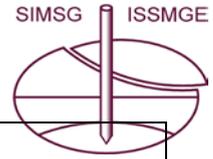


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<p>Your Name: Marcos Montoro</p>	<p>Your Organization: Universidad Nacional de Córdoba</p>	<p>Date of report: 15th October 2013</p>
<p>Conference Title: 5th International Conference of Young Geotechnical Engineers and 18th International Conference of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering</p>	<p>Location of Conference: Paris, France</p>	<p>Dates of Conference: 31st August – 1st September 2013 and 2nd September – 6th September 2013</p>
<p>What you learned:</p> <p>In this opportunity I had the chance to participate of the two most important conferences organized under the auspice of the ISSMGE. These two conferences brought together young and senior professionals, practitioners, students and researchers of the Geotechnical world in the same place. From the IYGEC I had the chance to present a report on my research, I received many interesting and challenging questions, and this experience allowed me to become more confident with my work. Also attending to the IYGEC opening session I discovered a new and a very challenging field of Gassy Soils.</p> <p>I must said that It is very difficult to highlight a topic or o couple of topics about which I learn or increase my previous knowledge, since this kind of conference bring together the most important researchers and practitioners in the geotechnical fields and attending it let you realize which is the actual state of knowledge of our field and to discover the new challenges in our profession for the near and far future.</p>		
<p>People you met:</p> <p>Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud (President ISSMGE) Prof. Neil Taylor (Secretary General ISSMGE) Prof. Robert Holtz (University of Washington) Prof. Jorge Zornberg (University of Texas) Prof. Charles Shackelford (University of Colorado) Prof. Tuncer Edil (University of Wisconsin) Prof. Craig Benson (University of Wisconsin) Prof. Eduardo Alonso (Universidad Politécnica de Cataluña) Prof. Fatma Baligh (Vice President Elect for Africa) Eng. Jargas Militiski (Vice President Elect for South America) Prof. Waldemar Hachich (Former Vice President for South America) Prof. Braja Das Prof. Samuel U. Ejezie (Vice President for Africa) Prof. Charles W.W. Ng (The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology) And many young colleagues from all over the world</p>		

***Main features of conference:***

The 5th IYGEC was held together with the 18th ICSMGE. The YGEC featured 23 parallel technical sessions where all young delegates presented and discussed their work. The conference opened with a very kind welcome session and a special lecture delivered by Alain Puech about the very innovative problems dealing with Gassy Soils. The Conference continued with the parallel sessions dealing with Slope Stability, Laboratory Testing, Ground Improvement, Foundations, Modelling, Earth Works, In situ Testing, Soil Behaviour and Earthquakes and Geodynamics. After two days of technical sessions the young delegates join the first two days of the 18th ICSMGE. The first two days were dedicated to the awards lectures and Keynote lectures. The last two days of the main conference were dedicated to the technical and discussion sessions. There were 45 parallel sessions dealing with almost all specialities that can be found in the geotechnical engineering field.

Your comments on the conference:

The organization of both conferences was excellent. These conferences are a very enrichment experience for the opportunity to share your work, new ideas and experiences with colleagues from all over the world. Also it gave you the chance to discuss about precise topics with the most renowned researchers and professors in the field. The organizers of the IYGEC formed groups of reporters in order to prepare a summary about the conference; this allowed me to have a great experience working with young delegates from different parts of the world in order to find a common point of view about all the articles presented during the first two days. From everything, I think that was the most fruitful experience I had in a conference.

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

Attending to the 5th International Conference of Young Geotechnical Engineers and the 18th International Conference of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was one of the most significant experiences I have in my academic and professional life.

As a member of the Student and Young Members Presidential Group for the period 2009 – 2013 I attended to the first quadrennial meeting of the SYMPG, where we discussed, with the other delegates, the group accomplishments during the last four years and also we share our ideas about the perspective of the future of SYMPG and the ISSMGE. After the meeting Siavash Ghabezloo (French corresponding member SYMPG) guided the group in a visit to the geotechnical laboratories of Paris Tech.

The 5th IYGEC was held in Paris Tech, this conference allowed to bring together more than 160 young Geotechnical Engineers from all over the world. The conference started with a very interesting plenary session about “Gassy Soils”. Then the conference was organized in several parallel sessions. Each session was attended by a group of three reporters who were in charge to prepare a summary of the conference in order to produce a general report of the conference and present it in the special session at the 18th ICSMGE. All presentations I could attend were very interesting, and the chairs of each session promoted very interesting discussions and ideas interchange among the attendees and the presenters.

On Sunday evening the 18 reporters had a meeting to prepare the general report. It reflected the most important contributions presented during the technical sessions. Serving as a reporter was a great experience and allowed me to interact with young colleagues from different countries.

The first two days of the 18 ICSMGE were dedicated to the award lectures and keynote lectures, and the last two days were dedicated to the technical sessions and discussions. During the first two days I could attend to outstanding presentations delivered by well-known lecturers who presented the audience the actual state of the art in our field and highlight the main contributions of the last years in the field and which are our main challenges in the geotechnical engineering practice and research for the near future. The last two days I attended to the Workshop in Geo-Education and the one of IGS. Also I could attend several technical sessions. All presentations and discussion were very interesting and enrichment for me. This event also allowed me to meet the most renowned researchers, professors and practitioners in our field.

In addition there was a great technical exhibition where I found very interesting products and devices related to our profession and having the chance to speak directly with the manufactures.

After having this great experience I have to thank Pedro Seco e Pinto, Roberto Terzariol and

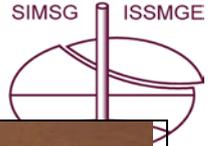


Waldemar Hachich, Jean – Louis Briaud, Paloma Peers, Neil Taylor, Harry Poulos and the ISSMGE Foundation.

Photographs from Conference:



5th IYGEC reporters group at Ecole National des Ponts Paris Tech.



Gaston Quaglia and Marcos Montoro (Argentinean delegates)