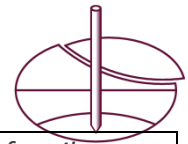




**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

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| Your Name: Dr Ehsan Jorat | Your Organization: Newcastle University, United Kingdom | Date of report: 24/11/2015 |
| Conference Title: XV Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering | Location of Conference: Buenos Aires, Argentina | Dates of Conference: 15 th – 18 th November 2015 |
| What you learned: <p>The 15th Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering provided a unique platform to meet and talk to the experts working in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering mainly coming from the American continent. For a researcher like myself who currently works in Europe, this conference was an especial opportunity to meet geotechnical scientists and engineers from the North and South America and hear from their projects and have face to face discussion.</p> <p>Honorary lectures presented at the conference such as Casagrande Lecture by Prof. Luis Valenzuela, Bishop Lecture by Prof. Herve Di Benedetto and Mercer Lecture by Prof. Jorge Zornberg provided an exceptional opportunity to hear from the researchers work in continuation to the research of the legends worked in the field of soil mechanics. Other keynote lectures and invited lectures especially at the Geo-Engineering for Energy and Sustainability section were truly interesting since I learned about the progresses and updates in the field of geotechnical engineering.</p> <p>I found the following presentations explicitly interesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Casagrande Lecture - Tailings Dams and Hydraulic Fills - Luis Valenzuela,</i>- <i>APPLICATION OF THERMAL PILES IN THAWING A FROZEN GROUND: IN-SITU MONITORING, AND ESTIMATION OF FROST HEAVE AND THAW SETTLEMENT – Gowthaman SINNATHAMBY,</i>- <i>ANISOTROPIC FEATURES ON THE THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY OF A DEEP ARGILLACEOUS FORMATION - Enrique Romero,</i>- <i>In Situ Testing Geo-characterisation of Soils in the Year 2016 and Beyond - Paul Mayne,</i>- <i>SHEAR STRENGTH OF WASTE-WOOD BIOCHAR AND BIOCHAR-AMENDED SOIL USED FOR SUSTAINABLE LANDFILL COVER SYSTEMS - Krishna Reddy,</i>- <i>CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE (CDW) USED IN REINFORCED SOIL MIXTURES FOR PAVEMENTS. - Juliana LUKIANTCHUKI,</i>- <i>ANALYSIS OF WIND TURBINE RIGID MONOPILE FOUNDATION - Dipanjan Basu,</i>- <i>GEOTECHNICAL CHARACTERIZATION OF RECYCLED CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE (RCDW) FOR PAVEMENTS. Juliana LUKIANTCHUKI,</i> | | |



- *Foundations & ground improvement - Deep foundations in Mexico City soft soils- Gabriel Auvinet Guichard,*
- *LIQUEFACTION MITIGATION BY SOIL IMPROVEMENT WITH VIBRO STONE COLUMNS - Enmanuel Carvajal Díaz.*

People you met:

Gholamreza Mesri (University of Illinois – US)
Paul Mayne (Georgia Institute of Technology – US)
Martin Achmus (Leibniz University of Hannover – Germany)
Mariem KACEM-BOUREAU (École Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Saint Étienne ENISE – France)
Krishna Reddy (University of Illinois –US)
Guillermo Narsilio (University of Melbourne – Australia)
Anand Puppala (University of Texas at Arlington – US)
Gabriel Yves Armand Auvinet Guichard (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico - Mexico)
Ricardo Dobry (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute – US)

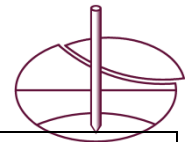
Main features of conference:

The 15th Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. This provided a unique opportunity for scientists and engineers to meet at this prestigious event and hear about latest developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Categorising presentations into distinctive sessions facilitated selection of appropriate sessions for the conference participants.

At the exhibition which was held at the conference venue, companies presented their new services and inventions in the field of geotechnical engineering and soil testing.

Your comments on the conference:

I would like to appreciate the opportunity provided by **ISSMGE FOUNDATION** for co-funding my attendance at the conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina. I had a great opportunity to orally present my research at one of the main sessions of the conference. The organising committee did a great job in organising the conference so all the participants benefit from parallel sessions related to their field of expertise. Well-known scientists and engineers were invited as keynote speakers which added a great value to the quality of the conference and participants satisfaction.



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

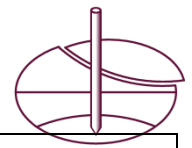
The XV Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from 15th until 18th November 2015. The Conference was organized under the auspices of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE).

The proceedings of the conference covers modern trends and classical topics in Soil Mechanics, Rock Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. The articles published in the proceedings were all blind reviewed. More than 650 articles were submitted to the conference, and after the peer-review process, 576 have been admitted for publication. The articles contain significant advances in the areas of Advanced Laboratory Testing, Rock Mechanics, Transportation Geotechnics, *In-situ* testing, Geo-engineering for Energy and Sustainability, Numerical Modelling in Geotechnics, Foundations & Ground improvement, Unsaturated Soil Behavior, Embankments, Dams and Tailings, Excavations and Tunnels, Geo-Risks and Rock Mechanics application in Civil, Mining and Petroleum Engineering. The conference brings together seven plenary lectures; including the welcome lecture, the Casagrande Lecture, the Bishop Lecture, the Mercer Lecture; eighteen keynote lectures and 27 panelists' contributions, authored by eminent researchers and professionals in the field, covering from fundamentals to applications in geotechnics.

The conference presentations were divided appropriately into Transportation Geotechnics, *In-situ* Testing, Geo-engineering for Energy and Sustainability, Numerical Modelling in Geotechnics, Foundations & Ground Improvement, Unsaturated Soils, Embankments, Dams and Tailings, Excavations and Tunnels, Geo-Risks Sessions.

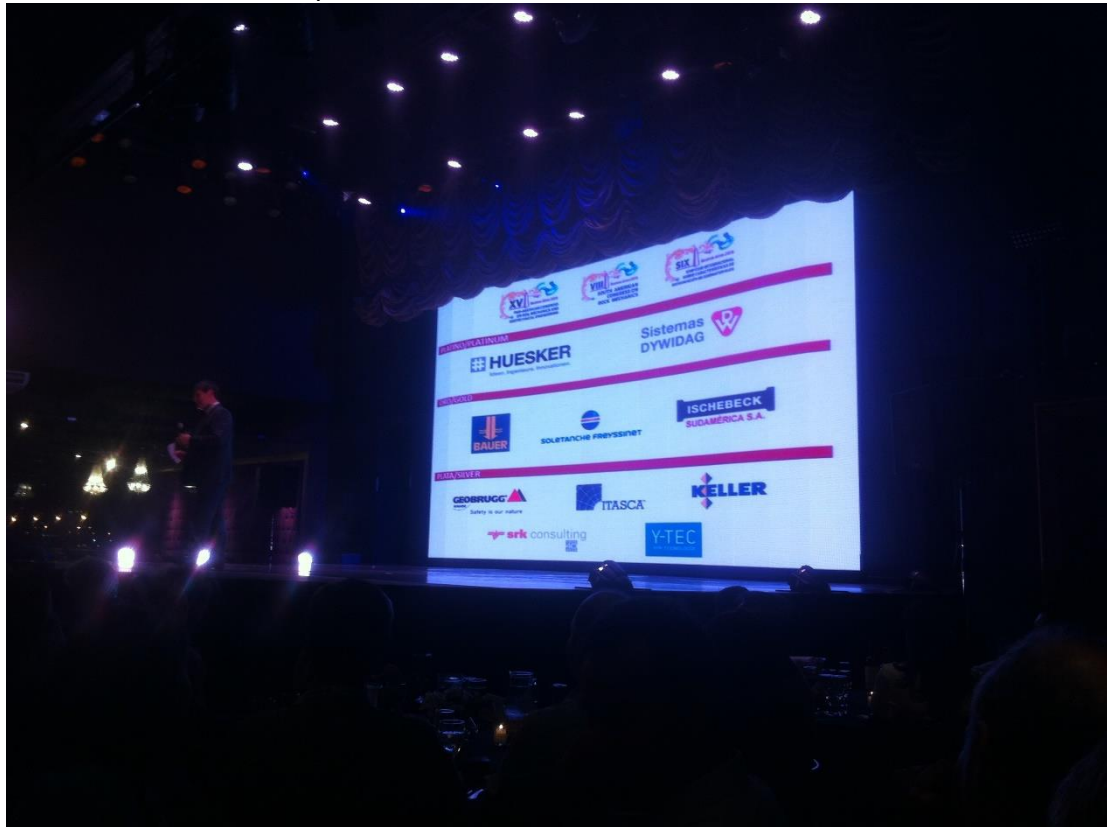
My paper entitled "CHANGES IN GEOTECHNICAL PROPERTIES OF URBAN SOILS DURING CARBONATION" is published in the proceedings of the conference and was presented on the first day of the conference (November 16th) at the Geo-engineering for Energy and Sustainability session. I received a great response from the audience after the talk and approached by a number of researchers working in the field of research I am working on to discuss possibilities of future collaboration in this field of research.

The support from **ISSMGE FOUNDATION** is greatly appreciated. Attending the XV Pan-American Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering provided an especial opportunity to present my research at the prestigious event and meet world-class geotechnical scientists and engineers from all around the world, mainly from the North and South America, and hear from their projects and have face to face discussion.



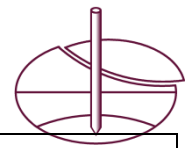
Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email

The conference dinner reception



The conference keynote lecture





Puente de la Mujer bridge – in front of the conference venue.



Hotel Hilton, Buenos Aires – the conference venue

