

News

The First International Conference on Education and Training in Geo-Engineering Science: Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Engineering Geology, Rock Mechanics

The Romanian Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (RSSMGE) organised on 2-4 June 2008 in Constantza the *First International Conference on Education and Training in Geo-engineering Sciences: Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, Engineering Geology, Rock Mechanics*.

JTC3 "Education and Training in Geo-engineering Sciences" of FIGS, chaired by Prof. Luis Gonzalez de Vallejo and ETC16 "Education and Training in Geotechnical Engineering" of ISSMGE, chaired by Prof. Iacint Manoliu were involved in the preparation of the Conference.

A number of 120 participants from 6 continents and 23 countries took the opportunity to meet and discuss many challenges faced by the education and training in the field of *Geo-engineering*, defined as "*engineering with, on or in geological materials*" in a document prepared to set up a cooperation under the auspices of a Federation of International Geo-engineering Societies (FIGS) having ISSMGE, IAEG and ISRM as founding members.

The Conference has been honoured by the presence of Pedro Seco e Pinto - President of ISSMGE, Roger Frank - Vice-president for Europe of ISSMGE, Waldemar Hachich - Vice-president for South America of ISSMGE and of three former Presidents of IAEG: Dr. Niek Rengers, Prof. Ricardo Oliveira and Prof. Paul Marinos. Prof. Giovanni Barla, former Vice-president for Europe of ISRM, represented ISRM.

Distinguished personalities of the three Sister Societies have delivered fourteen lectures: John Burland, Ricardo Oliveira, John Atkinson, Mark Jaska, Giovanni Barla, Luis Van Rooy, Niek Rengers, Trevor Orr, Ian May, Luis Gonzales de Vallejo, Keith Turner, Frans Barends, Waldemar Hachich and Mike Devrient. During the six Discussion Sessions a number of 24 papers have been presented by the authors. The Conference Scientific programme included also a Workshop on *the Bologna process and geo-engineering education* under auspices of the project EUCEET (European Civil Engineering Education and Training).

CRC Press/Balkema publishes the Proceedings of the Conference in a volume of 525 pages. Editors are Prof. Iacint Manoliu and Prof. Nicoleta Radulescu.



Prof. Pedro Seco e Pinto addressing the participants of the Conference during the closing session



A group picture taken after the closing session, in front of the hotel Malibu, the venue of the Conference