



**ISSMGE FOUNDATION  
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

<b>Your Name:</b> Yelbek Utepov 	<b>Your Organization:</b> L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University in the City of Astana, Kazakhstan	<b>Date of report:</b> September 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2013
<b>Conference Title:</b> 1. The 5 <sup>th</sup> International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (5 <sup>th</sup> IYGEC), "Advances in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering" 2. The 18 <sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (18 <sup>th</sup> ICSMGE), "Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics"	<b>Location of Conference:</b> National School of Bridges and Roads (Ecole des Ponts ParisTech), Paris, France Paris International Conference Centre (Palais des Congres de Paris), Paris, France	<b>Dates of Conference:</b> August 31 – September 1, 2013 September 2 – 3, 2013
<b>What you learned:</b> <p>At the 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC I have successfully integrated and presented my research with young geotechnical engineers from across the world. Moreover, I have been active in making many meaningful exchanges in idea and deep conversations among most of the participants which may have incited a few potential joint researches and collaborations in the near future.</p> <p>A couple of days in the 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE gave me opportunity to witness the presentations of famous researchers and big professors in geotechnics. I have also learned a great deal in how to make an excellent oral presentation among top researchers. In addition, by attending all of the state-of-the-art designs and research presentations, I have also better sharpened and cultivated myself on what I could improve for the purpose of contributing a greater advancement of the profession in the geotechnical society.</p> <p>From another perspective, both conferences were very beneficial to me because they have been immediately helpful to broaden and deepen my world as a student. For example, I was able to see more clear of the geotechnical society, and to make friends with many participants as well as many famous scholars in social activities which encouraged interaction in a less academic environment. This kind of opportunity is not very often for me and I really needed this chance to participate these conferences.</p>		
<b>People you met:</b> Prof. Jean-Louis Briaud (President of Advisory Committee at the 18 <sup>th</sup> ICSMGE, Paris, France); Prof. Philippe Mestat (President of Organizing Committee at the 18 <sup>th</sup> ICSMGE, Paris, France); Prof. Roger Frank (President of Strategic advisory Committee at the 18 <sup>th</sup> ICSMGE, Paris, France); Prof Yu-Jun Cui Chairman of iYGEC 2013 (Chairman of the 5 <sup>th</sup> IYGEC, Ecole des Ponts ParisTech, Paris, France); Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov (President of Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society, Eurasian		

National University, Astana, Kazakhstan);  
 Prof. Hoe I. Ling (Columbia University, New York, USA);  
 Prof. Leung Chun Fai (National University of Singapore, Singapore);  
 Prof. Chua Tong Seng (President of Geotechnical Society of Singapore, Singapore)  
 Prof. Der-Wen Chang (Tamkang University, Taiwan);  
 Prof. Talal Awwad (Damascus University, Syria);  
 Dr. Trudeep N. Dave (Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar, India);  
 Dr. Boris Rakitin (Tsinghua University, Beijing, China);  
 PhD Student Janaka J. Kumara (Yokohama National University, Japan);  
 PhD Candidate Hadi Farahi Jahromi (Sharif University of Technology, Tehran, Iran);  
 PhD Student Do Huu Dao (Danang University of Technology, Da Nang City, Vietnam);  
 Assistant lecturer Tamas Huszak (Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary);  
 Engineer Aleksej Aniskin (Veleučilište u Varaždinu, Horvatiya);  
 Project Manager Germain Auray (Ltd. Texinov);  
 R&D Engineer Bastien Dupuis (Ltd. Texinov);  
 Among Others;

***Main features of conference:***

The main theme of 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC is "Advances in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering". The conference features: slope stability, foundations, in-situ testing, retaining structures, laboratory testing, ground improvement, earthworks, tunnel and underground structure, soil behaviour, modelling, earthquake and geodynamic, monitoring.

The main theme of 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE is Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics. The conference features: laboratory testing, in-situ testing, numerical methods, physical modelling, geo-mechanics micro-macro, unsaturated soils, transportation, earthquake, underground constructions, safety and serviceability, interactive design, soil structure-retaining walls, slope stability, offshore, ground improvement, deep foundations, soft soils, geo-environmental, historical-case studies, sustainability, geothermal issues, dams-dykes and levees, shallow foundations.

In addition, the conferences also provide a great opportunity for young geotechnical engineers to successfully demonstrate leadership, build network, and exchange beneficial knowledge among others and famous scholars.

***Your comments on the conference:***

The conferences brought together participants from around the world. At the 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC were mainly young Doctors and PhD Students (below the age of 35 years old). The 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE was attended by big professors, famous researchers and scientists. Both conferences were organized excellent. Presentations of participants were very exciting, creative and beneficial.

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

The 5<sup>th</sup> International Young Geotechnical Engineers Conference (5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC), "Advances in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering", was a very successful and unique experience. The conference was held at National School of Bridges and Roads (Ecole des Ponts ParisTech), Paris, France. There were more than 140 young participants from France, Kazakhstan, USA, UK, China, Japan, Germany, Canada, Korea, Russia, Singapore, Malaysia, Sweden, India, Taiwan, Italy, Austria, Australia, Norway, Spain, Belarus, Lebanon, Sudan,

Turkey, Romania, Ukraine, Portugal, Netherlands, Poland, Hungary, South Africa, Brazil, Finland, Vietnam, Ireland, Iran, Egypt, New Zealand, Greece, Serbia, Argentina, Slovakia, Belgium, and Slovenia. This superior diversity of the participant pool has provided an excellent networking opportunity between young geotechnical engineers, world class experts, and those famous and leading scholars in the field.

According to the 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC programme, I have been involved in participations in the first two days of the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE), "Challenges and Innovations in Geotechnics". The conference was held at the Paris International Conference Centre (Palais des Congres de Paris). The conference was attended by many participants. Most of them are well known professors and scientists from all over the world.

As a young geotechnical engineer and student, participation in these great events was a brilliant way for me to make contacts with leading and rising scholars in the geotechnical engineering society. I deeply appreciated the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) for providing me with this great opportunity to demonstrate leadership, build network, exchange beneficial knowledge. In short, I strongly believe that the benefits of attending these conferences are not limited to the time spent during the conference, but more decisively will be the strong connections that were built and bounded during the time I spent with all young rising participants, world class experts, and established scholars.

Finally, I have to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to Prof. Askar Zhussupbekov (President of Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society, Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan) for his valuable support, encouragement, and guidance, without which the current study would not have been accomplished.

Once again, I must also acknowledge and thank the nomination of the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society (KGS), as well as a generous grant from ISSMGE that enabled me to present my research in the 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC. I would like to express sincere appreciation to the inspiration and encouragement for young geotechnical engineers of ISSMGE.

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



Fig. 1. The opening ceremony of the 5<sup>th</sup> IYGEC



Fig. 2. Yelbek Utepov (Ph.D. Student, Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan) giving his talk entitled "Simulation of single pile loading test in a centrifuge to predict its behaviour in real case" during the section-3 of Modelling (3c) with about 50 participants. This photo was taken on August 31, 2013

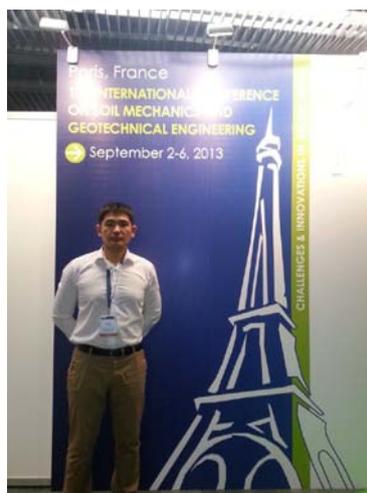


Fig. 3. Yelbek Utepov (Ph.D. Student, Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan) near the board of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE



Fig. 4. Memorable photo of Kazakhstan and USA delegates, participants of the 18<sup>th</sup> ICSMGE