**GEO INSTITUTE SOIL IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**2011 GeoFrontiers**

**8:00 pm Sunday March 13**

**San Antonio A**

**Sheraton Hotel Dallas**

Minutes taken by Kord Wissmann

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Update from GeoInstitute and Upcoming GeoInstitute Conferences-Vern Schaefer

Upcoming conferences:

 2012: Grouting Conference (New Orleans)

 2012: GeoCongress (Oakland): State of the Art / State of the Practice

 2013: GeoSlope (likely San Diego)

 2014: Las Vegas

News from ASCE: would like us to make and use webinars.

1. Update on FHWA initiatives in Soil Improvement-Silas Nichols, FHWA

Vision for next step on SHRP2 is to tie the user tool into codes and standard approaches.

1. Ground Improvement Session Proposals for GeoCongress 2012-Kyle Rollins

2012 GeoCongress in Oakland CA (25 - 29 March). Vision is for six breakout sessions.

* 1. Soil Improvement Solutions for Seismic Slope Stability
		1. Armin offered to take charge of this session.
		2. However, the group decided to do this session in 2013.
	2. Soil Improvement Solutions for Liquefaction Mitigation
		1. Jim Hussin (HBI) and Dave Dailer (CH2MHill) offered to take charge of this session.
		2. We will expand this session by adding "lateral spreads" and see if we can fill 2 sessions.
1. Preview of the SHRP2 Ground Improvement Platform-George Filz and Vern Schaefer

Contractors noted that they would like to be sure that cost estimating guideline is not used inappropriately.

1. Web site for Soil Improvement Committee-Armin Stuedlein
* Group discussed adding "calls for papers" and "awards" and "upcoming conferences" to news tab.
* Meeting minutes of the last GI SI meeting could be added; but not history of meeting minutes.
* SHRP2 needs to decide if we can link to their site. Vern to inquire.
* Discussion on adding other links to the site: links to not for profits and lines to specialty contractors?
* Kyle discussed that there is budget in the ASCE coffers to provide to Armin for updating / maintaining site.
1. Ground Improvement Seminar at future conferences-Kord Wissmann

 Not much enthusiasm for cross country GI lecture series.

More enthusiasm for development and hosting of webinars by GI experts. Alan Cadden supports this.

Support was voiced for regional or local ground improvement seminars which could be hosted by Geo-Institute Chapters or Universities.

1. Session Proposals for upcoming conferences-Kyle Rollins

 Covered above.

1. International Collaborations
* Discussion on what we got out of the US-Japanese and US-China GI workshops
* Concurrence that US-China workshop brought more to the table.
* Kord liked the proceedings of the US-China workshop.
* George Filz liked the idea of focusing on case histories: what solutions are being used to solve problems.
* Tony Marrinuci thought that knowing the research programs performed elsewhere is helpful.
* Kord suggested that we carefully consider needs of participants before we coordinate another workshop.
1. Award nominations for Ground Improvement
* Kyle called for a volunteer and Ji Huang was willing to accept chair for this sub-committee.
* First step is to simply keep track of GI papers in the 'Journal and in conference proceedings.
1. Next Meeting