

## **Thai Geotechnical Society**

### **A recent update on its activities**

Since its establishment in 1993, the technical committee on geotechnical engineering of the Engineering Institute of Thailand, also known as the Thai Geotechnical Society, has continued to play an active role in promoting technical advances and research activities in the field of geotechnical engineering in Thailand. The following are some of its recent activities and highlights on important projects related to geotechnical engineering in Thailand.

### ***Education and awards***

Since geotechnical engineering has first been recognized as an important field in its own right in Thailand in 1960's following the guidance of Prof. Chai Muktabhan of Chulalongkorn University, the first annual lecture event called "The Chai-Muktabhan lecture" was organized in 2007 and to be delivered by a distinguished geotechnical engineer of Thailand annually. Dr. Warakorn was the first Chai-Muktabhan lecturer.

In 2012 Mr. Titi Paveenchann was selected to be the Chai-Muktabhan lecturer in honour of his contribution to the geotechnical community in Thailand. His lecture was on the Subsidence problems of the Chaophaya flood plain related to groundwater table drawdown and its implication on foundation behaviours.

In 2013, Dr. Watchasin Gasaluck of Khonkaen University delivered his Chai-Muktabhan lecture which was on "The wide spectrum of standards in geotechnical engineering in Thailand". His life-long experience on various aspects of geotechnical engineering, close involvement with many practical projects, and dedicated contribution to the profession was lively reflected in the lecture. In particular, the difference in standardization of soil exploration, design methods, etc, in projects in cities and rural areas of Thailand were critically highlighted.



Dr. Watchasin Gasaluck (right) received the Chai-Muktabhan award from the Privy Counsellor Kamton Sintawanon

### ***Conferences and international events***

Special seminar by engineering geology and tunneling world experts.

A special seminar on the topics of “Experiences in Engineering Geology on infrastructure development in rocks” was organized on 24 July, 2013, at SC park hotel in Bangkok, by the the Engineering Institute of Thailand, Thai Geotechnical Society, and Geotechnical Engineering Research and Development Center (GERD) of Kasetsart University. Prof. Paul Marinos gave 2-part lecture on “Case studies in tunneling under difficult geological conditions” and on “Case studies for dams under difficult geological conditions”. Dr. Harald Wagner also shared his visions on tunneling in Thailand in his lecture on “Choice of tunneling methods for Thailand future infrastructures”. Dr. Suttisak Soralump, the president of Thai Geotechnical Society, also lectured on “Foundation engineering in difficult hillside geology for Wat Sukim Pagoda construction”. Nearly 200 participants joined the event.

### ***Participation in major international events***

TGS members have joined the ISSMGE conference in Paris and participated in voting for the new president of ISSMGE and other related positions.

## **Some historical background of Thai Professionals**

**Dr. Chai has been associated with AIT and SEAGS from the very beginning of AIT at Chula Campus.**



Dr. Chai participated in most Conferences held by SEAGS-AIT. One of the memorable events is the Large Dam Conference held in 1980.



**Chula-personalities**



**Kasetsart Personalities**

We also had Drs. Visharn and Warakorn from Kasetsart helping us a lot.





The note here is very sketchy and is probably a very random pick of events and personalities.

