



**GI Soil Improvement Technical Committee Meeting**  
**3:00 pm to 5:00 pm (EST), March 21, 2022, Room E216CD**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**I. Meeting Called to Order at 3:00pm by José Clemente.**

**II. Introductions**

- a. Self-introductions – Attendee List provided in Attachment A.
- b. Committee Officers
  - i. Secretary & Webmaster = Mr. Chris Woods
  - ii. Award committee = Dr. Jie Huang
  - iii. Technical conference paper chair = Dr. José Clemente
    - 1. Looking for a liaison for this role to increase committee involvement in GeoCongress – reach out to José.
  - iv. Liaison with ISSMGE TC211 Committee = Dr. Vernon Schaefer
  - v. Past chair = Dr. Jie Han
  - vi. Vice chair = Dr. Armin Stuedlein
  - vii. Chair = Dr. José Clemente

**III. Approval of 2021 Committee Meeting [Minutes](#)**

- a. Motion to approve by Armin Stuedlein, seconded by Aaron Gallant. Motion Passed.

**IV. Update from the G-I Board – Dr. Jie Han**

- a. Provided several dates for upcoming events – refer to section XVIII.
- b. Terzaghi Lecture nominations – G-I Board of Governors moved to request nominations from G-I membership. Numbers of nominations not very high. Deadline for next year's nominations 3/31/22; nominations for 2024 close 6/1/22. Package must be prepared, guidelines are available on the GI Website – found [here](#).
- c. Prakash Award Lecture – Targeting geotechnical engineer (50 years of age or less by the entry deadline) for outstanding research or professional practice contributions in the area of geotechnical engineering or soil dynamics. Inaugural award to be presented in 2023. Deadline for nomination is November 1.
- d. Budget for technical committee projects will increase during the coming year – a total of \$90,000 for technical committee projects (which represents about 9 projects/year). Focus areas continue to be GeoTechTools, DIGGS and committee-initiated projects.

**V. Update from the G-I Technical Council Committee – Dr. Nick Hudyma**

- a. Budget has increased from \$70,000 to \$90,000, which means an additional two projects.
- b. Special projects kick-off meeting in June; proposals due in August. Proposals reviewed in September to begin October 1 in conjunction with the fiscal year.
- c. Moving forward, move up the call for sessions for GeoCongress ahead of the call for abstracts to increase the involvement of the Technical Committees. Historically, committees drove GeoCongress, now being driven by staff. Each committee to provide a liaison to interact with the Conference Organizing Committee.
- d. Publications committee working on how to handle paper reviews for conferences moving forward.

**VI. Updates from the G-I – Krystina Scott**

- a. No update; was not present for the technical committee meeting.

**VII. FHWA Update – Silas Nichols**

- a. No update; was not present for the technical committee meeting.

**VIII. GeoTechTools – Dr. Vernon Schaefer**



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- a. *Soil improvement committee well versed on the website, several projects from the committee related to the website have already been completed or are in the works.*

**IX. ISSMGE TC211 Committee - Dr. Vernon Schaefer**

- a. *The Louis Menard Lecture nominee from the U.S., Dr. Kyle Rollins was not selected by the committee – award went to a European member.*

**X. DFI Ground Improvement Committee Update - Timothy Siegel/Matt Glisson**

- a. *Rigid inclusion task force meeting in person at GeoCongress.*
- b. *Aaron Gallant – rigid inclusion research moving forward.*
- c. *Armin Stuedlein – rigid inclusion research moving forward.*
- d. *Chris Woods and Jerry Bishop working on DFI Journal Special Edition on Ground Improvement.*
- e. *Mid-year committee meetings upcoming April 4-8, 2022.*
- f. *Matt Glisson provided a report that is provided as Attachment B to these minutes.*

**XI. Committee [Website](#) – Chris Woods**

- a. *Website current with projects, minutes, and committee roster.*
- b. *Would love to have the news section more active, please send Chris ([chris@densification.com](mailto:chris@densification.com)) items that may be good to have on our page.*

**XII. Past Project update**

- a. *Update and merge vacuum consolidation modules on GeoTechTools – Dr. Lisheng Shao and Dr. Jie Huang – work completed, now with Dr. Schaefer to get implemented to website.*
- b. *Jie Huang provided presentation on the findings of the project and information to be shared on GeoTech Tools.*

**XIII. On-going Project Update**

- a. *“Solidifying” Bio-mediated Soil Improvement methods in GeoTech Tools - Dr. Leon van Paassen (in cooperation with the Soil Properties and Modeling Committee)*
  - i. *Dr. van Paassen working through the initial stages of the project now. Significant field trial data is available. Need committee members for involvement in the project.*
  - ii. *Two processes being focused on, information to populate GeoTech tools being developed.*
- b. *Addition of Ground Freezing Ground Improvement Technology to GeoTechTools – Dr. Prabir Kolay*
  - i. *Prabir and Joe Sopko working on developing the draft GeoTech tools documents.*

**XIV. Ideas for New Projects in 2022-2023-[GeotechTools](#), DIGGS, committee-initiated projects**

- a. *Request for proposals out June 1, 2022, due mid-August for committee funded projects.*
- b. *Any new ideas, please let José know. Proposals must be submitted with committee endorsement. The [report](#) prepared by Dr. Thomas Taylor can be used to generate special project ideas related to GeoTechTools.*

**XV. G-I Speaker Program, Web Conference – Dr. Armin Stuedlein**

- a. *Soil Improvement Committee Web Conference Session – December 9th, 2021; one of seven G-I technical committees participating following acceptance of proposal*
- b. *Titled “From Burps to Blasts: Recent Technological Advances in Soil Improvement for Geotechnical Applications,” included topics ranging from the performance of deep soil mixed columns in an earthquake and for the support of embankments, polymer-injection and microbial de-saturation for liquefaction mitigation, and use of polymer for soil stabilization*
- c. *Five talks in 120 minutes including 20-minute panel/Q&A session; speakers included Aaron Gallant (University of Mayne), Kyle Rollins (BYU), Leon van Paassen (ASU), Jie Huang (UT San Antonio), and Armin Stuedlein (OSU).*



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- d. *For next year, it is encouraged that we have more speakers from industry to complement the several we had from academia this year.*

**XVI. GeoCongress 2022 Update – Dr. Armin Stuedlein and Dr. José Clemente**

- a. *1,200 registrants. Excellent bounce back.*
- b. *125 exhibitors.*
- c. *14 SOA/SOP Lectures.*
- d. *383 papers accepted for publication.*
- e. *Two soil improvement sessions at GeoCongress:*
  - i. *One general soil improvement session, moderated by Mohammad Khosravi (Montana State U.) and Jie Huang (University of Texas San Antonio), Monday 1pm to 2:30pm, Track G, Room E220BC: Six Papers presented on topics including Soil stabilization using surfactants, thermal properties of bio-cemented sand, hybrid ground improvement solution, overview of the scan tour in China on electro-osmosis dewatering and consolidation, use of magnetic fields to improve soil stability, and stone columns*
  - ii. *Special Session: “Recent Developments on Bio-Mediated Soil Improvement Methods” moderated by Leon van Paassen (Arizona State University) and Brina Montoya (North Carolina State University), Tuesday 2 to 3:30pm, Track B, Room E218: Presents the current state of art on bio-mediated soil improvement methods based on and address the challenges encountered during scale up and commercialization of these novel technologies.*
- f. *As a committee, we had three session proposals, none were ultimately selected.*

**XVII. Award Nominations – Dr. Jie Huang**

- a. *2021 – Dr. Vernon Schaefer won the Wallace Hayward Baker Award.*
- b. *2021 – Ryan Berg won the Martin S. Kapp Foundation Engineering Award.*
- c. *2021 – nominated a candidate for Harry Schnabel Jr. award.*
- d. *2021 – endorsed a candidate for Seed Medal*
- e. *2021 – nominated a candidate for Peck Award.*
- f. *2022 – Lisheng Shao won the Wallace Hayward Baker Award.*
- g. *since 2011, we have continuously submitted award nomination each year. 7 out of 11 years (2011-2022), we have had at least one award winner in the year.*
- h. *Moving forward, focus on honorable lectures (Terzaghi, Peck, Menard, Prakash)*

**XVIII. Upcoming GI Events**

- a. [GeoVirginia2022](#), Smithfield, VA, April 11-13, 2022
- b. *4th International Symposium on Frontiers in Offshore Geotechnics, [The ISFOG 2020 Conference](#), Austin, TX, August 28-31, 2022*
- c. [Geo-Congress 2023](#), Los Angeles, CA, March 26-29, 2023
- d. *Geo-Congress 2024, in Conjunction with Canadian Geotechnical Society, Vancouver, Canada, February 25-28, 2024*
- e. *IFCEE, Dallas, TX, May 7-11, 2024.*
- f. *Geo-Congress 2025 – Location TBD, Dates TBD*
- g. *Geo-Congress 2026 – Salt Lake City, UT – Dates TBD*
- h. [33<sup>rd</sup> Central PA Geotechnical Conference](#), Hershey, PA, April 5-7, 2023
- i. [Geo-Risk 2023](#), Arlington, VA, July 23-26, 2023

**XIX. Upcoming International Events**



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- a. *20th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering ([ICSMGE 2022](#)), Sydney, Australia, May 1-5, 2022 – ISSMGE. José Clemente and Armin Stuedlein are planning to attend.*
- b. *The 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Ground Improvement and Ground Control, Cape Town, South Africa, originally scheduled for 29th to 31st March 2021, postponed, new dates TBD*
- c. *[DFI-EFFC International Conference on Deep Foundations and Ground Improvement: Smart Construction for the Future, Berlin](#), Germany, May 18-20, 2022*
- d. *[DFI-PFSF Piling & Ground Improvement Conference](#), Sydney, Australia, November 16-18, 2022. Vice-Chair Armin Stuedlein to deliver keynote lecture on use of timber piles for liquefaction mitigation.*
- e. *[6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Grouting & Deep Mixing](#), New Orleans, January 13-18, 2023 -DFI*
- f. *[Geosynthetics Conference 2023](#), Kansas City, February 5-8, 2023. (Dr. Jie Han)*

**XX. Announcements**

- a. *None reported.*

**XXI. Other or New Business**

- a. *No new business.*
- b. *Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.*

**Attachments: Attachment A – Attendance List**

**Attachment B – DFI Annual Update Report**



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**Attachment A – Attendee List**

Chris Woods (Virtual)	Nick Hudyma
Jose Clemente	
Tim Siegel (Virtual)	
Jack Franke (Virtual)	
Yan Jiang (Virtual)	
Angel Gutierrez (Virtual)	
Xijin Zhang (Virtual)	
Salah Sadek (Virtual)	
Theresa Loux (Virtual)	
Tanner Blackburn (Virtual)	
Khaled Sobhan (Virtual)	
Vern Schaefer (Virtual)	
Armin Stuedlein	
Scott Anderson	
Jie Han	
Matt Glisson	
Nripojoyoti Biswas	
Leon van Paassen	
Jie Huang	
Lisheng Shao	
Chul Min Jung	
Kord Wissman	
Mustapha Rahmaninezhad	
MD Ashrafuzzaman Khan	
Aaron Gallant	
Hannah Iezzoni	
Deepak Rayamajhi	
Lyle Simonton	
Kyle Plaza	
Guoming Lin	
Scott Mackiewicz	
John Allen	
Allen Bowers	
Brian Metcalf	
Valerie Merida	
Miriam Smith	
Juan Baez	
Jungyeon Jang	
Askar Zhussupbekov	
Jorge Fuentes	

## DEEP FOUNDATIONS INSTITUTE TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES UPDATE – MARCH 2022

DFI President: Michael Wysockey, Ph.D., P.E., Thatcher, [mwysockey@thatcherfoundations.com](mailto:mwysockey@thatcherfoundations.com)

DFI Executive Director: Theresa Engler, [tengler@dfi.org](mailto:tengler@dfi.org)

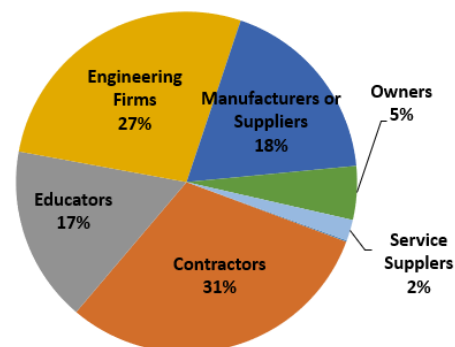
DFI Director of Technical Activities: Matthew R. Glisson, P.E., [mglisson@dfi.org](mailto:mglisson@dfi.org)

**DFI INFO:** DFI website at [www.dfi.org](http://www.dfi.org), over 4,500 members in over 75 countries.

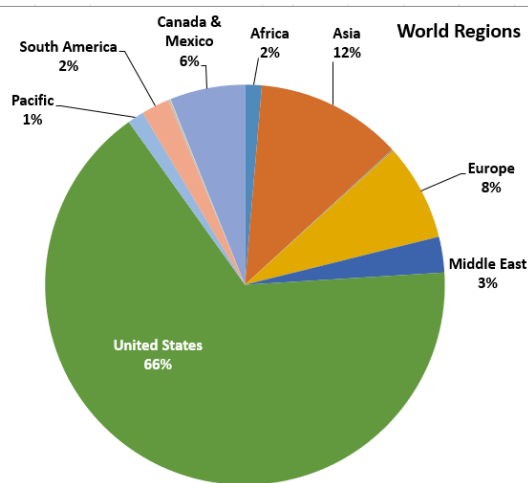
### DFI COMMUNITIES

- 26 DFI Technical Committees (3 specific to Regional Chapters) with nearly 500 active members. Marine Foundations Committee merged into Driven Pile Committee, and Energy Foundations merged into Sustainability Committee.
- Mid-Year Committee Week (April 4-8) – virtual online meetings of all DFI committees. All are welcome to join. See online [schedule](#) and contact [TechActivities@dfi.org](mailto:TechActivities@dfi.org) for virtual meeting details.
- Regional Chapters: Europe, Middle East, India.
- Partnerships and Collaborations: ADSC, Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS), European Federation of Foundation Contractors (EFFC), PDCA, ASCE G-I & COPRI, International Society for Micropiles (ISM), Mexican Society of Geotechnical Engineers, Piling and Foundation Specialists Federation (PFSF, Australia), TRB, USACE.
- Industry-Wide Working Platform Working Group: improve design and construction for safe platforms for tracked rigs.
- Geo-Industry-Wide Risk Working Group: share and leverage resources related to all risk aspects.
- NHI: Partnership with National Highway Institute/FHWA to deliver geotechnical courses.
- Geo-Coalition: share insights, calendars and plans for professional activities, as well as discuss and pursue issues of common interest.
- U.S. Levee Safety Coalition: includes ASDSO, ASCE, USSD, NAFSMA and ACEC aimed at promoting quality and safety of levee systems in the U.S.
- EFFC-DFI working groups on tremie concrete and slurry support fluids research.
- Geo-Industry Technology Users Groups: Cone Penetration Testing (CPT), Measurement While Drilling (MWD), and Geophysics.
- Visit [Community](#) webpages and check out [Deep Foundations Magazine](#) for updates.

Organization Types



World Regions



### 2021-2022 DFI TRAVELING LECTURER

Thomas D. Richards, Jr., P.E., D.GE, P.E., retired chief engineer and now consultant at Nicholson Construction Company. Past chair of DFI's Micropile and Anchored Earth Retention committees. Topics: dam anchors, rock grouting for COE, Mandalay Bay micropiles, introduction to diaphragm walls, static piles load tests, working platform calculations. Visit [Lecturers](#) webpage to learn more, request a lecture, or nominate a future lecturer.

### RESEARCH FUNDING - DFI COMMITTEE PROJECT FUND

- Over \$1 million in committee research project funding since 2012. Visit [Committee Project Fund](#) webpage for a summary of completed projects and of in-progress projects, plus access to the resulting publications.
- Proposals invited for DFI committees' consideration by Sept 1; DFI committees submit on December 1.



## DFI PUBLICATIONS – Available at <https://www.dfi.org/publications/>

- [Deep Foundations Magazine](#): published six times per year, free download.
- [DFI Journal](#): regular publications in Spring and Fall; special issues planned on Ground Improvement and Landslides and Slope Stabilization also in process for this year; submit at [www.editorialmanager.com/dfi](http://www.editorialmanager.com/dfi).
- [DFI Publications Store](#): offers a wide variety of technical resources.
- [New Publications](#): Recently published committee publications (Data Management Guide Spec; Guide to Selecting Cut-off Walls; Summary of Grouting Standards and Guidelines; Structural Slurry Walls PPT).
- [DFI Podcasts](#) – *Interview with a Survivor, Game Day (live at DFI46)*. New Series' coming up: Morgan's Mentors and DFI's Rumble.

## EVENTS

March 31, 2022	<a href="#">2021-2022 Traveling Lecturer Hosted by Geo-Institute Pittsburgh</a>	Pittsburgh, PA
April 4-8, 2022	<a href="#">DFI Midyear Committee Week Meetings</a>	Virtual Meetings
April 6, 2022	<a href="#">ITS Money Webinar</a>	Online Webinar
April 12, 2022	<a href="#">2021-2022 Traveling Lecturer Hosted by Geo-Virginia Conference</a>	Smithfield, VA
April 22, 2022	<a href="#">2020-2021 Traveling Lecturer Hosted by California Geotechnical Engineers Association</a>	Lake Tahoe, CA
April 27-28, 2022	<a href="#">HPW-DFI Helical Piles and Tiebacks Tradeshow and Educational Seminar</a>	Bonner Springs, KS
May 5, 2022	<a href="#">2021-2022 Traveling Lecturer during Geo-Institute Chicago Lecture Series</a>	Chicago, IL
May 12-13, 2022	<a href="#">DFI-SMIG-GI-ISSMGE 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Deep Foundations</a>	Mexico City, Mexico
May 18-20, 2022	<a href="#">DFI-EFFC International Conference on Deep Foundations and Ground Improvement</a>	Berlin, Germany
June 15-17, 2022	<a href="#">SuperPile 2022</a>	St. Louis, MO
July 26, 2022	<a href="#">S3: Slopes, Slides and Stabilization</a>	Nashville, TN
August 28-31, 2022	<a href="#">ISFOG – International Symposium on Frontiers in Offshore Geotechnics</a>	Austin, TX
September 15-17, 2022	<a href="#">DFI India 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Deep Foundation Technologies for Infrastructure Development in India</a>	Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh, India
October 4-7, 2022	<a href="#">DFI 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Deep Foundations</a>	National Harbor, MD
November 16-18, 2022	<a href="#">DFI-PFSF Piling &amp; Ground Improvement Conference</a>	Sydney, Australia
January 15-18, 2023	<a href="#">6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Grouting &amp; Deep Mixing</a>	New Orleans, LA

## DFI STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- Free Student Memberships: apply online at [www.dfi.org](http://www.dfi.org).
- Student Chapters: University of California at Berkeley, University of Missouri, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, City College of New York, Manhattan College, Sapienza University (Rome, Italy), Al Iraqia University (Baghdad, Iraq)
- Student and Young Professor [Paper Competitions](#): held annually.

## DFI EDUCATIONAL TRUST – [www.dfitrust.org](http://www.dfitrust.org)

- 2021 Scholarship application period to open April 1, 2022. Deadline May 16, 2022.
- More than \$1.6 million scholarships awarded since inception to >450 students attending 74 universities.
- Women in Deep Foundations committee professional development grants. Application period to open April 1, deadline May 16, 2022.

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