We are most fortunate to have Daniela providing the Slemmons Lecture this year. Daniela was during the late 1980's and early 1990's instrumental in introducing and applying Paleoseismic studies in assessing normal faults and seismic hazard in Italy. Since that time she has authored well over 80 papers in the discipline and is now the Research Director of the Earthquake Department in the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia in Rome, a group of 140 researchers dedicated to assessing and mitigating the hazards imposed by earthquakes in Italy.

Each the Italian Alps and the Basin and Range Province share the characteristics of continental extension and active normal earthquake faults. Unlike the Basin and Range province, the Italian Alps have produced numerous moderate and large normal faulting earthquakes during the last twenty years and Daniela will provide us first-hand insight to earthquake processes in Italy.