

Call for Abstracts and Conference Preview



PanAm-UNSAT 2017

Second Pan American Conference on Unsaturated Soils
Dallas, Texas, USA | November 12–15, 2017

Unsaturated Soil Mechanics for Sustainable Geotechnics

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

A number of activities are envisioned for the Pan-Am UNSAT 2017 program, including:

- Workshops and short courses
- Keynotes/State-of-the-Art/State-of-the-Practice lectures
- Multi-session Symposium honoring Professor Del Fredlund
- Technical sessions
- Panel discussions
- Posters
- Exhibitors
- Social and networking opportunities
- Student program



Dallas Convention and Visitors Bureau / Matt Pasant

About the Conference

On behalf of the Unsaturated Soils Committee of the Geo-Institute (G-I) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the TC 106 committee on Unsaturated Soils of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), you are cordially invited to attend Pan-Am-UNSAT 2017: The Second Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils, which will be held November 12–15, 2017.

Pan-Am-UNSAT 2017 builds upon the continuing success of Pan-Am-UNSAT 2013 (First Pan-American Conference on Unsaturated Soils, Cartagena, Colombia, 2013); UNSAT 2006 (Fourth International Conference on Unsaturated Soils, Carefree, Arizona, 2006); and the seminal EXPANSIVE'92 (Seventh International Conference on Expansive Soils, Dallas, Texas, 1992).

Pan-Am-UNSAT 2017 will follow this series of successful regional and international conferences on Unsaturated Soils, bringing together researchers, practitioners, students and policy makers from around the world, particularly the Americas, to share the latest advances, engineering applications, and pedagogical approaches in the unsaturated soil mechanics discipline.

Pan-Am-UNSAT 2017 will feature the latest research advances and engineering-practice innovations with a focus on characterization, modeling, design, construction, and field performance. The conference will include a wide range of knowledge-enhancing technical sessions, short courses, and workshops. Around 250 U.S. and international participants from academia, industry, and government agencies are expected to attend the conference.

This is the perfect opportunity to expand your technical knowledge of unsaturated soils in the dynamic Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, Texas.

Intercontinental Dallas Hotel | Dallas, Texas USA

Mark your calendars and submit your abstract now!

You are invited

...to submit an abstract to any of the technical topics listed in this document. Abstracts without all the details requested below may not be considered:

- Abstracts must be between 300 to 500 words.
- Submissions must include the full formal names, credentials, affiliations, and email addresses for all authors.
- Abstracts must be submitted via the online CadmiumCD Submission System: <https://www.conferenceabstracts.com/cfp2/login.asp?EventKey=RQFOBTHI>
- **Abstracts are due by November 23, 2016**

Notice of Registration Requirement

Every paper awarded final acceptance for presentation must have one author attend the conference and present the paper. Publication in the conference proceedings without registering for the conference and presenting the paper is not possible. If you will not be able to attend, please do not submit an abstract.

GSP Submission Process and Deadlines

(may be subject to change)

Phase One — Abstract Submission

- Authors submit abstracts (see guidelines above) for consideration by **November 23, 2016**.
- The Program Committee will review all abstracts. Abstracts will be declined that do not fit the theme of the conference, do not have a strong scientific basis, are too commercial, or are unlikely to produce a quality paper.
- Notice of these decisions will be sent to the authors by **December 28, 2016**.

Phase Two — Draft Paper Submission

- Authors submit draft papers for consideration by **February 8, 2017**.
- Session Chairs will arrange for a minimum of two peer reviews for each draft paper, and then, on the basis of those reviews and their own judgement, make decisions about whether or not to accept the draft paper. Papers will be declined for the same reasons as an abstract or for not following ASCE paper format (sample Word document will be provided).
- Notice of these decisions, along with the two reviews (presented anonymously), will be sent to the authors by **April 19, 2017**.

Some conferences also make preliminary decisions about presentation formats at this time (rescindable if the final paper is still not of an acceptable quality).

Phase Three — Final Paper Submission

- Authors submit final versions of their approved draft papers for consideration by **May 10, 2017**.
- Session Chairs will review the final papers for compliance with review suggestions made during draft phase. Chairs will have the opportunity to request additional revisions from paper authors, and to re-review the results before the final decision is made.
- Notice of the final decision will be sent to the authors by **June 6, 2017**.
- Any author whose final paper has been accepted for the conference **MUST register for the conference by July 5, 2017** or their paper will be removed from the Proceedings.

Based on instructions from the Program Committee, Session Chairs will accept no more than a specific number of papers for oral podium presentation at the conference. Usually, no more than six papers are presented at the podium during a 90-minute technical session. Other papers in the session may be declined, or offered an alternative presentation type, depending on the conference.

Conference Proceedings

Pan-Am-UNSAT 2017 conference Proceedings will be published as a Geotechnical Special Publication (GSP) of the Geo-Institute of ASCE. GSPs are the G-I's primary outlet for continuing the tradition of geotechnical knowledge transfer. They are recognized internationally as premier publications for geotechnical engineering and the geoprofession. GSPs originated with the proceedings of the first geotechnical specialty conference (held in 1960 on the Shear Strength of Cohesive Soils), and the G-I has administered the publications ever since its formation in 1996.

A GSP is special because the content is subject to rigorous technical review during a three-phase submission process. Each paper must receive a minimum of two positive peer reviews before final acceptance.

Papers published in a GSP are indexed in Civil Engineering Database, Google Scholar, and others.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Regarding issues related to online paper submission

- **Helen E. Cook** (hcook@asce.org), Geo-Institute of ASCE

Regarding the technical program content

- **Sandra L. Houston** (sandra.houston@asu.edu), Arizona State University
- **William J. Likos** (likos@wisc.edu), University of Wisconsin, Madison

For other general program inquiries

- **Laureano R. Hoyos** (lhoyos@uta.edu), University of Texas at Arlington
- **John S. McCartney** (mccartney@eng.ucsd.edu), University of California San Diego

Conference Technical Topics

- Stress State Quantification
- Experimental Laboratory and In-Situ Testing
- Unsaturated Rock Behavior
- Unsaturated Permafrost Behavior
- Fundamentals
 - ✓ Flow Processes
 - ✓ Shear Strength
 - ✓ Stiffness and Dynamic Response
 - ✓ Volume Change
- Energy Geotechnics
- Sustainability
- Numerical and Constitutive Modeling in Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Applications
 - ✓ Cohesive-Frictional soils
 - ✓ Collapsible soils
 - ✓ Expansive soils
 - ✓ Slope stability
 - ✓ Landfills
 - ✓ Pavements
 - ✓ Foundations

Conference Committees

CONFERENCE PROGRAM COMMITTEE

- **Conference Chair:** Laureano R. Hoyos, University of Texas at Arlington
- **Conference Co-Chair:** John S. McCartney, University of California, San Diego
- **Technical Program Chair:** Sandra L. Houston, Arizona State University
- **Technical Program Co-Chair:** William J. Likos, University of Wisconsin, Madison
- **Local Chair:** Marcelo Sanchez, Texas A&M University
- **Local Chair:** Gerald A. Miller, University of Oklahoma
- **Sponsorship & Exhibits Chair:** Anand J. Puppala, University of Texas at Arlington
- **Logistics Manager:** Majid Ghayoomi, University of New Hampshire
- **Conference Program Specialist:** Helen Cook (hcook@asce.org), Geo-Institute/ASCE

Technical Advisory Committee

- Sai Vanapalli, University of Ottawa, Canada
- Greg Siemens, Royal Military College, Canada
- Kanthasamy (Muralee) Muraleetharan, University of Oklahoma, USA
- Xiong Zhang, University of Cincinnati, USA
- Ning Lu, Colorado School of Mines, USA
- Claudia Zapata, Arizona State University, USA
- Jorge Zornberg, University of Texas at Austin, USA
- Jorge Abraham Diaz-Rodriguez, UNAM, Mexico
- Bernardo Caicedo, Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia
- Julio E. Colmenares, Universidad Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia
- Orencio Villar, University of São Paulo, São Carlos, Brazil
- Tacio de Campos, PUC-Rio, Brazil
- Fernando Marinho, University of São Paulo, Brazil
- Manoel Porfírio Cordão Neto, Universidade de Brasília, Brazil
- Diego Manzanal, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
- Alejo Sfriso, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina

International Technical Committee

- David Toll, University of Durham, UK
- Adrian Russell, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Eduardo Alonso, UPC, Barcelona, Spain
- Antonio Gens, UPC, Barcelona, Spain
- Lyesse Laloui, EFP Lausanne, Switzerland
- J. Carlos Santamarina, KAUST, Saudi Arabia
- Charles Ng, HKUST, Hong Kong

Conference Program Schedule

(Subject to change)

Date / Time	Activity
Sunday, November 12, 2017	
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Short Courses and Workshops
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Welcome Reception
Monday, November 13, 2017	
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.	Welcome / Keynote Lectures
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-I
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch / Posters
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-II / Symposium in Honor of Professor Del Fredlund, Part I
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-III / Symposium in Honor of Professor Del Fredlund, Part II
6:30 - 9:30 pm	Social Event to be determined
Tuesday, November 14, 2017	
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	State-of-the-Art/State-of-the-Practice Lectures
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-IV
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch / Posters
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-V
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-VI
6:30 - 9:30 pm	Social Event to be determined
Wednesday, November 15, 2017	
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	State-of-the-Art/State-of-the-Practice Lectures
10:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-VII
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Lunch / Posters
2:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-VIII
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Break
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.	Parallel Technical Sessions-IX