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Preface

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Preface

The University of Missouri-Rolla (now Missouri University of Science and Technology) had hosted very successful First, Second, Third, and Fourth International Conferences on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering in 1984, 1988, 1993 and 1998 respectively in St. Louis, Missouri, and the Fifth in New York City, New York in 2004. The Sixth Conference in the series was planned in 2005 and a Call for Papers was issued in January 2007.

In response to our Call for Papers, authors from 54 countries responded, including Albania, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States of America, Uzbekistan and Venezuela, thus making this Conference a truly international one. The large number of abstracts received was reviewed by a panel of international experts. Full manuscripts were also peer reviewed.

The Conference activities, State-of-the-Art and Practice Papers and other Invited Papers were included on CD-ROM 1 that contained 329 papers and was released in June 2008. The final CD-ROM contains all the material of CD-ROM I and all General Reports and updates. The printed Abstract Volume is also produced as part of the final proceedings of the conference. We have planned a Special Symposium to Honor Professor James K. Mitchell and have six distinguished speakers to honor him.

The Organizing Committee was always ready to assist me in matters of organization. In the initial stages of planning, guidance was obtained from W.D. Liam Finn, as usual. The Missouri University of Science and Technology staff has been very cooperative throughout, especially personnel of the Distance & Continuing Education Office. In addition, our secretaries, particularly Wanda Furniss in the beginning and Lindsay Bagnall later, worked hard to keep pace with the paperwork associated with such a venture. Professor William Schonberg, our department chairman, has fully supported this event.

We moved this conference from New York to Washington, D.C. primarily on the initiative of our friends in the area. They not only contributed to the Conference but provided all other logistical support. Khaled Alamdeen and Victor Omelchenko deserve our special thanks. Sissy Nikolaou also provided all the information technical and/or otherwise to develop this conference successfully and deserves special thanks.

The timely production of the final CD-ROM and the Abstract Volume has been made possible through the efforts of Sue Turner, Director of Distance & Continuing Education for Missouri University of Science and Technology. The Conference has been partially funded by the Army Research Office, as well as the Missouri University of Science and Technology Center for Infrastructure Engineering Studies, and has been co-sponsored by nineteen national and international organizations.

We hope the participants will enjoy both the conference and the sights in the Washington, D.C. area. It is our great pleasure to welcome you all to this conference.



**Shamsher Prakash, Editor
and Conference Chairman
(Professor Emeritus)**