



Dr. Ronaldo Luna
SOAP 5

Ronaldo Luna, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE is Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-Rolla (UMR, new name Missouri S&T). He has taught and conducted research at Tulane University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and UMR, since his graduate studies in the early 1990's. Prior to his university appointments, Dr. Luna served as Senior Engineer at Hart Crowser, Inc. in Seattle and Bechtel Corporation in San Francisco. His expertise is in the areas of geotechnical engineering, earthquake engineering, hazard modeling, numerical modeling, and information systems.

Dr. Luna has conducted research including development of GIS-based methodologies and systems to mitigate earthquake hazards such as liquefaction and ground motion amplification, including remote sensing technologies that characterize spatial and spectral properties of soil surfaces. He has received numerous awards for teaching excellence and innovation and has secured support for the soil dynamics laboratory. Dr. Luna was selected as a Fulbright Scholar in 2005 for which he traveled to Guatemala and lectured for eight months on Earthquake and Heavy Rain Induced Landslides, culminating in the keynote lecture for the graduating class of the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala in 2005. He is also actively involved with Engineers Without Borders having served as Faculty Mentor during 2005-07.

Dr. Luna served as Faculty Advisor to the ASCE Student Chapter at Tulane University revitalizing a dormant chapter, and was a member of the Geotechnical Steering Committee of the New Orleans Branch. He serves on the ASCE Geo-Institute Computer Applications Committee, and was editor for Soil & Rock Behavior and Modeling at GeoShanghai, the first ASCE geotechnical conference in China. He currently serves in the Geotechnical Committee of the ASCE St. Louis Section. In addition to ASCE membership, Dr. Luna is also a member of other professional societies including the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute and the American Society for Engineering Education.