



MID-TERM TC REPORT
October 2017 – April 2019

This questionnaire, finalised and approved during the Singapore Board meeting of 10 March 2019, is presented here as a word file to let TC officers aware of the questions asked to complete the mid-term report.

The questionnaire will have to be filled directly on the ISSMGE website, that will be set up accordingly by mid-April 2019.

*The synthesis of all TC reports will be presented during the forthcoming Council meeting of 6 October 2019 in Cape Town (17th African Regional CSMGE). To cope with this deadline, TC officers are kindly asked to fill it on line by **1st May 2019***

Many thanks to TC officers for their contribution to the ISSMGE's technical activities and objectives!

Name of the Technical Committee:	TC306
Chair:	Marina Pantazidou
Vice-Chair (if any):	David Airey
Secretary:	Michele Calvello
Form filled by:	Marina Pantazidou
Number of TC members:	28 members + 3 corresponding members
Number of chair nominated members	2 members
Website:	
Date of last website update:	July 30, 2018 (updated terms of reference)

	Query	Yes Please provide details	No Why?
1	Are you happy with the Terms of Reference of your TC in the ISSMGE website?	TC306 had an E-meeting in May 16-22, 2018, dedicated to updating its terms of reference. Following input from the members, the revised terms of reference were uploaded on July 30, 2018 (see also Item No 5).	
2	Is your List of Members satisfactory?	TC306 is a small-to-medium-size committee with low-level participation. At the end of the previous term, TC306 had a total of 27 members (+1 corresponding member), of whom 5 did not renew their interest and a founding member, Professor Manoliu, passed away. By actively seeking new members, TC306 recruited 7 new members, plus 2 corresponding members. We are now happy to have representation from three active SSMGEs (India, Korea and USA) and we will continue our recruiting efforts at conferences. We are also happy to have attracted two new members from the industry (one recently returned to academia for further studies). In terms of their geotechnical specialty, members represent fundamentals (TC101, 103, 104, 106), applications (203, 204, 208, 211, 213, 215, 218) and impact on society (304, 308, 309).	

3	Do you have an Honour lecture? If yes, where and when has it been given last time?	TC306 established in 2016 its Honour Lecture, the “John Burland Lecture”. The first lecture in the series was delivered by Prof. John Atkinson on October 20, 2016, and the video is available from the TC306 website . TC306 elected Prof. Mark Jaksa as the second John Burland Lecturer; the lecture will be delivered during the next conference organized by TC306 in Athens on June 24, 2020.	
4	Did you or do you plan to select Bright Spark lecturers during your TC Conferences? see https://www.issmge.org/filemanager/article/48/Criteria_Bright_Spark_Lecture.pdf		There have been no discussions or plans so far. The topic will be included in the agenda of the next TC306 meeting in Reykjavik.
5	Did you hold TC administrative meetings during the period? If yes, please give details (date, location, participation,...)	<p>TC306 had 4 “public consultations among members” during the reporting period, 2 of which were administrative meetings conducted via E-mail (E-meetings).</p> <p>1. The first public consultation was conducted by Secretary Prof. Bryan McCabe and concerned the election of new chair. At the end of a 2-week window allowed for nominations (Sept. 28 – Oct. 13 2017), Prof. Marina Pantazidou was the only candidate nominated for the role. Her candidacy was endorsed (by E-mail) by twelve TC306 members, which, excluding officers and a small number of inactive members, represents a majority of the TC306 membership.</p> <p>2. The first administrative meeting took place via E-mail in February 6-12, 2018. Main agenda items included 1) working groups and task forces 2) reaching out, and 3) recommendations for the community. Seven members (out of the reduced number of 21 – see Item No 2) responded with comments and expressed interest mainly in joining the Working Group “E-learning”.</p> <p>3. The second administrative meeting took place via E-mail in May 16-22, 2018. Taking into account the participation interest expressed by the members in the previous E-meeting, the purpose of this E-meeting was to invite discussion on the revision of the terms of reference. Six members sent suggestions and the terms of reference were finalized accordingly in July 2018 (see also Item No 1).</p> <p>4. The second public consultation was conducted by Secretary Prof. Michele Calvello and concerned the election of the 2nd John Burland Lecturer, during November-December 2018, between three nominated candidates: Eduardo Alonso (9 votes), Mark Jaksa (9 votes) and Marina Pantazidou (8 votes). During a second round of votes, Prof. Jaksa was endorsed by 14 members as the 2nd John Burland Lecturer (see also Item No 3).</p>	

6	Do you plan to organise a TC administrative meeting or Workshop during a forthcoming SMGE Regional Conference or at another occasion?	TC306 will organize 1) a face-to-face administrative meeting and a workshop during the 17 th ECSMGE in September 2019 (the conference organizers have not allocated the final meeting/workshop date/time). 2) a face-to-face administrative meeting during the next international conference on Geotechnical Engineering Education in June 2020 (see also Item No 14).	
7	If any, have you been happy with your contribution to the organisation of a Discussion session on your topic for the 19 th ICSMGE in Seoul?		No, we had communication difficulties with the conference organizers (will send feedback to the Chair of 20ICSMGE)
8	Did you organise a TC workshop on your topic during the Seoul 2017 ICSMGE?	Yes, we had a workshop with three panelists discussing the topic "GeoEngineering Education: What should graduates be able to do & What and How to teach to enable them to do it" and a lively audience of about 40 participants. All the information on the workshop is available on the TC306 webpage.	
9	Did you organise any other event (including conference, workshop, short course,...) during the period? If yes, please give details (date, location, participation,...)		No. We believe our presence in ICSMGEs and ECSMGEs and the organization of an international conference every four years is adequate.
10	Were the proceedings of your events published in Open Access?		Not applicable.
11	Did you assign some tasks to TC members or Task force group? If yes, what has been produced?	The E-learning Working Group, coordinated by Prof. Michele Calvello, has been quite active. Prof. Calvello collaborated with Prof. Carlo Viggiani and produced in October 2018 the 1st TC306 Case-Study Webinar and publicized it through the newly-established TC306 youtube channel . To this day, the webinar has 254 views. The webinar is accompanied by the slides of the presentation and an interview with Prof. Viggiani. In the near future, the working group will also produce annotations to the slide materials, which will provide suggestions and guidelines to instructors interested in using the webinar in their teaching (related to Item No 12).	

12	Did you produce any deliverable (State of the art report, State of practice report, Guidelines,...) ?	<p>Because TC306 has been historically a committee viewed by members as “their second committee”, there is an effort being made to offer examples of low-investment contributions, such as commentaries and reviews of high-quality educational materials and insightful papers. To this end, Marina Pantazidou published two reviews for:</p> <p>1) the educational videos produced by Professor John Burland (Bare Essentials of Soil Mechanics by John Burland) – April 2018</p> <p>2) a paper with the evocative title “Putting an end to pedagogical solitude” – March 2019.</p> <p>In addition, Marina Pantazidou contributed an extensive commentary to webinar “What to teach or not to teach” by Dr. Laurie Wesley – March 2019.</p> <p>For other guidelines related to education, see also answers to Items No 11 and 15.</p>	
13	Did you have any interactions with other TCs? If yes, which TC?	<p>In an effort for ongoing collaboration, TC306 has established “ambassadorships” (see TC306 website: Tab Additional Information) with committees TC103, TC104, TC106 and TC208 (without any concrete result so far).</p>	
14	Are there any future activities being considered?	<p>The preparations for the 5th International Conference on Geotechnical Engineering Education in June 24-25, 2020, in Athens (GEE2020) are well underway: the conference was announced in the Dec. 2018 ISSMGE Bulletin, the conference site has been live since Dec. 2018, and the first newsletter was sent on April 15, 2019, announcing the unique venue (Acropolis Museum) and reminding the abstract submission deadline (May 15, 2019).</p>	
15	Did you or do you plan to have some contributions to any of the ISSMGE President’s initiatives? (see list below)	<p>TC306 supports actively the President’s initiative “Education” by:</p> <p>(a) contributing webinars: a case-study webinar created in October 2018 –see also Item No 11– and another webinar scheduled for the summer of 2019;</p> <p>(b) contributing guidelines for webinar production: the webinar due in summer 2019 is meant to serve as an example of following good practices, such as breaking it down in sections of smaller duration, i.e. 15-20 minutes, and making available the full transcript and the PowerPoint slides (related to Item No 12);</p> <p>(c) maintaining an open-access, wide-dissemination policy (the proceedings of three conferences –2008, 2012, 2016– are already available through the ISSMGE library).</p> <p>In addition, TC306 responded to the request made by Prof. Munir Bouassida with extensive input and suggestions for the categorization of existing webinars.</p>	
16	Do you plan to provide a case study for the ISSMGE Case Histories Journal? (cf e-mail D. Zekkos, 11/02/2019)	<p>TC306 has already contributed an entire guest-edited issue (Vol 3, Issue 4) dedicated to case studies developed specifically for instruction (see also TC306 report October 2013 – April 2017).</p>	
17	Any further comment		