



UAA College of Engineering
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE



UAA Professional Development Seminar Series

Seismic Safety of Informally Constructed Reinforced Concrete Houses in Puerto Rico

Presented by: Dr. Polly B. Murray
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ABSTRACT: The majority of residential construction in Puerto Rico was built informally, without input from engineers and often out of compliance with building codes. The region is vulnerable to high seismic hazard and frequent hurricanes, and homeowners must weigh these risks, in addition to financial constraints, in making decisions regarding home construction. This presentation will cover typical construction practices in Puerto Rico, multi-hazard considerations and risks, and a seismic risk analysis conducted using nonlinear dynamic analysis.

BIO: Dr. Murray is a postdoctoral research associate who studies seismic resilience and structural engineering. She earned her PhD from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2021 and worked as a postdoctoral researcher with the National Institute of Standards and Technology before coming to the University of Alaska Anchorage. Her current work focuses on seismic risk of wood frame houses built out of compliance with local codes.

Friday, March 10, 2023

11:45 am - 12:45 pm

Online Via [YouTube Live](#)