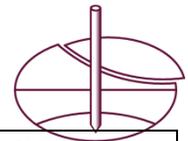




**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Lucy Wu	<b>Your Organization:</b> WSP	<b>Date of report:</b> 1 October 2017
<b>Conference Title:</b> 19th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (19ICSMGE) & 6th International Young Geotechnical Engineer's Conference (6iYGEC)	<b>Location of Conference:</b> Seoul, Korea	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> 16-21 Sept 2017
<b>What you learned:</b> One of the main things that I learned was that other professionals are curious about my work, even though I feel that my work is nothing close to the state-of-the-art. I think a lot of practitioners feel the same way. We work on projects that we feel are not very special but may actually be very different and interesting for people on an international community. It is so important for everyone to share their work, how they turn theory into practice, and keep learning from others in the community.		
<b>People you met:</b> I appreciated meeting some members of the YMPG committee and the ISSMGE Board members in person. It makes an enormous difference to meet people in person even though we have been communicating for the past four years. I also met many promising and aspiring young engineers from all over the world.		
<b>Main features of conference:</b> The unique thing about the iYGEC is that everyone gets to submit a paper and present their work. It is very difficult for younger engineers to find a platform that allows this but it is extremely important to our careers. Being invited to submit a paper and then present it in front of my peers is really an amazing experience.		
<b>Your comments on the conference:</b> The cultural aspects of the conference were very surprising and well received. I think everyone was genuinely curious about Korean culture and want to find out more. But since so much of our time is taken up by the conference, it was really nice that the conference organisers went to great lengths to incorporate Korean culture into the conference itself.		



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

I attended both the 6th International Young Geotechnical Engineer's Conference (6iYGEC) and the 19th International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (19ICSMGE) in Seoul, Korea with the help of the ISSMGE Foundation and as a nominated representative of the Hong Kong national society. It was simply amazing be able to attend the conferences. As a practitioner, I think we spend a lot of our time dealing with approval authorities, contract agreements, and invoices. It was refreshing to attend a conference that focuses on our industry and improvements on the global knowledge of geotechnical engineering. For a week, I was able to forget about the politics of work and really dive into the technical aspects of our work.

I felt the sincerity and passion for our industry from people all over the world, some of whom I have emailed and/or talked to through Skype. I have been a committee member of the Young Members Presidential Group (YMPG) for the past four years and it has been a privilege to work with young members from all over the world. It was amazing, to say the least, to finally meet some of the other committee members in person. I was also able to catch up with friends and mentors from the industry.

I feel extremely fortunate to be able to attend both conferences. The collective knowledge of the ISSMGE community is more important than any of us working alone. The state-of-the-art cannot improve without connecting hand-in-hand with the state-of-the-practice. I hope that I can continue to contribute to the society through publishing and sharing my work at future conferences as well as making use and building upon other people's work. This conference will undoubtedly have an enormous effect on the direction of my career. I am forever grateful to the Foundation and the ISSMGE community.

**Photographs from Conference:** Insert here or attach to email