

**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Prashanth Vangla	<b>Your Organization:</b> Indian Institute of science, Bangalore, India.	<b>Date of report:</b> 15-03-2014
<b>Conference Title:</b> Geo-Congress 2014	<b>Location of Conference:</b> Atlanta, Georgia	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> February 23-26 2014

**What you learned:**

Geo-Congress 2014 had provided me a great platform to learn many professional aspects like presentation of work, tips to carry out qualitative research work and also given an opportunity to meet and attend the lectures of pioneer personalities in geotechnical area. This conference broadened my knowledge in the area of innovations in Optical Geo-Characterization and on evolutions of new techniques and adaptation of the same techniques for site characterization, earth mass characterization, particle characterization, and motion and formation. High quality of papers had been presented and allowed for discussion in the Interaction poster sessions and panel and technical sessions. These sessions were helped me to get an exposure in different areas. I have also noted down important tips for doing quality of research given by the Prof J. David Frost, Prof Roman D. Hryciw and Prof Krishna Reddy. I am planning to adopted few image analysis techniques learnt from the presentation of Prof Roman D.Hryciw in my ongoing research work. From the Georgia tech lab tour I got a chance to see working environment and lab facilities available at Georgia tech.

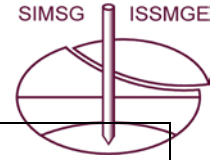
**People you met:**

I got an opportunity to meet many delegates and professional leaders from industry and academia. A few of them are listed below

- 1) **Prof J. David Frost (Georgia Institute of Technology)**
- 2) **Prof.Krishna Reddy (University of Illinois)**
- 3) **Prof. Robert D. Holtz (University of Washington)**
- 4) **Prof Anand Puppala (University of Texas)**
- 5) **Dr Satya N. Varadhi (Parsons Engineering Science Inc)**
- 6) **Dr.Pavana Vennapusa (Iowa State University)**
- 7) **Mr. Jim Greig (ConTec Ltd)**

**Main features of conference:**

The conference was started on Feb 23, 2014 and continued for four days till Feb 26, 2014. The four days of the conference was very well organised with brilliant events like short/half day/ full day courses, H.Bolton Seed Award Lecture, key note lectures, Karl Terzaghi lecture and many other useful events exclusively for students. The comprehensive range of technical sessions held in this conference helped many researchers, students and all the delegates to learn new things and discuss among all the attendees. Also, more than 50 companies were participated in exhibition hall and had presented their latest products and innovative solutions for geo-engineering problems.



***Your comments on the conference:***

The conference was very well organized and had also provided a very good platform for gaining and sharing the technical knowledge. The quality of the papers and presentations were very high. There were many pioneer personalities, delegates, researchers, and industrial engineers from the different places of the world. There were special breaks called as professional development hours (57hours) and networking hours to develop the networks (3hrs) and for the professional discussions among the students, researchers, engineers and faculties. The lab tour to Georgia institute of technology is one of the highlight events.

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

GEO-CONGRESS Atlanta, Georgia February 23-26, 2014 CONGRESS OF THE GEO-INSTITUTE OF ASCE

Theme of the conference is "Geo-Characterization and Modeling for Sustainability"

Geo Congress is the annual American geotechnical conference conducted every year by American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

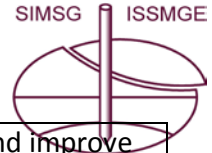
The main features of the conference are short/half/full-day technical courses on topics like principles of sustainability in geotechnical engineering, geo-characterization for numerical modelling and 2D/3D slope stability and seepage for levee analysis etc.

The conference committee were very selective in accepting the papers and cleverly organised the panel sessions and interactive poster sessions within the time bound.

Main highlights of the conference are the keynote lectures

- 1) H.Bolton Seed award lectures
  - a) Prof Robert D. Stevens on Engineering a sustainable future
  - b) Prof W.D. Liam Finn on Developments in the Assessment of liquefaction potential and its consequences.
  - c) Prof Roman D.Hryciw on Innovations in Optical Geo-Characterization
  - d) Prof. Sibel Pamukcu on Geosensing for Developing Sustainable Responses to Environmental Hazards Underground
  - e) Prof Dennis R. Hiltunen Some Recent and Emerging Topics on Seismic Wave Based Methods for Geotechnical Site Characterization
  - f) Prof Rodrigo Salgado on The Mechanics of Cone Penetration and its Application to CPT Interpretation
- 2) Karl Terzaghi Lecture by Prof J. Carlos Santamarina on Energy Geotechnology; Enabling New insights into soil behaviour

Coming to technical sessions and interactive poster presentation, total 422 technical papers were accepted and 289 papers are allowed in panel and technical sessions and 122 in the interactive poster presentation. Every day there were seven parallel tracks of panel and technical sessions. Each track typically consisted of five to seven papers. For the interactive poster presentation, this time the committee has given opportunity to present 2-3 minutes of the paper work before displaying the posters. Total number of hours allotted for panel and technical sessions are seven hours. Every individual author got approximately fifteen minutes for the presentation and discussion. Whereas the poster presenters got 2-3 minutes for introduction presentation and one hour of time to display the poster and discuss with audience. Students were well- attended and involved very well in the presentations and discussions.



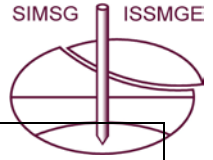
This conference provided me an excellent opportunity to exchange research ideas and improve my research standards. I was able to meet and talk with many potential research students and faculties of different university.

This conference was a great technical support to my thesis as well as to my career development.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to ISSMGE foundation for their sponsorship

### ***Photographs from Conference:***





During the Lab Tour (Georgia Institute of Technology)