board Members as reviewers or as authors. I would also like to acknowledge the referees listed below in the alphabetical order in taking part in the review process.

Aybige Akinci, Sadık Bakır, Edmund Booth, George Bouckovalas, Michele Calvi, Eduardo Carvalho, Michael Constantinou, Dina D'Ayala, John Douglas, Eser Durukal, Mustafa Erdik, Donat Faeh, Yasin Fahjan, Mohsen Ghafory-Ashtiany, Jenn-Shin Hwang, Andreas J. Kappos, Nuray Karanci, Pierino Lestuzzi, Basil Margaris, Mikayel Melkumyan, Antonio Occhiuzzi, Kutay Ozaydin, Guney Ozcebe, Paolo Pinto, Fabio Sabetta, Erdal Safak, Charles Scawthorn, Dario Slejko, Robin Spence, Paul Spudich, Jost Studer, Haluk Sucuoglu, Peter Suhadolc, Mihailo D. Trifunac,

As of May 1, 2005, manuscript submissions and the review process is being monitored by the Springer Editorial Manager online peer review system. We have received the first manuscripts through this system few days ago. All of the Editorial Board Members as well as most of the referees are already registered on the system. The authors will submit their manuscripts through this system by loading their manuscript to the Springer Editorial Manager (EM) site. The system automatically informs me by e-mail. I will visit the EM site, download the paper and assign the referees. The system will prepare the invitation letters for the referees asking them if they would be able to review the manuscript directed to them. Once the referee gives a positive answer he or she would be able to download the manuscript and the review forms from the EM site. The referee after finishing the review will download his or her review to the EM site, and EM will inform me by an e-mail that one review has arrived. Besides informing the Editor about the progress, EM will also send reminders to the referees to have the reviews on time. I hope and believe that EM will work well for BEE.

At the present agreements have been finalized to have three special issues; 2 from the Risk-EU project with Guest Editors Benoît Le Brun and Robin Spence and one from the special sessions held during the EGU General Assembly on "Natural Hazards' Impact on Urban Areas and Infrastructure" with the Guest Editor Maria Bostenaru Dan. There was also a proposal on the topic of "BoB-CoDE Project, Bonefro Building -Comparison of Damage Estimates" by the Guest Editors Mauro Dolce and Agostino Goretti which is pending the agreement stage. I was also told by P.Y.Bard that they are planning to prepare a special issue from the EU Sesame Project.

It was decided based on mutual agreement with Springer that Volume 4 of BEE will consist of 4 issues. I am also happy to inform you that Springer has offered BEE for evaluation to ISI for inclusion in the Science Citation Index. The evaluation will be concluded in 2005 or 2006 after volume 3 is published.

The last item is related to the forthcoming EAEE Conference jointly organized by ESC and to be held in Geneva in September 2006. In Geneva we are planning to have an Editorial

Board meeting. One item on our agenda will be the revision of the Editorial Board. Since we are the Official Journal of EAEE presently composed of 32 National, 2 Organisational and 67 Individual Members, it appears that it would be appropriate as applied in some journals with similar structures like Spectra of EERI, to change the Editorial Board compositions every four years. It could help BEE to progress more efficiently if we can include some new members to the Editorial Board. My proposal is to renew each four years one third of the Editorial Board. So there will be 10 outgoing members and there will be 10 new incoming members. In the long run this would mean that each Editorial Board Member will serve for 12 years. However, since we are a new journal the first 10 outgoing members in 2006 will be only serving for 4 years and the next out going 10 members in 2010 will be serving for 8 years. And starting from 2014 any new member will be serving for 12 years. I believe this sounds a logical system which will also open the journal to a larger scientific community.

The selection of the first 10 outgoing members in 2006 and the second 10 outgoing members need to be decided by the Editor with the approval of the EAEE Executive Committee. However, starting from 2014 it will be automatic.

Kluwer offered two types of subscriptions to the EAEE members at special rates (electronic subscription and paper copy subscription). During the years of 2003 and 2004 EAEE individual membership dues were respectively 25 Euros and 45 Euros. In order to allow for the VAT tax as per 2005, the membership dues were increased to respectively 30 and 50 Euros.

As a last item, out of 31 (including myself) only 13 of us are Individual Members of EAEE, I think it would be very appropriate if we all become Individual Members of EAEE in the near future. Thus I am attaching the Individual Membership form so that you can fill out and send it to me and to Rainer.

I would appreciate very much to hear your suggestions concerning the topics I summarised above and concerning any future activities of BEE.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Geneva 2006,

Warm Greetings

Atilla Ansal