**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:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024

**Re:** Committee Meeting Minutes from Tuesday, February 27, 2024 3:00 – 5:00 PM PT, Spring Committee Meeting (Geo-Congress 2024 – Vancouver, Canada)

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

*Call to Order, 3:04 PM PT (Barry)*

1. Welcome and Introductions (Barry)

***Members attending:***

*Michelle Barry, Cassandra Rutherford, Andrew Fuggle, Ryan Beemer, Giuseppe Buscarnera, Michael Coryell, Sheng Dai, Mike Gomez, Hai (Thomas) Lin, Bret Lingwall, Alejandro Martinez, Marika Santagata, Radhey Sharma, Maiely Minozzo, Alexandra Clara Saracho, Chukwuebuka C. Nweke, Ujwalkumar Patil, Debojit Sarker, Marcelo Sanchez; Rich Regueiro; Juan Pestana; Mostaqur Rahman; Don De Groot; Victor Kaliakin; Brina Montoya.*

***Guests and other GI-staff/liaisons attending:*** *Paola Bandini (TCC), Leon van Paassen, Yuderka Trinidad, Hamid Karimpour*

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 2024 Teleconference

*Minutes Approved*

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

*Krystina was not able to attend, but the following topics were mentioned based on emails and feedback from the G-I, ASCE, and the TCC*

* 1. GeoStrata content
     + *GeoStrata is always looking for new contents*
  2. Workshops and webinars
     + *Committees are always welcome to participate in the annual live streaming GI Web Conference.*

1. Updates from TCC (Montoya/Bandini)
   1. TCC members and liaisons for our committee
   2. General updates
      * *The TCC is committed to facilitating collaborations among technical committees, especially in the context of specialty conferences and multi-disciplinary sessions*
   3. Special projects and activities of other committees
      * *The budget for the next cycle of special projects is still under the process of being defined. All committees are encouraged to broaden as much as possible the scope of the potential projects to be submitted to increase engagement across the multiple types of G-I members, including students, faculty and practitioners.*
   4. Opportunities for the committee and members
      * *The importance of continuously revising the membership of the committee and providing to the TCC accurate numbers that reflect the level of activity of the members was discussed. Strategies to promote the engagement of the new members and test the level of interest in the committee activities, such as provisional membership, were discussed.*
      * *The TCC is encouraging each committee to update and possibly revise their vision for the next years and explore possible synergies and interactions with other committees, especially when multiple committees represent related areas of the discipline.*
      * *Student engagement and participation has been decreasing. Initiatives to invert this trend have been discussed, such as speed dating, open house and similar activities.*
2. G-I and ASCE Awards
   1. Awards Subcommittee
      * Subcommittee consists of Mike Coryell (chair), Mustafa Al Saleh and Alejandro Martinez
      * Volunteers to serve on the subcommittee?
      * Please consider submitting nominations for papers. Subcommittee will begin reviewing papers and soliciting input from committee for paper awards in July; see committee guidelines on our committee website

<https://www.geoinstitute.org/committees/technical-committees/soil-properties-and-modeling/subcommittees-and-initiatives>

* 1. Paper Awards
     + *Recent nominations and initiatives to promote excellent work being done in the area of the SP&M committee were discussed*.
  2. Individual Awards
     + *Recent nominations and initiatives to promote excellent work being done in the area of the SP&M committee were discussed, including strategies to nominate speakers for named lectures, especially at the junior level*. *This line of discussion also led to the idea of creating a database of relevant talks offered by committee members in a variety of topics that can be accessed by the G-I leadership for the possible selection of speakers.*
     + Please consider nominating a deserving colleague for ASCE Awards: <https://www.geoinstitute.org/about-us/awards>. Please email nominations directly to me. Following the committee guidelines (link below). Nominations are due around the July-August timeframe.

<https://www.geoinstitute.org/committees/technical-committees/soil-properties-and-modeling/subcommittees-and-initiatives>

1. Update from Special Projects Subcommittee (Lin and van Paassen)
   1. “Solidifying Bio-mediated Soil Improvement Methods in GeoTechTools”
      * + *About the project: Project objectives include thoroughly characterizing bio-mediated soil improvement into GeoTech Tools to expand the dissemination of the technologies to practitioners and potentially lead to new applications*
        + *Project chaired by Leon van Paassen and Hai Lin, and advisory subcommittee consisted of: Jason DeJong, Michael Gomez, Alejandro Martinez, Brina Montoya and Hamed Khodadadi Tirkolaei*
        + *Current project status update from Thomas Lin and Leon van Passen.*
        + *The year 2 funding proposal was successful and it is one of only a few projects that received full funding. Congratulations and keep up the great work!*
   2. Discussion of ideas for new projects.
      * *The members were encouraged to consider ideas for new projects. Examples that were mentioned is the idea of using AR/VR in the classroom for geotechnical courses.*
2. Annual Report Content and Winter Teleconference
   1. *Thoughts about moving our winter meeting to a bit earlier (September or October)*
   2. *Form or Google Doc for filling out committee activity and involvement?*
3. Chair and Vice Chair Transitions
   1. *The terms end July 2024. The Vice Chair moves into the Chair position and the committee needs to select a new Vice Chair. Please be thinking of nominations (self-nominations are welcome).*
   2. *Voting will take place online and a Vice Chair will be selected per the committee guidelines*

1. New Ideas and Activities
   1. *Younger member award*
   2. *Committee “Open House”*
2. Workshops, Webinars, and Special Publications
   * + Any interest in developing these?
3. Cross-committee collaboration and engagement
   * + ISSMGE T105 – Micro to Macro - Matt Evans
     + ISSMGE TC102 – Site Characterization - Jason DeJong (Chair)
     + ISSMGE TC105 – Kenichi Soga (Chair)
     + ISSMGE TC214 – Soft Soils- Victor Kaliakin
     + ISSMGE TC215 – Environmental Geotechnics - Alexandra Clara Saracho
     + G-I Computational Geotechnics - Jose Andrade
     + G-I Engineering Geology and Site Characterization - Jason DeJong
     + G-I Unsaturated Soils - Laureano Hoyos
     + TRB AKG50 - Michelle Barry
     + TRB AKG20 – Bob Bachus (Chair)
     + EMI Poromechanics - Victor Kaliakin, Giuseppe Buscarnera
     + EMI Granular Materials - Giuseppe Buscarnera
     + EMI Modeling Inelasticity and Multiscale Behavior - Giuseppe Buscarnera
     + Others?
     + Please let me know if you are interested in serving as a liaison to other technical committees
4. Committee Website (Lin & Barry)
   1. Please take a look at the website and consider submitting News and Events to help populate the page.

<https://www.geoinstitute.org/committees/technical-committees/soil-properties-and-modeling>

* + - Please contact Thomas (Hai) Lin ([hailin1@lsu.edu](mailto:hailin1@lsu.edu)) to add news and events to the website

1. Upcoming and/or Recent Committee Activity
   1. IFCEE 2024, Dallas, TX, May 7-10, 2024
   2. EMI 2024, May 28-31 Chicago, IL, USA
   3. Geo-Environment, “GeoenvironMeet” Portland, OR, Sept 22-25, 2024
   4. Geostructures 2024, Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 17-20, 2024
   5. Geotechnical Frontiers 2025
   6. GeoExtreme ‘25
   7. ICBBG 2025, Phoenix, AZ, May 19-21, 2025
   8. 5th ISFOG, Nancy, France, 9-13 June 2025
   9. Others?
2. Updates from Other Committees
   * + *Updates were provided about the ongoing activities of the new Task Force in Energy Geotechnics (Sanchez).*
3. Adjourn
   * + *The meeting was adjourned, 1:45 PM PT (Barry)*