



## North American Geosynthetics Society - 2017 Election Nominee Biographies

The IGS-NA 2017 Election will be held from **3 January through 27 January 2017**. Ballots will be cast electronically, each member in good standing will receive an electronic ballot to the email address on file with the IGS-NA. Each voting member may cast one vote each for President Elect and Treasurer. There are 3 open Vice Presidential seats on the board. Each IGS-NA Member in good standing may cast up to 3 votes for the Vice-Presidential seats, the order of selection of up to 3 candidates does not affect the weight of the vote – each vote shall count as one point for the candidate. The 3 candidates with the highest number of votes will be the successful candidates.

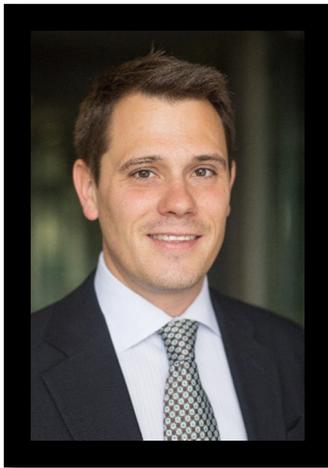
If you have any questions about the voting process or any technical issues with the voting system you may contact: Becky Slaybaugh 561.768.9487 | [info@igs-na.org](mailto:info@igs-na.org)

If you have any questions about the nominations please contact Immediate Past President, Robert (Bob) Mackey | [bmackey@s2li.com](mailto:bmackey@s2li.com).

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### *CANDIDATES FOR PRESIDENT-ELECT – TERM 2017-2019*

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JOHN S. MCCARTNEY

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Structural Engineering at the University of California San Diego, and am currently serving as the treasurer of IGS-North America. In my research, I am passionate about finding new ways to use geosynthetics to solve challenging problems in geotechnical engineering. Although there are many technical societies focused on geosynthetics, I think that IGS-North America provides the best vehicle for disseminating research on geosynthetics as it connects researchers, engineering practitioners, manufacturers, and installers. I look forward to helping establish the new society management structure, helping maintain the strong history of organizing the technical content at conferences focused on geosynthetics, and keeping the momentum going on new initiatives like the Educate the Educators program. During my term, a major initiative will be to

work with society members to bid for and host the 11th International Conference on Geosynthetics in 2020 in North America.

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JAMES A. (JAY) MCKELVEY

Jay McKelvey is a geotechnical engineer with over 28 years experience in conventional geotechnical engineering and geosynthetics. A professional engineer licensed in six states, Jay has been recognized for his pioneering contributions in landfill design methodologies, receiving a Young Member award from the IGS, and has been recognized by the Academy of Geo-Professionals as a Diplomate, Geotechnical Engineering and Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Active as a voting member in the ASTM D-18 and D-35 committees, Jay also serves on the editorial board of the Geotechnical Testing Journal, and serves on the ASCE Geosynthetics and Earth Retaining Structures technical committees. Jay also currently serves as Chair in the Delaware Valley GeoInstitute, and previously served as Vice President in IGS North America, and was Technical Co-Chair of Geosynthetics 2015.

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*CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER - TERM 2017-2020*

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RANJIV GUPTA

Ranjiv Gupta, Ph.D., P.E., is a Project Engineer with Geosyntec Consultants in Phoenix, Arizona. Dr. Gupta has over ten years of academic and professional experience in the field of geotechnical and geosynthetics engineering. His research work at the University of Texas, Austin included developing soil-geosynthetic interface models for geosynthetic reinforced pavements over expansive clays. Since joining Geosyntec, Dr. Gupta has been involved with the use of geosynthetics in various projects including solid and hazardous waste landfills, coal-combustion residual surface impoundments and mine tailing facilities. Dr. Gupta has provided design and permitting services throughout US.

Dr. Gupta has been involved with IGS-NA since 2008, first as a student volunteer during the 2008 GeoAmericas Conference in Cancun, Mexico and recently as Co-Chair of Student Activities for the 2016 GeoAmericas Conference in Miami, Florida. Dr. Gupta joined the IGS-NA Board as a Vice-President in 2015, serving as the Board's Secretary since 2016.

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*CANDIDATES FOR 3 VICE PRESIDENTIAL SEATS - TERM 2017-2020*

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JOHN ALLEN

Over the course of his career, Mr. Allen has demonstrated a history of participation in and sharing of knowledge within the geosynthetics community. During the past 16 years, his career development in the area started as a CQA technician and advanced to his current position with CETCO® Environment Product's Technical Services Team. This experience has provided him with the experience to support the chapter's mission. Mr. Allen has also taught courses and provided educational opportunities to the construction quality assurance and engineering communities, on a variety of subjects including geosynthetic clay liners, compacted clay liners, and geosynthetics CQA activities to interface friction and slope stability testing programs. He has demonstrated commitment to education and outreach through mentoring graduate students, actively publishing and reviewing journal and conference proceedings, and serving on NSF Geo-Engineering Extreme Events Reconnaissance teams. Mr. Allen looks forward to supporting IGS North America Chapter and executing their mission.



KRISTOF FABIAN

I have done my PhD in the use of geosynthetic materials with cohesive soil backfill, presented numerous papers. Also, I completed a number of large scale landfill, mining closure, mining expansion projects using synthetic liners (for example the Kettle River upstream expansion using double liners; the Farley Mine closure and an oil refinery in Richmond, CA), as well as established a liner testing facility at a previous employer. I am keenly aware of the industry developments, have been a member of IGS since 1986, and I wish to serve the new generation of geosynthetic engineers with my experience in design/construction/testing and overall project execution.

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JIE HAN

Dr. Han has been involved in teaching, research, and design of geosynthetics for civil engineering applications since 1997. He ever worked at one of the geosynthetic manufacturers in the US, as a design engineer, senior engineer, and manager of technology development for four years. He has conducted extensive research on geogrid, geocell, and geotextile for stabilization of roads and foundations and reinforcement of walls, slopes, and embankments. His research has been largely sponsored by the geosynthetic industry. Dr. Han has published nearly 200 technical papers on geosynthetic-related topics including design methods that are used by the geosynthetic industry. Dr. Han has taught the graduate geosynthetics course since 2003. His interest in serving as a vice president for the IGS North America is to promote education and research of geosynthetics for broader and more sustainable applications.

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BRUNO HERLIN

Product Manager and Engineer with Terrafix since 2000 responsible for the companies' manufacturing division of Geosynthetic Clay Liners (GCLs) throughout North America. Author and presenter at various Geosynthetic related conferences and seminars over the years. Involved in the lining industry since 1994, I would like to assist our society by increasing membership enrolment to actual Geosynthetics sales representatives who are currently being left out of our society circle. Promote the society's goal of education and training seminars to bridge the gap between University Geosynthetic research to constructions site installation and material testing techniques. My main reason to seeking a seat is to provide my assistance to the society win a bid to host the next IGS International Conference bid and if successful be part of the organizing committee to host a successful conference.

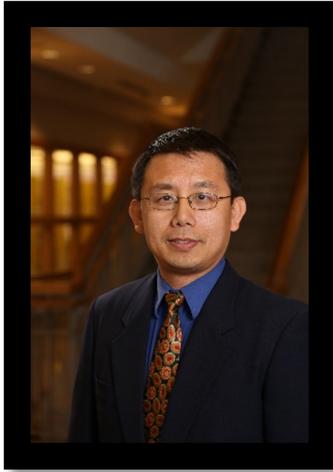
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MARCO ISOLA

I'm a Senior Engineer in the Maccaferri Inc. Technical Department responsible for the projects development and design for the Southeastern Region, Caribbean and West Indies. I also provide technical support to all area managers for soil stabilization and pavement reinforcement projects in the US territories. As a senior engineer for a global geosynthetics manufacturer, I work and design structures with geosynthetics on a daily basis. I'm an active member of ASTM D35.01 committee and I really enjoy the research and teaching aspects of my work, such as conducting seminars, and technical presentations on soil reinforcement and stabilization. I strongly believe in the advancement of geosynthetics engineering through research and education. It would be an honor to be part of the Board of Directors of a highly recognized international society such as the IGS-NA, that promotes and develops the use of geosynthetics worldwide.

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LIN LI

Dr. Lin Li got his PhD from University of Wisconsin-Madison under Prof. Craig Benson in 2004. He teaches geotechnical engineering courses, including geoenvironmental engineering, geosynthetics, soil dynamics. His expertise is in innovative levee testing and protection, bio-mediated ground improvement, and geo-environmental area. He has been PI of fourteen research grants with total funding amounts of \$3.6 Million. Dr. Li is the author of more than 87 peer-reviewed published articles. He has led the research on high performance turf reinforcement mat in innovative levee protection funded by DHS. The work contributed for the widely adopting of TRM in New Orleans levee land-side slope reinforcement by USACE. In his research on bio-mediated ground improvement, he used nonwoven geotextile to develop a full-contacted permeable sample preparation mold, which leads to patent and new applications. He is vice chair of TRB AFP40 committee, chair of ASTM D18.14 committee, and member of ASCE erosion committee.

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TIM STARK

Dr. Stark has been conducting research on geosynthetics for the last twenty-five years. His research on the static and seismic stability of geosynthetic slopes has led to design values of geosynthetic interface strength, importance of interim slope conditions, GCL shear behavior, and three-dimensional slope stability analyses. He is currently investigating the effects of elevated temperatures on geosynthetic durability. He is Technical Director of the Fabricated Geomembrane Institute, which is investigating the use of fabricated geomembranes for a variety of applications.

I am honored to be nominated as a candidate for the IGS-NA Board and pledge my efforts to advance the mission of the IGS-NA. I will bring some new ideas and energy to the IGS-NA to expand geosynthetics education at U.S. and Canadian Universities and Colleges, e.g., teaching modules, demonstrations, and Educate the Educators, increase IGS-NA membership, and attract the next International Conference on Geosynthetics to North America.

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ROBERT B. WALLACE

I am a designer and consultant for projects almost exclusively involving geosynthetics for over 30 years. My particular specialization is in the design and construction of: containment systems involving geosynthetic bottom lining and capping systems; geosynthetics reinforcement, including subgrade support and MSE walls; and erosion control. I have worked on projects throughout the U.S. and Canada and in many other countries around the world.

I was a charter member of the IGS and served on the Board of Directors from 1986 – 1988. I joined and have continuously participated on ASTM D35 - Geosynthetics since 1986. I have written over 40 papers on topics related to geosynthetics. I am running for the position of Vice President to continue to promote the advancement and application of geosynthetics beyond my employment and further contribute to the activities of the IGS in North America.