

JTC 3 – Education and Training

Report to IAEG: 7 October, 2024

By: D. Jean Hutchinson, Ph.D., P.Eng., FEIC, FCAE - Chair JTC3

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There are 4 additional spots available for those interested in joining JTC3. Two are “at large”. It would be very good to have additional members from Latin America, Asia or Africa. We would also value some additional nominees who are women – the committee currently comprises 33% women. Please send contact information for any potential nominees to Dr. Jean Hutchinson – hutchinj@queensu.ca

Mission Statement

The mission statement was discussed and revised. The new version was unanimously approved by vote by the Committee Members.

JTC3 is a Joint Technical Committee on Education and Training of the Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies (FedIGS) representing the International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering (ISRM), International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment (IAEG), and International Geosynthetics Society (IGS).

The goal of JTC3 is to contribute to broad cooperation between international geo-engineering societies and their members in teaching, training and outreach. JTC3 supports education with a focus on academic educators, graduate and undergraduate students, and a focus on industry to support professional development. Linkages between academia, industry and government are enhanced by collaborative technical and professional training opportunities and materials for all career levels.

Upcoming JTC3 Workshop

JTC3 and JTC1 are pleased to announce that we are supporting and will be participating in a joint Workshop to be held in Cookstown New Zealand in 2026 (April?). The local organizing committee includes an exceptional group of people, chaired by Ross Roberts. The overarching objective of the workshop, entitled “Landslide Risk Assessment, Communication and Geo-education”, will be to bring together technical work on landslides and public communication into one venue. Conference field trips, professional training workshops, and a post conference field school for early career professionals are all being organized, to complement the technical sessions.

There is strong support for collaboration with the ISRM Congress to be held in Korea in 2027, perhaps as a workshop, course and/or technical session. Dr. Ki-Bok Min is chairing that conference organization committee and is a member of JTC3.

<http://isrm2027.website.or.kr/html/>

Discussion of Committee Activities

After a long period of relative quiet, JTC3 is being reinvigorated. The Committee are currently focused on developing a web page (to be hosted and created in cooperation with the IAEG), creating content for the web page, and establishing the top priority Activities during our term (2024 to 2027, inclusive).

At this time, the Committee members are considering a list of general topics and are identifying the tasks they would each like to support. Through this process, we expect to rank the topics in terms of priority, and in Q4 will assign sub-committees to develop initiatives and make progress.

General initial thoughts for activities of interest include:

- 1. Discuss, develop and advance university education and professional training in the FedIGS societies.*
- 2. Encourage collaboration between educators and trainers in the geoengineering disciplines.*
- 3. Interact with related committees of ISSMGE, ISRM, IAEG, and IGS.*

- 4. Contribute to the International Congresses of ISSMGE, IAEG, ISRM and IGS.*
- 5. Foster and organize Conferences, Symposia and Workshops.*
- 6. Provide information about education and training in the geo-engineering disciplines as available from sources of the most current technical information. Prepare Guidelines and Suggestions for University Programs in Geoengineering disciplines.*
- 7. Support organization of training schools and preparation of guidelines and training packages.*
- 8. Maintain a JTC3 website to make knowledge available to members of the FedIGS societies and the public.*
- 9. Provide information to pre-university students and teachers about careers in Geoengineering.*
- 10. Evaluate, with the cooperation of employers, the effectiveness of geo-engineering education, in practice.*
- 11. Collect and provide linkages to courses / materials in support of attraction and retention of women in FedIGS professions.*
- 12. Develop and deliver workshops / training for Stakeholder engagement and communication with the public: with focus on resource projects, natural hazard emergency response, etc. In countries where relevant, considering the outcomes of truth and reconciliation processes with first nations / indigenous peoples.*

The committee met during Q1 and Q3 of 2024. We will meet again in December 2024.

The committee look forward to hearing about C4 activities in Dubrovnik, and to establishing strong connections through this group.