



**IUSS**

Scuola Universitaria Superiore Pavia

**UME**

understanding and managing extremes

## **SHORT SEMINAR**

# **The Origins of Earthquake Engineering in Italy**

**By Dr. Robert Reitherman,  
executive director of the Consortium of Universities for Research  
in Earthquake Engineering (CUREE)**

Italy is not only a country with many earthquakes, it is a country where seismic design has a long history. This brief historical review will extend from the years prior to the development of civil engineering (non-quantitatively-designed “earthquake-resistant construction”) to the application of that discipline to the earthquake hazard (“earthquake engineering”) following the 1908 Messina-Reggio Earthquake.

### ***About Dr. Robert Reitherman***

Robert Reitherman is the executive director of the Consortium of Universities for Research in Earthquake Engineering (CUREE), an association of 23 American universities with research and education programs in that field. He received the History and Heritage Award of the American Society of Civil Engineers for his book, *Earthquakes and Engineers: An International History*. For the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI), he directs the oral history program, which to date has produced book-length volumes on 25 key individuals in the field.

**Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2016, 17:00**  
**Sala del Camino - Palazzo del Broletto**  
**Piazza della Vittoria 15 – Pavia**