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John S. McCartney is a Professor in Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering whose research interests include geosynthetics engineering, unsaturated soil mechanics, and energy geotechnics. He received the ASCE Huber Award in 2016, the ASCE Casagrande Award in 2013, the ASCE J. James R. Croes medal in 2012, the 2019 R.M. Quigley award from CGS in 2020, the NSF CAREER Award in 2011, and the IGS and Young IGS Awards in 2018 and 2008, respectively.

He is the Past-President of the North American Chapter of the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS-NA) and the chair of the ASCE Geoinstitute Committee on Unsaturated Soils. With IGS-NA, he is part of the team organizing the GeoAmericas 2024 conference in Toronto.

He is an editor of ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering (JGGE), an editor of Computers and Geotechnics, an associate editor of Canadian Geotechnical Journal and serves on the editorial boards of Geosynthetics International, ASTM Geotechnical Testing Journal (GTJ), Geomechanics for Energy and the Environment, and the Taiwanese Journal of GeoEngineering. He received BS and MS degrees in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder in 2002 and a Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 2007.