



Geosynthetics Technical Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday February 27, 2024; 10-12 PST

ASCE Geo-Congress Vancouver Convention Center Room 13

1. Welcome by Mark Wayne, TC Chair

- a. Introductions: All
- b. Assistance with notes, time, action item list
- c. Jay McKelvey – Geo-Structures Update
 - i. Reviewers needed.
- d. Jeff Greenwald- Status of Web Tools & Idea Program

2. TC Membership – Report by Daniel Alzamora TC Secretary

- a. Currently 60 Members
- b. Membership roster link: [Geosynthetics | ASCE](#) (Please verify that you are included)
- c. It is possible to sign up for information on the TC without being a member of the TC.
- d. It is now possible to join multiple TCs
- e. Suggestion to send members an email whenever the website is updates (e.g. minutes uploaded) to drive more traffic to the website.

3. Feedback from the TCC

- f. Feedback by Nazli Yessiler
- g. NY requested to be included on the email roster so that she will remain updated on the TC communications.
- h. TC will be requested to write a “**Chapter on General Committee Structure**” document to justify to the governors that the TC is active/justified.
- i. Additional membership category is in the works for non-active members, e.g. “friends of the committee.”
- j. Future special projects should aim to have a broad impact (affect people outside of the committee/collaboration between TCs). The funds available for special projects are not know at this stage
- k. Innovation TC is requesting input: how does G-TC define innovation?

4. TC Geosynthetic Activities

- a. 8th Annual Web Conference presentation on Harnessing the Potential of Geosynthetics – Performance Testing for Optimized Roadway Design was held Thursday Dec 7-available online and many thanks to Eli, Murad for helping me

in making this possible. Access to the session is located at this ASCE site [8th Annual Web Conference | Geo-Institute \(geoinstitute.org\)](https://www.asce.org/annual-web-conference-geo-institute)

- b. First cycle where we had a mid-year meeting
- c. Opportunity to be involved in the 9th ASCE web conference
 - i. Target audience: people not involved in geosynthetics, but interested.
 - ii. Topic 1- Long term use of geosynthetics to communicate with pavement folks: Erol Güler will reach out to Dan Alzamora with a presentation on long life GTX, Mark Wayne & Dustin Taylor will provide case histories of long-term use of Tensar/Solmax products.
 - iii. Topic 2: Geosynthetics & pavements: Dan Alzamora will reach out to FHWA so that we can better interface with pavement folks. Mark Wayne will send a past proposal to Dan Alzamora.
 - iv. Contact Dan Alzamora with suggested topics for the next webinar

5. Outreach

- a. Involvement of young members
 - i. ASCE has a new Young Member Committee, our liaison is Michael McGuire
 - ii. Dawie Marx to send a blurb on the IGS Job shadowing program to Dustin Taylor for the TC website
- b. Geo-wall/ Geo-Prediction competition: Members to contact Ben.
 - i. Request for TC members to become involved
 - ii. Michael McGuire, Ben Leshchinsky and Amr Morsy will reach out to the student participation committee with new ideas for the student competition.
 - Geo-wall is becoming repetitive and has a high barrier of entry for teams that has not been competing for a long time.
- c. Upcoming International and Regional Conferences
 - GeoAmericas Toronto Canada April 27 – May 1, 2024
 - GeoShanghai, China May 26-29, 2024
 - XVIII European conference on soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, Lisbon, Portugal August 26-30, 2024
 - GeoenvironMeet, Portland, Oregon, September 8-11, 2024
 - Geo-Structures 2024 Pittsburgh PA November 17-20
 - Geotechnical Frontiers 2025, Louisville, Kentucky, March 2 – 5 2025
 - Request for special sessions and short courses will be sent out in two weeks

7. Working Component:

- a. Presentation by: Dan Alzamora: Update on GRS-IBS
 - i. Implementation has gone well and is going forward
 - ii. GRS ~17% cheaper than MSE
 - iii. If anyone is interested in more information contact Dan
- d. Michael McGuire will present the next working component.

8. TC Funded Projects

- e. GeoBridge publication (Michael McGuire): committee review done, theory manual and review manual updated. Next step is the ASCE publications committee. Aim to be completed by GeoAmericas.
- a. General Discussion: Topics that deserve a TC project.

9. Funds for FY24 Projects

- a. Speakers' forum for ASCE chapter? Ben to update the committee
 - i. Program discontinued
- b. Invited speakers for "working component" of our next TC meetings?

10. Award Nominations – Report by Ben Leshchinsky, TC Vice Chair/Awards Committee Chair

- a. June 1st: Peck Award, Seed Medal, Terzaghi Award and Lecture
- b. August 15th: Casagrande Award, Kapp Award, Baker Award, Schnabel Award
- c. October 1st: Croes Medal, Huber Award, Norman Medal, Prakash Award, State-of-the-Art
- d. November 1st: Middlebrooks Award, Computing in Civil Engineering Award
- e. General: a successful nominee typically has nominations from multiple committees

11. Other Business

- b. Announcements regarding committee leadership
 - i. Waiting for ASCE to formally update the new leadership process. ASCE wants the previous chair to remain active.
 - ii. Ben Leshchinsky will be the new chair, Dan Alzamora the vice chair and Michael McGuire the secretary.
- f. Feedback from the GI President
 - i. GI focus on: 1) Innovation 2) Workforce involvement, 3) Volunteer appreciation, 4) International involvement
 - ii. Innovation awards: can be a product or procedure, guidelines available around June.
 - iii. Continuing education committee will expand to education at large (K12, university etc.)
 - iv. New YM committee
 - v. Support available for GI members to attend ISSMGE events.
- c. GeoAmericas Toronto Canada April 27 – May 1, 2024
- d. GeoShanghai, China May 26-29, 2024
- e. XVIII European conference on soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering, Lisbon, Portugal August 26-30, 2024
- f. Updated MSE design methodologies:
<https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/geotech/pubs/hif24002.pdf>
- g. FHWA will have an opensource, self-directed, web-based RSS course
- h. The Geotechnical Aspects of pavements course will receive a facelift.

12. Closure

- a. Action items summary:
 - i. Erol Güler, Mark Wayne & Dustin Taylor reach out to Dan Alzamora with presentations for the 9th ASCE web conference.
 - ii. Michael McGuire, Ben Leshchinsky and Amr Morsy will reach out to the student participation committee with new ideas for the student competition.
 - iii. Dawie Marx provide blurb on IGS Job Shadowing program for website
 - iv. Michael McGuire will present the next working component
- b. Next meeting at Geo-Congress 2025 TBD