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NewsTrack

Earthquake center announces a name change

BUFFALO, N.Y., July 6 (UPI) -- The Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Research, founded in 1986 at the University of Buffalo, says it is shortening its name to MCEER.

Center officials said the name change is designed to better reflect the facility's mission of developing solutions to improve resilience against extreme events of all sorts.

"There is a whole body of knowledge that we have acquired in the context of developing new tools and technologies in earthquake engineering that now should be transferred to address other hazards," said MCEER Director Michel Bruneau, a UB professor of civil, structural and environmental engineering.

He said the center's goal is to find solutions that can protect communities from a variety of hazards at one cost, rather than using different solutions for each hazard, as now often is the case.

"If you want to break the disaster-reconstruction-disaster-reconstruction cycle, you have to adopt a multi-hazard perspective," said Bruneau. "It's not sufficient to respond to the 'crisis of the day.'"

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