

Established in 1986

SLGS NEWSLETTER

SRI LANKAN GEOTECHNICAL SOCIETY

A Member Society of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE)

2022 December: No 24

Message from the Editor

Dear Readers,

The AGM of SLGS for the year of 2022 was held on the 29th of September 2022 after the completion of the SLGS Annual Conference, and a new Executive Committee was elected. All these activities were conducted in an online platform.

The Annual conference under the theme of "Pile Foundation Design, Construction and Testing" was held with the participation of world renowned and eminent geotechnical resource persons from Australia, Canada, USA, and Sri Lanka.

A Geotechnical forum held in the month of August via Zoom with the active participation of many members is featured in this issue of the Newsletter.

The Newsletter also features outstanding achievements by three Geotechnical Scholars — Prof. Jayantha Kodikara, Prof. Ranjith Pathegama, and Dr. Jayantha Ameratunga.

Contents

Message from the Editor	1
SLGS AGM & Executive Committee 2022 - 2023	1
SLGS Annual Conference 2022	2
Virtual Geo. Forum by Dr. (Yogi) Yogendrakumar	2
SLGS Project Day 2022	3
Achievements of SLGS Members	3
Call for full-papers for SLGS Journal	4

Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2022 of Sri Lankan Geotechnical Engineering Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society has been held on 29th of September 2022 via Zoom. The new Executive Committee Members for the year 2022-2023 has been elected during the meeting.

New Executive Committee elected for the year 2022–2023

Details of the committee appointed for the year 2022-2023 is presented below.



Eng. K. L. S. Sahabandu
(President)



Prof. H. S. Thilakasinghe
(Vice President)



Prof. S. A. S. Kulethilaka
(Past President)



Eng. K. S. Senanayake
(Past President)



Prof. U. P. Nawagamuwa
(Honorary Secretary)



Eng. (Mrs.) G. D. W. N. Galheana
(Assistant Secretary)



Eng. R. M. Rathnasiri
(Treasurer)



Eng. M. D. J. P. Wickramasekera
(Assistant Treasurer)



Dr. N. H. Priyankara
(Editor - Journal)



Dr. K. H. S. M. Sampath
(Editor - Newsletter)



Dr. W. A. Karunawardena
(Committee Member)



Dr. J. S. M. Fowze
(Committee Member)



Dr. L. I. N. De Silva
(Committee Member)



Dr. S. K. Navaratnarajah
(Committee Member)

The Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society (SLGS) has been conducting annual and international conferences, workshops, seminars, etc. successfully from its inception to cater to the demands of the industry and the Geotechnical Engineering fraternity to further their knowledge in Geotechnical Engineering.

In line with the above endeavor, SLGS organized its Annual Conference 2022, under the theme of

“Pile Foundation Design, Construction and Testing”

on the 29th of September 2022 *via* the Zoom platform. This is directly relevant to the practicing engineers in the field of geotechnical engineering.

World renowned and eminent geotechnical personalities from Australia, Canada, USA, and Sri Lanka enlightened the participants on the state-of-the-art techniques and recent advancements on design, construction and testing of piled foundation systems.

Resource Persons



Prof. Gray Mullins
Professor, College of Engineering,
University of South Florida, USA



Prof. Harry Poulos
Professor Emeritus
The University of Sydney, Australia.



Prof. Saman Thilakasiri
Senior Professor, Faculty of Engineering, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology (SLIIT), Sri Lanka



Dr. Upul Atukorala
Principal, Golder Associates Ltd.,
Canada.



Dr. M. Yogendrakumar
Principal Engineer,
Golder Associates Ltd., Canada



Dr. Asitha Senanayake
Senior Geotechnical Engineer,
Norwegian Geotechnical Institute (NGI), Texas,
USA.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2022
29th September, 2022
8.30 am to 5.15 pm
Online via zoom

Under the main theme
**PILE FOUNDATION DESIGN,
CONSTRUCTION AND TESTING**

zoom

SLGS Virtual Geotechnical Forum - 2022

SLGS Virtual Geotechnical Forum by Dr. (Yogi) Yogendrakumar — August

CASE STUDY ON HAGGITH CREEK SLOPE STABILIZATION AND BRIDGE RENEWAL, PRINCE GEORGE, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA



Dr. M. (Yogi) Yogendrakumar, Ph.D.,
P.Eng.
Principal Engineer, Golder Associates Ltd., British Columbia, Canada

Geotechnical Forum for the month of **August 2022** was conducted by Dr. (Yogi) Yogendrakumar.

Dr. (Yogi) Yogendrakumar is a Principal and Senior Geotechnical Engineer at the Vancouver Office of Golder Associates. He has over 35 years of industry experience in a variety of geotechnical and multi-disciplinary projects throughout Canada and internationally. Yogi has been involved in, and responsible for, investigations, design recommendations, and construction advice for a large number of bridges, port and marine projects including LNG and other export facilities in Canada, Alaska, Caribbean and worldwide. He has particular expertise in the design and construction of larger diameter piles, and he is familiar with the latest dynamic testing equipment and has carried out dynamic load testing of piles using Pile Driving Analyzer (PDA) units for projects in Canada and North America.

The forum covered all aspects of the Haggith Creek bridge failure including probable causes, design of the permanent slope stabilization measures and rationale, bridge renewal and results of the monitoring prior to and during the renewal phase. Further, it included the lessons learned, particularly with respect to the choice of the investigation method and the importance of a good understanding of the regional and site geology in investigation planning and interpretation of the subsurface conditions.

Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society (SLGS) conducts the **Geotechnical Engineering Project Day** with the objective of promoting research and improving the presentation skills of Civil Engineering students in Sri Lankan Universities.



This is an annual event where final year undergraduates who have done projects in Geotechnical Engineering are invited to compete for an award. They are required to write a 4-6-page research paper and make a 5-minute presentation.

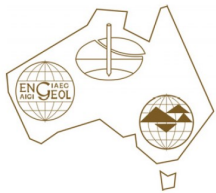
The best projects for the year will be selected by a committee of eminent professionals appointed by the SLGS, based on the written paper and the presentation.

The first, second and third place projects will receive certificates and cash awards and all the other participants will receive a participation certificate.

The Project Day 2022 is tentatively planned for the **12th January 2023 at IESL**. The written paper should be submitted to slgstreasurer@gmail.com on or before the 18th December 2022.

Achievements of SLGS Members

E.H. Davis Memorial Lecture - 2021 Winner — Professor Jayantha Kodikara



AUSTRALIAN GEOMECHANICS SOCIETY

It is with great pleasure we announce that Professor Jayantha Kodikara was selected as the winner of the **"Australian Geomechanics Society's (AGS) E.H. Davis Memorial Lecture award"** for 2021. This prestigious accolade is conferred by the National Committee of the AGS in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the geomechanics profession in Australia over an extended period.



Professor Jayantha Kodikara received his BSc (Eng) degree (1st Class Honours and University Prize) from the University of Peradeniya, Sri Lanka in 1983 and PhD degree in Geotechnical Engineering from Monash University in 1989. His PhD was on the side resistance development of piles socketed into Melbourne mudstone.

He worked on finite element analysis of soil-structure interaction problems, as a Post-doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Newcastle from 1989 to 1991. Then he worked as a Senior Geotechnical Engineer with Golder Associates Pty. Ltd., Melbourne, Australia from 1991 to 1994.

Currently, he is a Professor at Monash University, a Fellow of Institution of Engineers Australia and a Chartered Professional Engineer in Australia. He is an Associate Editor in Canadian Geotechnical Journal and the ICE Journal of Environmental Geotechnics. He is also the technical leader of global project on Advanced Condition Assessment and Pipe Failure Prediction Project.

With this 2021 award, Professor Kodikara becomes the 19th E.H. Davis Memorial Lecturer. As such, he is invited to develop a keynote paper for publication in Australian Geomechanics and to present the 2021 E.H. Davis Lecture in late 2022 or early in 2023.

Prof Ranjith Pathegama is honored as a Foreign Fellow of INAE

It is with great pleasure we announce that Prof. Ranjith Pathegama has been honored as a

“Foreign Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE)”

Professor Ranjith Pathegama received his BSc (Eng.) degree (1st Class Honours) from the University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka in 1995 and PhD degree in Rock–Water Interactions - Geomechanics from University of Wollongong, Australia in 2000.



HONoured IN 2022



Source: <https://www.3gdeep.com/>

Prof. Ranjith, joined the Monash University in 2003. Before joining Monash, he worked as an Assistant Professor in Geotechnical and Rock Engineering at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

He has been awarded the ARC Future Fellowship (2009) for his research work to combat climate change.

He was also elected in 2019 as a Fellow of Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering. His main research interests are in: sustainability, industry innovation, energy, and climate change, addressing UN Sustainability Goals 7, 9, and 13. He was honored as the Global Research Leader in Mining and Mineral Resources by “The Australian”, in consecutive two years 2020 and 2021.

He is also honored as Field Leader in the field of Environmental and Geological Engineering by The Australian in 2021.

Dr. Jay Ameratunga won the honor to deliver the “Peter Hollingsworth Lecture” for 2023

We are delighted to announce that Dr. Jay Ameratunga has won the inaugural **“Peter Hollingsworth medal ”** for the year 2023.

Peter Hollingsworth award (named after the renowned Queensland Engineer) and lectures series will be delivered every two years. The recipient of the medal should have held a senior role in a geotechnical team or business in Queensland, Australia, have spent most part of the career in industry and have been involved with the Australian Geomechanics Society (AGS).

The recipient of the award was selected by a subcommittee which consists of Chris Bridges as the chair, and Vladimir Lopez and Beng Cheah as committee members. The winner of Peter Hollingsworth medal should deliver the honored lecturer within 12 months of the award .

Dr. Jay Ameratunga obtained his BSc degree from the University of Ceylon, Sri Lanka, MEng from AIT, Bangkok and PhD from Monash University in Australia. He has over 40 years’ experience in Geotechnical Engineering and is currently a Technical Director at WSP in Australia. His expertise is in the areas of soft clay Engineering, ground improvement, and numerical analysis. He works predominantly on infrastructure development projects and has worked on projects in; Australia, Indonesia, New Zealand, Malaysia Singapore, PNG and Sri Lanka.

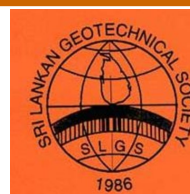
Jayantha is a key member of the Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society from its inception and has contributed immensely in numerous ways over the last 36 years.



Call for full-papers for SLGS Journal

SLGS wishes to call for full papers for its Annual Journal. Number of pages per paper is limited to 12. All the papers will be subjected to double blind review by two referees. Selected papers will be published in the SLGS Journal and will be made available online through the SLGS website. Please send your papers to the following email address.

Editor Journal: nadeejpriyankara@yahoo.com



Geotechnical Journal