

18TH ANNUAL CAPITAL REGION GEOTECHNICAL SYMPOSIUM

Union College, Schenectady, New York

November 20, 2026

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.	Check-In & Breakfast (sponsored by <i>John P. Stopen Engineering</i>)
8:00 - 8:15 a.m.	Opening Remarks
8:15- 9:15 a.m.	Risk-Mitigation-Driven Geotechnical Design of an Excavation System Adrian Pena-Iguaran, P.E., M.ASCE, Geocomp
9:15 - 10:15 a.m.	NFTA DL&W Station Shoreline Collapse and Restoration Jon K. Whiting, PE and Todd Swackhamer, PE McMahon & Mann Consulting Engineers, P.C.
10:15 - 10:30 a.m.	Break (sponsored by <i>Colliers Engineering & Design</i>)
10:30 - 11:30 a.m.	Standalone Earth Retention Systems Next to Commercial Software Development Operations Bill Walton, P.E., S.E. F.ASCE, BC.GE, GEI
11:30 - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch (sponsored by <i>Keller - North America</i>)
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	The Terracon-Sponsored Lecture Design for Recovery Shaping Tomorrow's Disaster Standards Sissy Nikolaou, Ph.D., P.E., BC.GE, F.ASCE, NIST Featured Speaker & A 2026-2027 Geo-Institute Cross-USA Lecture
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Break (sponsored by <i>Atlantic Testing Laboratories</i>)
1:45 - 2:45 p.m.	NYS Route 28 & Trail Over South Inlet Raquette Lake Viggy Rajasekaran, P.E. NYSDOT Geotechnical Engineering Bureau
2:45 - 3:45 p.m.	Foundation Design and Construction of Livingston Ave Bridge Matthew Reigel, P.E., HNTB & Timothy Light, P.E., G.E, Hub Foundation
3:45 - 4:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks
4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Reception (sponsored by <i>GEI Consultants</i>)

FEATURED SPEAKER

Sissy Nikolaou, PhD, PE, BC.GE, F.ASCE, is a senior leader in geotechnical and earthquake engineering at the Disaster Impact Reduction Office of NIST, where she is appointed to serve as lead project investigator for the national investigation into the 2021 Champlain Towers South collapse.



With 25+ years of experience shaping global skylines and critical infrastructure and responding to extreme events, her applied research bridges the gap between advanced engineering, multi-hazard resilience, and financial viability.

A passionate advocate for future-proofing communities, Sissy's transformational work translates complex risk landscapes into actionable planning decisions with direct impacts on advancing codes and standards. She has deeply integrated the geoprofession into her professional activities, which includes dedicated and scholarly mentorship of many GI members. Beyond her investigative work and applied research, she is a recognized leader in the engineering community, having served as ASCE-GI President (2022-23), Director for EERI and ATC, and as current Chair of the NYC Seismic Code committee. Her accolades include the prestigious Department of Commerce Gold Medal, the Prakash Award for Excellence, and recognition as Engineer of the Year by both ASCE MetSection and the University at Buffalo.



REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration is limited to 100 and will be on a first-come, first-served basis, and includes admission to all symposium presentations, breakfast, breaks, lunch and the optional evening reception.

Registration Fees:

- ASCE Member - \$130
- Non-Member - \$145
- Government Agency Employee - \$70
- Retiree - \$40
- Student - Free*

Registration will be open through Tuesday, November 17, 2026. You can register for the event in one of two ways:

- **Online** - Registration and payment can be made by credit card or through PayPal™ (a PayPal™ account is not required). Click [HERE](#) and you will be directed to the registration form.
- **By Mail** - If registering by mail, please complete the Registrant Information on the opposite side of this page and mail it along with payment. Payment made by mail must be by check only (cash or credit cards are not accepted by mail). Make checks payable to: ASCE Mohawk-Hudson Section. Write attendee(s) name on the check.

CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION

Approved New York State Professional Development Hours (PDH) are being sought for each presentation through ACEC. Each presentation will be worth 1 PDH, and attendance at each presentation is mandatory to receive the PDH certificate. A total of 6 PDH credits may be obtained at this symposium.

LOCATION & PARKING



The symposium is being held in the College Park Hall at the Union College, 450 Nott St., Schenectady, NY. A map of the campus will be emailed to you prior to the event. The email will contain information on where to park for the event.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL FORM

Please register by Tuesday, November 17, 2026.

Registrant Information (please write clearly):

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Registration Fees:

Registration	Fee	Total
ASCE Member	\$130	
Non-Member	\$145	
Government Agency Employee	\$70	
Retiree	\$40	
Student	Free*	
Optional Scholarship Donation (\$20 suggested)		
Total		\$

Make checks payable to "ASCE Mohawk-Hudson Section".

Mail Registration Form and Payment to:

Jennifer Everleth, 15 Briar Ridge Place, Selkirk, NY 12158

* Students - Please email mhgeosymposium@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

SYMPOSIUM COORDINATORS

Have questions? Please contact a symposium coordinator for assistance.

- Paul Bailey: paul_bailey@verizon.net
- Gary Dale: daleg1973@gmail.com
- Jennifer Everleth: mhgeosymposium@gmail.com
- Ashraf Ghaly: ghalya@union.edu

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