

# AGSSEA

## Association of Geotechnical Societies in Southeast Asia

### Bio-data of Chairman and Past Chairman

#### Dr. Za Chieh MOH – Honorary Founder Chairman



**Dr. Za Chieh 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, in-situ 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. Za Chieh Moh was the President of the Southeast Asian Geotechnical Society in 1967 - 1973.

#### Ir. Dr. Teik Aun OOI – Founder Chairman 2007 - 2010



**Ir. Dr. Teik Aun OOI** 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 (FMI Arb) 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 12<sup>th</sup> SEAGC in 1996, 16<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

### **Prof. Kwet Yew YONG – Chairman 2010 - current**



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 Kwet Yew YONG 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