

**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<i>Your Name:</i>	<i>Your Organization:</i>	<i>Date of report:</i>
Shibayan Biswas	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay	April 07, 2020
<i>Conference Title:</i>	<i>Location of Conference:</i>	<i>Dates of Conference:</i>
ASCE Geo Congress 2020	Minneapolis, USA	February 25 – 28, 2020
<i>What you learned:</i>		
<p>The participation in ASCE Geo Congress 2020 conference gave me an opportunity to get exposure to ongoing research activities in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical earthquake engineering. It provided me with a great chance to interact with academicians and practicing engineers from various countries and leading researchers and stalwarts in the field of geotechnical engineering and gain an insight into their on-going research activities. The discussions with the experts were very fruitful and it helped me to broaden my knowledge and deepen my understandings of the subject. Moreover, I also received valuable research inputs from researchers working in the similar area of geotechnical earthquake engineering.</p> <p>The invited award lectures delivered by the experts were very educative and highlighting the latest research in the field of geotechnical engineering. The technical papers presented in the parallel sessions of the conference were very informative and of the highest quality. I could expand my knowledge from the various keynotes, technical presentations and also learn new techniques from the exhibitors in this esteemed conference. In the conference, I have made many friends with researchers from different countries which will help me significantly in the near future in exchange of valuable ideas and thereby leading to possible research collaborations. In addition to the technical gains, I have also got a chance to experience and enjoy the uniqueness of the culture of Minneapolis.</p>		
<i>People you met:</i>		
<p>The conference gave me a platform interact with academicians and practicing engineers from various countries and leading researchers and stalwarts in the field of geotechnical engineering. Some of them are given below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Bruce L. Kutter, University of California, Davis, USA• Prof. Anand Puppala, University of Texas (UTA), USA• Prof. Dipanjan Basu, University of Waterloo, Canada• Prof. Scott J. Brandenburg, University of California, Los Angeles, USA		
<i>Main features of conference:</i>		
<p>The ASCE Geo Congress 2020 was held on February 25-28 in 2020 in Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. The main theme of the esteemed conference ASCE Geo Congress 2020 was “Vision, Insight, Outlook”. A number of subjects on modern geotechnical technologies and activities were covered to match the theme of the conference. The conference covered all topics in geotechnical engineering, varying from theoretical and numerical analysis to practical and field problems, and from the traditional and conventional topics to the emerging upcoming topics. The conference hall for the inaugural session and subsequent invited award</p>		



lectures were simply amazing where in the participants could simply see and hear the sessions without any obstacles. The invited award lectures along with special sessions were simply outstanding and highly educative. The poster sessions also showed very interesting paper presentations. The conference also had the full-day short courses and several student programs. Finally, the organizing committee was very professional and didn't cause any inconvenience to the delegates during the ASCE Geo Congress 2020.

Your comments on the conference:

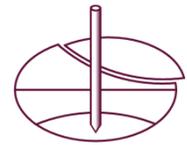
The ASCE Geo Congress 2020 was a well-organised conference. The organising committee of ASCE Geo Congress 2020 had efficiently put together a very promising conference. The conference brought together great minds and researchers from various parts of the world. The invited award lectures were interesting and enlightening and at the same time very informative too. The technical sessions, comprising of high quality papers selected for presentation, were educative and interactive. The daily events of the conference, parallel technical sessions and exhibitions, were organised very well by the committee. I sincerely thank the organising committee for giving me an opportunity to present my work. I am also grateful to "ISSMGE Foundation" for providing me with the support and grant to attend such a memorable and grand conference.

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

*ASCE Geo Congress 2020
25th - 28th February, 2020, Minneapolis, USA*

The ASCE Geo Congress 2020 was organized by the Geo-Institute (G-I), a specialty membership organization focused on geo-professionals and the geo-industry, of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) at Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. The theme of the conference was "Vision, Insight, Outlook". The conference was aimed at covering the topics varying from theoretical and numerical analysis to practical and field problems, and from the traditional and conventional topics to the emerging upcoming topics. The conference consisted of various programs which included the invited award lectures, special events, short courses, student programs, technical parallel sessions, exhibition and technical visits. The conference also provided an opportunity to earn Professional Development Hours (PDHs) to maintain the professional licensure of geotechnical experts while gaining relevant focused knowledge. Besides, a welcome reception was held on Tuesday 25th February and a banquet dinner was held on Thursday 27th February.

The conference started on 25th February 2020 with AGP Induction Ceremony. It was followed by the Opening remarks and H. Bolton Seed Award Lecture by Prof. Bruce L. Kutter on "Open issues about soil liquefaction from a perspective including physical model tests". The other award lectures delivered on the other days of the conference comprised of Mercer Lecture given by Prof. R. Kerry Rowe on "Geosynthetics for construction on soft foundation soils", Kersten Lecture given by Prof. Lyesse Laloui on "Energy Geotechnology: A new Era for Geotechnical Engineering Practice", Karl Terzaghi Lecture given by Professor Emeritus Edward J. Cording on "Observing and Controlling Ground Behavior during



Tunneling" and Ralph B. Peck Award Lecture given by Prof. Anand Puppala on "Problematic Soils: Characterization Challenges, Innovative Solutions and Novel Monitoring Methods".

Several special events such as "Geo-PIT: Powerful, Informative Talks on Geotechnical Topics", "68th Annual Geotechnical Conference Dinner & Lecture", "68th University of Minnesota Geotechnical Conference Open Plenary Session" with two sessions on case histories, "Special Session: Canadian Geotechnical Society Technical Topics", "Special Session: COPRI Technical Topics" and "Special Session: Supporting Minnesota's Stadiums" were conducted by the organizing committee during the conference. A special session on "GeoDebate: Limit Equilibrium vs. Finite Element Analysis" attended by several geotechnical engineering students and experts was worthy to mention.

The technical sessions included papers on Computational Geotechnics, Deep Foundations, Earth Retaining Structures, Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics, Risk Assessment and Management, Engineering Geology and Site Classifications, Embankments, Dams and Slopes, Geosynthetics, Rock Mechanics, Soil Properties and Modelling, Underground Engineering and Construction, Sustainability in Geoenvironmental Engineering and few others. Poster sessions on all the above listed topics were also arranged during the conference. In between the sessions and during the breaks, I could also visit the exhibition stalls that had interesting in situ techniques for underground excavation, ground improvement, dynamic testing and others.

Another feature of the conference was the full-day short courses which was held on 25th February to exchange research ideas and share work experiences in the geotechnical engineering profession. Courses on Geotechnical aspects of pavement design and construction, Stability & stabilization of natural and man-made slopes with climate change, Ground modification methods and their recent developments, Analysis of seismic CPT data to derive shear wave velocity profiles and An introduction to earthquake engineering computer simulation were attended by a large number of young geotechnical professionals.

In overall, the ASCE Geo Congress 2020 conference provided me a valuable opportunity to learn about the research being carried out in different universities and also to understand the different aspects of latest technologies of geotechnical engineering. This will help me in improving my area of research. I am beholden to ISSMGE Foundation for providing me with financial support for participating in this prestigious conference.



Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email

