



Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS)

Bio-data of President and Past Presidents

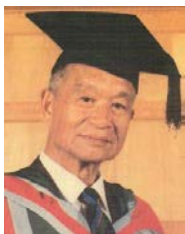
Dr. ZaChieh Moh – Founder President 1967 - 1973



Dr. ZaChieh Moh graduated from the National Taiwan University in 1953 and received his Master's degree from the Iowa State University in 1955. Then he went to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to carry out doctoral studies under Prof. T.W. Lambe, where he graduated with the Sc.D degree in 1961. Dr. Moh joined the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in 1965 where he established the Division of Geotechnical Engineering and subsequently became the Vice President and Provost. Dr. Moh founded the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1967 and was its Founder President until 1973. He also initiated the Asian Information Center for Geotechnical Engineering (GE) at AIT. In the international scene, he served as the Vice President for Asia of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering in the period 1973 to 1977 and as a Board member from 1989 to 1993. The research conducted by Dr. Moh has always been directed towards understanding of engineering problems concerning with the behaviour of soils, insitu and large scale testing, performance of earth structures and improvement of soils. In early 1976, Dr. Moh moved to consulting practice and soon established his firm the MAA Group as one of the leading consultant in Asia and Southeast Asia. Dr. Moh is a Fellow of many professional institutions and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, U.K., and USA, as well as APEC Engineer and EMF Engineer. Dr. Moh has received numerous honours and awards including Honorary Doctor of Technology from the AIT in 1999, Honorary Member of the Road Engineering Association of Asia and Australasia in 2000, Honorary Member of the Japanese Geotechnical Society in 2003 and Engineering Medal from the Chinese Institute of Engineers ROC in 2012 for his contribution in engineering education, practice and international activities. He has authored and co-authored more than 140 technical papers.

Dr. ZaChieh Moh was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1967 - 1973.

Tan Sri Datuk Ir. Professor Dr. Chin Fung Kee – President 1973 - 1975



Tan Sri Professor Chin Fung Kee studied at Raffles College, Singapore on a Straits Settlements Scholarship and graduated with a First Class Diploma in Arts. He was awarded the Queen's Scholarship by the Malayan Government to study Civil Engineering at Belfast University where he won the Foundation Scholarship and the Belfast Association of Engineers' Prize. He obtained the BSc and MSc degrees from the Queen's University of Belfast and later the DSc degree for his independent research in 1984.. At the new University of Malaya he proceeded from lectureship to the role of Acting Vice Chancellor in seven years and for a period he was simultaneously the Professor and Dean of Engineering, Deputy and Acting Vice Chancellor. In 1973, he joined Jurutera Konsultant (SEA) Sdn.Bhd. and has been responsible for the design and construction of many highway bridges, highrise buildings, reclamations and structures on soft ground. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers since 1977 and of The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia of which he is a Past President. He is a Past President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society from 1973-1975 and was the Vice President for Asia of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering in 1981-1985. In recognition of the enormous contributions he was conferred the Johan Mangku Negara and the Panglima Setia Mahkota which carries the title of Tan Sri. The late Professor Chin passed away on 29 August 1990 after a short illness. The Southeast Asian

Geotechnical Society has established a Professor Chin Fung Kee Lecture to be delivered at every Society Conference and in Malaysia; an annual Memorial Lecture Series was set up in his name and conducted by the Institution of Engineers Malaysia and funded by the Engineering Alumni Association of the University of Malaya since 1991.

Tan Sri Datuk Ir. Professor Chin Fung Kee was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1973-1975.

Professor Peter Lumb – President 1975 - 1977



Dr Peter Lumb graduated with an external First Class Honours Degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of London in 1945 at the age of 19. Upon graduation, he joined Messrs. NuSwift Fire Extinguisher Works, Elland, Yorkshire. From 1946 to 1947, he worked in the Ministry of Works, Chief Scientific Adviser's Division, Barnet, Hertfordshire, as an Assistant Experimental Officer. During that period, he carried out fullscale load tests on prototype prefabricated houses. Working with T. Hanrahan and R. E. Gibson (both of whom became university professors afterwards), he also performed laboratory soil testing and supervised site investigations under the supervision of J. N.

Mcfetters and F. G. Strongman. In 1947, Peter Lumb pursued his postgraduate study at Imperial College, the University of London, where he obtained his Diploma of Imperial College in Highway Engineering and Master's Degree for his research in soil stabilization under the supervision of B. G. G. Manton. Having completed his postgraduate study in 1949, he joined Messrs. George Wimpey, Central Laboratory, Southall, London, as a Soil Engineer, responsible for site investigations, laboratory soil testing and report writing under the supervision of L. J. Murdock and M. J. Tomlinson. In 1952, he joined Messrs. Scott & Wilson, London, as an Assistant Engineer. He was engaged in the redesign of Sasumua Earth Dam under the supervision of Guthlac Wilson. He was later seconded to Scott & Wilson's Hong Kong office, responsible for the preliminary site investigations, laboratory soil testing and soil analyses for Kai Tak Airport under the supervision of H. Grace.

In 1954, Peter Lumb became a Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering, The University of Hong Kong, and began his thirty two years of distinguished academic career. He was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1963, Reader in 1966 and subsequently Professor of Civil Engineering in 1976. He retired from The University in 1986.

Peter Lumb has made immense contributions in the fields of soil engineering and geotechnical reliability. He pioneered the research on the engineering, properties of residual soils and reclaimed land, rain induced slope failures, and geotechnical reliability. His numerous publications in geotechnical engineering of Hong Kong have become the standard and indispensable references for Hong Kong geotechnical practitioners. Peter Lumb's works on soil variability and geotechnical reliability are widely cited in international journal papers and conference proceedings. He played a key role in the organization of the 1962 Symposium on Hong Kong Soils which, was the real 'dawning' of geotechnical engineering in Hong Kong. He also organized the First International Conference on Applications of Statistics and Probability in Soil and Structural Engineering in Hong Kong in 1971. The conference, which is now being held at four year intervals, has become a major event in the field of geotechnical and structural reliability. Peter Lumb's contributions to Hong Kong also include the investigations into the cause of settlement of buildings in the Mong Kok District of Kowloon in 1964 and landslide disasters in 1976, and his involvement in the preparation of *Geotechnical Manual for Slopes*. In recognition of his significant contributions to geotechnical engineering, he was awarded the Doctor of Science degree by the University of London in 1977 and the Rupert H. Myers Medal by the University of New South Wales in 1980. The University of Hong Kong named the soil mechanics laboratory in his honour in 2000. To further commemorate his contributions, the Department of Civil Engineering of The University of Hong Kong and the Geotechnical Division of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers jointly established a distinguished lecture series known as "The Lumb Lecture" in 1999 and the Inaugural Lumb Lecture was delivered by Professor Norbert R. Morgenstern of the University of Alberta on May 10, 2000. The Lumb Lecture is being delivered biennially by a world renowned geotechnical expert. Prof. Lumb passed away on 14 December 1998 in Melbourne, Australia.

Prof. Peter Lumb was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1975-1977.

Dr. Tan Swan Beng – President 1977 - 1980



Dr Tan was a brilliant student at Raffles Institution and was awarded a Singapore State Scholarship where he graduated from the University of Malaya (now NUS) with a First Class Honours Degree in Civil Engineering. He then proceeded on a Commonwealth Scholarship to Imperial College, London where he obtained his MSc (Eng) and PhD. Dr Tan joined the Public Works Department (PWD), Singapore in 1968 and became the Director General in 1985, a position he continued to hold up to his passing on January 2 1998. Under Dr Tan's leadership, PWD has established a reputation as the engineering

authority with uncompromising standards of professional integrity. He was responsible for many major projects like the development of Changi Airport, the transformation of the road infrastructure in Singapore into one of the safest and most efficient road systems in Asia, the Benjamin Sheares Bridge, Singapore's first underground road the Central Expressway, the Computerised Area Traffic Control, the Malaysia Singapore Second Crossing Bridge and the new Revenue House. As Chairman of the Building Control Working Committee, Dr Tan played a major role in amending the Building Control Act to ensure safe and sound buildings.

Besides valuable contributions to the construction industry, Dr Tan also contributed significantly in the field of engineering research and education. In 1979, he organized the highly successful 6th Asian Regional Conference on Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering in Singapore. Despite his heavy commitments, Dr Tan had published over 50 papers in various international journals and conferences. He also wrote a book entitled "Geology of the Republic of Singapore". He was an Adjunct Professor with the Nanyang Technological University where he shared his invaluable experience with the teaching staff and students.

In 1985, Dr Tan was appointed a Board Member of the Professional Engineers Board and was the President from 1986 until his demise. Under him, the Board consolidated the system for the accreditation of overseas engineering degrees and established the criteria for the assessment of engineering degrees. Dr Tan was also instrumental in the enactment of the new Professional Engineers Act in 1991. In the new Act, the supply of professional engineering services was liberalized and multi-disciplined private limited corporations meeting the requirements of the Board were allowed to supply engineering services in Singapore.

Dr Tan had also tirelessly served the Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES) Council for 16 years. During his two years as the IES President in 1988-90, Dr Tan made significant contributions towards the growth of the Institution. After he became the Immediate Past President in May 1990, he took on the task as the 1st Chairman of the newly established Continuing Education Centre of IES. Through his able leadership, continuing education for engineers increased in breadth and variety. Dr Tan had also contributed to the society in many other ways. He served as a Director of several companies like Keppel Land Ltd and SIA Engineering Co. Pte Ltd. Dr Tan was also a Board member of various organizations like the Raffles Institution Board of Governors, the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, and the Board of Architects.

In recognition of his achievements and services, Dr Tan Swan Beng received several awards which included the Public Administration Medal (Gold), the Standards Council Gold Medal, the Engineer's Prize from the Institution of Civil Engineers, UK. He was also a Fellow with the Institution of Structural Engineers, London, the Institution of Civil Engineers, London, and the Institution of Engineers, Singapore. Dr Tan Swan Beng was an engineer of great distinction who reached the pinnacle of the engineering profession in Singapore and held that position for many years. He commanded the respect of the engineering fraternity and members of the public. His life long work encompassed considerable contributions to the construction industry and other areas.

Dr Tan Swan Beng was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1985-1987.

Dr. Edward W. Brand – President 1980 - 1982



Dr. Edward Brand was Head of the Geotechnical Control Office of Hong Kong Government. He was born in England and educated at the University of Leeds, where he obtained BSc and PhD Degrees in Civil Engineering. He worked for the British consulting engineers Sir Owen Williams and Partners and for the American consulting engineers Frederic R. Harris. He then lectured soil mechanics at the University of Nottingham for four years, before spending nine years at the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, where he was Professor of Geotechnical Engineering. He joined the Hong Kong Government in 1978.

He became Head of the Geotechnical Control Office in 1979. In 1989, he became the Director of the Civil Engineering Services Department, Hong Kong Government. He retired in 1996, and returned to England after retirement. Dr. Brand has acted as a geotechnical consultant for large projects in many countries and he has lectured to universities and professional bodies throughout the world. He was Chairman of ISSMFE Technical Committee on Sampling and Testing of Residual Soils and a Member of the Technical Committee on Landslides and Research Cooperation.

Dr. Edward W. Brand was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1980-1982

Dr. Ting Wen Hui – President 1982 - 1985



Dr. Ting was born in Kuala Lumpur on 5 th June, 1936. He graduated from the University of Malaya in 1958 and in the same year joined the Public Works Department (PWD) in Malaya (now known as Peninsular Malaysia). While still in the PWD, he was sent to Ohio State University (USA) and obtained a Masters Degree in Soils and Highway Engineering in 1961. Later he went to Cambridge University U.K., where he carried out research on properties of soft clays and was awarded a Ph.D. in 1968. In the Public Works Department he was actively involved in the Subang International Airport Project and the Widening of the Johore Causeway. He then looked after the PWD Soil and Materials Laboratory and in

that capacity was involved in numerous Highway, Airport, Ports and Building projects mostly dealing with material, soil and foundation problems.

After leaving PWD, from 1973 to 1978 he taught at the University of Malaya where he lectured on Soil Mechanics and Foundation. From 1978 he became a Consulting Engineer continuing his practice in the field of Highway, Airports and Foundations Engineering as well as in the Special field of Geotechnical Engineering for various types of Civil Engineering projects. He has been a Director and Principal of Zaidun Leeng Sdn. Bhd., a Consulting Engineering firm. He is currently an Independent Geotechnical Consultant to several projects.

He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Malaysia, Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers, U.K. and a Registered Professional Engineer, Malaysia. He has published more than 100 papers many of which are dealing with various Soil and Foundation problems. He was a past President of the Southeast Asia Geotechnical Society in 1982-1985 and is currently an Executive Committee Member of the Society. He is past Overseas Representative of the Institution of Civil Engineers United Kingdom. He is a past President of the Institution of Engineers, Malaysia and past Chairman of its Geotechnical Technical Division. He was a Member of the Appeal Board of the Board of Engineers and Member of Board of Engineers Malaysia (1996-2000).

He delivered a Keynote lecture on Foundation in Limestone areas in the 8 th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference in 1985 and was a Theme Lecturer on Foundations in the 9 th Asian Regional Conference for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering in Bangkok in 1991. He delivered the Prof. Chin Memorial Lecture organised by the IEM/UM Engineering Alumni in 1992. He delivered a Special Lecture at the 13th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference in Taipei in 1998. In April 2000, he was elected as a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences of Malaysia.

Dr. Ting Wen Hui was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1982-1985.

Prof. A.S. Balasubramaniam (Bala) – President 1985 - 1987



Prof. A.S. Balasubramaniam is currently a Professor at the School of Engineering in Griffith University. After serving for 27 years at the Asian Institute of Technology, Prof. Bala became an Emeritus Professor and retired in June 30, 2001. He was then a Visiting Professor for one year at the Nanyang Technological University in Singapore before assuming the current position at the Griffith University in July, 2002.

Prof. Bala graduated in Civil Engineering from the University of Ceylon and later obtained a PhD in Soil Mechanics at the University of Cambridge. He then became a Post-doctorate Fellow at the Norwegian Geotechnical Institute before being appointed Lecturer at the University of Sri Lanka. In 1973, he joined the staff of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), as an Assistant Professor and subsequently became Associate Professor and then Professor. His main research interests for many years have centred on the engineering behaviour of soft clays. From 1973 till July 2001, Prof. Bala has been the Secretary of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society. He was the Chairman of the Geotechnical and Transportation Engineering Division at AIT.

Prof. Balasubramaniam was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1985-1987.

Prof. Seng Lip Lee – President 1987 - 1990



Prof. Lee Seng Lip is Emeritus Professor of Department of Civil Engineering, National University of Singapore. Professor Lee graduated from Mapua Institute of Technology, Manila with a BSCE Degree and was awarded the President's Gold Medal in 1950. He obtained his MSE Degree from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1951 and his PhD from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1953.

Upon graduation, he worked for Bechtel Corporation, San Francisco, until the fall of 1955 when he joined the Department of Civil Engineering at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to full Professor in 1960 and supervised 26 PhD graduates before joining the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, in 1968 as Professor and Head of Division of Structural Engineering and Mechanics. He supervised 13 DEng graduates before joining the National University of Singapore in 1975 as Professor and Head of Department of Civil Engineering, a position he held until 1989. He was conferred an Emeritus Professorship in 1990 and continued to serve as Professorial Fellow. To-date he has supervised 14 PhD graduates.

His research interests cover infrastructural engineering with particular reference to structural, geotechnical and construction technology in which field he has published more than 500 papers in international and regional journals and conferences and delivered many keynote addresses in many countries. He has served as advisor/consultant in numerous infrastructure projects, director of companies in the industry and is co-holder of a patent on Fibre drain for consolidation of soft clay.

He is an Honorary Fellow of IES, an Honorary Member of ASCE, and a recipient of the University of California Berkeley Distinguished Engineering Alumnus Award (1991). For his contributions in civil engineering education, research and development, and professional practice, he has received honours and awards which include A P Greenfelder Construction Prize (1982) of American Society of Civil Engineers, Maurice P van Buren Structural Engineering Award (1989) of American Concrete Institute, International Federation of Asian and Pacific Contractors Association and Philippine Contractors Association Foundation Research Awards for Works on Deep Basements (1979) and Soil Stabilization (1982), Public Administration Medal (Silver) Singapore (1985), Singapore National Science and Technology Award (1987) and First Institution of Engineers Singapore Innovators' Award (1990). He was President of Southeast Asia Geotechnical Society from 1990-1992. A symposium on Innovative Solutions in Structural and Geotechnical Engineering was held in his honour (1999), jointly sponsored by the School of Civil Engineering, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand and Department of Civil Engineering, National University of Singapore.

Professor Lee Seng Lip was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1987-1990.

Dr. Chin Der Ou – President 1990 - 1993



Dr. Ou ChinDer graduated from the National Cheng Kung University in 1966 and received a Masters Degree from the same university in 1968. He later studied at the Case Western Reserve University in Ohio, U.S.A. and in 1972 graduated with a PhD in Soil Mechanics.

Dr. Ou joined the China Engineering Consultants Co. in 1973 before joining Moh and Associates Inc., (MAA) in 1976. He became the Senior Vice President of MAA International in 1983. He had worked in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and Hong Kong for many years. In 1987 he was appointed the Chief Engineer at RSEA, the largest construction company in Taiwan.

In 1989, Dr. Ou was drafted to the government sector and became the first Director General of Taiwan Area National Expressway Engineering Bureau in 1990 to supervise the planning, design and construction of pan-island

Expressway network in Taiwan. After six years of services in the Bureau, Dr. Ou was promoted to the Cabinet and became the Chairman of the Commission of Public Construction (i.e., the Minister of Public Works) in 1996. In 1998, he was invited by Mayor YingJeou Ma to join the Taipei City Government as Deputy Mayor. During Dr. Ou's six years tenure of office as the Deputy Mayor of Taipei City, he has led his emergency task force to overcome various crises, including the Taiwan '921' earthquake in 1999, devastating flooding caused by typhoon Nari in 2001, prolonged drought which saw Taipei City enforcing water rationing in 2002 as well as the outbreak of SARS in 2003. Dr. Ou is currently the Chairman of Taipei Smart Card Corporation and the Chairman of Taiwan Construction Research Institute and also the CEO of Taiwan High Speed Railway Corporation.

Dr. Ou has edited three technical reference books and was the author or co-author of more than 80 technical papers.

Dr. Ou has served as the Vice President of International Society of Rock Mechanics from 1995 to 1999, the President of the Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineers from 1993 to 1995, the President of the Chinese Institute of Engineers from 1997 to 1999 and the President of the China Road Federation from 1996 to 2000.

Dr. Ou was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1990/1993.

Dr. Teik Aun Ooi – President 1993 - 1996



Dr. Ooi is a Consultant in Geotechnical and Civil Engineering and Project Management. He also acts as Arbitrator, Expert Witness and Adviser. Dr. Ooi is a Chartered Engineer of the United Kingdom and a Registered Professional Engineer of Malaysia, an APEC Engineer and an International Professional Engineer. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Malaysia, a Fellow of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators and a Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, United Kingdom.

Dr. Ooi graduated in Civil Engineering in 1966 from Auckland University, New Zealand and obtained his Masters degree in Civil Engineering from the same University in 1968. He obtained his PhD from Sheffield University in 1980. He joined Public Works Department, Malaysia (PWD) in 1968 and held the posts of Engineer, Senior Executive Engineer and Assistant Director respectively in charge of the PWD Headquarters Soils and Materials Laboratories in the Design and Research Branch before he left to join Promet Construction Sdn Bhd in 1982. Whilst in PWD he was involved in airport and port design, slope investigations, design and rectifications, Soils and Materials investigations, Highway and Building foundation designs as well as remedial works. In 1984 he joined Pilecon Engineering as an Operations Director in charge of Design and Construction of Geotechnical and Civil Engineering Projects. In 1989 he joined Transfield Construction Group as a Director and General Manager for operation in Asia. He started his consultancy services in 2000 after retiring from Transfield.

He is an active and a long serving member of IEM since 1970s. He was IEM Council Member in 1981-1984, Vice President in 1988-1990 and is a Director of IEM Training Centre since 1991. He is a Past President of the Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators, ICE Country Representative for Malaysia since 2000, Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society Council member 1985 – present and President in 1993-1996, Chairman of IEM Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division in 1991-1992. Chairman of IEM Tunnelling and Underground Space Technical Division in 2002-2003 and 2006 -2009, Committee Member of the IEM Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division in 2006-present, Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the Annual Professor Chin Memorial Lecture 1995- 2009 and Chairman of the Organizing Committee for the 12th SEAGC in 1996 and 16th SEAGC in May 2007. He was Pro-tem Chairman and First AGSSEA Chairman 2007-2010.

Dr. Ooi Teik Aun was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society 1993-1996.

Dr. Surachat Sambhandharaksa – President 1996 - 1999



Dr. Surachat Sambhandharaksa obtained his Sc. D degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United States of America in 1977. Prior to that, he went to Sydney, Australia under the Colombo plan scholarship and obtained the Bachelor Degree of Civil Engineering from the University of New South Wales in 1967. He joined the Department of Civil Engineering, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand as an assistant lecturer in the same year. He obtained his Master of Engineering degree with his thesis in geotechnical engineering from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), in 1970. In 1971, he spent one year at the Northwestern University in the United States of America before being transferred to MIT as a Research Assistant in 1972. His research interest areas are soft clay engineering and pile foundation in Bangkok Subsoil.

In addition to working at the Chulalongkorn University and practicing as a geotechnical consultant with two local firms in Thailand from 1980, he spent about nine years in teaching and conducting research at the associated faculty at the AIT. He is still teaching at the Chulalongkorn University in the specialist position, after his retirement in 2004.

In 2002, Dr. Surachat was awarded the Faculty Outstanding Award of the Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University. He was Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 15th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference held in Bangkok in November 2004. Dr. Surachat was voted as the best engineer in Thailand for the year 2006.

Dr. Surachat was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1996-1999.

Dr. John C. Li – President 1999 - 2001



Dr. John Chien Chung Li graduated from the National Cheng Kung University of Taiwan in 1971 and then joined the army for his military service as a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers. He started his graduated study in Michigan State University in 1973 and received the Master degree in 1975. Then he went on with his doctoral studies at MSU under Prof. Ted S. Vinson and Prof. O. B. Andersland, where he graduated with the PhD degree in 1979. Dr. Li began his teaching career at the beginning of 1979 as an assistant professor in the Dept. of Civil Engineering of Wayne State University in Detroit.

In summer of 1980, Dr. Li decided to accept an invitation from the National Central University and return to Taiwan, where he started the researches on the dynamic behaviour of Taipei silt and the dynamic testing on the piled foundations. Dr. Li was promoted to become Professor in 1984 and thereafter, the Chairman of the Department. Dr. Li was granted leave from the university in 1985 and joined the largest construction company in Taiwan to lead the departments of research and corporate planning for three years.

He then returned to the University in 1988 and served as the Chairman of the Civil Engineering for another three years. In 1991, Dr. Li was directed by the government to join the newly established Public Construction Commission and became the Vice Chairman of the Commission to oversee all the public works construction in Taiwan for nine years. During this period, Dr. Li was the leading person to draft the new Government Procurement Law and the Law to Encourage Private Participation in Public Construction. After the year 2000 Taiwan election, Dr. Li return to University again and established the Graduate Institute of Construction Engineering and Management and later, became The Dean of the College of Engineering in 2003. Professionally, Dr. Li has served as the President of the Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering in Taipei and the President of the Sino-Geotechnics Foundation.

Dr. Li was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1999-2001.

Prof. Kwet Yew Yong – President 2001 - 2007



A graduate of the University of Sheffield, England, with a BEng (First Class Hons) and PhD under a Grouped Scholarship and George Senior Fellowship, Professor Yong Kwet Yew has been a faculty member of the Department of Civil Engineering, National University of Singapore since 1979. He was Founding Director, Centre for Soft Ground Engineering from 1991 to 1994 and was Head, Department of Civil Engineering from 1995 to 2000 and is presently Vice President (Campus Infrastructure) since 2001. He was also Chairman, NUS-MINDEF Centre for Protective Technology from 1998 to 2010.

Prof Yong's research interests are on geotechnical problems associated with the construction of underground transportation and underground facilities in urbanised environment. His other research interests are deep excavations, land reclamation, ground improvement and integrated infrastructure systems. Over the past two decades, he has received, as Investigator or Collaborator, more than S\$15.4 million of research funding from external bodies and he has published more than 200 technical publications including keynote and guest lectures at 30 international conferences.

The Singapore Government awarded Prof Yong the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in the National Day Awards in 2000, the Public Service Medal in 2004 for contributions to Construction Safety and the Public Service Star in 2008 for significant contribution in land transport development. Singapore's Ministry of Manpower also presented him with a Certificate of Commendation (Individual) in 2000 for contributions to construction safety. He was the recipient of the First Institution of Engineers, Singapore, Innovation Award (Merit) for Land Reclamation Techniques (1990), Faculty of Engineering Teaching Excellence Award (1993, 1994 & 1996) and the Faculty Hall of Fame for Teaching Excellence (1997). He was elected Fellow of the Institution of Engineers, Singapore in 2001 and was appointed Accredited Adjudicator, Singapore Mediation Centre in 2005.

Prof Yong is Chairman of several government advisory committees and professional committees including the Accredited Checkers (AC) Selection Panel, Building and Construction Authority; Fundamentals of Engineering Examination (Civil) Committee, Professional Engineers Board; International Board of Advisors, Land Transport Authority (LTA), Singapore; and Project & Development Committee, Sembawang Town Council. He is also an Executive and Board Member of LTA and Non-Executive Chairman of the Board of two listed companies. He chaired the Independent Investigation Panel, LTA on the collapse of Nicoll Highway in April 2004 and was a member of the International Expert Panel on Flood Protection in Singapore, Ministry of Environment and Water Resources, in 2011. He has served as consultant to several government agencies as well as local and international companies on over 100 major construction projects in Singapore, ASEAN and China. He is currently the Chairman of the Association of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia.

Professor Kwet Yew Yong was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 2001-2007

Dr. Chung Tien Chin – President 2007 – 2010



Dr. Chung-Tien Chin graduated from National Taiwan University in 1980. He earned his Ph.D. in geotechnical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1986. Dr. Chin is a registered professional civil engineer in ROC. He is also one of the first 25 APEC engineers in Taiwan. Dr. Chin now is a member of the Board of Directors and the President of Star Energy Corporation.

Dr. Chin has worked in Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers in New York after he got his Ph.D. He later came back to Taiwan and joined Moh and Associates, Inc. (MAA) to work on various stages of works of the Taipei Rapid Transit Systems. In 2000, Dr. Chin founded OleMap Inc. He has worked as the President and CEO of OleMap from 2000 to 2003. Later in 2003, Dr. Chin has started to serve as a vice president at MAA overseeing the Department of Geotechnical Engineering. In 2008, he was promoted to become a senior vice president of MAA. The projects Dr. Chin has supervised covered almost all infrastructure, buildings and facilities, and environmental related works. The scope of services ranges from planning, design, project management, to operation and maintenance.

Dr Chin has also been actively involved in overseas projects since 1992. He has been actively involved in the ground improvement works of Bangkok-Chonburi Highway construction, and design of landside road systems of New Bangkok International Airport. In 2007, Dr. Chin also helped set up an MAA joint venture company in Beijing, Agiletech, focusing on risk management related works.

Dr. Chin has more than 90 technical papers published. He has been teaching from 1987 at National Chiaotung University, National Taiwan Institute of Technology and Science, and National Central University. In 2006, he was invited to be an advisory professor at Hohai University in Nanjing. In 2008, he was invited to be an adjunct professor in Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. Dr. Chin has also been invited by many government agencies, professional societies, and non-profit foundations to be an advisor, committee members and board directors. He was the founding chairman of the Geotechnical Safety Network (GEOSNet), and is currently a member of the Innovation and Development Committee (IDC) of the ISSMGE.

In 1991, Dr. Chin was awarded as an Outstanding Young Engineer by the Chinese Institute of Engineers (CIE). In 2008, he was awarded as a Distinguished Engineer by CIE.

Dr. Chung-Tien Chin was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 2007-2010.

IR. DR. OOI TEIK AUN – President 2010 – 2016



IR. DR. OOI TEIK AUN graduated in Civil Engineering in 1966 from Auckland University, New Zealand and obtained his Master degree from the same University in 1968. He obtained his Doctor of Philosophy from Sheffield University in 1980. He is an Honorary Fellow of The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia (Hon. FIEM), Fellow of The Malaysian Institute of Arbitrators (FMIArb) and Fellow of The Institution of Civil Engineers, United Kingdom (CEng FICE) Fellow of the Society of Adjudicators Malaysia (FSAM) Fellow of the Asean Academy of Engineering & Technology (FAAET). He is an ASEAN Engineer, APEC Engineer, International Professional Engineer,

ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer, Professional Engineer (Malaysia), Accredited Checker (Geotechnical Engineering) and Chartered Engineer (C.Eng.), United Kingdom. He is a Specialist Engineering Consultant, an Arbitrator, an Adjudicator, an Accredited Checker and Expert Witness.

Ir. Dr. Ooi joined Public Works Department, Malaysia (PWD) in 1968 and held the post of Engineer, Senior Executive Engineer and Assistant Director respectively, in charge of the PWD Headquarters Soils and Materials Laboratories in the Design and Research Branch. He was involved in the design and construction of airports, buildings, highways, ports and causeway. He was also involved in slope investigations, design and rectifications, soils and materials investigations,

building foundation designs as well as remedial works. In 1982, he left PWD to join Promet Construction Sdn Bhd, and was Project Manager for Wisma Saberkas in Kuching, Sarawak. He joined Pilecon Engineering Berhad in 1984 as an Operations Director in charge of Design and Construction of Geotechnical and Civil Engineering Projects. In 1989 he joined the Transfield Construction Group as a Director and General Manager for operations in Southeast Asia. In 2000, he established his consultancy services. Dr. Ooi has been an Arbitrator since 1994 and he is on the KLRCA Panel of Arbitrators. He has recently been admitted to the KLRCA Panel of Adjudicators.

Ir. Dr. Ooi is an active and a long serving member of IEM since 1970s. He was IEM Council Member in 1981 -1984, Vice President in 1988 - 1990 and is a Director of IEM Training Centre Sdn Bhd since 1991. He has been ICE Country Representative for Malaysia since 2000. He was President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS) in 1993 – 1996 and re-elected for another term in 2010-2013, President of MIArb in 2008, Chairman of IEM Geotechnical Engineering Technical Division in 1991 - 1992. Chairman of IEM Tunnelling and Underground Space Technical Division in 2002 - 2003 and 2006 – 2009. He was the Organizing Chairman for the Annual Professor Chin Memorial Lecture 1995 – 2008, Organizing Chairman for the 12th SEAGC in 1996, 16th SEAGC in 2007, Organizing Chairman for the International Tunnelling Conferences in 2006 and 2011 and ICE International Conference in 2011. He was Chairman of Pro-Tem Committee to set up the Association of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia (AGSSEA) and was Chairman of AGSSEA from 2007 – 2010. He was also Chairman of Pro-Tem Committee to set up the IEM Engineering Consultancy Practice Special Interest Group (CESIG) and became its founding Chairman in 2009. He was Organizing Chairman for the 1st and 2nd International Green Workshop on Sustainable Infrastructures and Buildings held in 2010 and 2012 respectively.

He was a member of the Technical Committee set up by the Government to investigate the collapse of the Highland Towers in 1993.

Ir. Dr. Ooi lectured frequently at UPM, UNITEN and UNMC and conducted touring lectures in Thailand, Philippines, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar. He is a principal interviewer for the IEM Professional Interview and conducts Chartered Professional Reviews for ICE in Hong Kong and India. He has formed ICE Student Chapters at the Universiti Tenaga Nasional (UNITEN), University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus (UNMC), University Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) and UCSI University (UCSI).

Ir. Dr. Ooi is currently President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (2010-2016).

Dr. Noppadol Phien-wej – President 2016 – 2019



Dr. Noppadol Phien-wej of the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) has been elected as the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society (SEAGS); he was elected for this position at the 19th Southeast Asian Geotechnical Conference held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 31 May – 3 June 2016. Dr. Noppadol is an Associate Professor in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering in AIT's School of Engineering and Technology (SET).

He takes over as SEAGS President from Dr. Ooi Teik Aun, and he shall serve for a three-year term from 2016-2019. Prior to taking over as President, Dr. Noppadol was serving as Honorary Secretary General of SEAGS. Other AIT faculty members who have served as Secretary General of the Society include Dr. John Nelson (1970-1973), Prof. A.S. Balasubramaniam (1972-2000), and Prof. D.T. Bergado (2000-2013). Prof. Balasubramaniam has also served as President from 1985 – 1987.

AIT's association with SEAGS stems back from 1967, when the Society was founded at AIT Bangkok by Dr Za-Chieh Moh, a former AIT faculty member, to cover Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Hong Kong and Taiwan and other societies in Asia. With a membership of over 200, the Society members are active in soil mechanics and foundation engineering, engineering geology, rock mechanics and geosynthetic engineering.

More details about Dr. Noppadol can be found at this link: <http://www.set.ait.ac.th/page.php?fol=people&page=peopleinfo&id=58>

Details about SEAGS can be found at this link: <http://seags.ait.asia/homepage/seags-2016-opening-ceremony/>