

MINUTES

GEOENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING COMMITTEE

14 FEBRUARY 2002, 8:00-12:00 pm

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL, SALON 11

1. The meeting was called to order by Beth Gross (Chair). In attendance were: Akram Alshawabkeh (Northeastern University), Jeff Dunn (GeoSyntec Consultants), Jeff Evans (Bucknell University), Beth Gross (GeoSyntec Consultants), Charles (Chuck) Shackelford (Colorado State University), Nazli Yesiller (Wayne State University), and Eng-Chew Ang (University of Missouri) and Jorge R. Parra (University of Missouri), both of whom attended for John Bowders (University of Missouri). The primary purpose of the meeting was to plan future activities: conventions, conferences, short courses, and other events.
2. A workshop for the technical committee chairs (TCCs) was held on 13 February 2002. Shackelford and Gross discussed the outcome of the workshop.
3. Nashville Convention.
 - a. The GEC has proposed to organize the geotechnical track for the GI at the 2003 ASCE National Convention (October, Nashville). ASCE's first planning meeting for the convention was scheduled for 5-6 March 2002, but has since been postponed. At this point, the structure of the convention is unknown, and it is possible that there will not be a GI track. ASCE wants to increase attendance and improve convention financials, and is reviewing attendee exit surveys to assess how to do this. We should know more after the 8 March 2002 meeting of the ASCE Excom.
 - b. If the GEC does organize the G-I track, it can have a geoenvironmental engineering focus, but should allow participation of other G-I technical committees.
 - c. GEC will propose to organize several sessions and a short course on containment systems for in-situ remediation.
4. Other Conferences/Conventions.
 - a. *Soil and Rock America 2003: 12th Panamerican Conference / 39th US Rock Mechanics Symposium (SARA 2003) (Boston, June 2003)*: GEC members will be needed to review abstracts and papers. The conference organizers indicated that committees may also informally develop a session by submitting a bundle of papers on a topic. If anyone is interested in developing a session, contact Beth Gross. The G-I is seeking nominations for the Casagrande speaker.
 - b. *Geo-Applications of Drilling Technologies (Orlando, Feb 2004)*: The GEC will propose to organize one or two sessions at this conference (e.g., emerging drilling technologies for brownfields characterization, integrity of well seals, geoenvironmental drilling applications). Beth Gross to contact Paul Mayne regarding the status of the conference. Nazli Yesiller may help organize the sessions.

- c. *GEOTRANS 2004 - Geotechnical Engineering for Transportation Systems (Los Angeles, UCLA, July 2004)*: This conference has just been approved by the TCC and is being organized by Patrick Fox and Jonathan Stewart. The GEC may propose a session.
 - d. *GeoFrontiers 2005 (Austin, 2005)*: This conference (with IFAI as a major co-sponsor and participant) is approved in concept by the TCC. The GEC will propose sessions and possibly a workshop/short course (e.g., containment systems for in-situ remediation, bioreactor landfills, use of waste and recycled materials in waste containment systems) with, possibly, a GSP at GeoFrontiers (2005, Austin). Sessions should be more than talking heads. For example, they can be demos, workshops, short courses, debates, panel discussions, etc. Beth Gross to follow up with Bob Gilbert on conference status.
 - e. *UNSAT 2006 (Phoenix)*: The G-I will know in March 2002 if the G-I conference will be part of the international conference. Beth Gross to follow up with Sandy Houston/Molly Gribb. If conference is a go, GEC will propose sessions with a GSP and possibly a workshop/short course (e.g., design, modeling, and monitoring of alternate cover systems).
 - f. Other conferences in the pre-planning stage: Soil Characterization (Atlanta, GA Tech, 2006), FMGM Instrumentation (2007, Alan Marr is organizing), Tropical Soils (2007, Hawaii, Peter Nicholson is organizing), and Earthquakes and Soil Dynamics (2008).
 - g. The GEC should consider proposing to organize a Geocongress (GeoCharleston/San Antonio/Savannah, 2008?). Beth Gross to get conference planning guidelines from the G-I. The GEC will submit after the Nashville 2003 convention.
5. The GEC will propose to organize a special GSP of classic geoenvironmental engineering papers. Akram Alshawabkeh and Beth Gross will start this project.
 6. Akram Alshawabkeh will be heading up the Awards Subcommittee again this year. The period of evaluation is 1 July to 30 June. The award nomination cut-off date is 15 August 2002.
 7. The G-I is planning to develop a database of speakers. This would be made available to any group (e.g., branches, sections, student chapters, communities) in need of a technical presentation.
 8. The American Geological Institute, Environmental Geoscience Advisory Committee (EGAC) needs help with \$\$ (publishing partner) and technical review of their Environmental Awareness Series booklets; technical review may require the addition of good illustrations, case studies, etc. They are also interested in the development of a booklet on Waste Management and the Environment. The GEC is considering helping to develop this booklet.
 9. Dave Daniel, Craig Benson, Chuck Shackelford, and Majdi Othman contributed \$1,500 to the G-I from their short course proceeds. The short course, *Liners and Covers for Waste Containment Facilities*, was sponsored by the G-I and the GEC.
 10. The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Sunday, 9 February 2003, prior to the GI Grout 2003 conference in New Orleans.

Submitted by Beth A. Gross, Chair of GEC
5 April 2002