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Subject: NSF public open house: Engineering Research and Innovation Conference
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The National Science Foundation (NSF) is hosting a public open house at the Honolulu Convention Center. Targeting families and students, the open house will include both hands-on activities and opportunities to meet some of the leading engineers in such fields as robotics, earthquake-resistant construction and space-age materials.

Coinciding with NSF's 2009 Engineering Research and Innovation Conference, the featured activities include:

- A tsunami wave basin, courtesy of Oregon State University. The 20-foot long, small-scale, tsunami generator will "test" structures, designed and built by visitors, against the forces of oncoming waves.

- Portable shake tables, courtesy of California State University, Sacramento. The tables shake structures to the simulated forces of earthquakes, showing how buildings react.

- The iSeismograph Exhibit, courtesy of the San Diego Supercomputer Center at the University of California, San Diego. A sensitive accelerometer connected to a large-scale display shows visitors the tiniest and largest of ground motions, including their own.

- Robots, developed by teams and clubs from the Honolulu area, will be on display to engage visitors.

The open house runs from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on both Wednesday, June 24 and Thursday, June 25.

For more information, contact Matthew Carnavos at mcarnavo@nsf.gov or Michael Kim at mskim@nsf.gov.

About the 2009 Engineering Research and Innovation Conference
The 2009 Engineering Research and Innovation Conference includes plenary and parallel sessions that will provide information on research activities and trends in civil and mechanical engineering and manufacturing innovation as well as research into the reduction of hazards caused by natural disasters such as earthquakes. With an anticipated international attendance of 1,500 people from academe, industry, and government, content for the 2009 conference will be centered on the theme Research and Education in a Flat World and will address issues related to globalization, specifically in the context of research and education. The primary goals of the conference are to initiate a dialog between researchers, educators, funding agencies, and policy makers on enabling and sustaining global collaborations in research and education, and to address the challenges of collaborating across geographic, institutional, and cultural boundaries. Concurrent with the CMMI Engineering Research and Innovation Conference is the Seventh George E. Brown, Jr. Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES) Annual Meeting. This convergence

of CMMI awardees and NEES facility users presents a unique opportunity for learning and collaboration about the exciting research in earthquake engineering enabled by this network of 15 large scale research sites funded by NSF.

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