

**MINUTES OF USUCGER BOARD MEETING
CONFERENCE CALL
29 APRIL 2004**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jean-Louis Briaud, Susan Burns, Dave Elton, Barbara Luke, Carlos Santamarina

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Sarah Gassman, Deborah Goodings

MEETING COMMENCED AT 10:00 A.M. CST.

1. USUCGER DUES STRUCTURE

The current dues structure for USUCGER member institutions, along with access to privileges provided by USUCGER were discussed. A draft policy submitted by Barbara Luke was discussed, and the following consensus was reached:

A) US Universities: US faculty members: pay \$25/person per year, have full privileges. It is up to the university's contact member to submit names of eligible faculty members (including research faculty, post-docs, instructrs, etc.). Students also fall into this category.

B) Associates: All other members, including non US faculty: pay \$25/person per year, receive email, do not vote, email posts must be approved by moderator.

Barbara will send out revised version of membership proposal. We will have open discussion within the Board for one week. Decision for final vote on the dues structure will be made at the conclusion of discussion.

Jean Louis will follow up on the government membership issues.

2) Result of PE License Vote by Jean-Louis Briaud:

This vote saw the largest participation by far of any vote taken under my watch. 62 universities responded out of 107 member universities. Judging from this and the large traffic of emails, it is clear that the topic is of interest to many of our members and that many of you have strong feelings about it. The result of the vote from the USUCGER membership is as follows:

1. Should Geotechnical Engineering Professors be encouraged to have their PE license?

Yes = 54, No = 6, Abstain = 2

2. Should Geotechnical Engineering Professors be required to have their PE license?

Yes = 21, No = 38, Abstain = 1 (2 did not answer that question)

I read from this result that the vast majority of us feels that we should encouraged our current and future colleagues to become registered and I urge you to do so. In case you wonder about my opinion, it is quite simple: Geotechnical Engineering Professors are Engineers and therefore should be registered.

3) Board Positions. Roles of the board members were discussed; potential candidates for Treasurer and Secretary were discussed.

4) Research Committee. The status of the USUCGER Research Committee Terms of Reference was discussed. Amendments to the ToR will be completed within two weeks.

5) Elections. Elections conclude on May 3. Results will be announced by Jean-Louis Briaud.

6) Research Award. Draft of USUCGER Distinguished Researcher Award to be requested from Research Committee (Jean-Louis Briaud).

7) Research Investment Award. Organizing process to select USUCGER Research Investment Award to be completed by the end of May (Carlos Santamarina).

8) USUCGER Conference. Next conference Fall 2006. Questions on the location were discussed:

Jean-Louis Briaud will send an email to request proposals.

Potential locations for the meeting were discussed and the Board prefers a location in the western US.

9) President's Second Year Goal: Research Help. Agreement with DFI has been reached. Carlos will follow up with research ideas.

10) Record of Votes on Website. Jean-Louis Briaud would like to include record of vote for committees, name change, and PE vote on the USUCGER website.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:20 A.M. CST.