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**International Earthquake Expert and Scholar Dr. Nicos Makris Named
Addy Family Centennial Professor in Civil Engineering at SMU**

DALLAS (SMU) – Dr. Nicos Makris has joined the [Lyle School of Engineering](#) as the Addy Family Centennial Professor in Civil Engineering. A world-renowned authority on earthquake engineering, Makris’ research interests are in the protection and design of structures against natural and human-made hazards. His contributions in the field consider the analysis and design of seismic-isolated and rocking structures—from tall bridge piers to rocking walls in buildings, and what part soil-structure interaction plays. Makris is also a leading authority on the reconstruction and preservation of ancient monuments and stone arches in areas with high seismic hazard. In his new role, Makris will continue his research and share considerable expertise in civil infrastructure resilience with students, shaping the next generation of civil engineers to tackle these problems and find solutions in this field.

“Nicos’ arrival at Lyle couldn’t be more timely, as domestic and international communities seek the best design solutions for aging infrastructure, structural integrity and seismic resilience,” said Marc P. Christensen, dean, Lyle School of Engineering. *“Nicos brings vast and relevant experience from academic appointments and sponsored research to Lyle, making him a leading resource on earthquake protection and infrastructure integrity locally, regionally and around the world.”*

Makris is a member of Academia Europaea, the European Union’s Academy of Humanities and Sciences as well as a Distinguished Visiting Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in the UK, and a member of Congress Committee and General Assembly, International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM).

He is the recipient of several awards and distinctions, including the Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize, American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE); the T. K. Hsieh Award from the Institution of Civil Engineers, UK; the Shah Family Innovation Prize, Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI); and the CAREER Award, National Science Foundation (NSF).

Makris is the author of over 250 research articles that attracted more than 7,300 citations with an H-index-46. He has received over \$4.1 million in funding support for his research in seismic protection and response.

Prior to joining SMU, Makris taught at several prominent universities, most recently as a professor of civil engineering at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Over his distinguished career, Makris’ studies have incorporated a wide range of experimental methods, mathematical modeling/analysis and structural monitoring that has led to innovative technologies and design practices that are used widely today to improve the performance and prolong the life span of civil infrastructure.

Makris earned a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the National Technical University of Athens, Greece, in 1988. He received both an M.S. and Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo, in 1990 and 1992 respectively.

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About SMU

SMU is the nationally ranked global research university in the dynamic city of Dallas. SMU's alumni, faculty and nearly 12,000 students in seven degree-granting schools demonstrate an entrepreneurial spirit as they lead change in their professions, community and the world.

About the Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering

SMU's Bobby B. Lyle School of Engineering, founded in 1925, is one of the oldest engineering schools in the Southwest. The school offers eight undergraduate and 29 graduate programs, including master's and doctoral degrees, through the departments of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Computer Science and Engineering; Electrical Engineering; Engineering Management, Information and Systems; and Mechanical Engineering. Lyle students participate in programs in the unique Deason Innovation Gym, providing the tools and space to work on immersion design projects and competitions to accelerate leadership development and the framework for innovation; the Hart Center for Engineering Leadership, helping students develop nontechnical skills to prepare them for leadership in diverse technical fields; the Caruth Institute for Engineering Education, developing new methodologies for incorporating engineering education into K-12 schools; and the Hunter and Stephanie Hunt Institute for Engineering and Humanity, combining technological innovation with business expertise to address global poverty.