

Taiwan Geotechnical Society

Before 1997, the geotechnical community in Taiwan, represented by the geotechnical engineering committee of the Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE), had already been involved in many domestic and international geotechnical activities, such as initiating domestic geotechnical conference and organizing 6th (1980) and 10th (1990) SEAGC etc. Much effort was accomplished by Prof. Wen-Long Cheng when he served as the chairman of the committee.

The Taiwan Geotechnical Society (TGS) was founded in 1997, with Prof. J.J.Hung served as the founding president. The goals of the society are mainly to advance professional knowledge and skills in geo-technology and also to establish network with other geotechnical organizations worldwide. Current president is Prof. Chang-Yu Ou, from National Taiwan University of Science and Technology.

In addition to Profs. Hung and Ou, other ex-presidents include Cheng-Hsin Chen (1999-2001), Rong-Her Chen (2001-2003), H.W. Chang (2003-2005), Meei-Ling Lin (2005-2007), Horn-Da Lin (2007-2009), Hung-Jiun Liao (2009-2011), San-Shyan Lin (2011-2013), and Y.S. Fang (2013-2015).

So far, there are around 350 individual members and 24 corporate members in TGS. These members are mainly from government agencies, industry, and academia.

The TGS has been playing active role or taking strong responsibility in SEAGS-AGSSEA conferences and other activities. TGS has organized 6th (1980 by CICHE), 10th (1990 by CICHE), 13th (1998) and 17th (2010) Southeast Asia Geotechnical Conference here in Taipei, Taiwan. Each of these conferences attracted more than 300 participants from worldwide attending conference. Another Important event, the 5th (2004) Asia Young Geotechnical Engineer Conference, held in Taipei, was also organized by TGS.

Colleagues from Taiwan are also attending in other conferences organized by other member societies in SEAGS-AGSSEA. The number of participants in each SEAGS-AGSSEA speaks volumes about how active our members are in the past decades.

Locally, TGS organizes national conference every other year. The 16th national conference will be held in Kaohsiung this year (2015). In addition, the recipient of the Ranking lecture and the Terzaghi lecture is also invited to Taiwan every year to deliver special lecture.

It was until the council meeting of ISSMGE held at 14th ARC in Hong Kong in 2012, TGS officially becomes one of the member societies of ISSMGE, and officially named Chinese Taipei Geotechnical Society (CTGS) in ISSMGE. Since then CTGS has sent Prof. San-Shyan Lin and Dr. Wei F Lee to participate the ISSMGE council meeting in Toronto (Pam-America Geotechnical Engineering Conference, 2011) and Prof. Y.S. Fang and D.W. Chang in ICSSGEC in Paris, France in 2014.

Many senior members of TGS have also played active leading roles in SEAGS-AGSSEA and or ISSMGE. The past presidents of SEAGS Dr. Za-Chieh Moh (1967-1973), Dr. Chin-Der Ou (1990-1993), Dr. John C.C. Li (1998-2001), and Dr. Chung Tien Chin (2007-2010) are all senior members of TGS. In addition, Dr. Moh has been served as the

VP to Asia of ISSMGE and Dr. Chin-Der Ou has been served as VP of ISRM between 1995 and 1999.

Professors in Taiwan are also involving in editing of SEAGS-AGSSEA Journal. Many have been served as guest editor for the journal, such as Prof. Chang-Yu Ou, Prof. Der-Wen Chang, Prof. San-Shyan Lin and Prof. Meei-Ling Lin.

TGS also established its own Journal named Journal of GeoEngineering in August 2006. The Journal of GeoEngineering covers various topics in geotechnical engineering. Original papers for the following areas: geotechnical engineering, geo-materials, hazard mitigation, sustainable infrastructure and maintenance, geo-ecological engineering, geo-environmental engineering, engineering geology/geological engineering, earthquake engineering, applications of geographical information system, etc. are all welcomed for submission.

Prof. San-Shyan Lin has also been joined Dr. Ooi and Prof. Bergado served as touring lecturer to give a lecture on effects of scouring on bridge foundation in Laos in 2012.

The TGS has been seeing eye to eye with AGSSEA. We look forward to keeping our path and playing a more active role serving for our geotechnical community.

By SS Lin



Group Photo showing the Lecturers and the Organizing Committee
Seminar on Sustainable Infrastructures and Green Technology for Geo-Disasters
19 November 2012, Vientien, Laos



17SEAGC Held on 10 – 13 May 2010 in Taipei



Group photo of first lecture participants at NTUST



Workshop on Pile-raft and Pile Foundations was held at Tamkang University (TKU) Taiwan, March 27, 2014