**Geo-Institute Soil Properties and Modeling Committee**

**Spring Meeting Geo-Congress 2025 (Louisville, KY)**

**Monday March 3, 2025, 3:00 – 5:00 PM (EST)**

**Connection Information:**

Topic: Geocongress Conference Call - SP&M meeting

Time: Mar 3, 2025 03:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://northwestern.zoom.us/j/94856404115>

Meeting ID: 996 3551 3302

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**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions (Buscarnera)

*Members in Attendance: Giuseppe Buscarnera, Juan Pestana, Sheng Dai, Michelle Barry, Maiely Minozzo, Leon van Paassen, Michael Gomez, Muralee Muraleetharan, Ryan Beemer, Cassie Rutherford, Diane Moug, Reza Osouli, Marika Santagata, Rae Kim, Alexandra Clara, Yuderka Trinidad, London Barlow, Ravi Ravichandran, Bassa Saad*

*Attending Online: Alejandro Martinez, Brina Montoya, Chukwuebuka Nweke, Vic Kaliakin, Rich Regueiro, Yimin Lu, Debojit Sarker, Chadi El Mohtar, Ryan Lavorati*

*Additional Attendees: Xiong Zhang, Nancy Abayo, Paola Bandini, Kristina Scott, Antai Dong, Fabiana Viscarra*

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 2024 Teleconference (minutes attached to this document)

*The minutes were approved.*

1. Updates from TCC and G-I/ASCE (Bandini)

*Paola shared updates about the timeline of the next webconference. The deadline for abstract submission is coming up during this month. The event will take place as usual in December.*

*GeoStrata continues to seek contributions and will soon launch a new format based on short articles meant to provide a technical pitch about an innovative subject.*

*The next 2026 Geocongress will be in Salt Lake City. The G-I is actively seeking reviewer coordinators and anyone is welcome to volunteer in that role.*

1. Discussion about new committee charter (Muraleetharan)

*Muralee discussed extensively the process followed to generate a first version of committee charter, including the formation of a dedicated subcommittee (Muraleetharan, Martinez, Montoya, Pestana, Buscarnera). Feedback from all the members in attendance was requested.*

*There was a broad consensus about the content of the document. Various members (e.g., Alexandra, Marika, Cassie) suggested some minor edits to better reflect some strengths of the committee and ongoing activities. The subcommittee will incorporate the edits and provide by the end of April an updated version for final approval.*

*One of the points related in part to the drafting of the new charter was the discussion about a possible name change for the committee. Some options were proposed. While many members considered a revision of the name potentially beneficial, others felt that the current name may already reflect the diverse strengths of the committee. It was agreed that a possible name change will require further discussion and possibly a comparative assessment of different options. For this reason, in the short term the name will remain unchanged and further discussions will be encouraged during the next meetings.*

1. G-I and ASCE Awards

*Mike Gomez volunteered to join the awards subcommittee and will join the group overseeing the award nomination process.*

*Paola informed the committee about a new G-I award, the “Innovation Award”. This award will recognize individual or groups who took the lead in promoting major innovations in the field of Geotechnical Engineering.*

*Giuseppe reminded the committee to also consider nominating members to become Distinguished Members of ASCE. There is a yearly nomination process for this.*

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

*Leon van Paassen provided a brief update about the special project that he has been leading in collaboration with the ground improvement TC on biomediated ground improvement. The project is completing templates for GeoTechTools and progressing towards the completion of its activities.*

1. New Ideas and Activities

*Cassie Rutherford shared about the formation of a new board level committee on education. Volunteers are needed for this committee.*

1. Workshops, Webinars, and Special Publications

The next Panamerican conference on Unsaturated Soils will be held in the United States (Boston, MA) and will be organized by Laureano Hoyos. Further information will be shared soon.

Laureano Hoyos is also co-editing a special issue on the topic “Advances in Thermo-Hydro-Mechanical and Biochemical (THMBC) Characterization and Modelling of Unsaturated Soils" on the journal *Geosciences*.

Giuseppe Buscarnera is co-editing a special issue on the topic “Advances in Subsurface Geotechnology for Decarbonization” on the journal *Géotechnique Letters*.

Leon Van Paassen will serve as the Chair of the Scientific Committee of the XV IAEG Congress 2026​​​​​​​​​​​​​​, to be held in Delft, Netherlands, from October 30th to November 6th, 2026.

1. Cross-committee collaboration and engagement
   * + ISSMGE TC101 – Lab testing – Alejandro Martinez
     + ISSMGE TC104 – Physical modeling – Alejandro Martinez
     + ISSMGE TC105 – Micro to Macro - Matt Evans, Alejandro Martinez
     + 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
     + ISSMGE TC221 – Tailings and mine wastes – Alejandro Martinez
     + 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 (Chair)
     + Others?
     + Please let me know if you are interested in serving as a liaison to other technical committees
2. Committee Website (Lin & Buscarnera)

Thomas Lin continues to serve as the contact point for website organization and will continue to coordinate changes and updates with Giuseppe Buscarnera.

1. Upcoming and/or Recent Committee Activity

N/A

1. Updates from Other Committees

N/A

1. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned