

Report from Corporate Associates Presidential Group (CAPG)

Boosting Corporate Associates to narrow the gap between academics and practitioners

Contribution of Corporate Associates to the ISSMGE

I would like to acknowledge and thank the 36 Corporate Associates, who provide significant financial support to the ISSMGE budget. More importantly, through the leadership and activities of the Corporate Associates Presidential Group (CAPG), the Corporate Associates (CAs) work to narrow the gap between academics and practitioners.

This link (<https://www.issmge.org/corporate-associates/listing>) provides the full listing of the companies who are Corporate Associates of the ISSMGE. There is great diversity in the locations of the Corporate Associates (numbers in brackets denote number of CAs in the named countries) - Argentina (2), Australia (7), Belgium (1), Canada (1), China (1), Egypt (1), France (5), Germany (4), HK (1), Italy (2), Malaysia (1), Nigeria (1), USA (1), Norway (1), Republic of Kazakhstan (1), The Netherlands (3), Turkey (1) and the UK (2).

I extend our warm welcome to the new Corporate Associates from China (Geoharbour Group), Malaysia (GDS Instruments), and Argentina (AOSA SA, and SRK Consulting).

This link, <https://www.issmge.org/corporate-associates/why-how-to-join>, provides details on how to join, and the benefits of being a Corporate Associate.

Global survey on state of the art and state of practice - dissemination of results

In early 2017, about 1300 geotechnical engineers from 68 countries took part in a global survey on the state of the art and state of practice in geotechnical engineering. This survey was initiated by the CAPG with the support of the Chair of the Technical Oversight Committee (TOC), Professor Pierre Delage, and all the Technical Committees of the ISSMGE. 70% of the survey responses were from practitioners, showing good traction with industry, and all experience and age groups were well represented. 84% of the respondents were male and 16% were female.

The CAPG has been engaged in disseminating the results of the survey and we have achieved the following outcomes:

- A well-attended CAPG/TOC workshop was held at the Seoul conference in September 2017, with presentation of the survey results by representatives from the Corporate Associates, and a technical discussion outlining the survey findings by Professor Pierre Delage. This was then followed by a comprehensive debate and dialogue session by the attendees of the workshop.
- Communication to the broader geotechnical community of the survey findings and floor discussion was undertaken through the publication of a technical paper authored by Hugo Acosta-Martinez, Pierre Delage, Jennifer Nicks, Kim Chan and Peter Day. Many national and global technical journals have taken up this publication, including
 - Ground Engineering (UK) News item & e-newsletter (Feb 2018)
 - Australian Geomechanics (March 2018)
 - South African Civil Engineering (April 2018)
 - ISSMGE Bulletin (April 2018), http://issmge2014.ust.hk/apr2018/2.CAPG_report.pdf
 - NZ Geomechanics (June 2018)
 - Revue Française de Géotechnique, 2018, 154, 3 (in French)

Publication possibilities in Germany, Greece, USA, South America are being explored. The links below allow access to PDF files of the presentations at the Seoul workshop, with the last link to a 197-page PDF document of the complete survey results arranged in a user-friendly manner.

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- https://www.issmge.org/filemanager/article/17/CAPG_Seoul_Workshop_presentation.pdf
- https://www.issmge.org/filemanager/article/17/Seoul_Survey_feedbackV1a.pdf
- https://www.issmge.org/filemanager/article/13/Survey_Results_Rev_2.pdf

Opportunity in 2018 & 2019 for geotechnical engineers to join and work with ISSMGE on the new initiatives of the CAPG

CAPG have launched a major exercise in this term (2017 -2021) to mobilise geotechnical engineers around the world to consider, debate and have dialogue on matters that directly impact the welfare of the profession. In particular, we hope to bring academics and practitioners together to find shared meaning and understanding, as well as take action.

Our mid-term focal points for this exercise are the forthcoming CAPG plenary session, and CAPG workshops, at the five 2019 Regional conferences of the ISSMGE (<https://www.issmge.org/news/issmge-regional-conferences-2019>).



ISSMGE Regional Conferences 2019

Details available from
websites



Topics for debate and dialogue are in the process of being finalised, and CAPG arrangements are well in hand for the April 2019 Perth (Australia) conference, which will be a plenary session on “Collaboration in Geotechnical Engineering - Impact on Research and Project Delivery”. The workshop sessions for the regional conferences later in 2019 are also progressing very satisfactorily.

CAPG offers all geotechnical engineers the opportunity to work with members of the ISSMGE Board Members, Board Level Chairs, Corporate Associates, and members of the YMPG on the various planned activities leading up to the 2019 regional conferences, and subsequently to our work leading to the 2021 Sydney ICSMGE international conference.

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CAPGs overriding aim is to ensure that ISSMGE accesses a diverse range of thoughts and views that are crucial to the future of our industry, from professionals from all stages of their careers, genders, and institutions. We are looking for indications of interest from geotechnical engineers with one or more of the following strengths:

- Innovative
- Analytical
- Connector
- Public Face

Those interested should contact the Chair of the CAPG, Sukumar Pathmanandavel (sukumar.pathmanandavel@gmail.com), and include in your email your primary and secondary strengths, affiliation, and full contact details.

Sukumar Pathmanandavel
Chair CAPG