

The Official

AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

Meeting Details

Wednesday, Feb. 18

Location: Mercato Ristorante

111 Market St NE

Olympia, WA

[Google Maps Link](#)

5:30pm Social hour and buffet

6:30 pm Presentation

7:30pm Brief Q&A

\$30 Member or Non-Member

\$15 Educators or Job Seekers

\$5 Student

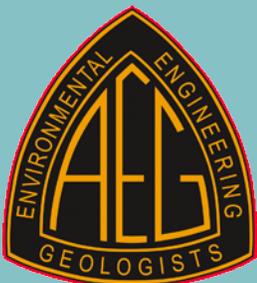
\$5 Online

RSVP Online: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/aeg-nisqually-rocks-roads-and-reality->

Upcoming Meetings:

March 23

April 22



Rocks, Roads, and Reality: Modeling Fragmental Rockfall Using 3D Physics Engines

This presentation will give an overview of the Transportation Pooled Fund Study TPF-5(459) Developing and Calibrating Fragmental Rockfall Models using Physics Engines. The objectives of the research are (1) To collect handheld video data to inform and develop a rockfall database that has detailed qualitative analysis of rockfall events, (2) To create a field data collection method that can accurately track rockfall trajectories in 4D so that quantitative data from rockfall events can be captured, (3) To build a user interface using the Unity physics engine to permit model self-calibration which will provide probabilistic output data (4) To calibrate the finished simulation using the rockfall data collected in #1 and #2 and (5) To document all these processes so that users can effectively use the simulation and provide all the data and simulation in an open source platform.





Biography: Nishanthi Perera

Nishanthi Perera is a PhD student at University of Washington studying rockfall and rockfall fragmentation under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Wartman in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department. She received her bachelor's in Geological Engineering from South Dakota School of Mines and her master's degree is in Civil Engineering from University of Colorado Boulder. After working for Washington State Department of Transportation for 2 1/2 years, she decided to go back to school to pursue her PhD while continuing to work part time at WSDOT. In her limited spare time, she loves collecting rocks and baking delicious treats for her friends and colleagues.



Message from the Chair

Hello, AEG Nisqually!

We are continuing our winter program with an applied geoscience talk from Nishanthi Perera on an emergent rockfall simulation method that models rockfall in 3D and includes fragmentation mechanics. Come and check it out! Some day you'll be able to say you were there when this was just getting off the ground (see what I did there?)

Our Joint Nisqually-Puget Meeting was a success!

I thoroughly enjoyed the Joint meeting in Tacoma this year. I've included a couple of photos that were taken that night of some friendly faces that you might recognize.



Connections and collaboration

Being involved in AEG Nisqually has allowed me to expand my professional network and keep up some long-standing connections with colleagues at WGS and in the private sector. Over the past few months of AEG Nisqually activities, I have been introduced to several geologists that I hadn't met before, and I've been able to turn these introductions into professional collaborations. These include the members of our new AEG Nisqually board as well as members of our chapter, AEG Puget, AEG Oregon, and some of our recent speakers. It is great when I have a question about something outside of my expertise and I know who to ask and how to get a hold of them. I also enjoy it when people come to me with questions. This is one of the reasons our AEG Chapter exists. I just wanted to take a moment here and express some appreciation to the community.

Please renew your membership and select AEG Nisqually

When you renew your AEG membership be sure to select Nisqually as your Chapter. It puts a few more bucks into the Chapter account and keeps our numbers up.

It's great to be part of AEG Nisqually! I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Gabe Taylor

taylorg@wsdot.wa.gov



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Washington State Department of
Transportation



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The AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG NISQUALLY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through April. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Nisqually Chapter or other Chapters, and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free.

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