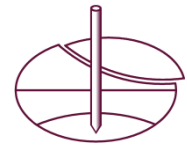


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Aswin Lim	Your Organization: National Taiwan University of Science and Technology	Date of report: 29 th September 2017
Conference Title: The 19 th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering	Location of Conference: COEX Convention Centre, Seoul, Republic of Korea.	Dates of Conference: 17 – 22 September 2017
<p>What you learned:</p> <p>After attending this conference, several things that I learned, such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do not limit yourself to a particular topic. Indeed, the geotechnical engineering is in evolving. Many new opportunities are available and need further research in geotechnical engineering, for example Energy Geotechnics and Bio-Geotechnical Engineering. 2. Forget about country barriers, we all are the people of the earth (Ban Ki-Moon). This statement really impressed me. We should open our mind and work together for the better future. 3. I learned some fundamental aspects of conducting research for linking physical model, numerical model, full-scale model, and analytical model from the 4th Bishop lecture which is delivered by Prof. David Muir Wood and the 2nd Schofield Lecture which is delivered by Prof. Mark Randolph 4. In the exhibition booths, I learned the new technologies which are available for geotechnical engineering research and practices. For example seismic dilatometer apparatus, seismic piezocone apparatus, a new strut-free retaining wall system for excavation which using the soil-cement method (RSCW-II Method) by Daeam Soiltec company. 		
<p>People you met:</p> <p>In this conference, I met many professors/professionals which are a leader in their fields. The couple of names which I mentioned below are those I have conversations with:</p> <p>Prof. David Muir Wood – Dundee University, U.K. Prof. George Gazetas – National Technical University of Athens, Greece Prof. Alexander Puzrin – ETH Zurich, Swiss Prof. Charles W.W.Ng – Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Prof. Horn-Da Lin – Taiwan Tech Prof. Masyhur Irsyam – ITB, Indonesia Prof. Shou-Ke Jian - National Chung-Hsing University Prof. Hong Yi – Zhejiang University, China Prof. Abraham C.F. Chiu, Hohai University, China Dr. Lucy Wu – YMPG & WSP Dr. Budijanto Widjaja – Parahyangan Catholic University, Indonesia Dr. K.S. Yang – Shingu University and Dasan Engineering Ferry Haryono – Geoharbour, Perth, Australia Ozan Dadasbilge – Geocon, Turkey</p>		



Main features of the conference:

The 19th ICSMGE covered almost all of the topics in geotechnical engineering, from the theoretical to practical, and from the traditional to the emerging topics. The conference hall for the plenary session is amazing. Participants could clearly hear and see all of the plenary sessions without any obstacles. In addition, the content of parallel sessions which consisted of the TC discussions and the TC workshops are very attractive and solid. I felt hard to make decisions which parallel sessions that I should attend. Moreover, the poster sessions also showed very interesting paper. The exhibition hall is excellent for participants to interact each other. Finally, the organizing committee is very professional and I do not feel any inconvenience during the 19th ICSMGE.

Your comments on the conference:

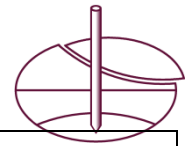
Overall, the 19th ICSMGE is perfect. The technical and non-technical sessions are well organized. In addition, the 7 minutes for oral presentation for a technical paper is very short and many speakers run out of the time to convey their paper contents. I would like to suggest 10-12 minutes for oral presentation would be nice. This issue could be evaluated for improvements for future conferences.

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

The 19th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE) was held in COEX, Seoul, Korea and it was organized by Korean Geotechnical Society and ISSMGE. The theme of this conference is “Unearth the Future, Connect Beyond []”

The conference was successfully held with the number of participants reached around 1952 from 82 countries. There were 12 honorable lectures and 4 special lectures which were delivered by the well-known professionals or professors in geotechnical engineering in the day 1 (September 18) and the day 2 (September 19). In addition, one host society lecture was delivered before the closing ceremony on day 4 (September 21). In total 135 sessions (technical, workshop, and poster) were organized and covering huge topics in geotechnical engineering with 947 papers. The technical and workshop sessions were parallel distributed in 13 rooms. The parallel sessions were held on the day 3 (September 20) and the day 4 (September 21). In the day 5 (September 22), there are technical visits to Sihwa Lake Tidal Power Station + Gwangmyeong Tunnel and Incheon International Airport + Gyeongin Ara Waterway. Besides, a welcome reception was held on Sunday (September 17) after the council meeting, and a gala dinner was held at the end of day 2.

My technical paper entitles use of rigid support system to reduce movements in deep excavations was presented by me in the day 3 under TC204&JTC2 – Underground construction and representation of Geo-Engineering Data Session 2. Besides presenting my paper, I also attended all of the plenary sessions and some of the parallel sessions that draw my interest. Among all of the parallel sessions, I really impressed by the topic that discussed in TC-308 (Energy Geotechnics), TC-105 (Geo-mechanics) and TC204&JTC2 (Underground



construction and representation of Geo-Engineering Data).

I also attended the YPMG workshop and really glad that all of the seniors willing to share their experiences with the youth especially how to choose between academic or professional careers. According to the intense discussion, I could conclude that academic and professional careers could be done simultaneously.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the financial aid that given by ISSMGE foundation to me for attending this conference, sharing my research results, and getting feedback from professional and experts. In addition, the research funding and scholarship from Ministry of Science and Technology in Taiwan, Taiwan Tech, and Parahyangan Catholic University are greatly acknowledged.

Photographs from Conference:



Photo 1. I am presenting the paper



Photo 2. I and Prof. Puzrin at Gala Dinner (Prof. Gazetas was looking the performance)

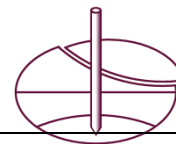


Photo 3. Prof. David M Wood and I during lunch break in the day 2