

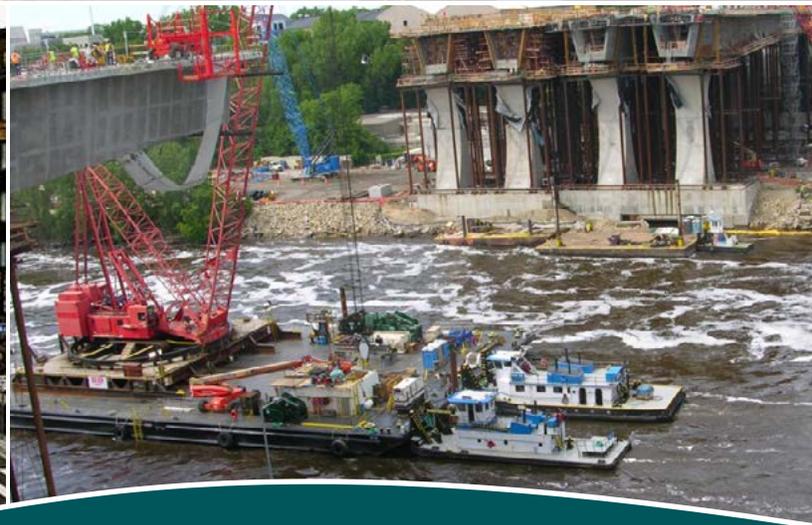
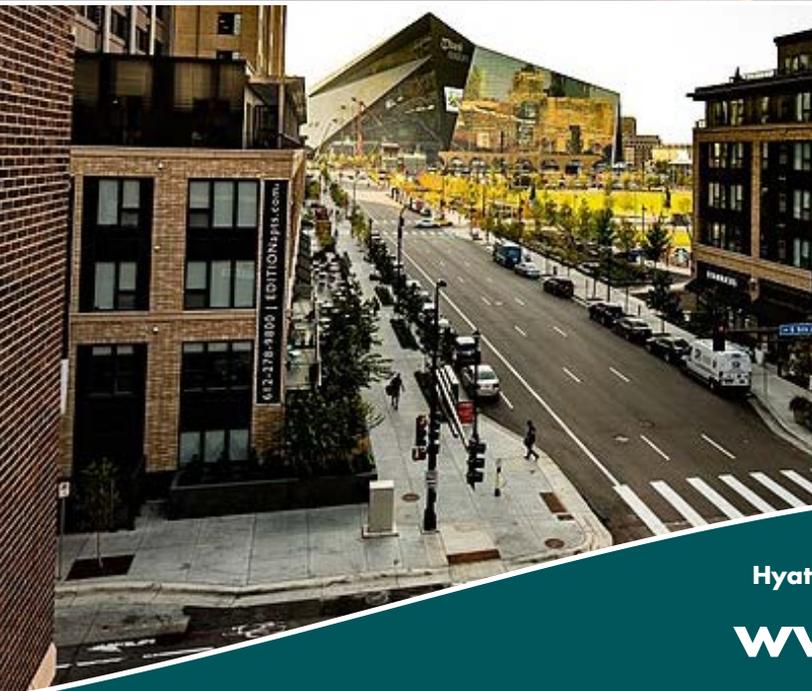
CALL FOR SPECIAL SESSIONS AND SHORT COURSES



GEO-CONGRESS 2020

Minneapolis, Minnesota | February 25-28

Vision, Insight, Outlook



Hyatt Regency Minneapolis | Minneapolis, MN USA

www.geocongress.org



Geo-Congress 2020 Invites Your Ideas!

On behalf of the Program Committee, you are cordially invited to propose Special Sessions and Short Courses for the ASCE Geo-Institute's signature 2020 event: Geo-Congress 2020: Vision, Insight, Outlook, which will be held February 25 – 28, 2020 in Minneapolis, MN.

The 2020 conference will be an opportunity to reflect on the past, assess the present, and imagine the future with our 3 partners: COPRI, the Canadian Geotechnical Society, and the Minnesota Geotechnical Society. In 2020, the Geo-Congress will bring the quality you expect, the networking opportunities you value, and the peer interaction that only in-person experiences provide. Programming highlighting 11 conference Special Topics will make this conference a "signature event" for consulting engineers, contractors, researchers, owners, and students. Geo-Congress 2020 will feature a variety of meaningful programming experiences whether you are a first-time young engineer or a veteran congress attendee. Consider developing a Special Session or Short Course on one of the 11 conference Special Topics. Organize a Big Idea lecture, GEO talk, panel, debate, workshop, round-table discussion, town hall, networking event, or short course.

Geo-Congress 2020

Come to Minneapolis to share your vision, gain new insight, and expand your outlook at Geo-Congress 2020 — the annual conference of the Geo-Institute of ASCE for 2020.

About Minneapolis

Rivers and lakes are a characteristic of Minnesota, and Minneapolis is no exception to their influence on lifestyle and recreation year-round. We are a progressive destination with a vibrant downtown and dramatic skyline. The city is home to professional sports, multimodal transit, interconnected park and bikeway systems, abundant art, theater, museums, and fabulous local, national, and international food. Come enjoy a conference venue highlighted by craft brews, ice fishing, and "Minnesota Nice." Situated among 13 lakes, the Mississippi River, and a waterfall, Minneapolis is compact, accessible, and easy-to-navigate, destination.

Mark your calendars and submit your abstract now!

Conference Partners



**COASTS, OCEANS,
PORTS & RIVERS
INSTITUTE**



**THE CANADIAN
GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY
LA SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE
DE GÉOTECHNIQUE**

An Invitation to Propose...

Special Sessions

Special sessions provide a variety of formats to exchange information other than presentation of technical papers.

Information for all Special Sessions

Papers: Technical papers are not required with any of the Special Session formats. These are intended as presentation-only events. Papers are welcome, but they must be submitted through the concurrent (separate) abstract submission and review process.

If the Special Session or Event proposer wishes to include a paper (or papers) in the conference proceedings, the paper(s) must be submitted via the Call for Abstracts. (Select the appropriate topic and "Special Session" as the submission type.) THESE PAPERS MUST FOLLOW ALL REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES FOR TECHNICAL PAPERS, and will be subject to the technical review for papers.

Presentations: See the Formats on the following page.

Length: Special sessions may be 30, 60, or 90 minutes long.

Room-set: Rooms for special sessions are generally set theater-style with a riser, a podium, and table and chairs for speakers at the front of the room. This format may vary depending on the nature of the event.

AV: Screen, LCD projector, cables, and podium mics will be provided for all sessions. Mics will be provided at the head table for panel sessions. Presenters must provide their own computers.

Internet: While the G-I makes an effort to provide wireless internet at its conferences, it is not always possible. Proposals should assume internet will not be available on-site.

■ **Submit proposals to geoconferences@asce.org.**

■ **Proposals must provide all information to be considered:**

- » **Title:** What is the name of your session?
- » **Topic:** Select from the drop-box one of the conference topics listed in this document.
- » **Format:** Select from the drop-box one of the session format types listed in this document.
- » **Length:** How long a session are you proposing?
- » **Presentation/AV:** Will your session have AV requirements?
- » **Q&A:** Will your session include Q&A?
- » **Description (<150 words):** Promote your session to potential conference attendees. Provide a description for the Preliminary and Final Programs; write with your audiences in mind and keep it simple, clear, and concise. Include what the session is and what attendees can expect.
- » **Organizer:** Provide full formal contact information for the proposer of the session.
- » **Other Session Participants:** Provide full formal contact information for all participants and describe their role (speaker, moderator, organizer, other) in the session.
- » **Comments for the Program Committee (<500 words):** Sell your session to the Program Committee. What will take place and why should it be part of the conference? Why is it important, new, different, innovative, or unique? What will the audience learn?
- » **Sponsoring Technical Committee:** It is highly recommended that proposers establish a relationship with a GI technical committee to sponsor the event and aid in promotion and support.

Short Courses

Short Courses are in-depth sessions providing specialized knowledge to students, academics, professionals, and practitioners. These experiences provide a longer, topic-driven format in specific areas of interest from subject-matter experts, formatted to encourage interaction. Participants can expect to gain insights, improved understanding of the topic, and solutions to the problems presented and discussed.

Information for all Short Courses

Short Courses will be held Tuesday, February 25, 2020. Proposals are welcome for both full-day (8 hours) and half-day (4 hours) courses, submitted to any of the conference special topics or general technical topics.

Compensation: Instructors shall receive a total of 40% of the gross registration revenue (less credits for cancellations or over-payments) for their short course. When more than one Instructor is involved in a course, the 40% shall be shared as mutually agreed among the Instructors.

Expenses: Instructors are required to finance their own travel and housing. Expenses related to AV requirements beyond the standard set or to the purchase of short course materials must also be covered by the Instructor. The Geo-Institute will copy handouts for the course, provided the originals are provided by the deadline (Wed., January 22, 2020).

Instructor Agreement: If a course is selected for the conference, the lead instructor will be expected to sign an Instructor Agreement, which will provide all logistical and payment details for the course.

■ **Submit proposals to geoconferences@asce.org.**

■ **Proposals must provide all information to be considered.**

- » **Title (<12 words):** What is the name of your short course?
- » **Topic:** Select from the drop-box one of the conference topics listed in this document.
- » **Length:** Full-Day (8 hours) or Half-Day (4 hours)
- » **Handouts:** What kind of materials will attendees receive?
- » **Description (<150 words):** Market your course to conference attendees. Write with attendees in mind and keep it simple, clear, and concise. This description will be used for the Preliminary and Final Programs.
- » **Learning Objectives:** Include what the course will cover and what attendees can expect. What can students expect to have learned by the end of the course?
- » **Lead Instructor:** Provide full formal contact information for the lead instructor, who will serve as point of contact for the course.
- » **Other Course Participants:** Provide full formal contact information for all participants and describe their role (coinstructor, speaker, other) in the session.
- » **Comments for the Program Committee (<500 words):** Sell your short course to the Program Committee. What will take place and why should it be part of the conference? Why is it important, relevant, timely, new, different, innovative, or unique? What will attendees learn?

Geo-Congress 2020 Conference Topics

- **Special Topics for Geo-Congress 2020**
- **Geotechnics of Coasts, Oceans, Ports, and Rivers**
Lake Agassiz slays and flood control. Slope and costal erosion stabilization. Geotechnics of marine structures
- **“Common Ground” Geotechnical Issues Shared by the US and Canada**
Topics of international interest: Projects along the great lakes, peat, permafrost, and railways.
- **50th Anniversary of Minnesota Geotechnical Society; University of Minnesota 68th Annual Geotechnical Conference**
Invited international speakers. Local and regional projects and case histories.
- **The Geotechnics of Alternative Project Delivery**
Impact of project procurement (traditional, CMGC, DB, P3) on geotechnics. Performance-based work.
- **Geo-Education**
Trends in geo-engineering education, incorporating research into education, use of case histories in education
- **Construction, Inspection, and Monitoring**
Innovative monitoring techniques; UAS inspection; LiDAR; photogrammetry; thermal imaging in geo-construction
- **Advances in Geo-Computing**
Cloud computing, new methods in numerical methods (discrete element, FDEM, coupled processes, etc.), visualization techniques; geotechnical engineering and the fourth dimension
- **Geo-Systems**
Integration of geotechnical engineering with other science and engineering disciplines; bio-inspired geotechnics, geo-structural engineering; hydraulic scour- soil transport; beyond the thermal pile: geo-thermal applications
- **Geo-Forensics: Hindsight is 20/20**
Failure case histories; multi-disciplinary teams for geotechnical failure investigations; have we really learned from past failures? Does history always need to repeat itself?
- **Geo-Ethics**
Socially responsible geotechnical practice; reporting of geotechnical data; are we as confident as we appear on paper? Geotechnical engineers, risk, responsibility, and the legal system
- **States of Stress**
An examination of the challenges of our practice. Responding to the priorities and needs of civil infrastructure within constraints and demands related to time, talent, budget, coordination, and communication.

Core Geotechnical Engineering Topics

- **Computational Geotechnics**
- **Deep Foundations**
- **Earth Retaining Structures**
- **Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics**
- **Embankments, Dams, and Slopes**
- **Engineering Geology and Site Characterization**
- **Geoenvironmental Engineering**
- **Geophysical Engineering**
- **Geosynthetics**
- **Geotechnics of Soil Erosion**
- **Grouting**
- **Pavements**
- **Risk Assessment and Management**
- **Rock Mechanics**
- **Shallow Foundations**
- **Soil Improvement**
- **Soil Properties and Modeling**
- **Sustainability In Geotechnical Engineering**
- **Underground Engineering and Construction**
- **Unsaturated Soils**



Session Formats & Submission Process

All proposals are due by January 31, 2019

Special Session Formats

- **Big Ideas:** Sessions provide high-level perspectives on important, complex, and thought-provoking issues. Proposals should provide perspective on issues that will be of interest to a broad range of attendees. There may be one or more speakers within a Big Idea session. Formal presentations with visual aids are expected.
- **GEO Talks (Great Engineering Oration):** Short presentations that relate to specific experiences, lessons learned, or mentoring. The format is intended to be 10-15 minutes long, dialogue only, but may be supported by very limited drawings, images, or video. Propose a single GEO talk or several consecutive GEOs as part of a longer session. The Program Committee will organize the talks and program them through the conference, based on topic.
- **Panel:** Panel sessions generally include three to five panelists and a moderator. Each panelist is given a certain amount of time to formally present their materials. A Q&A session often follows.
- **Debate:** This variation on a panel session typically features four debaters (for and against) plus a moderator. The moderator announces the topic, keeps track of time, and the others debate.
- **Conversation With.....:** Three to four speakers and a moderator conduct an informal discussion without formal presentations. Discussion questions for use by the moderator will be prepared in advance and approved by the Program Committee.
- **Networking Forums and Events:** A venue to meet and interact with other convention members with similar interests.
- **Town Hall:** In these sessions, one or more presenters briefly provide information to attendees and engage the audience in a discussion about that information. The session is primarily devoted to conversations between presenters and attendees.
- **Roundtable Discussions and Workshops:** The meeting room is set with multiple tables and as many chairs as can fit around each table. A topic is assigned to each table, and displayed on a sign posted in a stanchion. Attendees select tables and topics based on their particular interests. Each table has a host, who starts the discussion and keeps it on track during the session.

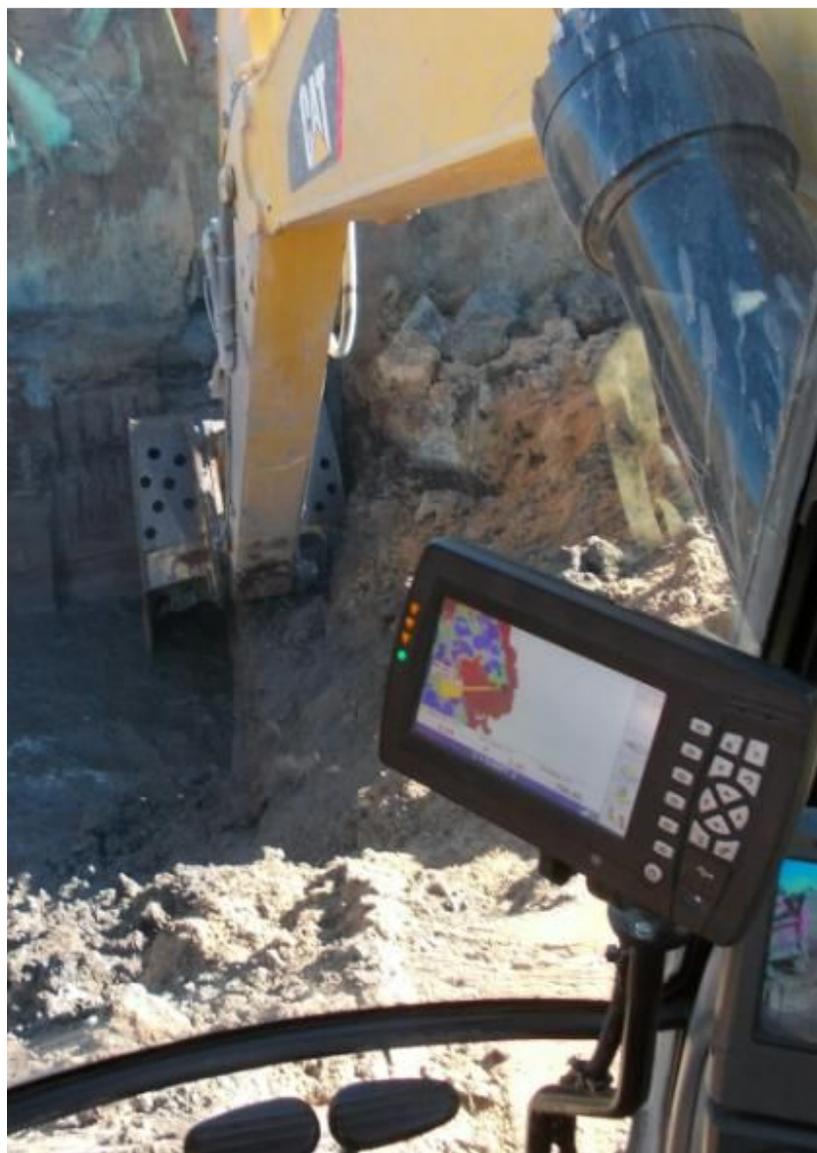
Technical Podium and Poster Sessions are NOT included in this Call for Special Sessions:

To participate in a concurrent technical session, submit an abstract for consideration of a technical paper. Refer to the Geo-Congress 2020 Call for Abstracts. These lecture-style (podium) and poster sessions are focused on Core Geotechnical Engineering Topics. Generally, no more than 6 papers will be presented in a lecture session. There may be a larger number of posters in a poster session grouped by topic/theme. Lecture and poster session content may consist of either or both research and case-study content (GSP, GPP conference proceedings).

Proposal Submission Process and Initial Deadlines

1. **Proposal Submission:** Submit proposals for consideration by January 31, 2019.
2. **Proposal Review:** The Program Committee will review all proposals. The committee will decline proposals that do not fit the theme of the conference, do not have strong scientific merit, are too commercial, or are unlikely to produce quality content of broad interest to attendees.
3. **Decision:** Notice of the final decision will be sent to the session proposers by February 28, 2019.

QUESTIONS? Bradley Keelor, Geo-Institute of ASCE, at bkeelor@asce.org.



Preliminary Program Schedule

(Subject to Change)

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Short Courses
5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	H. Bolton Seed Medal Lecture
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception with Exhibitors and Sponsors

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Special Sessions and Keynote Lectures
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Parallel Technical and Special Sessions I
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical and Special Sessions II
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Parallel Special Sessions and Posters
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Student Competitions and Activities
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Mercer Award Lecture

Thursday, February 27, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Special Sessions and Keynote Lectures
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Parallel Technical and Special Sessions III
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical and Special Sessions IV
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Parallel Special Sessions and Posters
5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.	Karl Terzaghi Lecture

Friday, February 28, 2020

8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Special Sessions and Keynote Lectures
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Parallel Technical and Special Sessions V
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Luncheon and Awards
1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Ralph B. Peck Award Lecture

Conference Program Committee

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Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota
Department of Transportation

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Technical Program Committee (and Representative, COPRI of ASCE):

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