Preface

Significant progress has been made in the field of smart structural technology in the U.S., Taiwan, and many other countries. Innovative concepts involving new sensor hardware, health monitoring algorithms and software, and structural vibration control have been proposed for seismic hazard mitigation. To provide an opportunity for scientists and engineers, professionals, and government agents to come together and engage in interdisciplinary discussions, the U.S.-Taiwan Workshop on Smart Structures Technology for Seismic Hazard Mitigation was held on Oct. 12-14, 2006, in Taipei, Taiwan. The Workshop brought experts in earthquake engineering and smart structures from around the world to develop a common framework for expanding collaborative research in the region. The workshop also provided a forum to: discuss and evaluate the current status of research, development and implementation in the U.S. and Taiwan in smart structural technology for seismic hazard mitigation, identify research information, existing data bases, experimental facilities, and field test-beds available for joint studies, and identify research issues important to both Taiwan and the U.S., which need further investigations for the implementation of smart structural technology. This special issue of Smart Structure and Systems contains selected contributions from authors attending the Workshop.

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