Meeting Minutes

Geo-Institute Unsaturated Soils Committee

Thursday, March 19th, 2015

IFCEE 2015, JW Marriott, San Antonio, TX

(8:00 pm – 12:00 am, Central Time)

1. Meeting called to order at 8:06 pm.
2. Introductions/Welcome (Hoyos)
   - Members: Laureano Hoyos (Chair, UT Arlington), John McCartney (Vice-Chair, UCSD), Sandra Houston (Previous Chair, ASU), Geoff Chao (Engineering Analytics), Majid Ghayoomi (U. New Hampshire), Kalehiwot Manahiloh (U. Delaware), Marcelo Sanchez (Texas A&M), Muralee Muraleetharan (U. Oklahoma), Anand Puppala (UT Arlington), Bate Bate (Missouri S&T), Liangbo Hu (U. Toledo), Zhen Liu (Michigan Tech), Xinbao Yu (UT Arlington), Xiong Zhang (U Alaska Fairbanks), Rob Schweinfurth (GI), Xiong (Bill) Yu (Case Western)
   - Guests: Lee Petersen (Itasca), Ali Khosravi (Sharif U), Mohamed Khosravi (VirginiaTech), Aritra Banerjee (UT Arlington), Aravind Pedarla (UT Arlington), Donna Dickert (GI), Wen Deng (Missouri S&T), Doug Cobos (Decagon Devices), Leo Rivera (Decagon Devices), Binod Tiwari (Cal State Fullerton), Bo Zhang (U. Oklahoma), Lin Li (Jackson State U.), Bhaskar Chittoori (Boise State U.), Wassim Tabet (U. Oklahoma)
3. Review of Minutes from 2014 Fall Teleconference (McCartney)
   - John moved to approve minutes, seconded by Sandra Houston, minutes approved unanimously.
4. Updates on Recent/Upcoming Conference Sessions
   - IFCEE 2015, San Antonio, TX
     i. Applied Unsaturated Soils Mechanics in Geotechnical Design – Vanapalli, Hoyos, and Oh: 5 presentations, 5 posters
     ii. Thermally-Active Foundation Systems – McCartney, Suleiman, and Olgun (co-sponsored by Deep Foundations Committee): 10 presentations, 4 posters
   - Symposium on Energy Geotechnics, Barcelona, Spain, June 2-4, 2015:
     i. 70 extended abstracts submitted to date
     ii. Selected papers will be selected in Geomechanics for Energy and the Environment
   - 6th Asia-Pacific Conference on Unsaturated Soils, Guilin, China, Oct 23-26, 2015
     i. Draft Paper Deadline March 31, 2015
     ii. Website: http://www.ap-unsat2015.com/
   - XVI European Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Edinburgh, Scotland, September 13-17, 2015.
     i. Final papers in press.
   - 2nd International Workshop on Geomechanics and Energy, Celle, Germany, October 13-15, 2015
     i. Website: http://www.eage.org/event/?eventid=1250
     ii. Abstracts due by June 10, 2015.

- 15th Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Buenos Aires, Argentina, November 15-18, 2015:
    i. More than 50 abstracts for unsaturated soil mechanics session, and another 50 for session on energy geotechnics.
    ii. Papers are currently in review.
- 1st International Conference on Geo-Energy and Geo-Environment, Hong-Kong, December 4-5, 2015:
    i. Website: http://gege2015.ust.hk/
    ii. Abstracts due September 30, 2015.
- 2016 Geotechnical & Structural Engineering Congress (GeoStructures 2016), First Joint GI/SEI Annual Conference, Phoenix, Arizona, February 14-17, 2016
    i. Session proposals due April 7, 2015. So far, the unsaturated soils committee is sponsoring the following:
        1. Soil-structure Interaction in Unsaturated Soils (Majid and Ravi)
        2. Performance of Foundations on Expansive Clays (Sandy, Geoff, Claudia)
        3. Impact of Desiccation Cracking on Geo-Structures (Marcelo and Jerry)
        4. Energy Geo-Structures (Abdelaziz, Sanchez, Olgun)
    ii. Update from Donna Dickert, Acquisitions Editor of ASCE
        1. No peer review process organized as part of the conference.
        2. All accepted abstracts will be included in the proceedings.
        3. Session organizers can choose to solicit full-length papers from authors to go into a Geotechnical Special Publication (GSP) with a minimum of 8-10 papers, but the organizers need to independently organize the review process for the papers (2 reviews per paper).
        4. GSPs must be approved by TCC.
        5. GSPs and reviews can be organized after the conference if necessary.
- GeoAmericas 2016, Miami, Florida, April 10-13, 2016
    i. Website: http://www.geoamericas2016.org/wp-content/uploads/GA2016_CallForAbstracts_web.pdf.
    ii. Focus on geosynthetics, opportunities for geosynthetics in unsaturated soils
    iii. Abstracts due March 30th, 2015.
- 2016 Geoenvironment & Sustainability Specialty Conference (GeoChicago 2016): Chicago, Illinois, August 14-18, 2016
    i. Website upcoming.
    ii. Sessions on unsaturated soil mechanics.
    iii. Abstracts due May 15th, 2015.
- 1st International Conference on Energy Geotechnics, Kiel, Germany, August 29-31, 2016
    i. Website: https://sites.google.com/site/energygeotechnics/events.
    ii. Abstracts due June 1st, 2015.
- 3rd European Conference on Unsaturated Soils (E-UNSAT 2016), Paris, France, 2016
    i. No details on conference dates or abstract deadlines available.
- Geotechnical Frontiers 2017, Joint GI-IFAI Conference, Orlando, FL, March 12-15, 2017
    i. Geo-Institute general conference for 2017
    ii. Co-sponsored by IFAI/IGS and GI.

- UNSAT 2018, Hong-Kong
    i. No details on conference dates or abstract deadlines available.

5. Publications Update from Donna Dickert of ASCE:
    - Supplemental video or data considered as part of publications.
    - Possibilities for manuals and standards of practice documents were discussed.
    - Guidelines for publishing proceedings are available online.
6. Planning discussion for PanAm-UNSAT 2017: Second Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils, Dallas, TX, TBD, 2017. (Attachment: Conference Proposal approved by TCC of the G-I)
    - Conference Co-Chairs: Hoyos and McCartney, Local Chairs: Sánchez and Miller, Technical Program Co-Chairs: Houston and Likos, Logistics Manager: Ghayoomi.
    - Anand will serve as the TCC Conference Liaison
    - Volunteers are needed to help with conference organization.
    - Leo Rivera noted that it may be a good idea to reach out to soil science community, especially as the Dallas area has many institutions with active programs in this area.
    - Recognized names in problematic soils, such as John Nelson and Bill Houston, may also be invited to deliver SOA lectures and attract more audience.
    - Objectives:
        i. To share latest research advances in the unsaturated soil mechanics discipline.
        ii. To share applications of unsaturated soil mechanics in conventional and sustainable geotechnical practice and design.
        iii. To share applications of unsaturated soil mechanics in sustainable geoenvironmental and energy geotechnics.
        iv. To share pedagogical innovations in incorporating unsaturated soil mechanics concepts into practice and curriculum.
        v. To exhibit latest technological advances in laboratory and field testing of unsaturated soils.
    - Value to GeoInstitute:
        i. To increase visibility, stature and membership of the Geo-Institute among the communities of unsaturated soil mechanics researchers, practitioners and students in the North, Central and South America regions.
        ii. To provide the most up-to-date information on unsaturated soil mechanics aspects of geotechnical and geoenvironmental engineering to members for use in geotechnical business, practice, and research.
7. Reports from Liaison Organization Contacts
    - Technical Committee Chairs Workshop (Hoyos/McCartney)
        i. No further need for triennial reports.
        ii. Make specific requests for budgets (no limit), novel ideas are requested.
        iii. Budget for each year is due as part of the annual report, deadline of October 1st is strictly enforced.
        iv. The e-room platform may be eliminated (Laureano to seek retrieval of all stored files originated from our committee).

- GI Geoenvironmental (Bate)
    i. Leadership transition: Krishna Reddy to Dimitrios Zekkos as chair, Arvin Farid is vice-chair, Bate Bate is secretary.
    ii. Working on balancing membership.
    iii. Expand short course and webinar offerings.
    iv. GeoChicago 2016 specialty conference organization was discussed.
- GI Shallow Foundations (Zhang)
    i. Booklet: "So Your House is built on Expansive Soils?"
    ii. 1 page guide for homeowners for houses on expansive soils
    iii. LRFD guide for shallow foundations is being developed.
    iv. Sandy: Good to have collaboration/review of the different documents.
- GI Soil Properties and Modeling (Muraleetharan)
    i. Leadership transition: Marika Santagata as the previous chair, Matt Evans as the new chair, Brina Montoya is the new vice-chair.
    ii. Possibly 2019 specialty conference jointly with Computational Geotechnics on Numerical and Computational Modeling, potentially in the San Francisco area in September.
- GI Geology and Site Characterization (Hoyos)
    i. Anand: special project on video taping of in-situ testing.
- GI Soil Dynamics Committee (Ghayoomi)
    i. New Chair is Adrian Rodriguez-Marek
    ii. GSP discussion on whether to support abstracts or full papers, and how this affects involvement of practitioners.
- ISSMGE Technical Committee on Unsaturated Soils (TC 106) (Miller)
    i. Last TC106 committee meeting was in UNSAT 2014 in Sydney
    ii. David Toll is the new chair, Bernardo Caicedo is the new vice-chair, and Adrian Russell is the new secretary.
    iii. Next UNSAT international conference will be in Hong-Kong in 2018, chaired by Charles Ng.
    iv. New award process has been formalized.
    v. Formal vote to sponsor PanAm-UNSAT 2017 still needed, Sandy will follow up with TC106 officers.
    vi. Evaluation of GI voting members in ISSMGE.
    vii. Next TC106 meeting will be in Asia-Pacific Conference in Guilin, China, October 2015.
- ISSMGE Technical Committee of Energy Geotechnics (Sánchez)
    i. Extended abstracts are requested for Barcelona workshop, position papers will be organized during the workshop
- TRB AFP60 Engineering Behavior of Unsaturated Soils (Zapata)
    i. Papers will be solicited soon, full-papers are due on August 1st, 2015
- ASTM D18.04 Hydrologic Properties and Hydraulic Barriers (McCartney)
    i. SWRC standard (ASTM D6836 is under review).

8. IBC Code Review (Arellano/Chao/Houston)
    - Review is still in progress
    - One goal is to tie moisture-sensitive (expansive/collapsible) soils into one category.

- Revisions are being made to IBC Ch. 18, and GI Unsat Committee members have been primarily monitoring Section 1803- Previous Expansive Soil design Standard. In particular, committee members have had participation in: (1) the work group charged with including collapsible soils in 1803 (lead- Megan Hart; members - Alan Kropp, David Arellano, and Sandy Houston), and (2) the work group on expansive soils (Geoff Chao is monitoring/participating). Woody Vogt, President of Paradigm Consultants, Houston, TX, is leading the overall charge on Chapter 18 revisions. The GI Unsaturated Soils Committee is working with the IBC Committee 1803, which is focused on inclusion of both expansive and collapsible soils (soils that change volume in response to moisture change), and on addressing, defining, and/or explaining expansive, compressible, and collapsible soils.

9. Awards (McCartney)
   - Announcements
     i. William Likos: 2015 Huber Research Prize: Likos is honored for contributions to geotechnical engineering research and practice, including novel solutions to the measurement of unsaturated soil behavior and the advancement of unsaturated soil mechanics theory and practice.
   - Current nominations:
     i. Ning Lu was nominated for the 2015 ASCE-GI Cross-US Lecturer
     ii. Jean-Louis Briaud was selected for the 2015 ASCE-GI Cross-US Lecturer
   - Discussion of current paper nominations
     i. Laureano will send reminders periodically
   - Discussion of new nominations (Deadline for paper awards: October 1st).
10. Progress on Webinar Series (Houston)
   - Our committee has been active in providing webinars, including (attachment):
     i. Introduction to unsaturated soils (Fredlund)
     ii. Laboratory methods for unsaturated soils (Likos/Padilla)
     iii. Unsaturated soils in pavements (Siekmeier/Zapata)
     iv. Collapsible soils (Houston/Miller)
     v. Design of stiffened slabs on grade on shrink-swell soils - A new approach (Briaud/King)
     vi. Constitutive behavior of unsaturated soils (Hoyos/Zhang)
     vii. Estimating Unsaturated Soil Properties for Shear Strength and Volume Change (Vanapalli/Houston, W.)
     viii. Design and analysis of water balance covers (Benson)
     ix. Measurement of Soil Suction in the Field for Geotechnical Engineering Applications (Puppala/Fredlund)
     x. Unsaturated Soil Mechanics in Slope Stability (Lu/Godt)
     xi. Slope Stability - Numerical Modeling and Impacts of Surface Flux Conditions (Rahadjo/Fredlund, M.)
     xii. Thermal Behavior of Unsaturated Soils (McCartney)
   - Future webinars (Houston)
     i. Webinar subcommittee meeting was held (Sandy, Xiong, Ning, Geoff, Scott Anderson) on March 2, 2015

ii. Several webinars will be repeated to ensure they are recorded for on-demand download
iii. New members of the webinar subcommittee: Zhen Liu, Majid Ghayoomi, and Xinbao Yu (all volunteered).
iv. A webinar on sensors by Decagon was discussed.
v. Proposed webinars (one subcommittee member organizing each):
    1. Geosynthetics as Capillary Barriers (Karen Henry)
    2. From Lab to Analysis
    3. Foundations for Dynamic Loading of Unsaturated Soils
    4. Forensic Evaluations for Foundations on Unsaturated Soils
    5. Design of Foundations for Unsaturated Stiff Cemented Soils
    6. Site Characterization and Foundation Design for Intermediate Soils
    7. Unsaturated Soils Aspects of Landfill Design
    8. Foundations on Expansive Soils (Geoff Chao recently published a book on this topic, so he may be a good choice of a presenter)

11. Progress on Special Issues in Journals:
- Special issue of *ASCE International Journal of Geomechanics* on "Experimental and Computational Geomechanics for Unsaturated Soils" (Muraleetharan, Hoyos, Ge)
    i. Received 66 abstracts, 37 papers invited, 30 final papers submitted for review.
    ii. Thanks to members for assistance in the review process.
- Special issue of *ASCE Journal of Performance of Constructed Facilities* on "Unsaturated Soil Related Geo-Hazards" (Zhang/Bate)
    i. Approval has been granted to move forward with the special issue.
    ii. 13 papers will be invited from different countries.
- Special issue of *Springer Journal of Geotechnical and Geological Engineering* on "Thermo-hydro-mechanical Behavior of Soils, Rocks, and Energy Geostructures" (McCartney)
    i. 15 papers published in the upcoming April 2015 issue.

12. Contributions to GI Strategic Plan (Hoyos)
- The GI strategic plan wants to have more outreach to practitioners, as they constitute a large proportion of the ASCE-GI membership.
- Possible future products from our committee:
    i. Webinars On-Demand (Houston)
    ii. State-of-the-Art/Practice manuals (Fredlund/Houston)
    iii. Special Issue of GEO-STRATA on "Energy Geotechnics" (Sánchez)
    iv. Nominations for 1-day traveling short courses
- Recruitment of active emeritus members from academia/practice industry
- Reaching out to local ASCE and/or GI chapters (included in FY2015 budget request)

13. Website Update (McCartney)
- Committee website will be the first to move to the new GI website.
- The current website will be maintained until this move.

14. Other Business
- Soil Science Society of America is interested in branching out and meeting with liaison committees.
- Marcelo is organizing an update for the North America region for the ISSMGE Bulletin. Please contact him with news items that could be incorporated.

- Laureano distributed flyers with calls for abstracts for three themed issues of *Environmental Geotechnics* (ICE Pub.): (1) Soil-atmosphere interaction; (2) The Bio-geo-interface; and (3) Energy geo-structures.

15. Adjourn at 10:48 pm.

Webinar Title	Instructor(s)	Acct. Code	Date	Fiscal Year	Registrations	Recording
Applications of Unsaturated Soils to Pavement Design	Claudia Zapata, John Siekmeier	7243W2010	8/10/2010	2010	23	
Applications of Unsaturated Soils to Pavement Design	Claudia Zapata, John Siekmeier	8198W2011	5/31/2011	2011	8	
Engineering Practice for Wetting-Induced Collapse of Soils	Sandra Houston, Gerald A. Miller	8050W2011	12/1/2010	2011	34	YES
timation of Unsaturated Soil Properties for Shear Strength and Volume Change Applications in Practic	William Houston, Sai Vanapalli	6102W2012	1/31/2012	2012	11	YES
Introduction to Constitutive Modeling of Unsaturated Soils	Laureano Hoyos, Xiong Zhang	6026W2012	11/2/2011	2012	7	
Introduction to Unsaturated Soil Mechanics	Delwyn Fredlund	7076W2010	1/13/2010	2010	22	
Introduction to Unsaturated Soil Mechanics	Delwyn Fredlund	8151W2011	4/1/2011	2011	28	YES
Hillslope Hydrology and Stability	Ning Lu, Jonathan Godt	7196W2013	4/8/2013	2013	48	
The Measurement of Soil Suction for Geotechnical Engineering Applications	Bill Likos and Manuel Padilla	7176W2013	3/21/2013	2013	9	YES
Thermo-Mechanical Behavior of Unsaturated Soils	John McCartney	6156W2015	3/10/2015	2015	2	YES
nsaturated Soil Mechanics in the Laboratory: Measuring Suction and the Soil-Water Characteristic Cur	William Houston, Sai Vanapalli	7157W2010	4/23/2010	2010	20	
nsaturated Soil Mechanics in the Laboratory: Measuring Suction and the Soil-Water Characteristic Cur	William Houston, Sai Vanapalli	8182W2011	5/9/2011	2011	10	YES
Water Balance Modeling for Alternative Water Balance (ET) Covers	Craig Benson	6188W2012	4/13/2012	2012	22	YES
Water Balance Modeling for Alternative Water Balance (ET) Covers	Craig Benson	7169W2013	3/14/2013	2013	11	
Water Balance Modeling for Alternative Water Balance (ET) Covers	Craig Benson	7304W2013	8/1/2013	2013	0	
Slope Stability: Numerical Modeling and Impacts of Surface Flux Conditions	Harianto Rahadjo, Murray Fredlund	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

PROPOSAL SUBMITTED TO *(list Division(s), Council(s), or Institute(s))*: *The Geo-Institute of ASCE*

Prepared by: *Laureano R. Hoyos, Ph.D., P.E.*

Email Address: *lhoyos@uta.edu*

Phone Number: *817 272 3879*

Fax Number: *817 272 2630*

Mailing Address: *416 Yates Street, Suite NH 417, University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, Texas 76019*

Signature: LHoyos

Date: *January 5, 2015*

ORGANIZERS AND COMMITTEE INFORMATION

Please provide as much information on the volunteers as possible.

Chair: *Laureano R. Hoyos, Professor, University of Texas at Arlington*

Co-Chair: *John McCartney, Associate Professor, University of California, San Diego*
(Reality Checker & Backup):

Technical Program Chair: *Sandra Houston, Professor, Arizona State University*

Technical Program Vice-Chair: *William Likos, Professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison*
(Reality Checker & Backup):

Local Chair: *Marcelo Sanchez, Associate Professor, Texas A&M University*

Sponsorship & Exhibits Chair: *Anand Puppala, Professor, University of Texas at Arlington*

Other proposed committee members: *Sai Vanapalli, Professor, University of Ottawa, Canada*

Greg Siemens, Associate Professor, Royal Military College, Canada

Jorge Abraham Díaz-Rodríguez, UNAM, Mexico

Bernardo Caicedo, Associate Professor, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia

Julio Colmenares, Associate Professor, Universidad Nacional, Colombia

Orencio Villar, Professor, University of Sao Carlos, Brazil

Tacio de Campos, Professor, PUC-Rio, Brazil

Logistics Manager: *Majid Ghayoomi, Assistant Professor, University of New Hampshire*

BASIC INFORMATION

Proposed Title: *PanAm-UNSAT 2017: Second Pan American Conference on Unsaturated Soils*

Type of Event ***(check one):***

- ☐ Congress
- ☒ Specialty Conference
- ☐ ASCE Annual Sessions
- ☐ Conference Sessions *(non-Institute or non-ASCE conference)*
- ☐ Workshop
- ☐ Short Course

☐ Other (*explain)* _____

_____

Overall Purpose of the event: *(50-words description)*

The last International Conference on Expansive Soils was held in Dallas, Texas, in 1992. This was the seminal conference series which was eventually transformed into the Unsaturated Soils regional and international conference series. The proposed PanAm-UNSAT 2017 conference will follow this series of successful regional and international conferences on Unsaturated Soils, bringing together researchers, practitioners, students and policy makers from around the world, particularly the Americas, to share the latest advances, engineering applications, and pedagogical approaches in the unsaturated soil mechanics discipline.

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

List up to five (5) Objectives:

1. *To share the latest research advances in the unsaturated soil mechanics discipline.*
2. *To share applications of unsaturated soil mechanics in sustainable geotechnical practice and design.*
3. *To share applications of unsaturated soil mechanics in emerging areas of geotechnical-geoenvironmental engineering.*
4. *To share pedagogical innovations in incorporating unsaturated soil mechanics concepts into practice and curriculum.*
5. *To exhibit the latest technological advances in laboratory and field testing of unsaturated soils.*

What is the value to the Institute/TAC?

1. To increase visibility, stature and membership of the Geo-Institute among the communities of unsaturated soil mechanics researchers, practitioners and students in the North, Central and South America regions.

2. To provide the most up-to-date information on unsaturated soil mechanics aspects of geotechnical and geoenvironmental engineering to members for use in geotechnical business, practice, and research.

EVENT AND PROGRAM HISTORY

(Not necessary for Geo-Congress)

Previous Event Name: *PanAm-UNSAT 2013: First Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils*

Dates: *February 20-22, 2013*

City: *Cartagena, Colombia*

Facility: *Cartagena Convention Center*

Total Attendance: *135* FREs*: *Requested* Exhibits #: *Requested*

** FREs is the total number of full paid registrants plus the average of the daily registrants. For example, if there are three days with one-day registrations, the total of all one-day registrants would be divided by three (the number of days) to obtain the average.*

Comments *(attach history of earlier meetings, if available)*

The first PanAm-UNSAT conference was organized by the Universidad de los Andes, Colombia, in 2013. The Geo-Institute was among the supporting organizations, with no financial responsibility whatsoever. Because this was the first such regional event, and due to the location, attendance was relatively small. The proposed US venue is expected to bring many more attendees because the subject matter is of considerable interest locally, given regional problems with expansive soils and given expansion of the related geothermal and oil and gas industries. Also, continental US will be an easier travel destination for US, Canadian, Central America and other International participants. In addition, regional UNSAT conferences have developed internationally in the Europe and Asia-Pacific regions, with great success in attracting international participants. The proposed PanAm-UNSAT 2017 conference will provide similar access to the Geo-Institute for this growing community of researchers and practitioners. Finally, a similar-themed event was held in Carefree, Arizona (UNSAT 2006), with GI sponsorship and excellent attendance, demonstrating strong membership interest, which has grown substantially since 2006. Several committee members of the currently proposed PanAm-UNSAT 2017 conference were also heavily involved in the organization of this past successful event (Houston, Hoyos).

CO-SPONSORSHIP AND COOPERATING ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

List potential Co-Sponsors or Organizers with Responsibilities for Each:
(limit to those with major impact on the success of the conference)

- *Technical Committee on Unsaturated Soils, The Geo-Institute of ASCE*
- *TC106 Committee on Unsaturated Soils, International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Eng. (ISSMGE)*
- *TRB Committee AFP60 on Engineering Behavior of Unsaturated Soils*
- *The University of Texas at Arlington (possible host)*

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

List Cooperating Organizations with Responsibilities for Each:
(limit to those with major impact on the success of the conference)

- *Canadian Geotechnical Society*
- *Mexican Geotechnical Society*
- *Colombian Geotechnical Society*
- *Brazilian Geotechnical Society*

What will be the roles of these Organizations? How will they participate in the organizing and planning?

Conference promotion, keynote speakers, technical session proposals, paper reviews, GSPs editing, exhibitors.

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

TECHNICAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

Will a Call for Papers be issued? ☒ Yes ☐ No

OR Will all Speaker be invited? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Type of Sessions: *Technical Sessions*

Number of Speakers: *6-7 per session*

Plenary or General Session(s)? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *2-3*

Concurrent Sessions? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *3-4*

How many per day: *12-15*

Technical Tours? ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No Est.# _____

How many per day: _____

Posters? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *30-40*

How many per day: *1-2 sessions for student posters*

Guest Tours? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *1*

How many per day: *1 during the conference*

Will there be Proceedings? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *1-2*

Book of Abstracts ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

Proceedings ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No

Format ..... ☒ CD ☐ Book

Estimated number of Papers: *200-250*

Estimated number of pages per paper: *6-10 pp*

Estimated total proceedings pages: *Approx. 2,000 (CD-ROM)*

Will the Technical Chair be the Editor ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No

If not, please provide name of Editor(s): *Hoyos, Houston, McCartney, Likos, and Vanapalli*

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

Proposed Conference Themes or Session Topics: *(please provide a minimum of 4-6 suggested themes or topics)*

- *Unsaturated Soil Behavior*
- *Laboratory and In-situ Testing*
- *Constitutive and Numerical Modeling*
- *Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Applications*
- *Critical New Areas (unsaturated rocks, permafrost, energy geotechnics, etc.)*
- *Select Case Histories*

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION

Estimated Attendance: *350+*

Target Audience: *Researchers, practitioners, exhibitors, students*

Breakdown of Estimated Attendance:

- Full Registrations: *200+* Justification: *Previous attendance to UNSAT 2006 conference*
- Daily Registrations: *50* Justification: *High level of interest manifested by local firms*
- Student Registrations: *100* Justification: *Proximity of several universities to Dallas/Fort Worth*
- Complementary Registrations: *3-4* Justification: *TC106 committee chair, keynote speakers*
- Other Registrations: _____ Justification: _____

EXHIBIT INFORMATION

Booths? ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No Est.# _____

Note: *must have a minimum of 25 paid exhibitors to qualify for booths.*

Table-tops? ..... ☒ Yes ☐ No Est.# *5-10*

Posters? ..... ☐ Yes ☒ No Est.# _____

Suggested time and duration of the exhibits: *8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (2 days)*

Estimated Number of Exhibitors: *5-10*

Reasons for desiring exhibits to be part of the program:

To exhibit latest technological advances in laboratory and field testing of unsaturated soils.

Will committee assist in providing leads for companies & contacts for marketing?

..... ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, how? *The conference committee will provide a comprehensive list of sponsors from previous International and Regional Conferences on Unsaturated Soils since the early 1990's, as well as unsaturated soils-related sponsor lists from TRB conferences.*

FOOD AND BEVERAGE INFORMATION

List all Meal Functions to be held at the event & indicate whether the recommendation is to include in the price of the registration fee or as a separate ticket.

	Include in fee	*Separate ticket*	
• Breakfast – Continental	☐ Yes	☒ No	Est.#
Justification: *Most local hotels will offer this (complimentary)*			
• Reception – Ice Breaker	☒ Yes	☐ No	Est.# *1*
Justification: *Welcoming event (evening prior to first day of conference)*			
• Beverage Breaks	☒ Yes	☐ No	Est.# *6*
Justification: *In between sessions (2 per day)*			
• Awards Event	☐ Yes	☒ No	Est.#
(Provide type of event—luncheon, dinner, etc.--under "other")			
Justification:			
• Luncheon w/ Speaker	☒ Yes	☐ No	Est.# *1*
Justification: *Main keynote event honoring (tentatively) Prof. Del Fredlund*			
• Dinner/Evening *gala, theme, fun, etc.)*	☒ Yes	☐ No	Est.# *1*
Justification: *Long standing tradition for all international/regional UNSAT conferences, including PanAm-UNSAT 2013*			
• Reception – Ice Breaker	☐ Yes	☒ No	Est.#
Justification:			
• **Other/Explanation**	☐ Yes	☒ No	Est.#
Justification:			

List any special needs or plans to be budgeted for:

N/A

MARKETING INFORMATION

Target Audience *(list all categories):* *Researchers, practitioners, exhibitors, students, professional societies*

- ASCE Institutes: *Geo-Institute*
- ASCE Technical Divisions: *TBD*
- Other Organizations: *ISSMGE, TRB, ASTM, and Canadian, Mexican, Colombian and Brazilian Geo-Societies*
- Local Groups: *Leading engineering firms in the DFW metroplex, including Golder, Kleinfelder, Terracon, Fugro, etc.*
- Subscribers to publications and/or journals: *ASCE, Geo-Strata, TRB, and ASTM. (The conference committee will also seek to list Geo-Institute members, and members of all supporting organizations, as well as university libraries and geotechnical businesses.)*

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Expected funding source: *Golder Associates Inc.* **$** *(Currently being discussed)*

Reason for this expectation: *Del Fredlund, conference honoree, is a senior geo-specialist with Golder Assoc., Canada*

Expected funding source: _____ **$** _____

Reason for this expectation: _____

Expected funding source: _____ **$** _____

Reason for this expectation: _____

Expected funding source: _____ **$** _____

Reason for this expectation: _____

LOCATION & DATE INFORMATION

Please provide reasons why a particular region or city is requested.

Option 1 – Region and/or City: *Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex*

Technical projects / reason for this location: *There are many major universities active in unsaturated soil research within driving distance, including University of Texas System, Texas A&M System, New Mexico State Univ., Arizona State Univ., Univ. of Oklahoma, Louisiana State Univ., Univ. of Arkansas, and others. There are also more than 300 large engineering firms, in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex alone, devoted to geotechnical engineering, oil-gas extraction, and energy geotechnics. The Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport is the primary international airport serving the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. It is the largest hub for American Airlines and the second largest in the US, behind Denver Int. Airport. Many past successful international and regional conference on problematic soils have been held in Dallas, including the 7th International Conference on Expansive Soils (EXPANSIVE'92), which has made it a well-known and liked location for the unsaturated soils community.*

Option 2 – Region and/or City: _____

Technical projects / reason for this location: _____

Option 3 – Region and/or City: _____

Technical projects / reason for this location: _____

DATES:

Option 1: *September 2017*

Why were these Dates selected: *Excellent weather (Fall), and to stay away from ASCE Annual Conference (October)*

Option 2: _____

Why were these Dates selected: _____

Option 3: _____

Why were these Dates selected: _____

SPECIALTY CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

CONFERENCE COMPETITION/CONFLICTS

Please list any conferences you consider competition with or in conflict with your proposed conference, along with dates and location. Please include conferences occurring up to 12 months before and 12 months after your conference.

Conference Name: *GI Annual Geo-Congress*

Dates: *March 2017* Location: _____

Conference Name: *ASCE Annual Conference*

Dates: *October 2017* Location: _____

Conference Name: *Geo-Risk Specialty Conference*

Dates: *November 2017* Location: _____

Conference Name: _____

Dates: _____ Location: _____

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

What Organization will manage the event? *Geo-Institute of ASCE*

Why was this Organization selected? *GI conferences' long history of large attendance, good advertising, and prestige of ASCE publication, which is marketed world wide.*