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(2013) - Seventh International Conference on
Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering

29 Apr 2013 - 04 May 2013

SPL-1: Sarfaz Ali

Sarfaz Ali
South Africa

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Recommended Citation

Ali, Sarfaz, "SPL-1: Sarfaz Ali" (2013). *International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering*. 8.

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Sarfraz Ali
SPL-1

Sarfraz Ali
Researcher
School of Mining Engineering
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Johannesburg, South Africa

Ali, is a graduate of National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST), Pakistan (B.E. Civil, 1994, MSc Geotechnical Engineering, 2007). He remained on the faculty of School of Civil Engineering, NUST from 2007 to 2012. His research interests include; soil improvement, liquefaction remediation, slope stability, forensic distress evaluation of damaged structures, sediment transport assessment and control for dams. Currently, as PhD Scholar, at School of Mining Engineering, University of Witwatersrand, he is doing research in “Mining induced seismicity due to flooding in Witwatersrand Basin” using numerical modelling techniques.

He started his career in highway and building construction, served as Executive engineer of Karachi Dockyard and was later seconded to United Nations Mission in East Timor (2001-2002) as a highway engineer where was responsible for maintenance and rehabilitation of road infrastructure in Suai and Bobonaro Districts. Recently, he also served as a Geotechnical Advisor to National Highway Authority (NHA), Pakistan and SMEC (Snowy Mountain Engineering Corporation) for World Bank Projects of Landslide Management in Earthquake Damaged Areas of 2005 Kashmir Earthquake in Pakistan.

He has various publications published and presented in international forums and co-authored a book, “Advances in Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering – Soil Liquefaction and Seismic Safety of Dams and Monuments” www.intechopen.com.



J S Vinod
SPL-3

Dr. J S Vinod is currently a Senior Lecturer in the school of Civil, Mining and Environmental Engineering at University of Wollongong. Dr. Vinod received his Doctorate degree from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in the area of Geotechnical Engineering in 2006. He joined University of Wollongong as a postdoctoral research fellow in 2007. In 2008, he was appointed as a lecturer in Civil Engineering. He is one of the chief investigators for the Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage projects and University Research Council (URC) projects. Dr. Vinod has published over 50 research papers in various peer reviewed International Journal and conference proceedings. His research interests are in the area of numerical modelling of granular materials using DEM, Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering and Chemical Stabilisation of soft grounds.



Serge Varaksin
SPL-4

Serge Varaksin – M.Sc
Chairman T.C. Ground Improvement

Serge Varaksin was born in 1943 in Belgium.

After completing his civil engineering degree he was admitted on a workstudy program at Northwestern University Evanston - USA. He completed his masters degree under Professor Jorg Osterberg and published his research on relative density below groundwater table in the ASTM, STP 523, Book.

In 1972 he performed his military service at the Belgium Military school as teaching research assistant of Professor Van Wambeke where he was exposed to Menard Pressuremeter Technologies.

He joined the Menard company in 1973 after a short passage by Fondedile Belgium and since then, devoted his career in creating the present network of companies of Menard around the world, applying the ideas of Louis Menard and Jean-Marie Cognon, as Overseas Manager and later Deputy General Manager of this group. He has recently retired but continues to act as adviser of the president, expert on ground improvement projects and lecturer.

Author of over 50 international publications, he has specialized in ground improvement techniques of Dynamic Consolidation, Replacement, Vacuum Consolidation, CMC, Stone Columns and is developing an analysis of man-made fills not normally consolidated. He has given several keynote lectures on those subjects in international conferences and participated in several touring lectures as organised by the ISSMGE, and delivered key not lectures on most continents.

In 2006, he was given the task to chair of the T.C. 17 on ground improvement by Professor Seco Pinto, Chairman of the ISSMGE and to participate to the state of the art report for the XVII International Conference for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering of Alexandria in 2009.

In 2010, he was reconducted as Chairman of the T.C. Ground Improvement by professor Jean-Louis Briand, present President of the ISSMGE and organised in June 2012 with professor J. Maertens and N. Huybrechts an international symposium and short courses on ground improvement attended by over 300 persons from 36 countries.



Theodore von Rosenvinge
SPL-5

Theodore von Rosenvinge, P.E., D.GE

Ted is a founder and principal of **GeoDesign, Inc.**, a geotechnical, geo-structural and construction engineering firm with offices in Connecticut, Manhattan and Vermont. Born and raised in the Boston area, he earned his B.S degree in Civil Engineering at Northeastern University (1978) and his M.S. degree from MIT (1980). He is an ASCE Fellow, a past President of the both the Connecticut Section of ASCE and of ACEC Connecticut, and a member of The Moles. Ted is based in **GeoDesign's, Inc.**'s New York City office. He is active in the ACEC Metropolitan (NY) Region as a member of the Structural Codes Committee.

Ted has published on topics including deep foundations, ground densification by deep blasting and tort reform. He is the geotechnical engineer-in-charge for the design of the new Pearl Harbor Memorial Bridge (I-95 over New Haven Harbor, CT), a cable-stayed bridge founded on drilled shafts to depths of over 200 feet deep. Ted is a lifelong musician, published songwriter and offshore sailor and navigator. Ted resides in Weston, CT. He has three daughters and two grandsons.



Joel Burken
SPL-6

Dr. Burken's research and service efforts have focused upon low impact and natural treatment systems since 1991. In that time, terms of sustainable-remediation and green-remediation have evolved and now promote the same fundamental aspects surrounding water quality and water resource management.

Joel received his PhD from the University of Iowa, where he did some of the initial research on phytoremediation. He has been at Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly University of Missouri – Rolla) since 1997, now serving as Associate Chair and professor.

Dr. Burken has also held research position at EAWAG in Zurich Switzerland (research intern) and at the National Environment Research Institute (NERI) in Denmark (visiting researcher – OECD Fellow).

His research in phytoremediation of organic contaminants and pioneering work in PhytoForensics have lead to numerous publications and international recognition. This recognition includes twice winning the ASCE Rudolf Hering Medal and an NSF Career award. He has also initiated research into the financial benefits of carbon credit trading and the water footprint of biofuels that are being developed.

While at Missouri S&T he initiated the environmental engineering program as well as the green campus committee and the campus wide sustainability minor.

Joel was also active in the formation of the International Phytotechnologies Society, Dr. Burken served on the founding team and as the inaugural Vice President and served on the founding team and Editorial Board of the International Journal of Phytoremediation, currently an Associate Editor. Dr. Burken also serves as an Associate Editor for the Journal of Environmental Engineering. Dr. Burken was the conference chair and host for the 6th International Phytotechnologies Conference in St. Louis in 2009, hosting researchers and delegates from over 25 countries.

Dr Burken was elected to the Association of Environmental Engineering and Science Professors board of directors, and subsequently elected by the board as Vice President and served as President of the board in 2011-2012.

Real passions: Coaching and referring youth basketball leagues, trying to play basketball with college students, canoeing and swimming, and hitting golf balls into random ecosystems like the forest, tall grass and water bodies of all shapes.



Garry H. Gregory
SPL-7

Garry H. Gregory, Ph.D., P.E., D.GE

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Academic:

Adjunct Professor of Civil Engineering – Oklahoma State University

Dr. Gregory is a full member of the Graduate Faculty at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma. He is an Adjunct Professor in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering in the Geotechnical Engineering area. He typically teaches one or two graduate classes each semester, advises graduate students and is involved in research. He was previously (1999 – 2002) on the Adjunct Faculty at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) where he taught graduate courses in geotechnical engineering and participated in research activities in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Dr. Gregory is also frequently a guest lecturer on geotechnical engineering and professional practice topics at other universities.

Education and Professional Experience:

Dr. Gregory has BS, MS, and Ph.D. degrees in Civil (Geotechnical) Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in 12 states. He has more than 40 years of civil engineering and construction management experience and has been project engineer, project manager, or principal in charge on many major civil engineering projects. He formed Gregory Geotechnical in April 1998 and in the years since has provided geotechnical engineering services on complex and specialized geotechnical projects on a National basis. His past employment included positions as Principal with the firm of Freese and Nichols, Inc., and Vice President and Senior Geotechnical Consultant with Fugro-McClelland, Inc. Dr. Gregory holds the specialty certification credential “*Diplomate, Geotechnical Engineering*” (D.GE) from the Academy of Geo-Professionals and was inducted into the inaugural class of approximately 50 geotechnical engineers from across the Nation, based upon eminence in the profession. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Geo-Institute, a member of the United States Society on Dams (USSD), a member of the Deep Foundations Institute (DFI), and a member of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG). Dr. Gregory has been an active member of the Embankments, Dams, and Slopes committee of the Geo-Institute for more than 15 years and is currently Chair of the committee. Dr. Gregory was the first president of the Oklahoma Chapter of the Geo-Institute (2009-2010).

Dr. Gregory has written and/or presented more than 50 technical papers and has been published in proceedings of regional, national, and international conferences and technical journals. He has been involved in the design and/or analysis of more than 250 major earth slopes. Dr. Gregory is the author of the advanced slope stability analysis software programs *GSTABL7* and *GEOSTASE*[®] and numerous other geotechnical engineering computer programs. His research areas have involved computer analysis of soil slopes, shear strength of fully-softened clays, subsurface stabilization of problematic soils, fiber-reinforced soil, geosynthetics for reinforcement and subgrade stabilization, and finite element analysis of soil-structure interaction.



Ioannis Anastasopoulos
SPL-8

Ioannis Anastasopoulos has recently been elected Assistant Professor in the School of Civil Engineering at the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA). He has 12 years of academic and professional experience in the areas of geotechnical earthquake engineering and soil–structure interaction, and has been the driving force behind the development of a new Facility for Experimental Simulation of Soil–Structure Systems at NTUA (www.ssi.civil.ntua.gr). His publication record includes more than 50 papers in refereed journals, 100 more in books and conference proceedings, and 70 technical reports. His current research focuses on the development of novel seismic protection schemes, combining advanced numerical methods with physical modeling. He has been involved as a Consultant in a variety of engineering projects in Greece, the US, and the Middle East, and is serving as an Editorial Board Member of the ICE-Geotechnical Engineering journal. He has been a Keynote Speaker at the 2nd International Conference on Performance-Based Design in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, and an Invited Speaker of the EERI Friedman Family Visiting Professionals Program at Cornell University. Recently, he has been selected as the inaugural recipient of the Young Researcher Award of the ISSMGE, and as the winner of the 2012 Shamsheer Prakash Research Award.



T. N. GUPTA
SPL-9

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Areas of Specialization:

- R&D in Planning, Design and Construction of Buildings
- Investment Promotion and Technology Transfer
- Disaster Risk Management in Built Environment
- Post Disaster Damage and Needs Assessment

Employment Record:

- Scientist at Central Building Research Institute, Government of India (1962 – 1989)
- Executive Director, Building Material and Technology Promotion Council & Advisor Technology, Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Government of India (1990 – 2004)

Professional Affiliation :

- Indian Institute of Architects
- Institution of Engineers (India)
- Indian Society for Earthquake Technology
- Indian Society for Wind Engineering
- Indian Buildings Congress

Outstanding Publications :

- Building Materials in India - 50 Years – Commemorative Volume (1998)
- Vulnerability Atlas of India (1997) (earthquakes, cyclones & floods)
- Landslides Hazard Zonation Atlas of India (2003)
- Environment Friendly & Energy Efficient Building Materials Developed in India, P.R.China (2006)
- Materials for Human Habitat (2000) (Invited article for MRS, USA)
- Energy Efficiency in Buildings (1996) (Invited paper for UNIDO)

International Consultancy Assignments for:

- UNIDO (1991–2007), • UNCHS (1994–1997), • UN-IDNDR (1993–2001), • SAARC (1992–1996)

Awards :

- VISHWAKARMA AWARD (2011) for contribution in Science & Technology

T. N. GUPTA
SPL-9 – cont.

- (Construction Industry Development Council of India)
LIFE TIME CONTRIBUTION AWARD 2012
(Indian Buildings Congress)



Wang Lanmin
SPL-10

Wang Lanmin: Director & Professor, Lanzhou Institute of Seismology, China Earthquake Administration (CEA) and Director, Earthquake Administration of Gansu province, China. He got Ph.D. in Geotechnical Engineering from Institute of Engineering Mechanics, CEA., China in 2000. He focused on research in loess dynamics and loessial earthquake engineering. published the book, Loess Dynamics (in Chinese), and more than 100 papers in English and Chinese, gained The National Prize for Scientific and Technological Progress and 5 times of CEA Prize and Gansu Provincial Prize For Scientific and Technological Progress. He is committee members of both TC203 and ATC3, ISSSMGE, and Standing Council Members of China Seismological Society and China Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, and member of National Committee for Earthquake Safety Evaluation.