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stirred.....

Winter 2025
Technical/Social Mixer

Prof. Olsen will give the 2025 EERI DISTINGUISHED LECTURE. This is a free and fun event followed by a social hour. The event is open to students and industry professionals.



When: Thursday – Feb 27, 2025

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm PST

**Where: UCI Campus,
Room TBA after registration**

Geospatial Technology – Saving the World's Past, Present, and Future from Natural Hazards

Michael J. Olsen, PhD;
Ch2M Hill Professor
Professor, Oregon State University

Bio: Dr. Michael Olsen is the CH2M Hill Professor of Geomatics in the School of Civil and Construction Engineering at Oregon State University. He serves as the Technical Director for the NSF Natural Hazards Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) RAPID Facility, the Director of the Cascadia Lifelines Program (CLiP), a member of the Partnership and Applications committee of the Cascadia Region Earthquake Science Center (CRESCENT), an Associate Editor of the ASCE Journal of Surveying Engineering, the Past-President of the Surveying and Geomatics Educators Society (SaGES), and a co-founder and CEO of a tech transfer spinout company, EZDataMD, LLC.

Abstract: This presentation explores examples of how expanded and effective usage of geospatial technologies now can help us proactively “save” the world through detailed mapping of our critical lifeline infrastructure to improve 1) monitoring, modeling, and analysis efforts to more precisely identify vulnerable infrastructure, 2) planning for and understanding the potential impacts and damage extents associated with multiple hazards, 3) the conduct of post-disaster reconnaissance, damage assessments, and rebuilding efforts, and 4) digital preservation of infrastructure and other resources with significant cultural and historical importance that are unlikely to withstand major seismic forces lurking on the horizon. Ultimately, geospatial technology serves as the unifying glue to enable meaningful collaboration between science, engineering, and public policy necessary for a resilient society capable of effectively responding and adapting to natural hazards.