

INTRODUCTION OF IMPORTANT CANDIDATES (Prof. Auvinet)

New momentum for ISSMGE

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President of ISSMGE Candidate (2013-2017)

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ISSMGE celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2011. It was an opportunity to acknowledge the awesome work performed by our members during this period. To be able to stay on this path of excellence, our Society must remain faithful to the principles of scientific rigor, realism and engineering relevance of our work that were defined by the founders of Soil Mechanics. An Honorary Consultative Group constituted by former Presidents and Vice-Presidents of ISSMGE will be created to perform a technical and scientific audit of our Society and provide advice on general policies of ISSMGE. During the 2009-2013 period, a great effort was accomplished by ISSMGE board and its president to implement a new working structure involving a much larger number of members in ISSMGE management activities. The challenge for the new president during the 2013-2017 period will be to keep this new structure working harmoniously and efficiently. This will require an important input of energy. I am ready as a president to spend most of my time dedicated to the Society during the coming four years. This will imply transferring a large part of my professional and academic duties to my collaborators but I am ready to do that.

To keep improving ISSMGE and its *modus operandi* and adapting it to our evolving profession, priority will be given to fostering scientific and technical advances and ensuring their dissemination within and outside ISSMGE. In particular, I will focus on the following 13 areas:

Technical Committees. ISSMGE's Technical Committees (TCs) are the strongest vehicle involving our members. Their mission should be clarified. Their main objective should be to establish a clear and compact State-of-the-Art reports on their main topic through review of literature, and organizing lectures, workshops and conferences. TCs and Technical Oversight Committee (TOC) operation rules will be reevaluated. TCs will be enabled to keep working in the ISSMGE President interim. Renewal of TC Chairs will be a continuous process based on the TC's performance. Information shall be made to flow seamlessly from TCs chairs to TOC and to Vice-Presidents and the Board. The creation of new TCs will be welcome as long as there is a need for them and people willing to champion them.

Conferences. The International and Regional Conferences, with their professional and friendly content, will remain the main events of our Society. Specialized technical meetings will also be strongly encouraged. However, emphasis will be placed on relevance and quality rather than number of conferences. Conferences will also be better distributed among the six ISSMGE regions to ensure effective technology transfer.

Dissemination within and outside ISSMGE. The web page of our Society will become a hub with steady flow of information among members and potential users. It will include links to the key geo-journals, and academic and professional web pages and easy access to State-of-the-Art ISSMGE reports. The ISSMGE bulletin founded in 2005 will continue, as well as the "Geoworld" professional network.

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International Seminars. I have a dream to inject a new impulse to International Seminars and Webinars. Priority will be given to developing and emerging countries, some of whom are deprived of a well-established geotechnical group. Those are the countries that can benefit most from our Society expertise for the development of their infrastructure.

Presence of ISSMGE in the public eye. ISSMGE should be ubiquitous in the media, for example to present outstanding civil engineering achievements, discuss geotechnical risks or comment on natural disasters. Politics concerning relations with civil authorities should be discussed openly, and ISSMGE should be present in public fora. Ready-made videos/YouTube films should be prepared by our Public Relation Committee.

Journals. I will give full support to the ISSMGE Journal of Geo-Engineering Case Histories, encouraging wider participation of ISSMGE practitioner members, the sharing of case histories for teaching, and increased participation by the Technical Committees.

Membership. Increasing the ISSMGE membership and the number of member societies will be a strong priority. Every geo-professional should be an ISSMGE member. Professor Leonardo Zeevaert used to say "*You must sell soil mechanics the same way you sell soft drinks*". Reliable statistics regarding the number of members and their activities should be established at national and international level.

Students and young membership. Students and young members are the future of our society. They will receive my special attention, including e.g., internet/twitter ideas, technical contests during conferences and Young Members Conferences in all ISSMGE regions.

Corporate Associate members. A new synergy should be induced between Academia and Industry. The number of our Corporate Associate Members reflects the relevance of our activities to practical engineering and the prestige of our society. I will work to increase this participation.

ISSMGE Foundation. Contributions from individuals and corporate donors will be encouraged. They open new perspectives for ISSMGE for assisting young members and developing Member Societies in their quest for a full participation in ISSMGE activities.

Awards and Honorary Lectures. Awards and honorary lectures will acknowledge the merits of our more distinguished members, group of members and societies. Their number will however be kept within reasonable limits to protect their prestige.

International Affiliations. Close relationships will be maintained with sister societies such as the International Society of Rock mechanics (ISRM) and the International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment (IAEG), with the International Commission on Large Dams (ICOLD), the International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) and the International Tunneling Association (ITA). The success of the Joint Technical Committee on Natural Slopes and Landslides illustrates the importance of technical cooperation among learned societies.

Official Languages. ISSMGE is proud of its two official languages. Speaking myself three languages, I know that other languages play an important role in our communication. I believe that it is important that ISSMGE facilitate the understanding of our contributions in other languages in addition to English and French. I will work for expanding the ISSMGE lexicon to other languages.

When President, I will personally visit as many member countries as possible, in order to exchange points of view on our Society. The bulk of my expenses and those of my staff will be covered by my National Society and sponsors to free ISSMGE funding for the fulfillment of its scientific and technical objectives. In 2012, as Vice-President of ISSMGE for North America, I visited 12 different countries. With the help of the Board and of all ISSMGE members, I intend to keep working with the same intensity as President of ISSMGE.

Gabriel Auvinet
President of ISSMGE Candidate (2013-2017)

INTRODUCTION OF IMPORTANT CANDIDATES (Prof. Frank)

Professor Roger Frank's candidacy for President of ISSMGE 2013-2017

R Frank's short biography

(for more details, see full CV under : <http://navier.enpc.fr/~frank>)



Roger Frank was born in 1949 at Roslyn, New York (USA). He was then raised in the UK, in Switzerland and in France. He received his Diploma of Engineering from 'Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées' (ENPC, National School of Bridges and Highways of France) in 1972. Both his Doctor of Engineering degree (1974) and his Doctor of Science degree (1984) are from Pierre and Marie Curie University of Paris. Roger Frank has devoted his entire professional career to the 'Ponts et Chaussées' (the French Highway Administration). He was first employed by 'Laboratoire central des ponts et chaussées' (LCPC), where he became Head of the Foundations Section in 1983, and Head of the Soil Mechanics and Foundations Division in 1990. From 1992 to 2003, he was the Director of CERMES (ENPC-LCPC), a teaching and research centre in soil mechanics. In 1997, Roger Frank was promoted to the rank of Professor in geotechnical engineering at ENPC.

The main field of expertise of Roger Frank is in situ testing and foundation engineering. He carries out theoretical and experimental research, as well as consulting work for civil engineering projects. He has authored or co-authored 220 papers in journals and conference proceedings, and he has delivered numerous invited lectures in many countries. As a specialist in pile foundation design, Professor Frank has participated in the design of the foundations of several major bridges in the world. Starting in 1989, Roger Frank has been involved in many standardisation committees in France and in Europe, particularly those linked to soil-structure interaction. From 1998 to 2004, he was the Chairman of the European committee in charge of Eurocode 7 on 'Geotechnical design'.

He was the Vice President for Europe of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) for the period 2005 to 2009 and he is now an appointed member on the Board of ISSMGE for the period 2009 to 2013. He is also the Chairman of the Strategic Advisory Committee for the 18th ICSMGE to be held in Paris, 2-6 September 2013.

The way ahead for ISSMGE for 2013 to 2017 by Professor Roger Frank

The International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) is our learned Society. We are - or we should be - all proud of it. The Society was created by our professional grandparents and parents. Our acting President, Professor Briaud likes to speak of our 'professional family'. Indeed, this is a very appropriate expression.

Before explaining my motivation to become your next President of ISSMGE, I first want to acknowledge the immense task achieved by the Presidents, Officers and all Members of ISSMGE who managed to act together in order to increase the visibility and the role played by ISSMGE in the contemporary world.

Our Society exists and is dynamic. It is certainly on the right track. Its international membership has increased (Member Societies, individual members, Corporate Associates). Many activities, such as conferences and workshops, are organised at national, regional and international levels. There are numerous active Technical Committees which cover most of the subjects of the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering. The Board level Committees (BLC), created recently by Professor Briaud, also play their role in subjects of common interest while preparing recommendations for actions to be considered by the Board (TOC, MPAC, PRC, IDC, AWAC, SYMPG and CAPG). The Journal of Case Histories and ISSMGE Bulletin have proved to be powerful tools for sharing knowledge and experiences. The role of the new initiatives, i.e., the ISSMGE Foundation, the Webinars and the Geo-World network, must also be underlined.

From the administrative point of view, the efficiency of the General Secretariat is acknowledged by the Member Societies, the Board and other ISSMGE bodies. The finances and the budget of the Society are sound.

The composition and *modus operandi* of the Council is also satisfactory.

For the sake of conciseness, I shall not comment on things which work well or only need improvement (we should always try to improve things!) and things which can simply and easily be dealt with by the Board during its mandate. I shall concentrate on the broad issues which in my view require action so that ISSMGE can develop and play its full role in the international community. The order below does not reflect any order of priority.

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Membership

We must make further efforts to increase the number of Member Societies. Some parts of the world such as **Africa** are not sufficiently represented.

The **Member Societies** are, and should remain, the heart of ISSMGE. They represent legitimately the professions interested in soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering in their country (or group of countries). Their role should be fully recognised, and they should be at the centre of most of the decisions taken at regional or international levels.

Strong efforts have been made recently to increase the number of **Corporate Associates**, but their number still remains insufficient. We must find better ways to attract Corporate Associates so that they become more involved in the activities of ISSMGE.

Practising engineers and academics, all have an important role to play. ISSMGE is sometimes perceived to be dominated by academics, sometimes seen to be dominated by practitioners! ISSMGE must be a meeting place for everybody. It should be the place where the actors of our various professions meet, exchange ideas and collaborate. Academics and practitioners can learn from each other. All can gain from our learned Society! If I am elected, I shall be eager to attract academics as well as practising engineers.

It should be noted that in all professions linked to soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering the number of **women** has increased sharply during the past years. Their presence is not reflected adequately inside ISSMGE. Voluntary actions should be taken to promote women inside and outside ISSMGE. If I am elected President of ISSMGE, I shall seek to have women play a **more important role** on the Board of ISSMGE, on the Board Level Committees and in Technical Committees.

The **young engineers and scientists** are the future of ISSMGE: we must increase ways of helping them and we must also benefit from their energy in order to progress. If I am elected, I shall certainly listen to them.

The role of the Vice Presidents

The **regions** play an important role inside ISSMGE. The strong attendance at Regional Conferences proves this fact. The **Vice Presidents** should be the spark for all activities in their region.

The role of the Vice Presidents should thus be enhanced. This role includes not only responsibility for representing a number of Member Societies, but also responsibility for liaising with the **Technical Committees** that involve the Member Societies in their region.

The Vice Presidents should be proactive rather than reactive! They should be a strong force for proposing activities and collaboration between their regional Member Societies and at international level.

If I am elected, I shall push the Vice Presidents of ISSMGE to initiate activities. The Vice Presidents will have to report to the **President and to the Board of ISSMGE**, which will then play only a coordinating role for many activities.

Opening to the outside world

ISSMGE has recently concentrated its efforts towards greater cooperation with Sister Societies such as the **International Society for Rock Mechanics** and the **International Association of Engineering Geology and the Environment** (for instance, through the creation of FedIGS). While this cooperation should certainly be maintained, in particular at national level (many geotechnical Societies show excellent examples), ISSMGE must also increase its readability in the outside world.

The goal is to have the activities of ISSMGE better known, and also to learn from the **outside world**. The outside world comprises, in particular in the construction sector, many international organisations, institutions, federations, etc. of interest to ISSMGE.

For Science, ISSMGE must approach **UNESCO** (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the main intergovernmental institution, in order to define goals and means of collaboration. UNESCO has a wide experience of collaboration with learned societies. While UNESCO's headquarters are located in Paris, it also has 65 field offices around the world.

There are also many **professional institutions and federations** of engineers, architects, companies, contractors, and so on. We should learn to work with those that are of interest to us, in particular because of their economic importance. We must make them understand the specific role of geotechnical engineering in construction projects. We have a lot to offer, and we have solutions to many concerns of modern societies. I am thinking of the very sensitive area of **natural hazards** (how to predict? how to protect people?), and also of **anthropogenic degradations** (how to rehabilitate environments?) and sustainable development. **Cultural heritage** also needs special attention today; geotechnical engineers should make their expertise in strengthening and consolidating foundations of **old monuments** more widely known.

Roger Frank E-mail: frank@cermes.enpc.fr

INTRODUCTION OF IMPORTANT CANDIDATES (Prof. Zhussupbekov)

Vision for ISSMGE

Campaign Statement as a Candidate for President of ISSMGE- Professor Askar Zhussupbekov

Esteemed Colleagues and Dear Friends,

The reason why you should vote me (Professor Askar Zhussupbekov from Eurasian National University, Astana, Kazakhstan) for President of ISSMGE is rather simple: I have been involved in ISSMGE activities for a very long time at different levels and now, want to fill the gap between advanced and developing regions in geotechnical engineering.

I was born in Kazakhstan, one of developing countries in Central Asia, established the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Society in 1996 and worked as the President of Kazakhstan Society since then. At present, I am serving as Appointed Board member (2009-2010) as well as the Vice President of ISSMGE (2010-2013) for Asian region.

I have extensively travelled all over the world for ISSMGE activities and came to understand our society and its need.

After establishing the Kazakhstan Geotechnical Engineering Society (KGS), I organized the First Conference of Kazakhstan Geotechnical Engineering in 1997 at Akmola, Kazakhstan with international participants. Since then I have been working as the President of KGS, which is not only young and growing organization but also pursuing the state of the knowledge and art through ISSMGE.

I helped in founding national geotechnical societies in Central Asia in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan and organized the 1st Central Asian Geotechnical Symposium (CAGS) in Astana (Kazakhstan, 2000), the Second CAGS in Samarkand (Uzbekistan, 2003), the Third CAGS in Dushanbe (Tajikistan, 2005), and the Fourth CAGS in Samarkand (Uzbekistan, 2012).

I also helped organizing several international geotechnical conferences on several topics including GeoHazards in Astana (Kazakhstan, 2001), Tokyo (Japan, 2003), Atyrau (Kazakhstan, 2003), Saint-Petersburg (Russia, 2003), Astana (Kazakhstan, 2005), Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk (Russia, 2007), Harbin (China, 2009), Khabarovsk (Russia, 2011), New York (USA, 2012), and Incheon (Korea, 2013).

I have participated in more than 100 International Geotechnical Engineering Conferences all over the world organized by ISSMGE. I have also served as an Expert of United Nations on Global Energy and Environment Strategy, New York, USA (2012-2013). I am a Core member of TC-305, member of TC-216 and ATC-3 of ISSMGE, Chair of ATC-12 "Collapsible Soils", chaired and co-chaired many conferences as part of activities of the society.

I feel strong gaps in geotechnical knowledge and practice between advanced and developing countries. Recent damages by geohazards in developing countries show needs of fundamental knowledge of geotechnical engineering to guard by themselves. We need technical transfer from the developed to the developing countries in the field of geotechnical engineering.

With an unflappable zeal and unswerving enthusiasm to serve the society in a bigger capacity, I have decided to contest for the post of the President of ISSMGE for the term of 2013-17.

ISSMGE which was initiated in 1936 at Harvard with 206 delegates from 20 countries and has now expanded to have more than 18,000 individual members from 80 member societies. It has become so large, necessitating modern means of effective communication with members and member societies. In December 2012, ISSMGE has created new website and now provides basic IT tool for member societies and individual members. I would like to utilize these tools along with other social media tools like LinkedIn, Facebook to strengthen communication in both ways with not only our members but also with societies and other international organizations that ISSMGE could cooperate with.

In recent trends of increasing natural disasters including earthquake, induced effects of earthquakes like liquefaction, local site effects and landslides (caused by heavy rain as well seismically induced), ISSMGE has potential power to contribute towards mitigation of geohazards.

If I am elected as the next President of ISSMGE, I would like to promote the following activities:

1. To use ICT (Information and Communication Technology) applications in improving services to members of ISSMGE and member societies especially for technical transfer to developing countries.
2. To provide Video Series, Webinars (web seminars), and Lecture Tour of State-of-the-Art series on geohazards and other topics.
3. To establish an International Emergency Task Force Teams to study natural geohazards including earthquakes, tsunami and landslides, and to make recommendations for mitigating these hazards.
4. To encourage the establishment of national member societies in developing countries (particularly in Africa and Asia) and to help them in maintaining their activities through webinars and other social media applications.



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5. To review the budget (income and expenditure) of ISSMGE and improve the efficiency of the society and to generate additional funds for supporting young geotechnical engineers in attending conferences.
6. To create an Idea Space at ISSMGE website for youngsters to generate new ideas for entrepreneur in geoenvironment, and to organize and conduct training programs across the world on Entrepreneurship challenges in geoenvironment for the benefit of members.
7. To create an innovative virtual center as part of ISSMGE activities in generating awareness about innovation and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for the ISSMGE community.
8. To develop more interactions between practice and academic partners / sectors within the member societies and also to connect to international organizations including UNESCO, ISO and UN.

The above goals shall be achieved through various working Committees created by the present President Jean-Louis Briaud and board members, for the further social contribution of ISSMGE as a professional group.

In what follows, you can find some photos of my activities at ISSMGE since 2010 – 2013.



Kazakhstan - Korean Joint Geotechnical Seminar, Kazakhstan, 2010



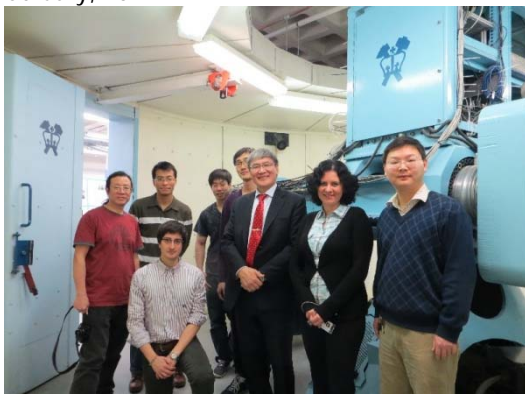
14th Asian Regional Geotechnical Conference, Astana, Hong Kong, China, May, 2011



Russian Geotechnical Conference with foreign Saint - Petersburg, Russia, February, 2012



7AYGEC, Tokushima, Japan, 14 September, 2012 participants,



Burmister Lecture, Columbia University, New York, USA, April, 2013



International Geotechnical Conference, "Pile, 2013", Bandung, Indonesia, June, 2013