

MINUTES

GEOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

24 January 2005, 8:00-9:30 PM

Hilton Austin, Meeting Room 400

Austin, Texas

1. The meeting was called to order by Beth Gross (Chair). Members in attendance were: Jeff Dunn (Kleinfelder), Tuncer Edil (University of Wisconsin – Madison), Jeff Evans (Bucknell University), Pat Fox (Ohio State University), Milind Khire (Michigan State University), Ning Lu (Colorado School of Mines), Krishna Reddy (University of Illinois – Chicago), Chris Ryan (Geo-Solutions), Radhey Sharma (Iowa State University), Nazli Yesiller (Wayne State University), and Jim Hanson (Lawrence Technological University). Visitors in attendance were: Ahmet Aydilek (University of Maryland), Patricia Culligan (Columbia University), Anirban De (Manhattan College), Mohammad Farid (for member Akram Alshwabkeh of Northeastern University), James Hanson (Lawrence Technological University), and Dhani Narejo (GSE Lining Technology, Inc.).
2. Since our last meeting in November 2003, the GEC has contributed to Geo-Frontiers (Austin, Jan 24-26, 2005). Committee members were on the Conference Organizing Committee, served as Track Chair/Sessions Moderator for the Waste Containment and Remediation Track, and were the primary editors of the corresponding 54-paper GSP. We also developed the short course “Introduction to Waste Containment” that likely would have been successful (because many people registered on site for the short courses), but was pulled several weeks before the conference by ASCE due to too few pre-registrants.
3. Results of Committee Chairs Meeting: Committees are performing well with respect to technical activities, such as conferences/conference sessions. All technical committees need to increase participation in Geo-Institute (GI) initiatives:
 - a. 1-day workshops / short courses (for branches and chapters) -- see e-room for more information
 - b. 1-hour web-based seminars -- see e-room for more information
 - c. GI speakers bureau (mainly for local sections and branches) register <http://www.geoinstitute.org/speaker/index.cfm>. Kudos to Miles Khire, the only member of our committee that has registered so far. *Please add your name.*
4. A sub-committee was formed to provide quality control of short courses offered by the committee. Sub-committee members are: Tuncer Edil, Jeff Dunn, and Miles Khire. If you are interested in developing a short course through our committee, please contact the committee chair.
5. The annual budget for our committee is \$1,500. The budget will be used for travel by committee members that attended the meeting and organized a session at Geo-Frontiers. Committee members that will receive travel reimbursement are: Jeff Evans, Krishna Reddy, Chris Ryan, and Nazli Yessiler.
6. The Grouting Committee was the committee of the year. As such, their annual budget is \$3,000.
7. Upcoming conferences and planned activities:
 - a. Tenth Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst (<http://www.asce.org/conferences/karst2005/>), September 24-28, 2005, San Antonio, TX. Contact: Beth Gross, session chair. Activities: Will need committee members to review papers in April and May 2005.
 - b. ASCE Civil Engineering Conference & Exposition, October 27-29, 2005, Los Angeles, CA. No G-I participation.

- c. Geo-Congress 2006: Geotechnical Engineering in the Information Age, February 26 - March 1, 2006, Atlanta, GA. Proposing 3 sessions. Proposals due March 31. Contact: Miles Khire (Geoenvironmental Sensors), Pat Fox and Radhey Sharma (Numerical Modeling in Geoenvironmental Engineering), Beth Gross and Jeff Dunn (Data Management in Geoenvironmental Engineering).
 - d. Fourth International Conference on Unsaturated Soils, April 2-5, 2006, Phoenix, AZ. Technical committee contacts: Molly Gribb, Beth Gross, Radhey Sharma, and Jorge Zornberg. Will need GEC members to review papers. Possible short course/workshop.
 - e. ASCE Civil Engineering Conference & Exposition, September 27-30, 2006, Chicago, IL. GI Involvement?
 - f. Geo-Congress 2007: Geo-Denver II, Feb or March 2007, Denver, CO. Will propose short courses and sessions.
 - g. Geoenvironment 2010, March 2008, Chicago, IL. Pre-proposal accepted by TCC. Contacts: Beth Gross or Krishna Reddy. We will be forwarding information about the conference to committee members as it becomes available.
8. *Awards*: Ning Lu has agreed to coordinate our committee awards nominations this year.
 9. *GSPs*: Selected geoenvironmental engineering papers. Editors: Nazli Yesiller, Craig Benson, Chuck Shackelford. Status: Concept GSP proposal was approved by the Technical Coordination Council (TCC). Editors have developed tables of contents (TOCs) for 6 GSPs: (1) Liner Systems: Basics, (2) Liner Systems: Compatibility and Contaminant Transport, (3) Cover Systems, (4) Drainage Systems, (5) Geomechanical Aspects of Waste Containment, and (6) Vertical Cutoff Walls. The TOCs were just submitted to the TCC for approval.
 10. *Waste Containment and the Environment* Booklet, American Geological Institute, Environmental Geoscience Advisory Committee. Contact: Beth Gross. Status: Draft TOC in review.
 11. Susan Burns has moved our website (<http://www.ce.gatech.edu/~geoenvironmental>) and group email (geoenvironmental@ce.gatech.edu) to GA Tech. We are waiting for ASCE to update our website link on the GI committee page.
 12. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held at Geo-Congress 2006: Geotechnical Engineering in the Information Age (Atlanta, February 26 - March 1, 2006).

Submitted by Beth A. Gross, Chair of GEC
10 February 2005.