

2006 WSSPC Award in Excellence for Lifetime Achievement in Earthquake Risk Reduction

Lloyd S. Cluff



Lloyd Cluff is a giant in the world of earthquake hazards and seismic safety. Lloyd is being recognized for achievements during his 45-year career as a world-renowned expert in earthquake geology, well-published research scientist, public policy champion of earthquake safety, inspiring educator, sought-after consultant, president and board member of many professional organizations, and successful business leader. Beyond these remarkable accomplishments, however, is the profound key to Lloyd's worthiness for recognition and acclaim: his fundamental commitment to treating others with trust and respect.

From this well-spring of human integrity have arisen thousands of individuals who have aligned themselves with Lloyd and his goals and leadership—because he trusted them and respected their talents and efforts. To this fundamental base, Lloyd has added a superior intellect, scientific honesty, focus and desire to use every opportunity to learn more about earthquake science and engineering, and an irrepressible spirit of enjoyment and fun in every aspect of his life. Lloyd is a role model for the earth sciences community. He exemplifies the professional responsibility each individual has to perform his/her duties with integrity, honesty, and trust.

As a geologist in the private sector with Woodward-Clyde Consultants and Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Lloyd has excelled in applying the most current scientific developments to the practical reduction of seismic and geologic hazard threats to thousands of projects, demonstrating that better science makes for better business. From the Trans-Alaska Pipeline to the Aswan Dam to the Diablo Canyon Power plant, Lloyd has used the lessons learned from his investigations of significant earthquakes since 1964 to improve engineering design practices, seismic safety, and earthquake preparedness. As an advisor to governors, presidents, kings, prime ministers, and government agencies worldwide, Lloyd has made the difference in the safety of many critical earthquake engineering projects.

From his position in the private sector, Lloyd has given selflessly of his time and enthusiasm in public service to improve public safety associated with earthquakes and other geologic hazards. He spent 16 years as member, Vice-Chairman, and Chairman of the California Seismic Safety Commission. As a member of the Newmark-Stever Panel in the 1970's, Lloyd helped develop the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). He has served on advisory boards to the Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the National Science Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Federal Emergency Management Agency as well as other state and national organizations.

Lloyd's accomplishments have been recognized by his election to the National Academy of Engineering and California Academy of Sciences; he has received the Alquist Medal from the California Seismic Safety Commission and the John Wesley Powell Award from the U.S. Geological Survey. He has served as president of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute, the Seismological Society of America, and the Association of Engineering Geologists.