



E.GEO

MAY 2023

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Geopros:

As always, our May *e.Geo* briefly recaps our most recent Annual Conference as well as some other recent happenings. If you attended our Annual Conference, you have been sent access to the Conference Resources page where links are hosted to all shared speaker materials as well as all the professional pictures provided by our photographers. Please reach out if you attended and cannot find this link! Our recent May events will be shared in our June *e.Geo*.

As always, you can also learn more about our important upcoming events below!

Conference 2023 Recap

While there are countless people who make conference possible, we would especially like to thank this year's sponsors including Ron Skaggs, PE, GE, QSD, and Travis Deane, PE, GE, who each sponsored a student, and our corporate sponsors [Ram Jack Pacific](#), [Middle Earth Geo-Testing Inc.](#), [Keller](#), [Farrell Design-Build](#) (a Menard Company), [Pavement Recycling Systems](#), [Tensar](#), [Cell-Crete Systems](#), [EagleLIFT](#), and [GeoStabilization International](#). CalGeo also received support on welcome materials from [IDEAL Group](#), [Project X Corrosion Engineering](#), and [Schnabel Geostuctural Design & Construction](#).



A little bit of mist only added mystique to the beauty of Santa Barbara on the first day of conference.



The morning of Wednesday, April 12, featured strongly rated short courses by (left to right) Jay McRae of [PSMJ](#) (Mission Critical Management Strategies for Principals); Rob Clark, PE, and Nolan Seles, PG, of [GEOKON](#) (Instrumentation: Piezometers, Inclinatorimeters, Strain Gauges, & Multi-Point Extensometers); and Van Goodwin, Esq., of [Littler](#) (Prevailing Wage and Skilled and Trained Workforce Workshop).

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023
APRIL 12-14, SANTA BARBARA



**THANK YOU TO OUR
FIELD TRIP SPONSOR**



In the afternoon, [GeoStabilization International](#) sponsored the field trip where Dr. Bill Kane, PhD, PG, PE, led a group of 40+ people up to debris barriers in Camarillo Springs...



...and safely back again!



[Farrell Design-Build, a Menard Company](#) and [Middle Earth Geo Testing Inc.](#) presented an indoor/outdoor Happy Hour Welcome Reception that evening...



...followed by a private gathering of Past Presidents and current Board Members. The [quick video pan](#) above shows some of our history of presidents and some of the ladies and gentlemen who will be holding the post in the years to come (Brian Skyers, PE, GE, and Wilson Wong, PE, GE< who were elected and appointed at the 2023 Annual Membership Meeting on Thursday morning, are not, of course, included here).

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023
APRIL 12-14, SANTA BARBARA



THANK YOU TO OUR
BREAKFAST SPONSORS



Tensar



Following breakfast on Thursday, sponsored all three days by [Pavement Recycling Systems](#) and [Tensar](#)...



...we launched our Annual General Membership Meeting, which featured updates from the Board's Executive Officers and Committee Chairs (including the announcement of a 10% net increase in membership during the current association year)...



...the approval of Past President Rex Upp, PhD, PE, GE, to honorary Life Member status...



...and the election and appointment of Bryan Skyers, PE, GE, and Wilson Wong, PE, GE, to the CalGeo Board, effective July 1, 2023.



After committee meetings, Eric Lindquist, PhD, PE, was joined by Rob Jameson, PE, in presenting Urban Excavations in the Bay Area.



Then, after a quick break with our Affiliate exhibitors (all breaks were sponsored by [Cell-Crete Corporation](#) and [EagleLIFT](#))...



...we all managed to embarrass former CalGeo Executive Director Kelly Cabal (the only one seated, far left) by thanking her with a standing ovation for the way she worked diligently to set CalGeo on its current, very successful trajectory. This ovation segued us into...



...a sponsored lunch presentation by Ram Jack Pacific.



...Bill Kane, PhD, PG, PE, presented on Field Investigations and Design of Debris Nets in an Environmentally Sensitive Areas...



...and Ray Kim followed with a sober but engaging, interactive, and often humorous presentation on cybersecurity practices.



Later that evening, across the street on the beachfront, [Middle Earth Geo Testing Inc.](#) presented the Waterfront Casino Night Student Development Fundraiser.



Besides the opportunity for lots (Cal Poly SLO student attendees)...



...of (friends from Blackburn Consulting and Farrell Design-Build)...



...fun (Khac Le, scholarship winner from Cal Poly Pomona, with Nancy Lu)...



...pics (2022-2023 President Neal Berliner and incoming 2023-2024 President Mike Cazeneuve with their significant others)...



...it also featured Craps...



...Roulette...



...Poker...



...Blackjack...



...more Blackjack...




...and Bean Bag Toss.

2023-2024 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Row 1: GRADUATE WINNERS


Row 2: UNDERGRADUATE WINNERS




KHANG HUYNH




MEERA KOTA




KHAC LE



SHAWKY ABDELMALAK



MANAAL CHOWDHURY



ANDRE MAI

Naturally, with it being a fundraiser for Student Development, we also recognized and announced our six scholarship winners: Khang Huynh (Cal Poly Pomona), Meera Kota (UCLA), Khac Le (Cal Poly Pomona), Shawky Abdelmalak (Cal Poly Pomona), Manaal Chowdhury (CSUS), and Andre Mai (Cal Poly Pomona).



Student Outreach Chair Lindsey Angell, PE, gave each of the scholarship winners present certificates in honor of their achievement and had them address the attendees.



Meanwhile, several members were recognized for their 2022-2023 volunteer efforts for CalGeo, Wilson Wong, PE, GE (above), Danny Cohen, PE, GE, JD, and Martin Osier, PE.



This all led up to a special highlight of the evening, the [sendoff roast](#) of Immediate Past President Mike Moscrop, PE, GE, by President Neal Berliner, PE, GE.



The evening was capped by [Middle Earth Geo Testing's](#) Amanda Hancock announcing the winners of the casino night prizes...



...and, Past President Martin McIlroy, PE, CEG, charmed everyone's heart, making all of us a winner, when he won one of the top prizes and contributed it back to Student Development.



Back to business on Friday morning, ACEC's Tyler Munzing started the day with his Legislative Update...



...immediately followed by Bill King's all-to-timely talk on Dewatering: Specialized Measures and the Geotech's Role.



Of course, Attorney Van Goodwin's Labor Relation Updates never goes out of season.



After making one last stop by our vendors that included a handful of drawings that they sponsored...



...we packed the presentation room for Friday's crown jewel, the Outstanding Project Awards Luncheon, sponsored by Keller North America who was represented by Lito Santos, PE.



Katrina Watkins, PE, GE, of Langan presented on the firm's work on 1064 Mission Street (San Francisco's largest housing development for formerly homeless seniors) and...



...accepted the Outstanding Project Award for the Private Medium-Budget Category from the Outstanding Project Awards Committee Chair, Noah Smith, PE, GE, and Keller's Lito Santos, PE. Following their respective presentations, the duo presented...



...Logan Medeiros, PE, GE, of Rockridge Geotechnical with the Private Medium-Budget Category Honorable Mention for work on 2016 Telegraph Avenue (Forma)...



...Judd King, PE, GE, of Yeh and Associates with the Public Medium-Budget Category Outstanding Project Award for work on Cal Poly SLO - Fremont Hall Landslide Stabilization...



...Dan Weingart of Malcolm Drilling with the Geocontractor Category Outstanding Project Award for work on the University of California Law San Francisco Campus...



...Pedro Espinosa, PE, GE, of ENGEO Incorporated with the Private Large-Budget Category Outstanding Project Award for work on Treasure Island Redevelopment Phase 1...



...Pirooz Kashighandi, PhD, PE, GE, of Group Delta with the Private Large-Budget Category Honorable Mention for work on SoFi Stadium and Mixed-Use Development...



...and Djan Chandra, PE, GE, of Leighton Consulting with the Public Large-Budget Category Outstanding Project Award for work on Long Beach International Gateway.



Conference ended with a hopeful peek into the future with Dr. Robert Eyler presenting an Economic Outlook for 2023 and beyond.



Whether or not you joined us in 2023, the CalGeo Board invites you to mark your calendar for the week of April 1, 2024, when we will have Conference 2024 on the North Shore of O'ahu at beautiful Turtle Bay Resort with a great program and all ocean-facing rooms!

May 3, 4 Regional Meetings

The beginning of May brought two much-anticipated Northern California and Southern California Regional Meetings with Aaron Mann, Esq., General Counsel / Principal of Terracon in which he discussed how our engineers can stave off disaster by recognizing and avoiding common logical fallacies to which all of us fall prey.



Hosted at Skates on the Bay in Berkeley, the Northern California iteration boasted some of the best food and views in the East Bay.



BK Ammenwerth ([email](#)) of Drinks and Table Sponsor [Nor Cal Ram Jack](#) launched the presentation portion of our Northern California Regional Meeting by describing regional challenges Nor Cal Ram Jack often sees in their foundation repair work.



Aaron's presentation did not disappoint. He set up the propensity of people (especially the highly educated) to fall prey to irrational thinking by describing a finding where judges were three times more likely to reduce prison sentences in hearings shortly after a meal versus later in the morning or later in the afternoon (when glucose levels had dropped).



Mike Miller ([email](#)) of Table Sponsor [EagleLIFT](#) capped off the evening with a drawing, won by Augie Smarkle of Mid Pacific Engineering.



At the Southern California iteration, attendees were joined by classic cars...



...and classic guitars.



Our next regional meetings will take place in September!

Supporting Other Associations

CalGeo regularly supports our sibling associations.



We exhibited at and supported GBA's Spring Conference 2023, April 20-22, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. In this picture, outgoing President Leo Titus officially opens the conference's general sessions.

Importantly, GBA's Spring Conference 2024 will be right in our backyard at JW Marriott Anaheim Resort, April 17-20. [Save the date now!](#) We intentionally scheduled our Spring Conference 2024 earlier (the week of April 1) to avoid overlap with this important event.



We also attended the joint ASCE Los Angeles and CMAA tour of the Port of Long Beach, which showcased recent improvements and upcoming development opportunities.

Next week, on Wednesday, May 17, we will be exhibiting at and attending the ASCE Los Angeles Geo-Institute Forty-Fourth Seminar on the Queen Mary. If you have not already done so, we encourage you to [REGISTER HERE](#).

Upcoming Events

Southern California Golf Tournament - Play on the Greens to Raise Some Green for Our Students

Our Annual Southern California Golf Tournament is one of the prime ways in which we generate funds for Student Development (e.g., scholarships, student attendance at conference and other events, student chapters). Be part of building the next generation of geoprofessionals by playing in the tournament. [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)



The California Geotechnical
Engineering Association

TIJERAS CREEK
GOLF CLUB

CALGEO

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
GOLF TOURNAMENT**

FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2023

Tijeras Creek Golf Club
29082 Tijeras Creek
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

REGISTER

Designing with Geogrids: Improve Performance, Reduce Cost - Complimentary, EP

Garrett Fountain, PE, GE, and Lars Nelson, PE, present an overview and instructive training on designing with geogrids to improve performance and reduce costs in numerous applications. ICC Credit Available for members. This is a complimentary, EP Webinar. [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

DESIGNING WITH GEOGRIDS: IMPROVE PERFORMANCE, REDUCE COST

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24 | 11 AM – NOON | ZOOM

0.1 ICC-APPROVED CEU AVAILABLE

REGISTER NOW

SUMMARY

This course provides an overview and instructive training on designing with geogrids to improve performance and reduce costs in numerous applications including: Roads - unpaved and paved; working platforms to support heavy equipment; structures to mitigate the effects of liquefaction

IMPORTANT COURSE NOTE

Prior to the training, attendees are encouraged to sign up for Tensar's cloud-based software platform—go to Tensarplus.com or download the Tensar+ app (Apple, Google Play, Microsoft)—which provides design tools, cost analysis, specifications, and tech notes for each application.

Garrett Fountain, PE, GE | West Area Engineer



Based in San Diego, Garrett has almost 30 years of geotechnical engineering and construction experience and has authored several publications. Throughout his career Garrett has worked in all aspects of Geotechnical Engineering from field work, lab testing, inspection, high level analyses and groundbreaking research.

As Tensar's West Area Engineer, Garrett provides engineering support for a variety of Tensar technologies that include rail section design, pavements, crane pads, load transfer platforms and seismic design. Garrett is a civil engineering graduate from the University of Arizona with an emphasis in geotechnical engineering.



Lars Nelson, PE | Senior Regional Manager

Lars has worked in the civil engineering field for the past 20 years. He is the senior regional manager for Southern California and Hawaii and supports large-scale projects throughout the Western United States. He specializes in value engineering design and construction with geogrid for soft subgrade stabilization, flexible and rigid pavement sections, unpaved roads, working surfaces, asphalt rehabilitation, track substructure, and roadbeds. Lars holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Santa Clara University and is a registered civil engineer in Arizona. He lives in San Diego with his wife and five children.

Tensar

Emerging Professionals Webinar
Brought to You by a
Valued CalGeo Affiliate



PREFERRED
EDUCATION
PROVIDER

* Attendance is complimentary for all attendees. For ICC credit, enter the email associated with your ICC account at registration and attend the full webinar. Proof of attendance for ICC credits will be submitted complimentary for all CalGeo members who attend and pass the quiz. ICC credit is not available for nonmembers.

Deep Excavation Short Course from One of the Field's Top Academic Experts

Dr. Kenichi Soga is a pioneer in exploring new technologies in deep excavation. In this short course, he provides a background on the importance of analysis and monitoring using the Nicole Highway Failure case study and other data and provides instruction on conventional and emerging methodologies for analysis and monitoring . [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

DEEP EXCAVATION: ANALYSIS AND MONITORING

WEDNESDAYS, JUNE 21 AND 28 | 11 AM – 1 PM | VIRTUAL

REGISTER NOW

MEMBERS \$200
NON-MEMBERS \$350
EARLY REG PRICING ENDS JUNE 7

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

- Earth pressure and settlement estimation - Overview
- Mobilized strength design – Linking mechanism to settlement calculation
- Finite element method – Total stress versus effective stress calculation for clays
- Nicole Highway Failure case study – Causes of the failure that occurred in 2004 in Singapore



KENICHI SOGA, PHD
DONALD H. MCLAUGHLIN CHAIR IN MINERAL
ENGINEERING CHANCELLOR'S PROFESSOR
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Biography

Kenichi Soga is the Donald H. McLaughlin Professor in Mineral Engineering and a Chancellor's Professor at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the director of the Berkeley Center for Smart Infrastructure and is a faculty scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. He is Special Advisor to the College of Engineering Dean for Resilient and Sustainable Systems. He obtained his BEng and MEng from Kyoto University in Japan and PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. He was Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Cambridge before joining UC Berkeley in 2016. He has published more than 450 journal and conference papers and is the co-author of *Fundamentals of Soil Behavior, 3rd Edition* with Professor James K Mitchell. His current research activities are infrastructure sensing, performance-based design and maintenance of infrastructure, energy geotechnics, and geomechanics. Named to the National Academy of Engineering in February 2023, he is a Fellow of the UK Royal Academy of Engineering, the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Engineering Academy of Japan. He is the recipient of several awards including the George Stephenson Medal and Telford Gold Medal from ICE and the Walter L. Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize from ASCE. He is the chair of Technical Committee TC105 "Geotechnics from Micro to Macro" of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and of ASCE's Infrastructure Resilience Division's Emerging Technologies Committee. He received a UCB Bakar Prize for his work on commercialization of smart infrastructure technologies.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

- Monitoring - Objectives
- Instrumentation – Conventional to fiber optic sensing
- Case study of slurry wall monitoring in London
- Peck's observational method – Nine ingredients
- Setting the limits for monitoring – Using the concept of the observation method

Membership

April New Organizational Member



[RockSol Consulting Group](#)

April New Affiliate Member



[Recycling and Stabilizing Association of California](#)

Invite Potential Members

Do you know a geotechnical consulting firm or another geoprofessional services firm in California who is not currently a CalGeo member? Please have any interested firms contact Nick Bundra at nick@calgeo.org.



CalGeo Job Board & Career Center

Want to try our job board?

CalGeo's Job Board provides Geoprofessional job listings. Featured posts are also published to the Google Jobs Network. To post a job, [click here](#). Members receive all job board options at half price.

IMPORTANT: Use the Code INTERNSHIP to post your internship for FREE.

[Visit CalGeo's Career Center](#)

CalGeo		
	FEATURED Engineering Field Technician Youngdahl Consulting Group, Inc. - El Dorado Hills, CA Full-time	<i>Posted: May 5, 2023</i> Salary: \$22.00 - \$32.00 Hourly Application Deadline: Jun 5, 2023
	FEATURED Staff Engineer Youngdahl Consulting Group, Inc. - El Dorado Hills, CA Full-time	<i>Posted: May 5, 2023</i> Salary: \$24.00 - \$34.00 Hourly Application Deadline: Jun 5, 2023
	FEATURED Field Technician Miller Pacific Engineering Group - Petaluma, CA Full-time	<i>Posted: May 3, 2023</i> Salary: \$28.85 - \$38.46 Hourly Application Deadline: N/A
	FEATURED Project Engineer Miller Pacific Engineering Group - Petaluma, CA	<i>Posted: May 3, 2023</i> Salary: \$90,000.00 - \$105,000.00 Annually

**FEATURED Staff Engineer***Posted: May 3, 2023*

Miller Pacific Engineering Group - Petaluma, CA
Full-time

Salary: \$31.25 - \$38.46 Hourly
Application Deadline: N/A

[View More Jobs](#)

Industry Update

Letter from the County of San Mateo

(This letter was shared with CalGeo as well as geotechnical consultants with projects in the County of San Mateo. It is provided verbatim without any proofing edits as CalGeo has no responsibility for the letter or its contents. This is shared for informational purposes only. If you have any questions, please reach out to the sender at geo@smcgov.org)

Subject Line

Warning: Situations at San Mateo County Planning and Building Permit Review

Email Content

Dear Geotechnical Consultants serving San Mateo County's unincorporated residents,

Recently since early April, the Building Department's Inspection Group Manager has set up new geotechnical engineering review processing rules and procedures potentially violating California Business and Professions Code. Efforts are taken to try to correct the faults, and currently you might see a delay in the geotechnical review. In the meanwhile, your project reviews might be impacted, and it is encouraged that you talk with your clients, about the potential impacts:

1. The Building Inspection Manager is not a California Registered Engineer. Permits geotechnical engineering review done by him is not a valid engineering review. Valid reviews shall come directly from the following: the two County Building Department Registered Engineers, or the peer reviewing agency Cotton Shires, Associates. Please note that currently we also don't have a registered civil engineer in house to review the civil/drainage plans, neither is his lead/person-in-charge a registered civil engineer.
2. County charges applicants for geotechnical engineering review in the fee schedule. If the permit is not properly reviewed by engineers, it shall not be charged with geotechnical engineering review fee. This might be hidden fee included in the fee schedule that already include the engineering review fee.
3. Permits geotechnical review signed off by the Building Inspection Manager usually do not have proper inspection instructions for the applicants, so the Geotechnical Consultants might not get the chance to inspect the site at all and the building permit might still be able to get a geotechnical inspection final.
4. Without proper knowledge with the geologic hazards or site hazards, nor distinguishing the professions difference in "Geologist" "Geotechnical Engineer" "Surveyor" etc, nor defining the foundation types, the non-engineer building inspection manager might provide the applicant with incorrect guidelines, wrong project estimates, resulting in loss in your consultancy work.

5. Without proper knowledge to the current County Regulations, the non-engineer inspection manager provide approvals that raises potential legal risks to the geo consultants, and/or adversely affect geo consultants project opportunities.

All the best,

Geotechnical Section
Planning & Building Department
County of San Mateo

Upcoming CalGeo Events and Deadlines at a Glance

May 12: 2023 Southern California Golf Tournament at Tijeras Creek Golf Club [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

May 24: Designing with Geogrids: Improve Performance, Reduce Cost (Complimentary, EP Webinar) [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

May 31: Deadline for EP Webinars by EPs Series [SUBMIT HERE](#)

June 21, 28: Deep Excavation: Analysis and Monitoring with Kenichi Soga, PhD [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

August 21: 2023 Northern California Golf Tournament at Almaden Golf & Country Club **SAVE THE DATE**

August 22, 29: DeepEX (6 hours), DeepFND (1.5 hours), and Snail Plus (0.5 hours) Virtual Training, 9 AM - 1 PM **SAVE THE DATES**

September 19, 26: California Labor Compliance 101 [REGISTER NOW](#) | [DOWNLOAD FLYER](#)

Week of April 1, 2024: Conference 2024 at Turtle Bay Resort on the North Shore of O'ahu | Major Programming Will Take Place April 3-5, Additional Opportunities Earlier in the Week May Be Announced **SAVE THE DATE**

Want to get published in our next e.Geo? Email us at info@calgeo.org. Check out our submission guidelines [HERE](#).



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