World Conferences on Earthquake Engineering (WCEE)

Professor Bob Park

ARRANGEMENTS FOR 12WCEE IN NEW ZEALAND

1. Background

The World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (WCEE) is held every four years in a host country on behalf of the International Association for Earthquake Engineering (IAEE).

The aim of IAEE is "to promote international co-operation and to interchange knowledge, ideas and the results of research and practical experiences among scientists and engineers in the field of earthquake engineering".

Host countries for past WCEEs have been:

1WCEE	Berkeley, USA	1956
2WCEE	Tokyo/Kyoto, Japan	1960
3WCEE	Auckland/Wellington, New Zealand	1965
4WCEE	Santiago, Chile	1969
5WCEE	Rome, Italy	1973
6WCEE	New Delhi, India	1977
7WCEE	Istanbul, Turkey	1980
8WCEE	San Francisco, USA	1984
9WCEE	Tokyo/Kyoto, Japan	1988
10WCEE	Madrid, Spain	1992
11WCEE	Acapulco, Mexico	1996

For 11WCEE in Acapulco:

(i) Number of technical registrants was about 1,550.

(ii) The technical programme consisted of:

2 keynote addresses
10 seminars
15 state-of-the-art lectures
23 special theme sessions
plus
1,265 other papers of which
156 (12%) were oral presentations, and
1,109 (88%) were poster presentations

(iii) At times there were up to eight concurrent sessions of oral presentations
At 11WCEE in Acapulco presentations were made by the National Delegates of the two countries (New Zealand and Indonesia) seeking to host 12WCEE. The presentations were heard by the National Delegates of the other countries. New Zealand was selected with the venue to be in the city of Auckland.

2. 12WCEE Arrangements to Date

2.1 12WCEE Organising Committee

A Steering Committee for 12WCEE was set up in New Zealand in late 1996. That Committee is now referred to as the Organising Committee and has now held a total of nine meetings.

The membership of the Organising Committee was ratified by the Management Committee of the NZNSEE is:

Bob Park (Chair)	University of Canterbury
Ian Buckle	University of Auckland
Barry Davidson	University of Auckland
David Hopkins	Kingston Morrison Ltd, Wellington
Andrew King	Building Research Association of NZ
Les Megget	University of Auckland
Ivan Skinner	Earthquake Commission of NZ
Euan Smith	Victoria University of Wellington
Michael Brice	(Secretary) New Zealand National Society for Earthquake Engineering
Richard Buchanan	(Conference Services) Convention Management Services Ltd

2.2 12WCEE Committees Reporting to the Organising Committee

The Organising Committees has the following committees reporting to it:

Convenors	
Finance	Andrew King
Local Arrangements	Barry Davidson
International Liaison Committee	David Hopkins
Publications - brochures, proceedings	Les Megget
Publicity	David Hopkins
Social Programme	Barry Davidson
Sponsorship & Exhibition	Euan Smith
Technical Programme	Bob Park
Technical Tours	Euan Smith

2.3 Key Dates for Arrangement of Technical Programme of 12WCEE

1st Announcement	November 1997
2nd Announcement and call for Abstracts and suggestions for Theme Sessions	May 1998
Abstracts and suggestions for Theme Sessions to be submitted by	15 October 1998
Inform authors of acceptance by	March 1999
Manuscripts of papers required by	July 1999
12WCEE held	Sunday 30 January-Friday 4 February 2000

2.4 Venue of 12WCEE

The venue of 12WCEE will be the Aotea Centre and the adjacent Auckland Town Hall, in Auckland, New Zealand.

The main auditorium of the Aotea Centre seats 2200; other rooms at the Centre seat 550, 200, 200, 200 and 130.

The Auckland Town Hall, now refurbished, has rooms seating 1500, 500 and 250.

The Aotea Centre has foyer space available for poster sessions.

The adjacent Carlton hotel also has rooms which could be used if necessary.

2.5 Technical Schedule of 12WCEE (Preliminary)

Commencing Time	Monday 31 Jan.	Tuesday 1 Feb.	Wednesday 2 Feb.	Thurs. 3 Feb.	Friday 4 Feb.
8.30	Opening Ceremony*	State-of-the-art presentation*	State-of-the-art presentation*	State-of-the-art presentation*	State-of-the-art present-ation*
9.30	State-of-the-art presentation*	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions
10.30	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
11.00	Poster Sessions+	Poster Sessions+	Poster Sessions+	Poster Sessions+	Poster Sessions+
12.30	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1400	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	State-of-the-art present-ation*
15.30	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee	Coffee
16.00-17.30	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Theme sessions	Closing* Ceremony

*Only event being held. At other times the technical Programme can comprise of up to 6 concurrent sessions.
+Posters to be in place by 10.30 and removed between 16.30 and 18.30.

2.6 Evening Functions at 12WCEE

Commencing at 19.30

Sunday 30 January:	Welcome Evening
Monday 31 January:	Ethnic Evening (optional)
Tuesday 1 February:	Free
Wednesday 2 February:	Debate on an Earthquake Engineering Topic
Thursday 3 February:	Dinner/Concert (included in registration)

2.7 Non-Technical Management of 12WCEE

Convention Management Services Ltd, a company which is expert in the management of large conferences, has been employed by the Management Committee of the NZNSEE and the Organising Committee to arrange the non-technical details of 12WCEE, such as printing and distribution, registration, AV equipment and the many other tasks required to make the conference a well-run event.

2.8 Other Decisions Made by the Organising Committee to Date

2.8.1 Finance

The Organising Committee has prepared a detailed draft budget (16 pages) for 12WCEE which lists all items of income and expenditure. At this stage it appears from our budget that the registration fee for 12WCEE is likely to be not more than $700 US.

The Board of the Earthquake Commission (EQC) has provided cashflow support with a ceiling of $150,000 to assist with the costs of organising 12WCEE, to be repaid to

EQC after the conference.

Very accountable procedures for handling the finances have been adopted.

2.8.2 Sponsorship and Exhibition

The Board of the Earthquake Commission (EQC) has been extremely helpful in granting $75,000 as Principal Sponsor.

Sponsorship in addition to that from EQC is being sought.

Exhibition space for displays will be available at a set cost.

Donations from developed countries will be sought by the President of the International Association of Earthquake Engineering to allow expenses for some delegates from developing countries to be met.

2.8.3 Local Arrangements

Beds have been pre-booked in a range of hotels and other accommodation with room rates varying from expensive to modest.

2.8.4 Publications - Brochures and Proceedings

The 2nd Announcement and call for Abstracts and suggestions for Theme Sessions will be mailed in May 1998.

The Proceedings of the Conference on CD Rom will be issued to all registrants. Hard copies of the Proceedings will also be available at extra cost to registrants if pre-ordered.

2.8.5 Technical Programme Committee

Role

(i) To arrange the State-of-the-Art Presentations

(ii) To arrange the Theme Sessions

(iii) To arrange the Poster Sessions

Committee Members:

Bob Park (Chair)	University of Canterbury
Les Megget	University of Auckland
Ian Buckle	University of Auckland
Andrew King	BRANZ, Porirua
David Hopkins	Kingston Morrison Ltd, Wellington
Jason Ingham	University of Auckland
Andrew Charleson	Victoria University
Ian Billings	Beca Carter Hollings and Ferner, Auckland
Warwick Smith	IGNS, Lower Hutt
Mick Pender	University of Auckland
Arthur O'Leary	Kingston Morrison, Wellington
David Brunsdon	Spencer Holmes, Wellington
David Whittaker	Beca Carter Hollings and Ferner, Wellington
Leicester Steven	Former Commissioner, EQC, Rangiora

Subcommittees

The Technical Programme Committee (TPC) will have three subcommittees.

1 Review Subcommittee

Tasks:

- Arrange for reviews of abstracts in the topic areas and suggestions for special theme sessions.
- Assess reviewers comments.
- Recommend to TPC whether the abstracts should be accepted for a theme session or a poster session or declined. About 10% of abstracts will be accepted for oral presentation and those papers grouped into theme sessions on particular topics suggested by the Review Subcommittee. International experts will also be invited to assist with arrangements for some theme sessions.

Note: Abstracts will be requested in the following topic areas:

- Earthquake Engineering in Developing Countries
- Earthquake Engineering in Practice
- International Issues in Eathquake Engineering
- Engineering Seismology
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Structural Engineering
- Lifeline Systems
- Design Criteria and Methods
- Social and Economic Issues
- Lessons from Recent Earthquakes
- Other Issues

As a result of their suggestions, individuals or groups may also be invited to arrange special theme sessions and possible authors.

2. Poster Presentation Subcommittee

Tasks:

- Arrange the poster sessions by grouping the accepted papers for posters appropriately over the five days.
- Deciding where they should be placed and documenting their positions.

3. Debate Subcommittee

Task:

- Organise the debate on a controversial topic to be held on the Wednesday evening of 12WCEE.