**Soil Properties and Modeling (SP&M) Committee**

**Geo-Institute, American Society of Civil Engineers**

**Memorandum**

**To:** Soil Properties and Modeling (SP&M) Committee Members

**From:** Giuseppe Buscarnera, Vice Chair, and Michelle Barry, Chair

**Date:** Monday, December 20, 2021

**Re:** Committee Meeting Minutes from Monday, December 20, 2021 2:00 – 4:00 PM CST, Winter Teleconference

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

Call to Order, 2:04 PM ET (Barry)

1. Welcome and Introductions (Barry)

***Members attending:***

*Michelle Barry, Giuseppe Buscarnera, Nick Hudyma, Mustafa Alsaleh, Khalid Alshibli, Robert Bachus, Landon Barlow, Saad Bassam, Chris Baxter, Ryan Beemer, Michael Coryell, Sheng Dai, Don DeGroot, Chadi El Mohtar, Matt Evans, Aaron Gallant, Mike Gomez, Yazen Khasawneh, Melissa Landon, Hai (Thomas) Lin, Bret Lingwall, Alejandro Martinez, Brina Montoya, Kanthasamy Muraleetharan, Chukwuebuka Nweke, Juan Pestana, Rafael Prieto, Nadarajah (Ravi) Ravichandran, Richard Regueiro, Cassandra Rutherford, Marika Santagata, Karl Schwartz, Radhey Sharma, Oliver Taylor, Audui Theinat, Cumaraswamy Vipulanandan, Hamza Jaffal*

***Guests and other GI-staff/liaisons attending:*** *Paola Bandini, Jennifer Nicks, Leon van Paassen, Krystina Scott*

Michelle Barry is taking the role of committee chair. Giuseppe Buscarnera is joining her leadership team as vice chair.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 2021 meeting

Motion to approve (Rutherford), second (Evans) – approved unanimously at 2:07 PM

1. Update from TCC (Hudyma)

Bob Gilbert is the new president of the GI board of governors. During the last TCC meeting the funding for special projects available to technical committees was discussed. The possibility to increase the current funding for individual projects from 10k to 18k is being discussed. This year, 8 proposals were received. Of these proposals, 7 were funded, 5 fully and 2 at a reduced amount. Our committee was the recipient of one of the fully funded special projects.

The SP&M committee has a new liaison with TCC. Paola Bandini, who was elected as TCC member, will take over as liaison for our committee. Paola briefly introduced herself and shared her interest in the activities and goals of the committee.

1. Update from G-I/ASCE (Scott)

Krystina Scott provided a summary of this year’s webconference. It was a successful event in terms of both registrations and revenues. The meeting was recorded and contents are available through the G-I YouTube channel. Plans are currently being developed for next year’s webconference.

* Leon van Paassen and Aaron Gallant participated in the webconference

The activities related with the planning of the Geostrata issue of April/May were discussed. The focus of the April/May issue is education for geotechnical engineers. Contents for this issue are accepted until January 24 and the committee members were encouraged to share their ideas.

* Following the meeting, Bob Bachus suggested an “Educating the Geos” topic focused on gathering and reporting feedback from educators who actively engage practicing professionals in their classes, and schools which have active Advisory panels that influence curriculum development and delivery.
1. G-I and ASCE Awards
	1. Awards Subcommittee

The role of the awards subcommittee was summarized, stressing its focus on the nomination of papers for awards. The current members are Mike Coryell (chair), Mustafa Al Saleh and Alejandro Martinez. Additional members are welcome to volunteer to join the committee.

* 1. Individual Awards

The activities of the SP&M committee on individual awards were discussed. Giuseppe Buscarnera was nominated jointly with EMI Granular Materials committee to the Huber Award (evaluation still pending). The committee also led the nomination of Alejandro Martinez to the Casagrande Award, which was successful and resulted in the assignation of the award to Alejandro. Congratulations to him!

1. Update from Special Projects Subcommittee (Lin and van Paassen)

Updates were given about the activities of the special project “Solidifying Bio‐mediated Soil Improvement Methods in GeoTechTools”. This is a joint initiative of the Soil Improvement and Soil Properties and Modeling committees. It focuses on advancing the characterization of biomediated soil improvement techniques and on the use of GeoTechTools to expand the dissemination of these technologies to practitioners. This is a three-year project for which the first year has already been funded and the committee will re‐apply for the remaining years of the project.

* 1. Past Special Project (Barry & Khasawneh):

Among the ongoing activities of the committee, the effort in developing a database of lectures and presentations for practitioners and students was discussed. This is part of an ongoing effort to keep updated the roster and resources of the committee, with the goal to build a diverse database of case histories and presentations for dissemination. The committee members will be engaged in the next several weeks through Google forms aimed at surveying the general interest in contributing to this database of both existing and new presentations. The ultimate goal will be the use of these resources for webinars and/or webconferences.

1. New Initiative from the G-I, “The Big Question” Web Show (Barry)

Although this initiative did not yet gain enough momentum, it is still possible to contribute to it by preparing a video showcasing the strengths of the committee and use it as dissemination tool. Members were encouraged to reach out if they want to share specific ideas on this topic.

1. Committee Website (Lin & Barry)

The committee has a new website populated with current News and Events. Members were encouraged to share news and items of interest for the community that they would like to be advertised from our website.

1. Upcoming and Recent Committee Activity
* The SP&M committee nomination of Wystan Carswell to deliver the State of Practice (SOP) at Geo-Congress 2022 was successful. The SOP topic is “Using Advanced Finite Element Method (FEM) Modeling and Soil Property Measurements in Dense Urban Development”.
* The committee is also leading the organization of a panel on “Characterization and Modeling of Mine Tailings: from Risk Assessment to Early Warning” and is co-organizing with the Soil Improvement Committee a session on “Recent Developments on Bio-Mediated Soil Improvement Methods”.
* Feedback was shared about the success of the recent Geo-Extreme 2021, held in November 2021.
* Positive feedback was also shared about ICSE-10, organized in virtual form in October 2021. Brina Montoya presented at the virtual conference.
* Upcoming events of interest to the committee are the conference on Offshore Geotechnics (ISFOG 2020), to be held in August 28-31, 2022, at Austin, TX, and the Lifelines 2021-2022 conference, held at UCLA on January 31 - Feb 4.
1. Updates from Other Committees

No updates from other committees.

1. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned.