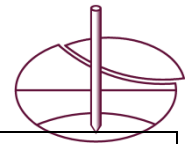


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Juan Cruz Barría	<b>Your Organization:</b> Universidad Nacional de la Patagonia San Juan Bosco	<b>Date of report:</b> 15/06/2022
<b>Conference Title:</b> 7th International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (7iYGEC) and 20th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE)	<b>Location of Conference:</b> Sydney, Australia	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> 29 April – 1 May 2022 (7iYGEC)  1 May – 5 May 2022 (ICSMGE)
<b>What you learned:</b> <p>This was my first time participating in both conferences: The 7th International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (7iYGEC) and the 20th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE).</p> <p>The level and prestige of this conference is really high and I am grateful to have participated and enjoyed the presentations of colleagues from all over the world. I had the opportunity to present two papers, one at the 7iYGEC and the other at the ICSMGE. I also had the opportunity to participate and organize the geotechnical design challenge "<i>Are we overdesigning?</i>" in Latin America. These results were later shown at the ICSMGE. Being the young liaison between the ISSMGE and the geotechnical engineering society of my country, I was dedicated to promote the event in my country and ended up being the 2nd country with the highest responses in the event. Peter Day presented the results at the ICSMGE and drew interesting and important conclusions that can help to optimize calculation methods and design criteria.</p> <p>The conferences presented topics that are becoming increasingly important at a global level, not only in geotechnical engineering, but also in different branches of engineering. The development of artificial intelligence to optimize designs, energy geotechnics, environmental geotechnics and even the geotechnical study of the moon makes geotechnics diversify and generate new branches of research.</p> <p>The study of energy geotechnics is particularly important these days because of the worldwide trend to reduce fossil fuel energy consumption. The energy optimization of structures now extends to geotechnical studies. Here I find common ground, since my line of research was based on the reduction of fossil fuel consumption.</p>		

***People you met:***

Being remotely at the conferences, I was not able to interact as much as I would have liked with the other participants. However, I was able to meet some participants with whom I shared a session during the 7iYGEC, such as Vincent Castonguay, Miriam Woolley, Steven Harms and David Marx. During the ICSMGE, I was able to attend talks by researchers I did not know, such as Professor Antonio Gens, Kerry Row, Stephan Jefferis, among others. And it is also always a pleasure to listen to Dr. Carlos Santamarina, Prof. Marcelo Sanchez and Prof. Pierre Delage.

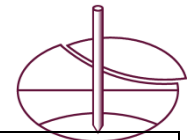
***Main features of conference:***

The 7th International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (7iYGEC) was held on 29 April to 1 May 2022. The 20th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE), was held on 1 May to 5 May 2022. Both conferences were held in Sydney in a hybrid mode. Some presentations were pre-recorded and made available on the website. The hybrid mode allowed accessibility to many members like me who were unable to attend in person, but were still able to enjoy these conferences.

The conference brings together many branches of geotechnics, soil mechanics, rock mechanics and geology. It is interesting to see how these topics are linked and to be able to choose which one to attend. The conference had parallel sessions that included keynote lectures, oral presentations and poster presentations. Particularly for me, I was able to give two presentations we are doing with my research group, one at the 7iYGEC and the other at the ICSMGE.

***Your comments on the conference:***

I really liked the organization of the event and the possibility to attend remotely. I am also happy to have participated with publications in the ICSMGE and previously as a representative of my country's society to the ISSMGE, which allowed me to meet young geotechnicians from other countries. It was a unique opportunity to participate in two very prestigious events and I am grateful to have been able to receive the support of the ISSMGE Foundation for this purpose.



**Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:**

This was my first time participating in both conferences: The 7th International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (7iYGEC) and the 20th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE).

The level and prestige of this conference is really high and I am grateful to have participated and enjoyed the presentations of colleagues from all over the world. I had the opportunity to present two papers, one at the 7iYGEC and the other at the ICSMGE. I also had the opportunity to participate and organize the geotechnical design challenge "*Are we overdesigning?*" in Latin America. These results were later shown at the ICSMGE. Being the young liaison between the ISSMGE and the geotechnical engineering society of my country, I was dedicated to promote the event in my country and ended up being the 2nd country with the highest responses in the event. Interesting and important conclusions were presented at the ICSMGE that can help to optimize calculation methods and design criteria.

Some presentations were pre-recorded and made available on the website. The hybrid mode allowed accessibility to many members like me who were unable to attend in person, but were still able to enjoy these conferences.

The conferences presented topics that are becoming increasingly important at a global level, not only in geotechnical engineering, but also in different branches of engineering. The development of artificial intelligence to optimize designs, energy geotechnics, environmental geotechnics and even the geotechnical study of the moon makes geotechnics diversify and generate new branches of research.

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**Photographs from Conference:** Insert here or attach to email