Final Call for Abstracts, Exhibitors, and Sponsors for

The First ISRM Commission Conference on Estimation of Rock Mass Strength and Deformability – an ISRM Specialized Conference

Lima, Peru, December 6, 2024

Conference Venue – Hotel Melia, Lima, Peru

The conference venue surroundings

The Sri Lankan Rock Mechanics and Engineering Society (SLRMES) along with the Peruvian Society of Geoengineering (SPEG) invite you to participate in the First ISRM Commission Conference on Estimation of Rock Mass Strength and Deformability to be held in Lima, Peru on December 6, 2024.

The presence of complicated fracture networks, the inherent statistical nature of their geometrical parameters, and the variabilities and uncertainties involved in the estimation of their geometrical and geo-mechanical properties, in-situ stress, etc. make accurate estimation of rock mass strength and deformability a difficult, and challenging task. On the contrary, understanding the mechanical behaviour of rock masses is crucial in designing safe, economical, and robust engineering structures in or on rock masses.

The strength and deformability of rock masses demonstrate a very significant scale effect and anisotropic behaviour at the three-dimensional (3-D) level mostly due to pre-existing discontinuities. It has been a great challenge for the rock mechanics and rock engineering profession to predict rock mass strength and deformability in 3-D which incorporates the effect of important fracture geometry, relevant intact rock and fracture mechanical properties, and intermediate principal stress and to capture the scale effects and anisotropic properties of jointed rock masses. Various procedures that belong to the following three groups have been suggested in the literature to estimate rock mass strength and deformability: (a) Based on empirical methods that use one or several rock mass classification systems; (b) Based on numerical modelling, and (c) Based on back-calculation methods using field monitored data of rock engineering structures. The main goals of this conference are to provide an in-depth review of the said available methods, and then to provide guidelines for rock mechanics teaching, to suggest future research to improve the available techniques in predicting rock mass strength and deformability properties, and to recommend the best techniques to apply in rock engineering practice to improve the prediction of rock mass mechanical behaviour in field problems associated with mining, civil geotechnical, geological, and petroleum engineering.

The information on the conference is given on the website: https://www.slrmes.org. The conference will cover advances in all the aforementioned areas of rock mechanics and rock engineering encompassing the fields of mining, civil, geological and petroleum engineering, and geophysics focusing on the theme “Estimation of Rock

Mass Strength and Deformability including the Associated Components". Each session is expected to start with a Session Lead Lecture given by an expert on the session topic and end the session with a critical discussion.

The extended abstract submission deadline is October 15th, 2024, and you are invited to share studies on any rock mechanics/engineering topic related to the aforementioned theme. The abstracts are restricted to a maximum of **2 pages** adhering to the given **template.** The abstract submission procedures are available on the website**:** https://www.slrmes.org.

Potential **exhibitors** and **sponsors** are encouraged to drop an **e-mail** to the Conference Chair, Prof. Kulatilake at kulatila@arizona.edu, or use the conference website to communicate the expression of interest. The trade Exhibition and Technical Sessions will provide unmatched exposure and networking opportunities for the participants from universities, industry, and government sectors.

If you intend to submit an abstract and present your work at the conference or to attend as a participant, you are requested to **create an account via** https://www.slrmes.org/register.php.

The extended deadline to register for the conference is October 31, 2024, and the registration fees are as follows:
Non-ISRM delegate: US$ 250
ISRM delegate: US$ 200
Student delegate: US$ 100

Sightseeing and exploring Peru
Peru is full of tourist attractions and anyone interested in sightseeing is recommended to directly contact the following individuals from
https://kinsatravelcollection.com/en/
Whatsapp (a): Teresa +51-965 263 538
Whatsapp (b): Marita +51-932 586 634
teresanunez@kinsatravelcollection.com

The conference venue is close to a beach with magnificent views. Many hotels and economical accommodations are available within a 1 km radius of the conference venue in the range of US$ 40-US$ 125 per night. Please visit https://www.slrmes.org to obtain Information on the conference venue,

accommodation, visa, and travel to Peru. If you require an invitation letter to attend the conference, please send an e-mail to Prof. Kulatilake at kulatila@arizona.edu.

We look forward to seeing you in breathtaking Peru in December 2024.

Prof. Pinnaduwa H.S.W. Kulatilake (kulatila@arizona.edu)
Conference Chair
Chair, ISRM Commission on Estimation of Rock Mass Strength and Deformability
President, Sri Lankan Rock Mechanics and Engineering Society (SLRMES)

Sociedad Peruana de Geoingeniería-SPEG
Grupo Nacional de la ISRM
International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering