



Association régie par la loi
du 1.07.1901

Comité Français de Mécanique des Sols et de Géotechnique

To the Presidents/Secretaries
of the Member Societies
of ISSMGE

To the Secretary General of ISSMGE

Paris, 30th January 2013

Subject: Nomination of Professor Roger Frank for President of ISSMGE 2013-2017

Dear Colleagues,

The French Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (CFMS) proposes Professor Roger Frank as a candidate for President of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE) for the period 2013-2017.

Professor Roger Frank is a geotechnical engineer who is well known throughout the ISSMGE community for having participated in many international activities for more than 35 years.

The French Society strongly believes that Professor Roger Frank's candidacy is extremely valid for several reasons:

- he is an internationally recognised expert in foundation engineering and soil-structure interaction. In this field of competence, he is active at all levels: in experimental and theoretical research, in design for difficult projects, in standardisation and codification work, and in teaching at post-graduate and doctoral levels;
- he is a Professor of Geotechnical Engineering at ENPC, the French National School of Bridges and Highways ('Ponts et Chaussées'), a position in which Roger Frank's excellent pedagogical skills are fully appreciated by all engineering students. He maintains a caring attitude towards the concerns of young engineers who very often seek his advice;
- he has occupied various positions proving his ability for organisation and showing his talent in leading groups of scientists and engineers at national, european and international levels: he was Director of the research laboratory (CERMES), from 1992 to 2002, Chairman of Eurocode 7, during the crucial years from 1998 to 2004, and Vice-President of ISSMGE for Europe for the period 2005-2009;
- Roger Frank's dedication to the ISSMGE community is unquestioned. He has participated in and contributed to most major events and has been on the Board of ISSMGE for more than 7 years. Indeed, after being VP for Europe, he was chosen to be an Appointed Member for the present period (2009-2013) by the current President, Jean-Louis Briaud, because of his excellent knowledge of the world geotechnical community and of its organisation;
- in the preparation of the 18th ICSMGE, [organised by CFMS in Paris, from 2nd to 6th September 2013], Roger Frank has shown his efficiency, in his role of ISSMGE Board liaison, thanks to his deep and extensive knowledge of the geotechnical scene at the international level.

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In all the high level positions he occupied, Roger Frank proved his qualities as a true international expert, as well as an outstanding pragmatic negotiator. He always knew how to lead participants to the right consensus, because he has an open mind and a cheerful and pleasant personality. His multinational and polyglot education gave him extensive experience of different cultures and allows him to be perfectly at ease with all the Member Societies.

We are also convinced that Roger Frank's programme for the evolution of ISSMGE for the next 4 years is well adapted to the needs of our globalised modern society. His great energy will allow him to be a conscientious, efficient and fair President. As a 'true' citizen of the world, he will certainly act to promote geotechnical engineering on the international scene, in a spirit of collaboration with the other engineering organizations and professions.

It is thus with confidence that the French Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering proposes Professor Roger Frank as candidate for President of ISSMGE.

Please feel free to contact us for any additional information you may wish to have, in order to be convinced of the validity of this candidacy for ISSMGE.

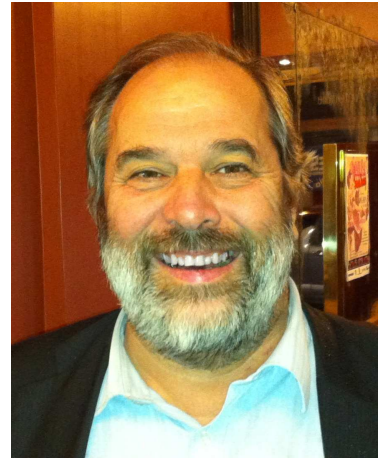
Yours sincerely,

Philippe Mestat
President of CFMS

Encl.: Short biography and programme of Roger Frank for ISSMGE (2013-2017) – 3 pages
Roger Frank's curriculum vitae - 3 pages

Paris, 25th January 2013

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



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

R Frank's short biography (see attached CV for more details)

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.

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
Paris, 25th January 2013

R FRANK - CURRICULUM VITAE – 3 pages

Full name: **Roger Alain FRANK**

Professor of Geotechnical Engineering and **Research Director** at Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées (French National School of Bridges and Highways, ENPC)

Born: 5 November 1949 at Roslyn, New-York, U.S.A.

Citizenships: French and U.S.

Married, 2 children

Professional address: Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées
Laboratoire Navier-geotechnical team (CERMES)
6 et 8 avenue Blaise Pascal
Cité Descartes, Champs-sur-Marne
F-77455 Marne-la-Vallée cedex 2
France

Telephone: + 33 (0) 1 64 15 35 43

Fax: + 33 (0) 1 64 15 35 62

E-mail: frank@cermes.enpc.fr

Home address: 164, rue de Lourmel, 75015 Paris, France

Mobile telephone: + 33 (0)6 81 47 25 42

Distinctions:

- National Order of Merit, France (2000)
- Doctor Honoris Causa of the Technical University of Constructions, Bucharest (2005)
- *14th Prague Geotechnical Lecturer* (2006)
- *14th Széchy Memorial Lecturer*, Budapest (2008)
- *8th Nonveiller Lecturer*, Zagreb (2008)
- Recipient of *George Stephenson Medal*, ICE, London (2008)
(paper co-authored with P Pouget, *Géotechnique*, October 2008)
- *11th Šuklje Lecturer*, Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia (2010)
- *9th Jennings Memorial Lecturer*, South Africa (2011)
- Recipient of *Széchy Károly Medal*, Hungarian Chamber of Engineers (2011)
- Recipient of *De Beer Prize*, Groupement Belge de Mécanique des Sols (period 2009-2013)

Education:

1972 Engineering Diploma from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (ENPC), Paris
1974 Doctorate in Engineering, Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris
1984 Doctor of Science, Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris

Languages: French, English, modern Greek, some Russian

Positions held:

1975-1992 Laboratoire central des ponts et chaussées (LCPC), Paris
(Central Laboratory of the French Bridges and Highways Administration):
1975-1982 Research engineer in the Foundations Section
1983-1990 Head of the Foundations Section
1990-1992 Head of the Soil Mechanics and Foundations Division

since 1992 Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées (ENPC), Paris
1992-2002 Director of CERMES
(Soil Mechanics Teaching and Research Centre, ENPC-LCPC)

Teaching:

- 1974-1975 Lecturer in Soil Mechanics at ENTPE
1975-1978 Lecturer in Soil Mechanics at ENTPE
1978-1991 Assistant Professor of Soil Mechanics at ENTPE
1991-1997 Associate Professor of Soil Mechanics at ENPC
1999-2002 Chairman of doctoral commission of ENPC on "Mechanics, Sciences of materials and Construction" and Responsible of doctoral education on "Mechanics, Materials and Geotechnical Engineering"
Since 1997 Professor at Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées (ENPC)
Since 2007 Director of the Advance Studies program « European Civil Engineering »

Fields of activity and expertise:

- Experimental and theoretical research on foundations and *in situ* testing of soils;
- Consulting on special projects for bridge foundations;
- Numerous international scientific cooperations in the field of geotechnical engineering;
- Coordinator and lecturer in professional development programmes.

International positions:

- 1998-2004: Chairman of Eurocode 7 Committee (Geotechnical design), (CEN/TC 250/ SC 7);
- 2005-2009: Vice-President for Europe of ISSMGE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering).
- 2009-2010: President of the European Civil Engineering Education and Training (EUCEET) Association
- 2009-now: **Appointed Member on the Board of ISSMGE**

Publications and invited lectures:

220 papers in journals and in conference proceedings.

More than 200 invited lectures in France, Albania, Belgium, Byelorussia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, FYR of Macedonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Hong Kong, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, UK, USA and Vietnam.

Affiliations:

French Society for Soil Mechanics Foundations Engineering (CFMS):

- Member of the Executive Board, from 1992 to 2000, from 2002 to 2010 and since 2012
- Member of the Technical Committee, from 1992 to 2001

International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE):

- Member, European Regional Technical Committee on "Numerical methods in geotechnical engineering" (ERTC 7), from 1986 to 1994
- Member, Technical Committee on "Frost" (TC 8), from 1990 to 2002
- Member, European Regional Technical Committee on "Evaluation for the Application of Eurocode 7 (Geotechnical Design)" (ERTC 10), since 1994
- Member, Technical Committee on "Limit State Design in Geotechnical Engineering" (TC 23), from 1994 to 2005
- Member, Technical Committee on "Soil improvement" (TC 17), from 1998 to 2005
- Member, Technical Committee on "Safety and serviceability" (TC 205), since 2010
- Member, Technical Committee on "Geo-engineering Education" (TC 306), since 2010

Transportation Research Board (TRB, USA):

- Member, Committee on "Foundations of Bridges and Other Structures" (A2K03), from 1992 to 2000

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA):

- External Member of the University Council, since 2013

Standardisation Committees:

France:

Currently:

- Member of the Committee on the Design of Geotechnical Structures (CNJOG), French Standardisation Organisation (AFNOR), since 1998
- Member of mirror group for the Structural Eurocodes (CF/TC 250-P06E), since 1999

Europe:

Currently:

- **Member of the French delegation to the Committee on Eurocodes (CEN/TC 250), from 2004; head of the French delegation, since 2005**
- Member of "Horizontal group on bridges" of Committee on Eurocodes (CEN/TC 250/HGB), since 2009.
- Member of "Oversight and management group" of Committee on Eurocode 7 since 2010

Advisory board of scientific journals:

- Member of the Advisory Board of the *International Journal for Numerical and Analytical Methods in Geomechanics* (John Wiley & Sons) from 1984 to 2000.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the *Bulletin of the Public Works Research Centre*, Athens, from 1987 to 2000
- Member of the Advisory Panel of *Geotechnical Engineering* (Institution of Civil Engineers, London), from 1993 to 2002
- Member of the Scientific Committee of *Revue française de génie civil*, Paris, from 1996 to 2004
- Member, Editorial Board, *Engenharia Civil / Civil Engineering*, Universidade do Minho, Portugal, since 2003
- Member, Editorial Board, *Scientific Bulletin, Series: Mathematical Modelling in Civil Engineering*, Technical University of Civil Engineering Bucharest, since 2005
- Member, Editorial Board, *Soils & Rocks, International Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering*, ABMS-Brazilian Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, since 2007
- Member, Editorial Board, *Annals of Solid and Structural Mechanics*, Springer, since 2009