

**FIFTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RECENT ADVANCES IN  
GEOTECHNICAL EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND SOIL DYNAMICS AND  
SYMPOSIUM IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR I. M. IDRIS**  
*SAN DIEGO, CA – MAY 24-29, 2010*  
<http://5geoeqconf2010.mst.edu>

**CONFERENCE REPORT**  
**By Shamsher Prakash**  
**July 1, 2010**

The above conference took place from May 26-29, 2010, in San Diego, California in USA. As shown in its title, this conference is the fifth occasion in its history that has been organized since 1981 by Prof. Shamsher Prakash of Missouri University of Science and Technology. One of the aims of this occasion in this year was to honor Prof. I.M. Idriss who made long and tremendous contributions to the development and practice of geotechnical earthquake engineering. Hundreds of engineers, particularly young geotechnical engineers, availed themselves of the opportunity to present their work and interact with the international audience. The Keynote Lecture was delivered by Professor Liam Finn. Other state of the art and practice lectures were delivered by George Gazetas, Pedro S. Seco e Pinto, Ricardo Dobry, Susumu Iai, Ahmed Elgamal, Takaji Kokusho, Michael Pender, J. David Rogers, Atilla Ansal, Bruce Kutter and J.P. Singh.

A highlight of this conference was the presentation of three GEER (Geo-engineering Extreme Events Reconnaissance) sessions – the first on Haiti and Chile Earthquakes in 2010, the second on Recent GEER Post-Event Reconnaissance and Emerging Reconnaissance Techniques and Practices, and the third discussing recent earthquakes in China, Japan, Pakistan, Italy, Honduras and the 2009 tsunami in American Samoa.

A pre-conference short course on “Soil Dynamics in Engineering Practice” was attended by 80 engineers from 16 countries. Also during the conference, the Shamsher Prakash Awards of 2008-2009 for young professionals were presented to Tara Hutchinson from USA and Jean-Francois Semblat from France for their research achievements, while Allen William Cadden from USA and Zygmunt Lubkowski from UK were honored for their excellent practices.

A post-conference tour to the University of California San Diego Englekirk Center was enjoyed by 90 of the conference participants. The tour was a collaboration between the University of California San Diego, University of California Santa Barbara, University of Texas, and University of California Los Angeles. Participants observed demonstrations of some of the most impressive and significant large-scale earthquake engineering research equipment in the U.S.

Conference proceedings are available for purchase by visiting the website <http://5geoeqconf2010.mst.edu>.

The photographs below present the conference chairman, Prof. Prakash, together with his assistants Tammy Mace and Lindsay Bagnall, and a view of the conference participants.



Tammy Mace, Lindsay Bagnall and Shamsher Prakash at the registration desk



The Soil Dynamics Short Course attracted 80 interested participants – a full house