

## Conference Report

### The 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference on Physical Modelling in Geotechnics, EUROFUGE2016



The 3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference on Physical Modelling in Geotechnics, **EUROFUGE 2016**, organized by IFSTTAR Nantes was held from 1 - 3 June 2016 in Nantes under the auspices of the TC 104 Technical Committee "Physical Modelling in Geotechnics" from the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE). After a welcome speech by Luc THOREL, Chairman of the organizing committee and by Philippe TAMAGNY, Deputy Director of IFSTTAR Nantes, the Conference was opened by Professor Roger FRANK, ISSMGE President, and Professor Neil TAYLOR, General Secretary.



Roger FRANK

Philippe  
TAMAGNY

Opening session

Luc THOREL

Supported by the French Committee for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Actidyn Systems S.A. and the Urban Community of Nantes (Nantes Métropole), the 3<sup>rd</sup> EUROFUGE 2016 had 85 participants from 20 countries.

Five major themes had been selected: Natural Risks, Infrastructures, Renewable Energies, Physical Modelling Equipment, Back to Basics.

All the 56 communications presented have been gathered in a 392-page Proceedings volume including the texts of the two special lectures given by:

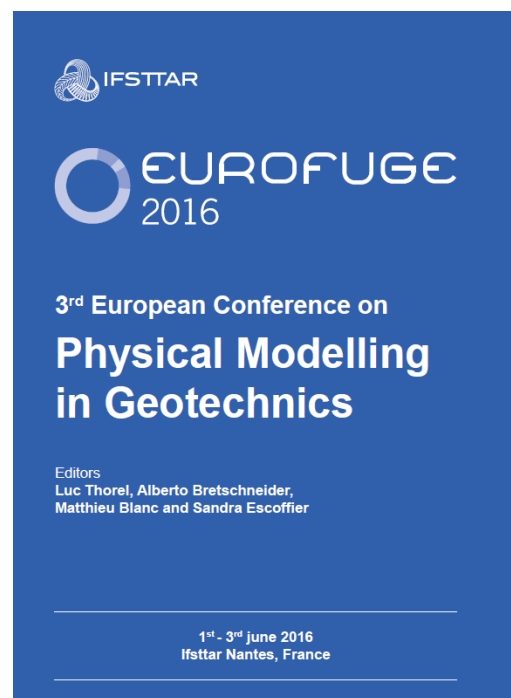
- Professor Cristina TSUHA from the University Sao Paulo (Brazil) on <<Physical Modelling of the Behaviour of Helical Anchors>>.
- Professor Masaki KITAZUME from the Tokyo Institute of Technology (Japan) on <<Applications of Centrifuge Modelling to Liquefaction Mitigation Techniques>>.



Cristina TSUHA



Masaki KITAZUME



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Since no parallel sessions were organized, the whole audience of the conference had been able to attend the broad overview of the activities of the different European teams involved in scientific and technical research cooperation in the Physical Modelling in Geotechnics sector, presented on a 15-minute basis. This, of course, did not include time for the many questions aroused after each lecture and which continued during breaks.

The smooth functioning of the sessions were facilitated by the session presidents who ensured effective time control and discussion management.



Ch. Gaudin  
(UWA, Australia)



J. Knappett  
(Univ. Dundee,  
Great Britain)



O. Jenck  
(Univ. Grenoble,  
France)



V. Fioravante  
(Univ. Ferrara,  
Italy)



I. Anastasopoulos  
(ETH Zurich,  
Switzerland)



M.C.R. Davies  
(Univ. Sussex,  
Great Britain)



J. Laue  
(Univ. Lulea,  
Sweden)



A. Bezuijen  
(Deltares, The  
Netherlands)



V. Zania  
(DTU, Denmark)



Ph. Sentenac  
(Univ.  
Strathclyde,  
Great Britain)



A. Mc Namara  
(City Univ., Great  
Britain)

Breaks have allowed the discussions to continue during tasting sessions with some specialties prepared by the IFSTTAR cooks. In particular, a specially made chocolate mousse has been baked using microgravity, which is the world's first to our knowledge. At the end of the first day of meeting, and surrounded by the registered students, ISSMGE President Roger FRANK assisted by the General Secretary, Neil TAYLOR, and the IFSTTAR Research Director Emeritus, Jacques GARNIER, planted a symbolic "tree of knowledge" on the lawn near the centrifuge. It is a tulip tree, one of the first American species of tree planted in the botanic garden of Nantes.



R. Frank, N. Taylor et J. Garnier, short-lived gardeners. The tulip tree planted during Eurofuge 2016

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On the IFSTAR steps, the conference participants