

Engineering Geology & Site Characterization Committee
Conference Call Meeting, Monday September 21, 2015
4:00-5:00PM Eastern Standard Time

Dial-In Instructions

Toll Free: (800) 832-0736
Toll: (303) 330-0440
Room Number: * 986 0907 #

Members and Friends in Attendance

Dan Jankly
Aaron S Budge
Abu-Farsakh Murad
Anderson Scott
Anand J Puppala
Bandini Paola
Mala Ciancia
Coffman Rick
David Saftner
Erter Shawna
Hryciw Roman
Khalid Alshibli (Khalid)
Lewis Mike
Nick Hudyma
Thomas Oommen
Xiong (Bill) Yu
Yan Liu
Zhen (Leo) Liu
Jeremy Ashlock
Junliang Tao
Nicholas Sitar

Excused

Amy B. Cerato
Gray Richard
Jeff R Keaton
Paul Mayne
Bill Likos
Joseph Coe
Anna Shidlovskaya

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of minutes from IFCEE 2015 meeting
Aaron proposed to approve the minute. Paola seconded. The minute was unanimously approved.
2. Update from TCC Liaison –Anand Puppala and Roman Hryciw

Anand provided update from TCC. Roman provided supplementary information. Q/A period followed. The following is summary of major issues

1) GSP policy for Geostructure conference. Committees who are interested to publish GSP are required to submit intent of publishing GSP to Roman by Sep 15. Currently only one request has been received from the unsaturated soils committee. GSP will be totally separate from GeoStructure in terms of submission and paper review schedule. GSP papers deadline is by Dec 1st and can include papers not directly related to GeoStructure conference. Members and friends of the Committee who are interested to prepare a GSP are advised to contact Roman to express the interest.

2) Board of Governors is in the process of instituting new policies for committee annual fund. The total budget for all G-I committee is \$25k per year, which will be allocated based on competitive selection. Budget for committee chair to attend TCC workshop. Committee will need to provide justification to receive additional travel support for other members. Bill will try to look into activities and provide justification to maintain the Committee's level of support.

3. Subcommittee Updates

a. Awards subcommittee – Nick Hudyma

Nick described that paper awards is due by Oct 1st. Members who would like to nominate a paper needs to contact Nick and Bill to get the package ready timely.

b. Website Subcommittee – Joe Coe

Joe sent excuse due to schedule conflict. Bill provided an update based on information provided by Joe. The Committee website is being migrated to ASCE host site. The Committee responded to a request in the summer 2015 with Committee mission statement and representative photos. The process appears to be on halt and Joe is still waiting for further instructions from ASCE. The delay is possibly related to the change of G-I staff recently (with director of G-I departure).

c. Membership subcommittee - Dante Fratta

Dante is absent

Bill indicated that the Committee membership is in healthy growing mode with more Young members and international members.

d. Education Activities on Engineering Geology- Nick Hudyma

Nick provided an update on the initiative. The efforts are currently put aside and Nick will work with Jeff Keaton and Nick Sitar to continue working on this.

e. Committee Special Project – Paul Mayne and Nick Sitar

Paul is at conference in Scotland and sent his greetings.

Nick provided an update. Nick faced schedule constraints and health issues, which made it difficult to move the special project. The delay in approval of the special project (6 months after the start of fiscal year) also made it difficult in managing the project budget.

Bill informed the Committee that Paul has family issue to take care over summer, due to illness of a family member. These all placed constraints on the project activities.

Nick proposed that additional members of the Committee who are interested in this work help to push forward this project.

Bill asked about the procedures to request project extension as well as budget management for special project (i.e, funding preallocated or reimbursement). Roman indicated that the project extension can be requested via annual report. Roman is unsure about how project budget is managed. But suspect that the project expenses are on reimbursement bases.

f. Committee Liaisons

- i. ISSMGE – Paul Mayne

Paul is not available

- ii. ISSMGE – TC308 Chair: Marcelo Sanchez

Marcelo is not available

- iii. ASTM D18.26 – Richard E. Gray

Dick is not available and indicated no much update from ASTM D18 presently and he will update when he has further information.

- iv. IBC Code Task Force – Hong Yang

Hong is not available

- v. Joint CCI, EWRI, and G-I Task Force on Elk River Chemical Spill –Nick Sitar

Nick indicated that there has been not further request for G-I to involve in this project.

- vi. AGI – Roman (Physical Geology Lab Manual)

Roman introduced AGI (which is a hub of over 60 organizations and with huge endowment fund). The AGI physical geology lab manual is one activity sponsored by AGI. Members of EG&SC Committee are encouraged to provide feedbacks and comments on the manual. A few members Nick, Bill, Anna, Anna have volunteered to review the chapters.

Nick Sitar made a general comment on the manual and indicated that it is very important to know what is the target audience of the manual. Nick also commented on the chapter on geological map. Based on his experience, the content is not up to date to reflect the increasing use of digital information (such as google map, DEM, DLG, etc.).

- vii. Other organizations: AEG, IAEG (Jeff), EEGS (Jeff), SEG, CGS (Canadian Geotechnical Society), American GeoScience Institute (AGI, Roman), TRB

No further discussion

- viii. Other (G-I technical committee updates)

No discussion

g. Subcommittee structuring

No discussion

4. IFCEE 2015 Summary – International Foundations Congress & Equipment Exposition, San Antonio, Texas, March 17-21, 2015

a. Session Proposals by Members of the Committee

- i. *Direct CPT Methods for Axial Pile Evaluation* by Paul Mayne

- ii. *Geotechnical Instrumentation and construction performance monitoring* by Malay Ghose-Hajra

- iii. *Engineering Geology and Site Characterization for Underground Energy Utilization* by Bill X. Yu and Chanjuan Han

b. Short Course Proposal:

Geotechnical Instrumentation Performance Monitoring for Construction by W. Allen Marr, Barry Christopher, Rob Nyren, and Malay Ghose-Hajra (withdrawn)

Bill briefly summarized the Committee involvement in technical session, short course, and activities for students and Young professionals. Members of the Committee are encouraged to actively involve in GeoCongress and other activities.

5. Committee Involvement in Conferences

a. GI-SEI Joint Conference GeoStructure Conference in 2016

Two short course proposals have already been submitted (Andrew and Briaud)

The Committee endorsed two short course proposals (Andrew Coe on Slurry Wall Construction and Quality Control; Jean-Louis Briaud on Bridge Scour). Andrew and Jean-Louis were not available to provide update.

Nick Sitar expressed the concern that the conference sessions of Geo-Structure were not decided with sound technical guidance. It lacks an oversight Committee to resolve issue with conflict of interest and assume the quality of the program. There is concern on how to maintain the high quality of G-I conferences as it's been done in the past. Roman mentioned that the annual geocongress has been taken away from TCC and Technical Committees. Due to this transition of staff structure with G-I, the Structural Institute dominated the decisions for the GeoStructure conference. TCC currently only controls the specialty conference. Roman will discuss this issue at the BOG meeting on Oct 1st.

b. GeoChicago 2016, August 14-16, 2016

No member has update

c. CMTC 2015 (Nick and Bill)

Nick and Bill are involved in the Carbon Management Technology Conference as representative from G-I per the request sent by Jeff Keaton. The conference received 148 abstracts and is in the final stage of program review.

6. Update on Committee Special Project (Paul and Nick)

The Committee has discussed about this

7. Committee members in the news

Paola is a member of a multi-university team that successfully launched the ERC center on bioinspired geoen지니어ing design.

Anand led a University-Industry research center.

8. Other activities under plan:

a. GeoFrontier 2017, March 12-15, 2017

b. GeoRisk 2017 Mid June 2017

c. Geotechnical Earthquake Conference 2018, late May or early June, Austin, TX

d. 2017 Unsaturated Soil Committee Specialty Conference

e. 2017 Grouting Committee Specialty Conference

Bill briefly introduced the planned activities.

9. Specialty conference

a. 2018 IAEG Conference championed by AEG (Tom and Bill)

Tom informed that the Committee has been invited to involve in the organizing of 2018 IAEG conference. More details will be discussed at the AEG annual meeting this week in Pittsburgh. Members interested to actively involve can contact Tom or Bill. So the names can be forwarded to the organizing Committee chair Scott Burns.

b. Committee specialty conference

Bill indicated that the Committee should look into organizing a specialty conference, possibly in 2019 timeframe to avoid conflict with 2018 IAEG Conference.

Roman indicated that specialty conference has been scheduled up to 2020 (GeoShore conference by sustainability committee). 2019 might be a good time for the Committee special conference, with another specialty conference by the Computational Models of Soils Committee.

10. Webinars, contributions to GeoStrata issues

Bill expressed the desire for the Committee to develop webinars, possibly by a task force in the near future. Nick raised the question about how the webinar revenue is distributed. Roman indicated that ASCE sets the price and the presenter gets a piece of the revenue. Nick proposed that portion of the revenue of webinar sponsored by a committee should go to support the Committee activities, rather than supporting general ASCE infrastructure. There is also issue with conflict with education programs certain Universities designed to reach to the broader audience.

Bill encouraged members to continue thinking about developing webinars and express the interest Bill.

11. Other issues

No other issues were raised. The Committee meeting adjourned at around 5PM EST.