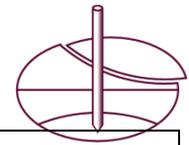




**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: PINOM ERING	Your Organization: Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	Date of report: 09-10-2017
Conference Title: 19 th ICSMGE : Unearth the Future, Connect Beyond []	Location of Conference: COEX, Seoul, South Korea	Dates of Conference: September 17 – 22, 2017
What you learned: <p>ICSMGE conference is the premier event for the geotechnical society. The 19th ICSMGE was held in Seoul, South Korea from September 17 – 22, 2017. The conference had 11 Honours lecture in recognition of the contribution of eminent researchers in the field of geotechnical engineering and 4 special lectures. Terzaghi oration presented by Dr. Peter Day was invigorating and provided insights into the challenges of geotechnical practice in developing countries. Two days of plenary session covered wide range of topics such as modelling and testing, role of soil-water characteristic curve in unsaturated soil mechanics, soil-structure interaction analysis and reliability-based approach for geotechnical design. The conference helped me a lot in understanding the recent trends and research in the area of offshore engineering, In-situ testing, pavement design, earthquake geotechnical engineering, ground improvement techniques and reliability based design of geotechnical structures. The Suzanne Lacasse lecture presented by Dr. Farrokh Nadim was particularly helpful for me as my area of research involves implementing probabilistic methods in landslide risk assessment. Technical sessions on slope stability in engineering practice gave me in-sight on the recent techniques developed in this area. Also, session on Engineering practice of risk assessment and management brought forth advanced methods for probabilistic analysis in geotechnical applications. Technical session on Natural slopes and landslides demonstrated the innovative techniques for landslide risk management and was very helpful for me. The discussions with Dr. Suzanne Lacasse and Dr. Farrokh Nadim about my research work were very interesting. Also I had an opportunity to interact with Dr. Peter Day on my research work and received valuable suggestions.</p>		
People you met: I had an opportunity to meet eminent researchers from all over the world, delegates, leaders from industry and academicians. Dr. Peter Day - Jones & Wagener Consulting Civil Engineers, South Africa Dr. Suzanne Lacasse - Norwegian Geotechnical Institute Dr. Farrokh Nadim - Norwegian Geotechnical Institute		



Prof. Deepankar Choudhury – Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

Prof. Anand J Puppala - University of Texas at Arlington

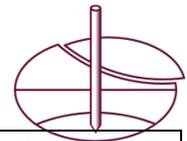
Prof. Fatma Elzahraa Aly Baligh - Helwan University of Egypt

Main features of conference:

19th ICSMGE: Unearth the Future, Connect Beyond [] was a conglomeration of eminent researchers, leaders from industry, young geotechnical engineers and students. The conference opening address was delivered by Prof. Dong-Soo Kim, the Chair of organizing committee. Prof. Ban ki-moon, former Secretary of the United Nations graced the occasion and delivered the theme address of the conference followed by welcome address by Prof. Sangseom Jeong and Prof. Roger Frank. The conference had ISSMGE Honour lectures, parallel sessions, workshops, technical visit and exhibitions. The Honour lectures were delivered by distinguished researchers like Prof. David Muir Wood, Prof. Delwyn G. Fredlund, Prof. Mario Manassero and Dr. Farrokh Nadim among others. Top leaders from industry like John Powell, Geolabs Ltd. and Chris Haberfield, Golder associates Ltd. presented the J.K. Mitchell lecture and Gregory Tschebotarioff lecture respectively. All the lectures were very useful and gave an understanding on the recent advances in various research areas of geotechnical engineering. Two days of plenary session was followed by two days of parallel session organized by different technical committees. There were exclusive sessions on topics such as laboratory testing, slope stability, earthquake geotechnical engineering, environmental geotechnics and ground improvement among many others. The conference had large group of exhibitors who described their products and services in detail.

Your comments on the conference:

19th ICSMGE was a well-organised conference. Prof. Dong-Soo Kim and the entire organising committee had efficiently put together a very promising conference. The conference brought together great minds and researchers from different parts of the world. The Honour and special lectures were enlightening. High quality papers were selected for presentation. The Six-day events of the conference were organised very well by the committee. I would like to thank the organising committee for giving me an opportunity to present my work. Also, I am grateful to “ISSMGE Foundation” for the support and grant without which I would not have been able to attend such a memorable and grand conference.

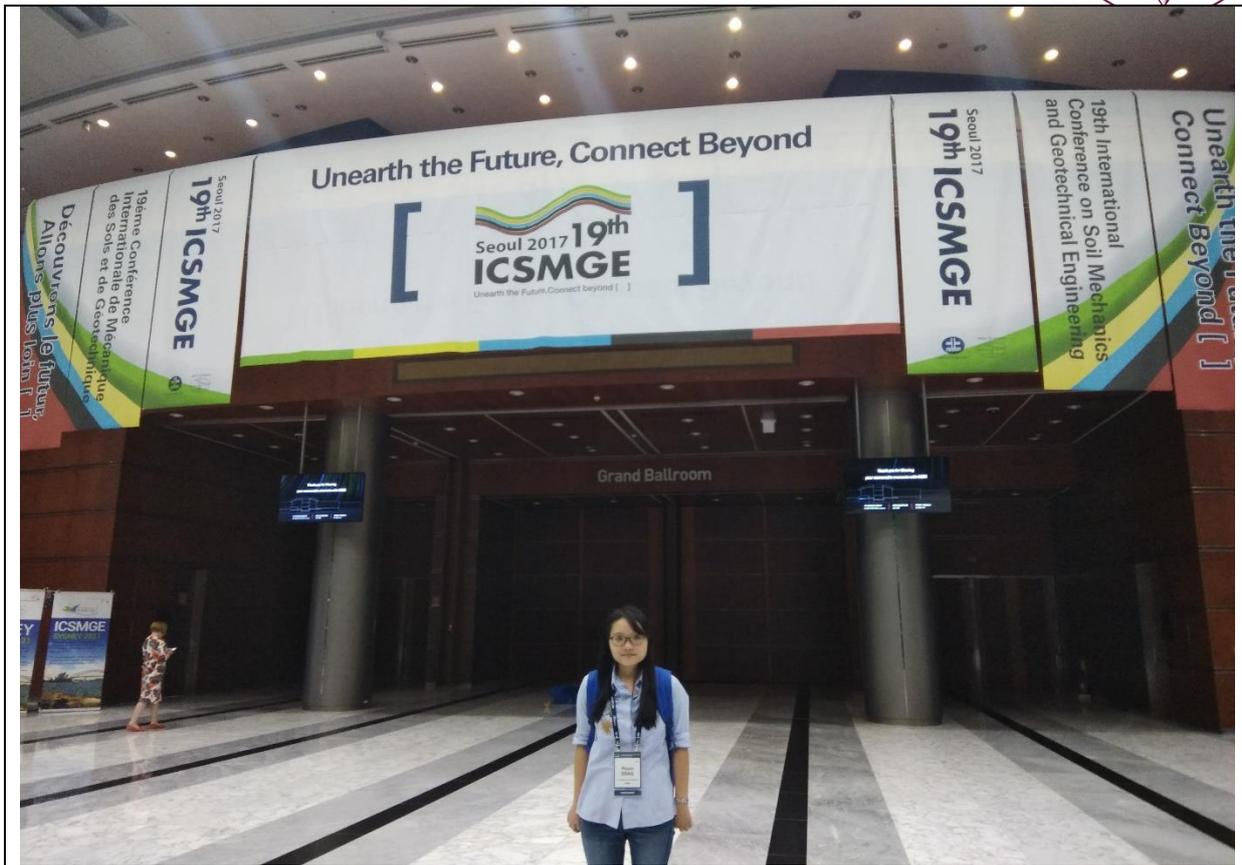


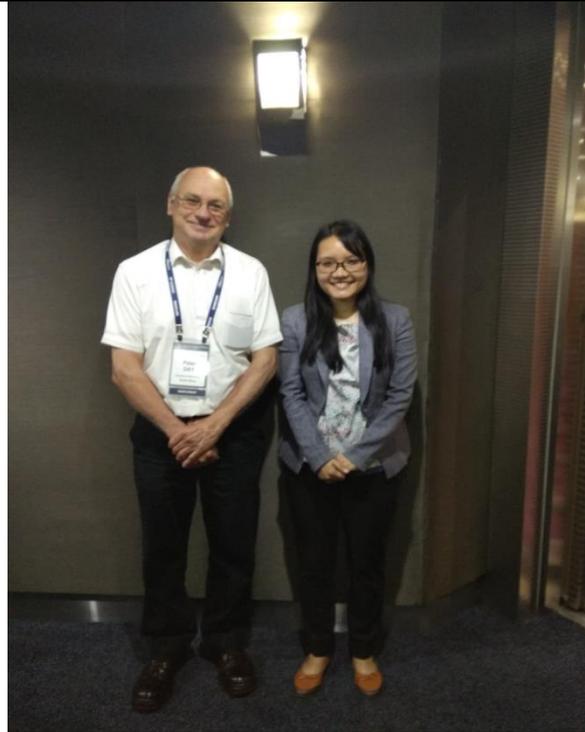
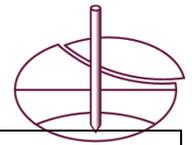
Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

19th ICSMGE, Seoul, South Korea, September 17 – 22, 2017. The conference was organised by ISSMGE and the local organizing committee headed by Prof. Dong-Soo Kim. The theme of the conference is “Unearth the Future, Connect beyond []” and it aimed at bridging the gaps between past and future, between young and senior engineers and between developing and developed nations among others.

On 17th September, prior to the main conference, welcome reception was organised. Next day, the conference started with welcome address from organizing committee and Prof. Ban ki-moon, former Secretary of the United Nations delivered the theme address. Dr. Peter Day delivered the “Terzaghi Oration” which gave an in-sight into the challenges in geotechnical engineering practice which was followed by ISSMGE Honour lectures. Prof. David Muir Wood delivered the “Bishop lecture” and the “James K. Mtichell” lecture was presented by Dr. John Powell from Geolabs Limited. The events on 18th and 19th September were mainly Honour and special lectures delivered by distinguished researchers. The conference had 11 Honour lectures and there were special lectures on Heritage of Korea, municipal solid waste and geo-hazards. All the presentations were invigorating and provided in-sights into the developments in different research areas. Around 800 papers were selected for presentation under different themes. The two-day technical sessions had high quality presentations covering wide variety of topics in different research areas of geotechnical engineering. I attended sessions on slope stability, earthquake geotechnical engineering, Engineering practice of risk assessment and management and Natural slopes and landslides and also had an opportunity to present my paper under one of these themes. All the sessions were observed by a good gathering of people who had come there to explore new ideas and innovation in the field of geotechnical engineering. The sessions and all the events were maintained on-time and well organised. All the days, the breaks were dedicated to explore the exhibitions and posters. The conference had a good participation from geotechnical practitioners and people from industry as well. The organisers also included a series of social events showcasing the rich culture of Korea. Finally, on 22nd September Technical visits were organised. Two options were given for the technical tour: 1) Sihwa Tidal power plant and Gwangmyeong Tunnel 2) Incheon National Airport and Gyeongin ARA Waterway. I opted for the first technical visit and found it very interesting.

Photographs from Conference:





With Dr. Peter Day, Jones & Wagener Consulting Civil Engineers, South Africa



With Dr. Suzanne Lacasse, Former Technical Director, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute