

## The 1994 Northridge Earthquake: Impacts, Outcomes, and Next Steps

January 16-17, 2014 Los Angeles, CA



Lessons Learned ....
NOT Forgotten

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### Developing an Institutionally Resilient Mind-set



- In mid 2006 UC had minimal effective response planning in place
- Emergency management development tasked to two staff
- First steps towards being prepared included;
  - Researching & understanding the hazards & risks
  - Developing a preparedness plan & dedicated facilities
  - Incorporating international best practice response structure
  - Active engagement with University leadership to agree processes
  - Understanding and accepting UC's role with the wider community
  - Investing in training key personnel
  - Undertaking regular training and exercises to develop skills
  - Amending the process as our understanding increased
  - Refining the plan through international engagement





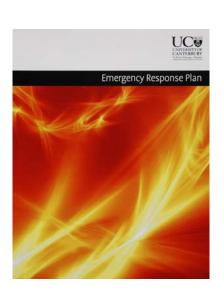












### Learning from CSUN - 2009



#### Academic Aftershocks, Jan 17, 1995 California State University - Northridge

- 1. Introduction (Windows Media File, 1.6MB)
- Los Angeles: Monday, January 17, 1994 (WMF, 3.9MB)
- A table and four chairs ... (WMF, 4.6MB)
- Absolutely inundated! (WMF, 5.6MB)
- What a disaster (WMF, 5.2 MB)
- A payphone and a roll of quarters ... (WMF, 4.0MB)
- We will reopen! (WMF, 3.05MB)
- 8. A little tent on the lawn ... (WMF, 7.5MB)
- You've got the document (WMF, 3.4MB)
- In many ways we were acting as if ... (WMF, 5.3MB)
- It kept us busy (WMF, 8.5MB)
- 12. It's not worth anyone's life (WMF, 3.6MB)
- More like the military than a University ... (WMF, 4.MB)
- 14. Biology 107, over here by the tree! (WMF, 6.8MB)
- 15. After the honeymoon phase ... (WMF, 16.5MB)
- 16. P. S. (WMF, 5.5MB)

Digital Media Inc.

#### Thanks for the Lessons, March 2011 University of Canterbury





## Two Universities 16 yrs. 7 months Apart



# California State University Northridge

- 4:31 am
   Jan. 17, 1994 (MLK Holiday)
- 6.7
- Over 12 major aftershocks
- 30,000 students, faculty & staff
- \$400M total recovery costs
- 100% of campus buildings affected
- No loss of life
- Total recovery took 9 years

Source: Richard West, Executive Vice Chancellor/CFO, CSU 2006



- 4:35 am
- Sept. 4, 2010 (Term Break)
- 7.1
- Over 25 major aftershocks ≥ 5M<sub>w</sub>
- 18,000 students, faculty & staff
- \$400M total recovery costs (and climbing)
- 100% of campus buildings affected
- No loss of life
- Total recovery will take 10+ years

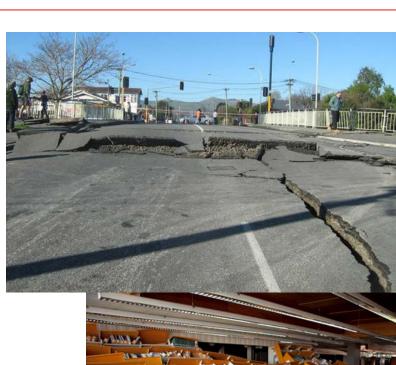
Source: UC Annual Reporting

### Northridge January 17, 1994

### Christchurch September 4, 2010







# But Christchurch Changed the Rules ...... February 22, 2011



### M<sub>w</sub> 6.2 within 5 km of the CBD

Lunchtime/early afternoon - weekday

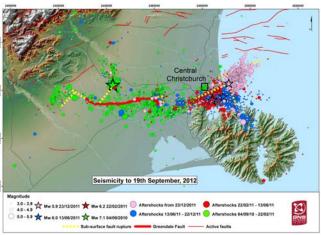
Ground motion exceeded 2x force of gravity 185 fatalities

1,000 + serious injuries

1,400 buildings in the CDB damaged beyond repair (Most in CBD in older brick)



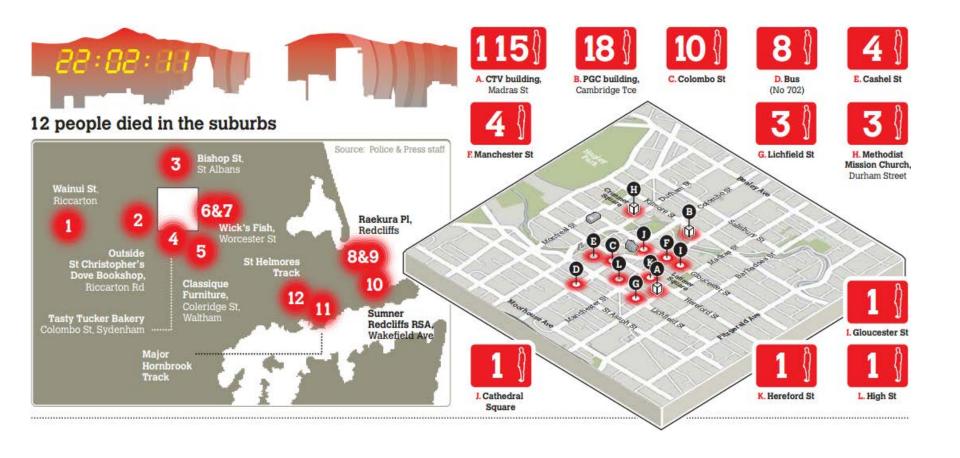






### **Casualties**





**Source**: New Zealand Police and The Press

# The Importance of Contributing to Community Resilience



### A City severely tested

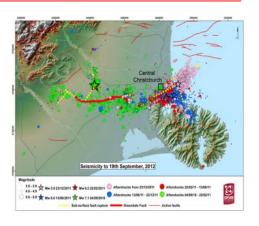
September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 7.1 M<sub>1</sub> + 98 Aftershocks

December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 4.9 M<sub>1</sub> + 32 Aftershocks

- February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 6.3 M<sub>1</sub> + 11 Aftershocks > 5.0 M<sub>1</sub>

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011
 5.9 M<sub>1</sub> followed by a 6.4 M<sub>1</sub> Aftershock

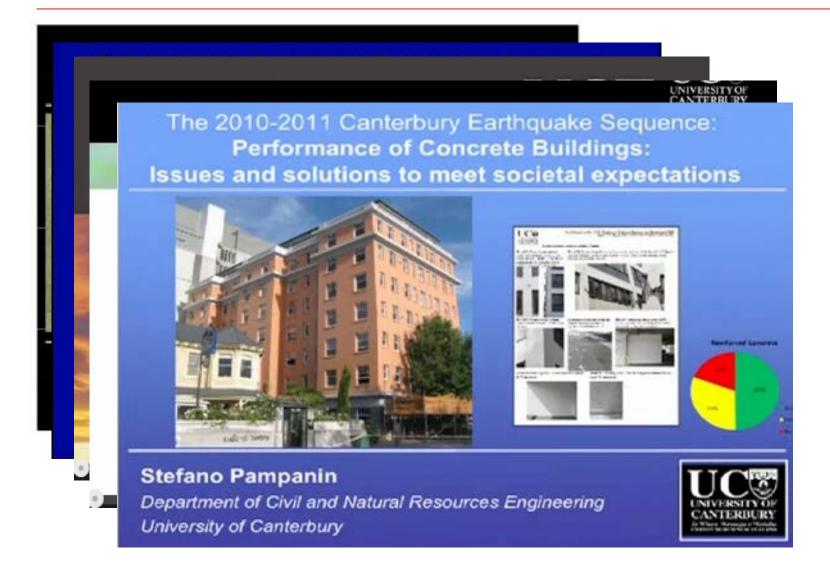
- December 23/24, 2011 6.0 M<sub>L</sub> + 4 Aftershocks > 5.0 M<sub>L</sub>



- Being a resilient institution allowed us to contribute to the community need
  - Provided a home for the Regional and National Civil Defence teams
  - Tasked our University USAR Team to assist with the CBD Rescue efforts
  - Our Structural Engineers were heavily involved in the CBD
  - Our Geo-Scientists provided knowledge and understanding which our wider community desperately needed

### Supporting our Wider Community





### Outcomes As an Institution we learned a Lot

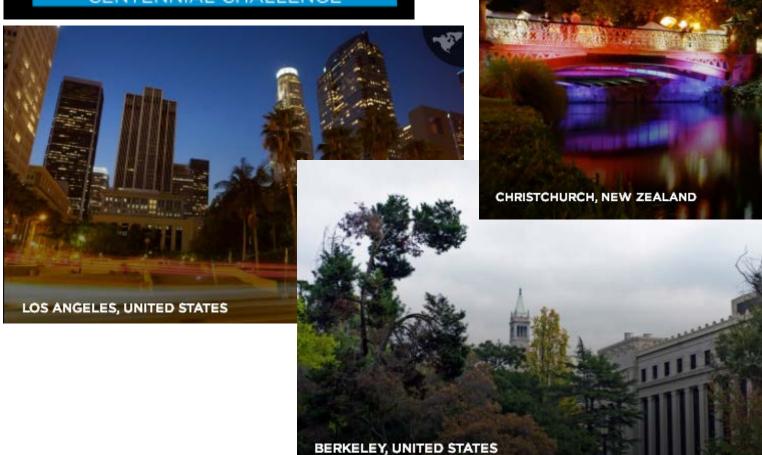


- 1. Individual preparedness is the most critical step
- 2. Preparedness education need to be relevant, understandable, and in many cases, personal
- 3. A community is stronger if organisations and institutions contribute by being independently prepared ... support and foster this attitude

### Outcomes Global connections will make a difference



## THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION 100 RESILIENT CITIES CENTENNIAL CHALLENGE



### A View from the South



## There is no such thing as a 'natural' disaster, only natural hazards

Disaster risk reduction is the concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through;

- Systematic efforts to analyse and reduce the causal factors of disasters
- Reducing exposure to hazards
- Lessening vulnerability of people and property
- Wise management of land and the environment
- Improving preparedness and early warning for adverse events.

Lianne Dalziel Mayor, City of Christchurch

### Recommendation



No country is an island in a lonely sea. We all have skin in this game and we need to play as one global team.

## Questions





