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

**Winter Conference Call 2024 (zoom)**

**Wednesday December 18, 2024, 2:00 – 4:00 PM (CST)**

**Connection Information:**

Topic: Winter Conference Call - SP&M meeting

Time: Dec 18, 2024 02:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://northwestern.zoom.us/j/99635513302>

Meeting ID: 996 3551 3302

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**Agenda**

1. Welcome and Introductions (Buscarnera)

*Attendance: Juan Pestana, Sheng Dai, Alejandro Martinez, Paola Bandini, Michelle Barry, Ning Lu, Maiely Minozzo, Leon van Paassen, Michael Gomez, Muralee Muraleetharan, Diane Moug, Chukwuebuka Nweke, Marika Santagata, Mike Coryell, Cassie Rutherford, Alexandra Clara, Ujwalkumar Patil, Yuderkat Trinidad, Thomas Lin, Pao Huang, Kristina Scott, C. Vipu, Kaliakin*

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

*The minutes were approved.*

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

*Kristina Scott collects information from TC for magazine content.*

* 1. Workshops and webinars
     + Annual Live Streaming GI Web Conference

*ASCE Web conferences on Dec. 8-12, 2025. Sessions are 2 hours long with 4 speakers. Posted on ASCE continuing education binder.*

* 1. Other business?

*Geofrontiers is together with GeoCongress and is coming to Louisville on March 2-5.*

*Special projects: few proposals were submitted this year, so the board did not approve a specific amount.*

1. Updates from TCC (Bandini/Evans)
   1. TCC members and liaisons for our committee

*Matt Evans, who is also a member of our committee, is the new chair.*

* 1. General updates

*Currently nominating new members of TCC.*

*The process for approval for special conferences is being revised.*

*In 2027, we will not have a GeoCongress. Instead, ASCE will hold all institute conferences together in a ASCE Meta conference in Philadelphia.*

*There will be a new committee charter document drafted to address (i) how does the committee add value to the Geo-Institute community and (ii) what do you want to achieve? This is a great idea for current and new members to share their vision. There could be a subcommittee for this. The committee will need to draft a document by early February and work collectively to discuss it during Geofrontiers in March to have it finalized in mid-April.*

* *Giuseppe proposed to create a sub-committee to initiate this activity.*
* *Paola said that the purpose is for every committee’s benefit.*
* *The TCC will review these charter documents.*
  1. Special projects and activities of other committees

*Total amount of received proposals was $127k. The board did not specify an amount available, but approved $51k, which is smaller than previous years. The list of approved projects will be distributed. TCC will create a website with info on funded projects and reports with outcomes for increased transparency.*

*One of the projects proposed by TCC is for all the committees to create educational videos with different goals, levels, topics (i.e., testing, methods) for use in education and academia.*

* 1. Opportunities for the committee and members

*It was proposed to consider a wide range of potential candidates when nominating for awards or special lectures. This includes members who have merit but have not yet been recognized.*

*TCC encourage TCs to create other leadership positions – awards, special projects, social media, website, etc. – to provide additional opportunities. Our committee is well positioned on this front,and we should continue to do so.*

1. G-I and ASCE Awards
   1. Awards Subcommittee
      * Subcommittee consists of Mike Coryell (chair), Mustafa Al Saleh and Alejandro Martinez

*Mike will be stepping down in one year. GB asked for people to voice their interest in being part of the subcommittee.*

* *Giuseppe said for people to express interest in nominating papers, awards, etc. let him know.* 
  + - 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

*Not discussed.*

* 1. Individual Awards
     + 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>

*Mike Gomez was selected as Casagrande awardee.*

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

*Special projects subcommittee led by Thomas Lin. He will step down next year.*

* 1. “Solidifying Bio-mediated Soil Improvement Methods in GeoTechTools”

*Leon van Paassen is leading a project in collaboration with the ground improvement TC on biomediated ground improvement methods. Their project has been extended. They are taking papers and completing templates for GeoTechTools.*

* 1. We can submit more than one proposal as a committee, so please let me know if you have ideas for the upcoming year and would like to volunteer to lead or participate in the effort. Proposals are due around the end of August.

*Giuseppe told members to feel free to reach out if you have ideas for educational, research, or technical education. Dates will be distributed in the summer.*

1. Annual Report Content and Winter Teleconference
   1. Thoughts about moving our winter meeting to an earlier date (September or October)

*Giuseppe suggested that it would be more efficient to move it to Sept. or Oct. It would help with the preparation of the annual report and to have the meetings more evenly spaced. There was general agreement.*

* 1. Form or Google Doc for filling out committee activity and involvement?

*It was discussed that a google doc can be a valid option to streamline the process of submitting information for the next year’s report.*

1. Chair and Vice Chair Transitions

*Giuseppe is the new chair. Alejandro is the new vice-chair.*

* 1. Committee transition strategy.

*The term duration is 3 years, after which a new transition takes place with the vice-chair stepping in as new chair and a new vice-chair election being held. Subcommittees are a good way to get involved in leadership positions.*

1. New Ideas and Activities
   1. Engagement of students – *web conference? Poster competition?*

*Alejandro described the idea of having an online conference for students to present their research. Buka and Juan supported this idea.*

* *Giuseppe asked if there is room for events within a typical structure which are built for students in which our committee could participate. E.g. EMI – there are student competitions, poster sessions, short paper.*
* *Cassie said that there are already similar competitions. Our TC can participate by having members serve as judges for poster or geoprediction competitions.*
* *Marika asked if we could have short presentations at our in-person meeting by younger members in a similar way to TRB. This could make the experience feel meaningful for students.*
* *Giuseppe said that the time is short during the in-person meeting, so perhaps the web conference is better.*
* *Paola said that other TCs discuss all logistics and administrative items online and use the in-conference time to have technical presentations by students, etc. If each of us commits to bring a younger member we would significantly increase the attendee number.*
* *Cassie said that we need to think about how we advertise what we do. Students do not really know what the added value is of joining a TC.*
* *Marika suggested that we can contact the student leadership group from GI.*
* *Muralee suggested asking students what they want to see.*
* *Michelle said that there may be a problem with our marketing and raised the question of whether the TC name “Soil Properties and Modeling” is too general.*
* *Muralee suggested that considering a name change could be part of the charter document.*
* *Juan expressed support for the web conference idea, but at a larger scale with an audience from industry and academia.*
* *Alejandro mentioned the possibility of creating a student engagement committee. Giuseppe said that interested members should indicate their willingness to participate.* 
  1. Interaction with other committees – *closer collaboration with ISSMGE or other organization’s committees? Workshops?*

1. Workshops, Webinars, and Special Publications
2. 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
     + 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

*Muralee suggested organizing dedicated sessions for collaboration with other TCs.*

1. Committee Website (Lin & Buscarnera)
   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

*Contact Thomas if you have any updates.*

1. Upcoming and/or Recent Committee Activity
2. Updates from Other Committees
3. Adjourn