



ASCE Geo-Institute: Engineering Geology and Site Characterization Committee

IFCEE 2015 & Geo-Congress Annual Meeting

Meeting Date: Tuesday March 17, 2015

Meeting Time: 8:00 – 11:59 PM

Meeting Location: Cibolo 3

Committee Meeting Participants

Thomas Oommen	Michigan Technological University	toommen@mtu.edu
Xiong (Bill) Yu	Case Western Reserve University	xxxy21@case.edu
Tejo Bheemasetti	University of Texas at Arlington	tejo.iitkgp@gmail.com
Navid Jafari	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign	njafariz@illinois.edu
Mike Lewis	Bechtel Corp.	Mlewis@bechtel.com
Hanna Moussa Jabbour	Lehigh University	Ham413@lehigh.edu
Suguang Xiao	Lehigh University	sux211@lehigh.edu
Mohammed Khan	University of Missouri	mkzv8@mail.missouri.edu
Paola Bandini	New Mexico State University	paola@nmsu.edu
Anna Shidlovskaya	University of Mines (StP, Russia)	shidanna@bk.ru
Scott Anderson	FHWA	scott.anderson@dot.gov
Anand Puppala	The University of Texas at Arlington	anand@uta.edu
Roman Hryciw	University of Michigan	romanh@umich.edu
Nick Hudyma	University North Florida	nhudyma@unf.edu
Paul Mayne	Georgia Institute of Technology	paul.mayne@ce.gatech.edu
Amy Cerato	The University of Oklahoma	acerato@ou.edu
Quan Gao	Case Western Reserve University	qxg29@case.edu
Chanjuan Han	Case Western Reserve University	cxh432@case.edu
Yuan Guo	Case Western Reserve University	yxg223@case.edu
Richard Coffman	University of Arkansas	rick@uark.edu
Thomas Gebrenegus	Engineering Systems Consultants, Inc.	t.gebrenegus.care@dot.gov
Jeremy Ashlock	Iowa State University	jashlock@iastate.edu
Zhen Liu	Michigan Technological University	zhenl@mtu.edu
Yan Liu	University of Mount Union	liuyan@mountunion.edu

Aaron Budge	Minnesota State University	aaron.budge@mnsu.edu
Murad Abu-Farsakh	Louisiana State University	cefars@lsu.edu
Khalid Mohamed	FHWA	khalid.mohammed@dot.gov
Naser Abu-Hejleh	FHWA	Naser.Abu-Hejleh@fhwa.dot.gov
Jean-Louis Briaud	Texas A&M University	briaud@tamu.edu

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting started at 8:07PM. Bill greeted the attendees. Attendees made self-introductions.

2. Review and approval of minutes from 2014 conference call meeting

Anand Puppala moved to approve the minutes from 2014 conference call meeting. Richard Coffman seconded. Motion was passed without dissent.

3. Update from Technical Liaison (Anand Puppala) and TCC workshop (Roman Hryciw, Bill Yu)

Anand provided update from Technical Committee Chair Meeting on the following items:

- A. Next year the Geocongress will be in Phoenix jointly with the structures institute.
- B. Next year the conference will not have a GSP. However, the committees can take leadership to publish a GSP.
- C. The special project funding request submitted by the committee is in the final stages of approval.
- D. In terms of committee activities, EG&SC should focus on doing some webinars. FHWA currently does webinar on CPT every 2 months and this can be a good format to follow.
- E. The funding for the committees from next fiscal year won't be a fixed amount (\$3000) like the previous years. The funding will be based on the committee's annual report and the budget request submitted with it..

Roman provided update from Technical Committee Chair Meeting on the following items:

- A. The policies and procedures for committees are going to be revised and a rigid succession plan for chairs should be in place. The vice chair will be the candidate for the chair and before approval, the TCC will review the vice chair's credential and CV.
- B. From next fiscal year, the funding of committees will be merit based on the annual report submitted by October 1st. Project funding will get priority over travel funds.
- C. Next Geocongress will be jointly with the structural institute and it will only have abstracts following the structural institute model. This model is more acceptable to practitioners. Since it only has abstracts, TCC rejected to accept it as a GSP. Nevertheless, selected abstracts could submit a paper that will be included as a non-peer reviewed paper. Committees can decide whether or not to publish a GSP. The proposal for committees to publish a GSP should be submitted before July 30th. If the committees decide to do the GSP they must request the authors for paper and coordinate the review process.
- D. At least 8-10 papers are needed to have a critical mass for a GSP. At this point it is not clear whether the GSP would be in print or CD. It will certainly be available as ebook.

- E. If the committee wants to conduct a specialty conference, the earliest availability would be 2019 or 2020. Chicago conference had done the pre-proposal in 2009. Specialty conference requires early planning.

Bill provided update from TCC Workshop on the following items:

- A. If the committees decide to publish a GSP associated with GeoStructure Conference, there should be no duplication of paper between GSP and conference proceedings.
- B. In this year conference, the workshop instructors were not paid. However, this will be rectified next year. Half a day workshop will be \$1000 and a full day event will be \$1500
- C. Presented the list of specialty conferences that have been planned
 - a. GeoChicago 2016, August 14-16, 2016
 - b. GeoFrontier 2017, March 12-15, 2017
 - c. GeoRisk 2017 Mid June 2017
 - d. Geotechnical Earthquake Conference 2018, late May or early June, Austin, TX
 - e. 2017 Unsaturated Soil Committee Specialty Conference
 - f. 2017 Grouting Committee Specialty Conference
- D. The Committee proposal for specialty project has been approved by TCC and is under review by BOG. Paul and Nick Sitar are co-chair of the special project. Total request is \$10k.
- E. Bill also updated on the best practices followed by other committees that EG&SC could emulate. Unsaturated Soil committee is organizing several webinars, Earthquake and Geotechnical Committee developed a policy document for outreach, and Risk Assessment and Management Committee has coordinated with several other organizations to jointly organize conferences.
- F. Geoinstitute wants to transfer all committee websites to a common domain. Joseph Coe has already transferred EG&SC website from John McCarthy. This would be a good opportunity to make that transition to Geoinstitute portal.

4. Committee Guest

- A. Barbara Connett updated on the 2017 Geotechnical Frontiers conference in Orlando, Florida from March 12-15, 2017.
- B. Donna Dickert updated on ASCE publications. Donna clarified on the GSP publication policies for the next geocongress. She also updated that the ASCE library is expanding with videos and supplemental material. ASCE is interested in doing more manuals and standards and would particularly like to improve on getting info to practitioners. Manuals once submitted will get reviewed by a panel before publication. The Geoinstitute publications are included in the Elsevier database. It is important to maintain the quality. Geoinstitute doesn't have much to worry. But it is important to keep standards. ASCE publication is looking for new ideas. Paul Mayne suggested including videos as figures in the GSP.

5. Committee Liaison Report

- A. ISSMGE- Paul Mayne
 - a. Paul provided a report on the list of conferences planned by ISSMGE
 - i. 16 African Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Tunisia, 27-30 April, 2015

- ii. The 3rd International Conference on the Flat Dilatometer, Rome, 14-16 June 2015
 - iii. XVI European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Edinburgh, 13-17 September, 2015
 - iv. 5th International conference on site characterization (ISC-5) in Brisbane, Australia in September 2016
 - v. 19TH International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Seoul, Korea, 17-22 September, 2017
- B. Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies - Jean Louis Briaud
 - a. The federation met last year in Italy and will meet this year in China
 - b. This has opened up considerable interaction between the presidents of various international geo-engineering societies.
 - c. Currently, the federation has 3 joint technical committees: Natural Slopes and Landslides, Representation of Geo-Engineering Data, and Education and Training
- C. Joint CCI, EWRI, and G-I Task Force on Elk River Chemical Spill –Nick Sitar
 - a. Nick was not available to provide the update.
- D. ASTM D18.26 – Richard E. Gray
 - a. Dick was not available to provide the update.
- E. IBC Code Task Force – Hong Yang
 - a. Hong was not available to provide the update.
- F. AEG, IAEG, EEGS - Jeff Keaton
 - a. Jeff was not available to provide the update.
- G. American GeoScience Institute - Roman Hryciw
 - a. Roman was unable to attend the last AGI meeting and didn't have much to report.
- H. DIGGS - Roman Hryciw, Murad Farsakh
 - a. Roman was not involved
 - b. Scott Anderson mentioned that it was turned over to Geo-Institute committee for DIGGS. <http://diggsml.org/>
- I. TC Sustainable Geotechnics – Ian Jefferson
 - a. Ian was not available to provide the update.

6. Submitted Reports- Bill Yu

- A. Annual Report: Bill told that the Annual report was submitted in time (by October 15th 2014 specified by TCC).

7. Committee Presentation/update

- A. Dr. Anna Shidlovskaya: Engineering Geology in Russia
Anna presented on the Engineering Geology program in Russia, the major schools that offer Engineering Geology in Russia, and their key research focuses.

B. Dr. Nick Huydma: Educational Resources on Engineering Geology

Nick updated that he is working with a group to develop a set of slides that could be used as an educational resource. He already has a large set of slides collected. He is hoping to work on this during summer 2015..

Jean Louis suggested that this could be a GI project and some funding (\$2500) could be requested.

8. Committee members in the news

Bill reported on the committee members in the news:

- i. Ken Stokoe: 2014 Cross Country Lecturer (finalist, initialized by Mike Lewis)
- ii. Peter Robertson: 2015 H. Bolton Seed Medal (finalist, initialized by Paul Mayne)
- iii. Prof. C. Hsein Juang: 2015 Ralph B. Peck Award (not selected, initialized by Risk Assessment and Management Committee)
- iv. Xiong (Bill) Yu: 2015 Huber Research Prize (pending, initialized by Vince Drnevich)
- v. 2015 Norman Medal/J. James R. Croes Medal: Madhyannapu, R. and Puppala, A. (2014). "Design and Construction Guidelines for Deep Soil Mixing to Stabilize Expansive Soils." J. Geotech. Geoenviron. Eng., 140(9), 04014051. (pending)
- vi. Carlos Santamarina: 2016 Cross Country Lecturer (pending, initialized by Dante Fratta)

Mike Lewis proposed a candidate for the 2015 Seed Medal. Bill indicated the Committee will be happy to endorse the nomination.

Bill encouraged everyone to think about names that deserves recognitions and propose candidates for awards.

Jean Louis commented on the contribution of Nick (Awards nomination committee chair) in nominating several of the committee members for award and encouraged the committee to continue to do this.

9. Committee Discussion Items:

- a. Bill reminded the committee to attract more international and female members to the committee. Currently EG&SC has 57 members.

10. Committee future plans:

- A. Geo-structure 2016 Session proposals and abstracts are due by April 7th. Two short course proposals have already been submitted.
- B. 2018 IAEG: Jean Louis suggested that the committee should contact Scott Burns

11. Meeting adjourned:

Bill proposed motion to adjourn the meeting. Aaron seconded it.