

**Engineering Geology & Site Characterization Committee
Annual Meeting at 2017 GeoFrontier: Meeting Minutes
Tuesday March 14, 2017
8:00- 10:30 PM Eastern Standard Time
Meeting Room: Bayhill 21**

Meeting Participants

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Note: a number of members excused to miss the meeting due to the meeting time (Tuesday evening). This is an area that will be addressed in future planning. One possibility is to set the meeting during lunch time. This will be looked into.

1. Welcome to Attendees and Introductions of New Members

The meeting started with the introduction of the attendees.

2. Approval of minutes from 2016 fall conference call

The minutes from 2016 fall conference call was unanimously approved.

3. Update from TCC Technical Liaison (Anand Puppala, Nick Huydima, and Roman Hryciw)

Nick Huydima provided the update from the TCC. Committees of the year has been awarded to Underground Construction and Earth Retaining Structures committee. The award recognizes the efforts made by the committee in developing educational material, industrial partnership, and student outreach. GI president: Garry H Gregory made a presentation. He reminded that 70% of the GI members are practitioners and the technical committees need to make effort to reach out to them. Some ideas discussed include webinar, web-conference and regional conference for practitioners. It was told that there would be significant opportunities in the future to fund efforts in this direction. The highest priority of TCC for technical committees is to develop web-conferences. Earth retaining structures did a web-conference in 2016 with 6 speakers each taking 15 minutes and 1000 people signed for this. Going forward these web-conferences will have PDH credits and it will be handled by ASCE.

Abstracts are due end of March for 15 minute presentations via web-conferencing. Several committees have expressed interest. EG&SC is welcome to participate. The dates of the event are scheduled for Aug 16 & 17, 2017. Bill mentioned that Scott Anderson had proposed the idea of remote sensing case studies as a topic for web conference. The TCC has a new chair: Dimitrios Konstantakos. TCC chair encouraged committees to use various social media platforms for outreach. These venues need to be explored to increase membership. Committees should make some coordinated effort with some controls. Websites are important and should ensure it has a link to GI. Committee should think of having an outreach secretary post. Joseph Coe expressed interest to take that role or work closely with the person who would take that role.

TCC is working on a web-conference platform. Funding request will now be due August 30th. Annual reports are still going to be due October 1st. Bill added that previously both reports were due same time. GI has about 70k for special projects. If the TCC request is less than that amount it will be approved automatically. If it is more than the budget, then some reduction will be made. There was also discussion of students being paid on the special projects. Students can be paid but they have to be paid as contractors for ASCE. Which is not possible always. Funds can be given to university to pay students but they don't want university to charge overheads on that.

Bill mentioned that several committees are planning specialty conferences. 2017 (4 nos), 2018 (2 nos), 2019 (2 nos), 2020 (2 nos) are already scheduled.

4. Committee Liason Report

- a. ISSMGE – Paul Mayne, Jean-Louis Briaud and ISSMGE TC102 – Jason DeJong
Paul asked Jason to update first. Jason updated about the ISC 5 proceedings are available for free. This includes both presentation and proceedings. There were two bids for 2020. It will be in Budapest. CPT 2018 will be held in Delft, Netherlands.

Next James K. Mitchell Lecture will be given by John Powell in Seoul in September.

Paul suggested we have a link on our website for the ISSMGE site characterization committee. The venue for next ISSMGE 2021 will most likely be in Australia. There is interest to have 2025 in U.S. Jean Louis has volunteered to present the case for U.S. for 2025. Georisk is coming up in June in Denver. Canadian Geotechnical Conference is something that we should also keep in our radar. Mexican Geotechnical conference also has interesting conferences.

Bill mentioned that Geocongress previously invited session proposals. But now it is done differently, and the committee is not getting an opportunity. Nick agreed that he would discuss this with the TCC. It is important to have the opportunity for the committees to organize sessions. Otherwise, if the partnering agencies run it that will reduce the participation from different committees.

Paul discussed the energy measurement of the SPT hammer. He suggested that it is important to use the right energy efficiency value based on the auto hammer that is being used. He emphasized the need to have a session on this.

- b. Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies - Jean Louis Briaud
No update
- c. ASCE and G-I Task Force on Risk Based Design Guide – Jean Louis
No update
- d. ISSMGE TC308 – Marcelo Sanchez (designee TBD)
No update
- e. ISSMGE TC Sustainable Geotechnics – Ian Jefferson
No update
- f. Geo-Institute - Diane Swecker
No update
- g. ASCE Publication - Donna Dickert, ASCE publication policy and update to MOP 56.
Donna suggested that social media outreach is a major emphasize of GI. Donna offered to discuss with Mike and provide guidance on how a Manual of Practice (MOP) is developed. MOP can be an update or a total redo. The key aspect is to have a blue ribbon panel to review the MOP. GIS will support in term of editing and all the publishing aspects. Print and e-book will be produced. Both versions will be color. GI is excited about developing MOP.
- h. Russian Geotechnical Society - Anna Shidlovskaya
No update
- i. ASTM – Richard E. Gray
No update
- j. AEG, IAEG, EEGS - Jeff Keaton
No update
- k. American GeoScience Institute - Roman Hryciw
No update

- l. TRB – Scott Anderson
No update
 - m. FHWA – Frank Jalinoos
No update
 - n. Other G-I Committees: No updates
 - i. Unsaturated soils
 - ii. Geotechnics of soil erosion: Junliang provided an update the committee is undergoing change in leadership and the committee is planning a conference for 2020.
 - iii. Geophysics engineering
 - iv.
5. Committee Members/Friends in the News: Bill updated the committee on the news of various committee members of their recognition. Bill also encouraged everyone to report on their achievements.
- a. Jean Louis Briaud: 2015-2016 Cross Country Lecturer
 - b. Paola Bandini: ERC team
 - c. Anand Puppala: University-Industry cooperative research center.
 - d. Amy Cerato: Prakash Prize
 - e. Scott Anderson: 2017 AEG and GSA Jahns lecturer
 - f. Bill Yu: Fellow ASCE

Nominations

- g. Jean-Louis Briaud. Seed Medal (joint nomination with Geotechnics of Soil Erosion, Shallow Foundation Committee)
- h. Jie Han: 2017 ASCE Martin S. Kapp Foundation Engineering Award (awarded)
- i. Ning Lu: 2017 Peck Award (joint with Soil Properties and Modeling and Unsaturated Soils)
- j. Amy Cerato: Huber Research Prize
- k. Nick Sitar: Thomas A Middlebrooks Award (deferred to next round)

Nick mentioned that if anyone would like to nominate a paper that they should contact him or Bill. The committee will be glad to work with them to support the nomination. Bill mentioned there are several awards for young members that our committee could take advantage.

6. Committee Involvements in Conferences: Nick agreed to present to TCC to get the committees involved in developing the session proposal.
- l. Geo-Structure 2016
 - m. GeoChicago 2016, August 14-16, 2016
 - n. GeoFrontier 2017 (Aaron)
 - o. 2018 IAEG/AEG Congress (Jeff, Bill and Tom): Bill updated that the conference will be in San Francisco. The conference will be from 17-21 September, 2018.
7. Special projects (on-going & planning)
- p. Educational videos – Paul and Nick

Paul provided a sheet summarizing the CPT procedures. Paul mentioned that there are several videos already available. So it is not clear whether we need new videos.

- q. Update ASCE Red Book (#56) – Mike Lewis
- r. Engineering geology instructional materials – Thomas Oommen
- s. Other ideas:

Video Documentary: Bill mentioned that by August we have opportunity to submit new proposals. Jiliang Li came up with the idea of developing video documentary with pioneers in geotechnical community. Nick suggested pioneers of engineering geology. Leon suggested an idea of using game based approach. Based on Leon's experience, this has worked out very well. Bill indicated this is an area that potentially lead to new special project topics.

Webconference: Scott Anderson suggested to have a webconference organized by the committee on case history. Bill will follow-up with Scott. Paul mentioned that FHWA does a similar webconference. GI is planning to offer PDH hours for these webconference.

Interaction with Local GI chapter: GI is encouraging to connect with local GI chapter. This is an area we could also work. Have a speaker fund and pool of speakers. Mike asked where the listing of all local GI chapters are.

- 8. Committee Discussion Items: Bill suggested that it would be good to have a sub-committee to develop special projects. Leon agreed to lead this committee.

- t. Sub-Committee Updates

- i. Website Committee - Joe mentioned that our website is up to date. Joe offered that if there is anything that committee wants to advertise we can post on our website. Paul suggested to have a link to the site characterization committee of DFI.
- ii. Membership Committee - Dante Fratta: Bill updated that we now have several young members and two international members. If anyone wants to join the committee should contact Bill.
- iii. Awards Committee - Nick updated that the committee has been very busy. We nominated several people. List is given above. Deadline for the nomination is September. Bill encouraged self-nomination and the committee will be willing to support.
- iv. New committee formed for developing special project proposals

- u. Other items

- i. Webinar, GeoStrata special issue, etc.: Bill mentioned that the Rock Mechanics committee came up with a complete list of topics for the geostrata issue. The editor made the final pick. Our committee had several topics but we are not sure if any have been selected.
 - 1. Rockfall hazard rating system as a tool for designing rock slope
 - 2. Borehole geophysics for rock exploration
 - 3. Application of impact mechanics to rockfalls
 - 4. Commentary - Dave Rogers
- ii. Strategy to improve interactions with Engineering Geology committees (AEG, IAEG, Canada and Mexico)

Possible symposium/technical sections at IAEG conference

9. Committee specialty conference: Bill mentioned that there might be slot available for 2019. Jason asked what would be a reasonable time window to organize a conference. Paul mentioned for international it takes 3 years. It was discussed that 2020 or 2021 will be the reasonable timeframe to aim for. Bill suggested we should try to partner with other agencies. Thomas mentioned that AEG is willing to partner. The AEG annual conference is in September. So if we partner with them we will have to have it in September. Tom agreed to arrange a conference call with Paul Santi to discuss with AEG.
 - v. Computational Geotechnics (2019)
 - w. Earthquake Engineering (2018)
 - x. Grouting (2017)
 - y. Risk Assessment & Management (2017)
 - z. Soil Properties and Modeling (2019)
 - aa. Unsaturated Soils (2017)
 - bb. Engineering Geology and Site Characterization (target at 2020)
10. Other Business: Paul suggested to change the committee meeting time next year. Bill agreed that he would look into. Possibly change it to lunch time.
11. Meeting Adjourn

Motion was moved to adjourn and approved unanimously.