

ISSMGE Foundation Reports

The 6th International Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference (iYGEC6) and the 19th ICSMGE conference were held in Seoul from 16-22 September, 2017. Both conferences were very exciting and very insightful in all aspects. The main conference theme was "Unearth the Future, Connect Beyond []". Solidarity messages delivered by invested guest were well in line with the chosen theme.

The quality of the speakers for the Plenary sessions, Honours lectures and Oration sessions were amazing. This offered me the opportunity for the first time to listen to a presentation by Professor David Muir Wood as I have used his textbooks during my postgraduate studies. Beyond these presentations, the conference offered a unique opportunity of meeting professors, senior colleague engineers, engineers in academia, industry and consultancy as well as numerous young engineers from all the continents. On a non-technical basis, which is very crucial to our development as young engineers was the presentation delivered by Dr. Za-Chieh Moh on the final day of 6th International Young Geotechnical Engineers' Conference. The focus of the lecture was centered mainly on Ethic and Leadership. I find this more useful as the responsibility of the engineers, professional ethics and human morality, the role of the leader in a team among others were discussed. The presentation was very educational as young engineers were made to understand engineering goes beyond just designing for safe and reliable structures but morality is a major in succeeding. During the main conference, exhibition stands which was set up by the invited companies and organizers introduced participants to the modern technologies that industry is developing.

Finally, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to ISSMGE Foundation and my academic supervisor Prof. SIK Ampadu for the opportunity to attend this conference. In conclusion, both conferences were well organized and the organizers were very helpful.



Photo 1. Meeting Dr. Delwyn G. Fredlund and the Ghanaian delegation



Photo 2. During a meeting of the African chapter of ISSMGE

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ISSMGE Foundation Reports (Con't)

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 support of the ISSMGE Foundation and as a nominated representative of the Hong Kong national society. It was simply amazing to 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.

Lucy Wu
WSP

ISSMGE Foundation Reports (Con't)

The Second Geo-Institute - Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society Joint Workshop on TC 305 “Geotechnical Infrastructure for Megacities and New Capitals” was held in Orlando, Florida, and New York City, USA, on March 5-11, 2018. The main goals of this forum were to exchange scientific ideas, as well as studying advanced technologies in the field of design, installation, testing of foundations and basis in complex engineering-geological conditions.

There were 4 Keynote Lectures, 1 Special Lecture, 1 Burmister Lecture and 11 Technical Reports. I delivered a presentation titled “Features of using control equipment for pile test according American and Kazakhstan standards” during a technical session at Columbia University (New York, USA). A very important fact is that I visited the technical exhibition of the International Foundation Congress and Equipment Exhibition-2018 in Orlando. During breakout working group sessions I could discuss with scientists from USA and other countries. It was a great experience. Also I participated at the Ceremony of the 2018 Ben C. Gerwick Award for Innovation in the Design and Construction of Marine Foundations to Mr. Akio Kitamura, founder and president of Giken (Japan). It was a pleasure for me to attend this historical event. I visited Donald M. Burmister and Robert A. W. Carleton Laboratories (Columbia University) under auspices of Prof. Hoe Ling and Dr. Liming Li and also took part in a technical tour to the construction sites of high-rise buildings and structures in New York. It was a great experience for my future work. The Seminar finished with a New York City Lights Dinner Cruise.

It was a secular refined reception, delicious food, and memorable.



Photo 1. During my visit of the technical exhibition of the International Foundation Congress and Equipment Exhibition-2018, Orlando, Florida



Photo 2. the Ceremony of the 2018 Ben C. Gerwick Award for Innovation in the Design and Construction of Marine Foundations to Mr. Akio Kitamura (Giken, Japan)

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