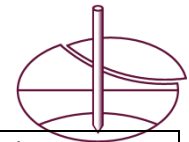


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Binh Le	Your Organization: City, University of London	Date of report: 13/10/17
Conference Title: 19 th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering	Location of Conference: Seoul, Republic of Korea	Dates of Conference: 17 to 22 September 2017
What you learned: The “19 th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering” offered a great opportunity for me to widen and deepen my knowledge in geotechnical engineering. The Terzaghi Oration lecture, entitled “Challenges and shortcomings in geotechnical engineering practice in the context of a developing country”, delivered by Peter Day who stressed that most geotechnical failures, demonstrated by four case studies, are not because of the lack of knowledge but the inability to apply the available knowledge. The lecture also highlighted the importance of shifting the focus from creation of knowledge to implementing knowledge into practice. In addition, this lecture was developed in the context of a developing country which I found relevant to Vietnam, my home country. From the Bishop Lecture entitled “Modelling and testing” delivered by David Muir Wood, I gained more knowledge into constitutive soil models and their limitations. Together with the presentation “Practical application of soil structure interaction analysis” delivered by Chris Haberfield, I have learned useful information in finite element analysis for my research in the future. Updates on the recent infrastructure development, including the paper TBM-Ground interaction modelling, for mega cities reported in TC305 was very beneficial to my focus on underground structures. Presentations from TC204 workshop also provided helpful information and knowledge in tunnel face stability and design tool for pile tunnel interaction which was very relevant to my research interest.		
People you met: Adam Bezuijen - Chairman of ISSMGE TC204 and Tiago Dias – Independent researcher: discussion about participation to the committee activates. Jeffrey Oke – Mine Design Engineering: detailed discussion on my paper Trung Ngo – University of Wollongong and Minh Tang - Ecole des Ponts ParisTech, Université Paris-Est: potentiel research collaboration Giulia Viggiani - University of Cambridge: Giulia gave some interesting feedbacks and questions towards my paper. And other researchers.		
Main features of conference:		



The conference were mainly structured into Plenary Sessions (2 days) and Parallel Sessions (2 days). In the Plenary Sessions, distinguished guests delivered high quality presentations covering a wide range of interesting topics including soil testing and modelling, transforming knowledge from research into practice, unsaturated soil, soil structure interaction modelling, risk management etc. The parallel sessions allowed researchers from both academia and industry to present and discuss their works in depth. In addition, the gala dinner was a good opportunity for networking.

Your comments on the conference:

The 19th ICSMGE succeeded in creating a platform for sharing valuable knowledge and latest technology, through Plenary Sessions and Parallel Sessions, that cover every aspect in geotechnical engineering. The Parallel Sessions allowed in-depth discussion among researchers and promoted networking activities.

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

The International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE), held every four years, is considered as the main event in geotechnical engineering. This year, the 19th ICSMGE was organised in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from 17 to 22 September. The conference attracted 1952 participants, including academics, practitioners and students from 82 countries, which created a world class platform for sharing the most recent knowledge and technologies.

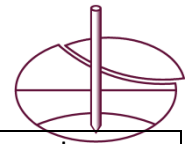
Thanks to the financial support from ISSMGE Foundation, I was able to present my paper concerning the reinforcing effectiveness of forepoling umbrella system in open face tunnelling. Moreover, attending this conference allowed me to learn from other researchers including renowned experts and connect with other researchers.

The Plenary Sessions covered some key topics in modern geotechnical engineering which were thought-provoking. The Terzaghi Oration lecture in which Peter Day highlighted the importance of implementing the available knowledge into engineering practice. The presentation also urged the geotechnical engineers and researchers to close the gap between research and industry to achieve added values.

Regarding the application of numerical method in geotechnical engineering, David Muir Wood presented fundamental aspects of constitutive soil models including the significance of the link between modelling and testing. David Haberfield demonstrated the practical application of soil structure interaction analysis and its importance in geotechnical engineering through interesting case studies including foundations for tall towers and support for deep excavations.

The parallel sessions organised by technical committee covered every aspect in geotechnical engineering including the topics that I currently focus on: Underground Construction in Soft ground (TC204) and Geotechnical Infrastructure for Megacities and New Capitals (TC305). The presentations from these workshops were of high-quality which provided latest updates on recent research projects from both industry and academia.

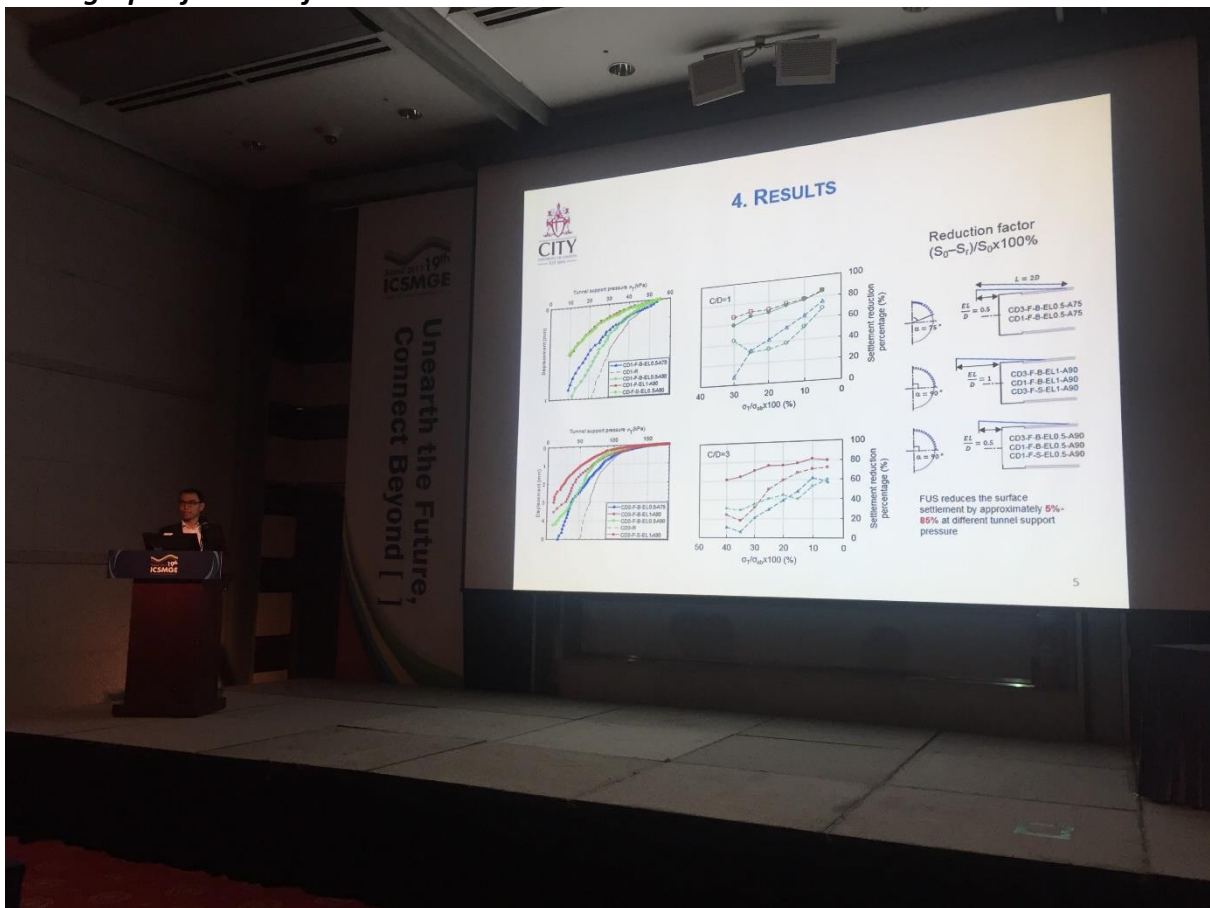
Beside the immense knowledge delivered by the participants, the conference also created



opportunities for in-depth discussion with other researchers and networking. Through discussion with Adam Bezuijen the Chair of TC204 – Underground construction in Soft Ground, I learnt that there are opportunities researchers who would like to participate in the committee activities including conference organisation and contribution towards knowledge dissemination.

I believe the knowledge that I gained from the conference is paramount to my professional career development. That in turn will hugely benefit the projects I am working on especially the research concerning underground structure construction in urban area in Vietnam in a near future.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email



Presenting my paper in TC204 workshop