

**National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP)
Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR)
May 20-21, 2025 Virtual Meeting Summary**

Attendees (listed alphabetically by category)

ACEHR Members Present

Lucy Arendt, Chair	St. Norbert College
Laurie Baise	Tufts University
Ann Bostrom	University of Washington
Robert Carey	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Rachel Davidson	University of Delaware
Michael Hamburger	USGS SESAC Chair (ex-officio)
Thomas Heausler	Consulting Structural Engineer
Tara Hutchinson	University of California, San Diego
Anne Meltzer	Lehigh University
Danielle Mieler	City of Alameda, California
Jonathan Stewart	University of California, Los Angeles

NEHRP Agency Representatives

Luciana Astiz	National Science Foundation
Judy Bowie (DFO)	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Joannie Chin	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Jonathon Foster	Federal Emergency Management Agency
John “Jay” Harris	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gavin Hayes	United States Geological Survey
Andrew Herseth	Federal Emergency Management Agency
Jack Naylor	Department of Commerce
Joy Pauschke	National Science Foundation
Siamak Sattar	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Jonathan Westcott	Federal Emergency Management Agency

**ACEHR MEETING SUMMARY – Day One
May 20, 2025**

I. Call to Order and Welcome Remarks

As Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for ACEHR (or Committee), Ms. Judy Bowie called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. ET, took roll call for the Committee members, and confirmed the quorum requirement was satisfied. She announced the meeting will be recorded, reviewed some meeting logistics, and then turned the meeting over to the Director of the Engineering Laboratory at NIST, Dr. Joannie Chin, who welcomed the Committee and thanked them for their commitment and dedication. She noted the importance of the Committee and highlighted key topics that would be presented at the meeting. Dr. Chin turned the meeting over to the ACEHR Chair, Dr. Lucy Arendt.



II. Review Meeting Goals

Dr. Arendt reviewed the primary meeting objective to review and approve the 2025 ACEHR biennial report content covering fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

III. Annual Ethics Briefing

Mr. Jack Naylor from the Ethics Law and Program Office at the Department of Commerce provided the mandatory annual ethics training for the Committee members, as Special Government Employees. His presentation is available at

<https://nehrp.gov/pdf/ACEHR%20Ethics%20Training%202024.pdf>

IV. NEHRP and Agency Update

Dr. Jay Harris, Acting NEHRP Director, presented an update covering ACEHR membership and consolidated recommendations, pending legislation or other directives that may impact NEHRP (or Program), status of the NEHRP Management Plan, and the Interagency Committee on Seismic Safety in Construction activities. His presentation is available at <https://nehrp.gov/pdf/Presentation%20-%20ACEHR%20May%202025%20-%20Program%20Office.pdf>.

FEMA Update

Mr. Jonathon Foster, Senior Earthquake Program Manager, provided a brief informal update on FEMA NEHRP staff changes.

NIST Update

Dr. Siamak Sattar, Group Leader of the Earthquake Engineering Group, provided a brief update on NIST's efforts to support the Functional Recovery Task Committee working on draft provisions for inclusion into building codes and design standards. He also delivered a brief overview on NIST's accomplishments implementing *Economic Considerations for Functional Recovery Design and Guidelines for Seismic Design and Evaluation of Concrete Members Retrofitted Using Externally Applied Fiber Reinforced Polymer (FRP)*. His presentation is available at

<https://nehrp.gov/pdf/NIST%20Update%20for%20ACEHR%20Meeting-May25-CLEAN.pdf>

USGS Update

Dr. Gavin Hayes, Senior Science Advisor for Earthquake and Geologic Hazards, discussed the mission of the USGS Earthquake Hazards Program (EHP) and their update on the National Seismic Hazards Model (NSHM) and deployment efforts.

Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee (SESAC) Update

Dr. Michael Hamburger, SESAC Chair and ACEHR ex-officio member, provided a brief informal update of the SESAC activities since its last meeting on March 28, 2025

[\[https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards/scientific-earthquake-studies-advisory-committee-sesac\]](https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards/scientific-earthquake-studies-advisory-committee-sesac). SESAC will continue to schedule regular monthly teleconference meetings to review the current USGS EHP activities, discuss future priorities, and significant earthquake events.



Program and Agency Update Discussion:

The Committee and agency staff discussed potential NSF restructuring and possible implications on their participation in NEHRP. While the immediate impact is not fully understood at this point, NSF's website (<https://www.nsf.gov/about/directorates-offices>) has all the information that is currently publicly available. The Committee and agency staff also discussed the status of the workforce for NEHRP agencies. The agencies will continue work to support their NEHRP mission.

V. 2025 ACEHR Report Discussion

Dr. Arendt led a discussion on the draft 2025 ACEHR biennial report. The Committee discussed suitable ways to address within their report:

- the development of the NEHRP Management Plan that supports the latest strategic plan's goals, objectives, and focus areas and their conversion to operational actions;
- challenges in agency staffing; and
- inadequate resource support experienced across the agencies.

Other topics included incorporating the Government Accountability Office recommendations concerning performance metrics and strategic alignment of resources into the report. Dr. Arendt suggested the Committee review the agency updates, which recommendations should be prioritized and how to incorporate them into the biennial report.

VI. Public Input Period Committee

The DFO reported that Mr. Randy Showstack registered to attend the meeting as a member of the public, but did not join the web conference nor did he provide any written communication for the Committee to consider.

Dr. Harris moderated a moment for the Committee to provide their appreciation to former NIST employee, Ms. Tina Faecke, for her hard work and dedication to the Committee since its official inception in 2006.

VII. Closing Remarks

Dr. Arendt thanked everyone for their engagement and participation.

VIII. Adjournment

Ms. Bowie officially adjourned the meeting at 5:05 pm ET.



ACEHR MEETING SUMMARY – Day Two
May 21, 2025

I. Call to Order and Meeting Goals

The DFO for the Committee, Ms. Bowie called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. ET, took roll call for the Committee members, and confirmed the quorum requirement was satisfied. She announced the meeting will be recorded, reviewed some meeting logistics, and then turned the meeting over to the ACEHR Chair, Dr. Arendt.

II. 2025 ACEHR Report Discussion and Approval

Dr. Arendt continued the discussion from the previous day on finalizing the draft 2025 ACEHR biennial report. Consensus on the report content was received by the Committee and the final report will be officially submitted to NIST in June. After submission, the report will be available at <https://www.nehrp.gov/committees/reports.htm>.

III. Closing Remarks

Dr. Arendt expressed her appreciation for the time and investment of the Committee participants and NEHRP agency representatives.

IV. Adjournment

Ms. Bowie officially adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm ET.

Certification Statement – “I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the foregoing meeting summary is accurate and complete.”

Lucy Arendt
Dr. Lucy Arendt, Chair, ACEHR

Date: 06/26/2025

Judy Bowie
Ms. Judy Bowie, NIST, Designated Federal Officer, ACEHR

Date: 06/22/2025