1. Attendance and approval of November 2018 ECO Committee Meeting minutes
   In attendance: Jamie Padgett (Rice University – Cyber Infrastructure), Kurtis Gurley (University of Florida), Tommy (Lehigh University – ATLSS), Pedro Lomonaco (Oregon State University), Laura Lowes (University of Washington – RAPID Facility), Rosie Gomez (The University of Texas at Austin, TACC – Cyber Infrastructure), Patricia Clayton (The University of Texas at Austin – Mobile Shakers), Lelli Van Den Einde (University of California – San Diego), Matt Schoettler (University of California – Berkeley, SimCenter), Mohammad Khosravi (University of California – Davis), Karina Vielma (NCO-ECO)

   November 2018 ECO Committee meeting minutes were approved by majority attendance.

2. NHERI Summer Institute
   a. Recruitment for 2019 Summer Institute
   b. Application is now open: https://www.designsafe-ci.org/learning-center/summer-institute/application/
   c. Summer Institute schedule
   d. Request NHERI site representative attendance

   Kurt Gurley informed the Committee that the University of Florida was missing from the REU application ranking selections and it was noted that the change was to be made ASAP. Karina will send an email to Chris Thompson to make these edits.

   Recruitment for the Summer Institute is open. The link is provided above. Karina will draft and send out a recruitment email to forward to potential applicants. The Committee expressed an interest in making the recruitment email concise with 3-4 bullet points highlighting the main benefits and reasons for early career faculty to attend, along with the link to the application.

   Karina will also send out an email requesting links for each EF to be posted on the Summer Institute application and main page. These links will provide information to potential Summer Institute applicants/participants about the various resources of each site. This will be informational links.

   As a result of last year’s Summer Institute, we will be incorporating the social science component of natural hazards engineering to the event. Therefore, the Committee reviewed the Summer Institute schedule and decided on placing the social science presentation during the Day 2 events, after the experimental facility presentations. Laura Lowes commented that as a result of this addition, the RAPID facility presentation can present social science data.
Another impactful addition to the Summer Institute suggested by the Committee includes adding a panel of recent early career faculty who’ve secured NSF funding using NHERI facilities. The event could be added to the networking program at the end of Day 2 (suggested for approximately an hour) to be done remotely with the opportunity to have the panel answer general questions. i.e. How did you contact the facility? What is the educational (broader impact) portion of the proposal? Then the event would end with questions from the participants to the panelists.

The Committee also reminded us of providing a Google sign-up sheet for the participants to meet with EF representatives at the Summer Institute. It was suggested that all sites have access to this form so that they can edit their availability.

3. NHERI REU Summer Program
   a. REU recruitment open – Updates to come (8 applications received as of 11/30/18 & 4 letters of recommendation)
      i. Email recruitment
      ii. Social media recruitment
   c. REU Research Symposium – UT Austin
   d. Travel stipend updates

Recruitment is open to the REU application. So far, we’ve had 8 applicants and 4 letters of recommendation. Karina will be personally contacting applicants with letters of recommendation and no application on file to ask if they have any questions and to encourage these students to apply.

The Committee would like to make sure that the links to the letters of recommendation are appropriately listed so that evaluators can easily click to view the letters. Additionally the Carnegie classification for each student’s university will be posted on the application to allow for a better distribution and diversity of selected participants, especially those who may not have research opportunities at their home institutions.

The REU Research Symposium will be held at UT Austin this summer, August 1-2, 2019. It was noted that OSU will host a joint equipment facility workshop with the SimCenter and RAPID facility on July 31st and August 1st. Pedro Lomonaco will check to see if the REU students will need to be a part of this event or if there may be another conflict for the REU students with these specific dates.

Rosie Gomez presented the latest update for the REU Research Symposium. It was also clarified that students completing the REU Block 1 would be able to return home after the research symposium. However, students in the REU Block 2 will need to return to their EF sites to complete the remaining weeks of research.

The Travel Stipend was discussed and the Committee would like to see Proposal B attempted this year with the majority of the Committee voting for its approval. It was suggested that the name of the stipend be changed to Cost of Living Supplement.
4. **EF Research to Practice Webinars**
   a. FIU – Residential construction improvements and research needed

   *FIU has requested to host a Research to Practice webinar on the residential construction improvements and research needed as a result of recent hurricanes. The ECO Committee will collaborate to advertise and organize this webinar.*

5. **Educational Materials**
   a. Please submit educational lesson plans and/or other materials to be posted on the DesignSafe Learning Center.

   *All new educational materials can be sent to Karina Vielma for posting in the DesignSafe Learning Center.*

6. **Adjourn**