

2011-2012 Officers



ASCE Seattle Section Geotechnical Group and Seattle Geo-Institute Chapter September 15, 2011 Planning Meeting Minutes

Prepared by: Mike Lach
Date: September 15th, 2011
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Best Western, Seattle, WA

ASCE 2011-2012 SSGG Officers:

- Ghada Ellithy, President - Present
- John Bickford, President-Elect - Present
- Farid Sariosseiri, Treasurer - Absent
- Tyler Stephens, Public Relations Chair - Absent
- Mike Lach, Secretary - Present
- Bob Metcalfe, Membership Chair - Absent
- Lynn Salvati, Education Chair - Present
- Minjae Park, Webmaster - Present

ASCE SSGG Members in attendance:

- Lorne Arnold, UW GIGSS

Meeting Agenda

1. Coordination with GIGSS to advertise their meetings.
2. Format and frequency of announcements
3. Contribution to Bob Holtz endowed fellowship
4. Contributions to local groups who promote engineering-related activities for high schools, poor communities, etc.
5. Improve our website and add more features to it.
6. Education Committee Update
7. Additional discussions

1. Coordination with GIGSS to advertise their meetings

- Action item from July 21, 2011 meeting: Lorne to develop a list of specific ways the group can assist the GIGSS (**still open**)
- Updates
 - A new GIGSS President will take over in November or December
 - The first speaker is tentatively scheduled for December

2. Format and Frequency of Announcements

- Several format/frequency combinations were discussed, but the group decided on sending out an announcement on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. This e-mail will only include links to our website and short bullet point descriptions of upcoming events with links. The bulk of the announcement text will be added to the website so that the e-mails remain short.
- **Action Item:** Ghada and Minjae to develop a sample of what this would look like.

3. Contribution to Bob Holtz Endowed Fellowship

- Bob Holtz has been contacted with a request for more information such as the minimum amount that would be meaningful. He has not responded.
- **Action Item:** Ghada to follow up with Bob.

Ghada Ellithy, PhD, PE

President

US Army Corps of Engineers
Seattle District
4735 E. Marginal Way S
Seattle, WA 98134
(206) 766-6466
ghada.s.ellithy@usace.army.mil

John Bickford, PE

President-Elect

DBM Contractors, Inc
1220 S 356th Street
Federal Way, WA 98003
(253) 838-1402
johnb@dbmcm.com

Mike Lach, PE

Secretary

CDM
14432 SE Eastgate Way
Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98007
(425) 519-8300
lachma@cdm.com

Farid Sariosseiri, PhD

Treasurer

CDM
14432 SE Eastgate Way
Suite 100, Bellevue, WA 98007
(425) 519-8300
sariosseiri@cdm.com

Lynn Salvati, PhD, PE

Education Chair,

Jacobs Associates,
1109 First Avenue
Suite 501, Seattle, WA, 98101
(206) 588-8200
salvati@jacobsf.com

Fadzilah Saidin, PhD, PE

Education Co-Chair

Lachel & Associates
16300 Christensen Road
Suite 304, Tukwila, WA 98188
(206) 244-3560
fsaidin@lachel.com

Tyler Stephens, PE

Public Relations Chair

Shannon & Wilson
400 N 34th Street
Suite 100, Seattle, WA 98103
(206) 695-6915
tjs@shanwil.com

Bob Metcalfe, PE, LEG

Membership Chair

GeoEngineers
2924 Colby Avenue
Everett, WA 98201
(425) 252-4565
rmetcalfe@geoengineers.com

Minjae Park, EIT

Webmaster

AMEC E&I
11810 North Creek Pkwy N
Bothell, WA 98011
(425) 368-1000
Minjae.park@amec.com



4. Contribution to Local Groups Who Promote Engineering-Related Activities

- Action item from July 21, 2011 meeting: Tyler to research local organizations or engineering events that could benefit from donations from our group. **(Tyler absent – no updates)**
- Ghada suggested looking into Habitat for Humanity.
- John suggested looking into Rebuilding Together.
- During last year's Engineer's Week fair, a representative from a local science fair committee spoke with Ghada and Mike regarding their need for donations for prizes. Ghada suggested that we look into this.
- **Action Item:** All officers to bring an idea of a local group that could benefit from our assistance to next meeting.

5. Improve Website and Add More Features

- Ghada purchased a USB microphone so that the presentations could be recorded.
- **Action Item:** Minjae will set this up for tonight's presentation, and will look into getting the presentation converted to a YouTube format to include on our website.

6. Education Committee Update

- Action item from July 21, 2011 meeting: Ghada and Lynn to work together to finalize schedule of dinner meetings within the next few weeks **(dates and locations confirmed – item closed)**
- Currently, we have two tentatively scheduled presentations on legal issues in the geotechnical engineering community. The group discussed whether the two talks would be too similar and reduce attendance. It was generally agreed that if the two presentations were to be given, they should be separated by a few months. Lynn will look into other options before the group makes a decision, but the second legal talk might be appropriate for a February joint meeting with the General Section.
- It was suggested that a contractor working on one of the large local transportation projects could give a presentation. John knows several people involved in the South Park Bridge and the Eastside Corridor Improvement projects, and will contact them to see if they would be interested in presenting.
- Speakers have been confirmed for the October and November dinner meetings. Either Ashford or Havekost will speak at the December dinner meeting. This is still to be finalized.
- Lynn mentioned that SEAW is starting a program of presentations geared towards educating the general public on engineering issues important to the community.

7. Additional Discussions

- There has been confusion regarding the price structure for dinner meetings. Ghada confirmed that all RSVPs received before the registration deadline were eligible for the \$35 rate, even if payment is to be made at the door. In addition, it was suggested that unemployed group members should also be allowed to pay the reduced rate (\$15) paid by other non-reimbursed members, such as students and government employees. This change was agreed to.
- A Spring Seminar topic has not yet been selected. Action Item: John to send out results of previous surveys received from the group membership on potential topics and produce a "top 5" list to narrow down the selections for a future vote.
- Bill Laprade will make an announcement tonight regarding participation in the Landslide Workshops coming up with the City of Seattle DPD. The group will need to provide volunteers.