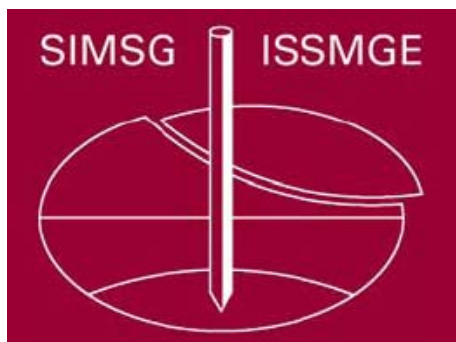




ISSMGE Bulletin

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A Message from the Board Member

By Professor Osamu Kusakabe

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ISSMGE is a large international learned society which has a membership of 80 member societies with over 18,000 individual members as of March 2009. The Board as policy making and administrative body is primary responsible for communicating closely with officers of these member societies on the issues that the Council decides, as well as with chairpersons of Technical Committee on technical activities.

The present Board strongly believes that we are also responsible for improving the communication with over 18,000 individual members. To improve the communication with the individual members and to promote the communication among the individual members is of essence for future of ISSMGE, not only information and knowledge dissemination for the benefit to the individual members, but also bridging the gap between academicians and practitioners, and

integrating senior and young generations in geotechnical community, which would create new areas of science and technology.

Soon after establishing the present Board at Osaka Conference in September 2005, President Pedro Pinto called a preliminary Board meeting and proposed the establishment of Task Force on Communications with possible launch of ISSMGE Bulletin as the upgrade version of Newsletter. I was appointed for the task of launching and editing/publishing ISSMGE Bulletin. My former student, Dr. Pongsakorn Punrattanasin, has provided me indispensable support for the task.

After discussions at the two subsequent Board meetings, we started the quarterly publication of ISSMGE Bulletin since March, 2006 with the format you see in this issue. Typical issue includes the message from one of the Board members, view of young generation, reminiscence by senior generation, case history reported by practitioners, TC activity, activity of member society, news and event diary. The Bulletin also provides a page for corporate members. All the previous issue can be accessed and obtained from the front page of ISSMGE website (www.issmge.org). The Board continues our effort to improve the communication by reinforcing editorial capacity of Bulletin and possible updating ISSMGE website.

In order to reinforce the editorial capacity of Bulletin, the Board has tried to establish the network of young geotechnical engineers in representative geographical areas: Africa, Asian, Australasia, Europe and America.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Pedro Sêco e Pinto
Osamu Kusakabe
Neil Taylor
William Van Impe
John Carter
Pongsakorn Punrattanasin

In his letter inviting young members dated March 6, 2009, President Pinto wrote "It is very important the universality of the knowledge and the need for a permanent renewing. ISSMGE wants to play an important role helping the geotechnical community to explore the best ways for research, design, construction and assessment of geotechnical structures safety, in order to reach the expectations and targets of our Society during the third Millennium. It is important to communicate, to share experiences, to compare methodologies and to monitor the results. The benefits of an open dialogue between the academicians, the researchers, the practitioners, contractors and owners are huge. Through our ISSMGE Bulletin we have the responsibility to interact with the Member Societies and also with the individual members. The time demands all arise as we are now on the brink of a new era for ISSMGE. Over the past years a number of developments have taken place and we need to mould the ISSMGE activities for this momentum to capitalize on the potential benefits. In a geotechnical world that every day transforms and advances we face new challenges, the role of ISSMGE is to explore new ways and to be a continuous source of inspiration for today and tomorrow.

A Message from the Board Member (continued)

By Professor Osamu Kusakabe

I am confident that ISSMGE Bulletin will contribute for a synergy between academicians and practitioners and will implement co-operation between scientific and technological actors. Joining our efforts we will reach our goals and targets and contribute for the success of ISSMGE Bulletin and certainly for the unity and strength of ISSMGE. I strongly believe that your role in your Region to serve as a contact person for collecting the contributions and your interaction with the Regional Vice President is of crucial importance for the success of ISSMGE Bulletin. I hope to receive a positive response for your nominations for a period of 4 years."

The followings are members of the regional correspondents headed by Dr. Pongsakorn Punrattanasin. Please contact with your regional correspondent if you would like to contribute or to suggest for further improvement of the Bulletin.



Dr. Pongsakorn Punrattanasin
Khon Kaen University, Thailand
Head of Coordinators
Email: ppunrattanasin@gmail.com



Dr. Deepankar Choudhury
Indian Institute of Technology, India
Coordinator for Asia
Email: dchoudhury@iitb.ac.in



Dr. Imen Said
Tunisia
Coordinator for North Africa
Email: imen_said@yahoo.fr



Dr. Makoto Namba
Bureau de Projetos e Consultoria Ltda., Brazil
Coordinator for South America
Email: makoto@bureauprojetos.com.br



Dr. Erdin Ibraim
University of Bristol, UK
Coordinator for Europe
Email: Erdin.Ibraim@bristol.ac.uk



Dr. Cholachat Rujikiatkamjorn
University of Wollongong, Australia
Coordinator for Australasia
Email: cholacha@uow.edu.au