

ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture

The 7th Technical Conference in Eastern Asia on Geo-Natural Disasters (7TCEAGND) was held in Chengdu, China from 12-14 May 2018. This series conference is organized under the auspices of the Asian Technical Committee 3 (ATC3) on Geotechnology for Natural Hazards of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE). The Lanzhou Institute of Seismology of the China Earthquake Administration was responsible for the local organizing affairs. The current ISSMGE President, Professor Charles W.W. Ng, the former ISSMGE president, Professor Kenji Ishihara as well as two past VPs for Asia, Professors Ikuo Towhata and Askar Zhussupbekov all attended the conference. During his opening address, Prof. Ng introduced the ISSMGE and presented his visions and missions for the Society, including his plans for the ISSMGE in the coming three and a half years. Subsequently, he delivered his keynote lecture on “*Impact Mechanisms between Debris Flow and Barriers*”.

A highlight of the conference was the first ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture. Prof. Ng created the ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture, for young members of the ISSMGE age 36 or under, to encourage young engineers, scholars and academics to devote themselves to soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. As recommended by local organizing committees and ATC3, Dr Lin Dong delivered the first ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture titled: “*Liquefaction discrimination methods for fines-containing sandy soils*” (Photo 1). Prof. Ng awarded the ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture certificate to Dr. Lin Dong at the conference (Photo 2).



Photo 1. Dr Lin Dong delivering the first ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture



Photo 2. Prof. Charles W.W. Ng awarding the ISSMGE Bright Spark Lecture certificate to Dr Lin Dong

*Professors Ikuo Towhata, Motoki Kazama and Lanmin Wang
Organising committee of the 7th Technical Conference in Eastern Asia on Geo-Natural Disasters*