

# **USUCGER Annual Meeting: San Antonio TX**

## Meeting Minutes

March 17, 2015

Present: Open to All USUCGER Members

---

### **I. Announcements**

- See powerpoint presentation for general information on membership numbers, dues, etc.

### **II. Discussion – 2016 GeoCongress & Workshop**

- Sponsor session(s) in 2016 G-I SEI Combined Congress (14 – 17 Feb 2016)
  - Two sessions – one with an education focus and one with a research focus
    - Session on Current Issues in Geo/Structural Design or Emerging Concerns at the nexus of Geotechnical and Structural Engineering
    - Session on Combined Geo / Structural Education issues and activities
    - 90 – 120 minutes each
    - 1 page abstract from each participant
  - Proposal for sessions from USUCGER spearheaded by Jeff Evans (Bucknell) for April 7 deadline
- Early career workshop at ASU Saturday and ½ Sunday prior to above conference (13 – 14 Feb 2016)
  - Half day on education, half-day on research on Saturday
  - Committee: Ed Kavazanjian (ASU, Chair), Rick Coffman (UArk), Tanya Kunberger (FGCU), Ramin Motamed (UNevada), Cassie Rutherford (Illinois-U/C)
  - Follow-up to Cambridge conference on education issues (Cassie and Rick attended)
  - Apply to NSF for funding for early career individuals (Asst Prof, upper PhD, other untenured?)
  - Technical Writing Workshop on Sunday morning
  - Education session may have to go outside USUCGER for speakers due to limited background of USUCGER individuals with EngEdu experience
  - Potential discussion topics for research session:
    - What research is new and exciting
    - How to secure funding
    - Preparing for the tenure process
  - Development of educational ideas to transition to journal papers
- Potential for either Conference sessions or workshop sessions as a vehicle for GSP?

### **III. Committees**

- Next step to reactivate Education, Research, and Awards committees
- Awards Committee considered important focus
- Involvement of Board Members in reactivation as well as others necessary

### **IV. From The Floor**

- Bill Kitch (CalPoly) What should we be teaching?
  - Ed Kavazanjian (ASU) follow-up: What can be reasonably fit into curriculum?
- Cassie Rutherford (Illinois-U/C) Structured mentoring program for new faculty?

- Jeff Evans (Bucknell)
  - Funding towards mentoring from someone at different Institution?
  - Page on website with willing senior faculty?
  - Initiate at new education conference?