

# OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

NEWS RELEASE: March 5, 2007

## Yumei Wang appointed to newly formed national earthquake hazards committee

**Portland, Oregon:** Yumei Wang of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has been appointed to the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction by William Jeffrey, Director of the Department of Commerce's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Wang is one of fifteen distinguished academic, industry and government experts appointed to serve on the newly created Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR). The responsibilities of the new independent advisory committee include assessing trends and developments in the science and engineering of earthquake hazards reduction and the effectiveness of NEHRP in performing its statutory activities (improved design and construction methods and practices; land use controls and redevelopment; prediction techniques and early-warning systems; coordinated emergency preparedness plans; and public education and involvement programs).



Ms. Wang is the DOGAMI Geohazards Section Leader, where she is responsible for geologic hazards and risk assessments, and developing risk mitigation strategies for the state of Oregon. In 13 years with state government, her work has focused on improving hazard assessments and lowering risk from earthquakes, tsunamis and landslides. Wang has also been involved in issues relating to the environment, energy, and transportation.

Wang was awarded the 2006 Government Engineer of the Year by the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Oregon Section. In 2005 she co-led an engineering investigation

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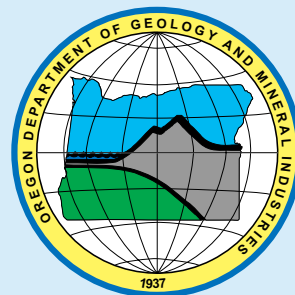
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of the December, 2004 Sumatra/Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami. In 2000, Wang served a one-year term as a Congressional Fellow in the U.S. Senate in Washington, DC.

Wang is a licensed civil engineer and holds science and engineering degrees from the University of California at Santa Barbara and UC Berkeley.

Established by the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, NEHRP is the federal government's program to reduce the risks to life and property from earthquakes. NEHRP consists of four federal agencies: the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the National Science Foundation (NSF), the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and NIST. Congress designated NIST as the lead agency for NEHRP in 2004.

For more information on the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction, go online [http://www.nist.gov/public\\_affairs/releases/NEHRP\\_committee.html](http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/releases/NEHRP_committee.html)

The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is an independent agency of the State, and has a broad responsibility in developing a geologic understanding of natural hazards. We then make this information available to communities and individuals to help reduce the risks from earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides, floods and volcanic eruptions. We assist in the formulation of state policy where an understanding of geologic materials, geologic resources, processes, and hazards are key to decision-making. The Department is also the lead state regulatory agency for mining, oil, gas and geothermal exploration, production and reclamation.

Learn more about Oregon's geology by going online at:  
<http://www.OregonGeology.com>

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