

PREFACE

The First International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was organised by the Turkish National Committee of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and Near East University on 29-31 May, 2003.

The Second International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was organised by the Turkish National Committee of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and Near East University under the auspices of the International Society of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering on 28-30 May, 2009.

The Third International Conference on New Developments in Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering was organised by the Turkish National Committee of Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and Near East University with the aim of bringing together scientists, engineers, practitioners and researchers to exchange knowledge and discuss the new developments in the field of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering.

The Conference is hosted by Near East University on 28 – 30 June, 2012. The Conference comprises eight keynote lectures and 104 paper presentations at 26 sessions. Around 130 papers were submitted to the conference. All papers submitted to the Conference were thoroughly reviewed and evaluated by referees selected from the Conference Organising Committee and International Advisory Board. The Conference Proceedings include seven keynote lectures and 104 papers reviewed and accepted for scientific/technical merit. These papers are in four main themes; **Foundations and Slope Stability, Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering, Soil Characterisation and New Methods in Geotechnical Engineering.**

Our thanks go to the Organising Committee, International Advisory Board, Technical Committee members and Session Chairs.

We would like to thank our keynote speakers; Professors Jean-Louis Briaud, Pedro Sêco e Pinto, Ivan Vaníček, Yeon-Soo Jang, Braja M. Das, Ergün Toğrol, Askar Zh. Zhussupbekov, and Feyza Çinicioğlu, all the authors and co-authors of the papers included in this Proceeding.

We are very grateful to the Founding President of Near East University, Dr. Suat İ. Günsel, the President Prof. Dr. Ümit Hassan, Vice Presidents Prof. Dr. Şenol Bektaş and Prof. Dr. Fahreddin M. Sadıkoğlu for their support and assistance.

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