

Young Members Column

Chen Wang

Assistant Professor, Tongji University

I am an assistant professor at Tongji University and I spent two years studying in Case Western Reserve University as a visiting student and got Ph.D. degree in Tongji University in 2019. I also serve as an active reviewer for several journals including Geotechnical Testing Journal and Marine Georesources & Geotechnology. I was first enrolled as a student member when the First International Conference on Press-in Engineering was held in Kochi and registered as an IPA individual member since I become a young faculty at Tongji University. I am honored that I won ICPE Best Presentation Award. The conference (ICPE 2018) is impressive and well-organized, and it is a good chance for me to communicate with researchers in different areas.



Dr. Wang was presenting in ICPE 2018

My research focuses on bridge scour, which has been identified as one of the leading causes of bridge failures. Scour hole has a great influence on the behavior of foundations, e.g. the resistance to lateral loads. Efforts in this area can be mainly divided into two categories, i.e., driven by science or engineering. The former aims to find the mechanism of scour process from an academic perspective, while the latter is important to provide guidance for practice. Although a plenty of academic achievements are accomplished every year, the relationship between bridge scour and these factors are still hard to be unveiled comprehensively due to the complexity involved. Recently, advanced construction and design techniques has provided by the rapid progress of bridge engineering and offshore engineering allows engineers to design and construct emerging structures under complex environmental conditions. It is a great challenge but also an opportunity. As a traditional discipline, civil engineering almost witnessed every step forward in our society. Nowadays, new techniques and strategies develop fast, and it is already a trend to carry out interdisciplinary research. We need to pay more attention to cooperation and communications between disciplines. It would be better if our association can provide more opportunities for young people to learn from the senior people, cooperate with peers and establish their careers.

Nur Khaliesah Arif

3rd year student, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM)

I am Nur Khaliesah Arif, a 3rd year Civil Engineering students from Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM), Malaysia. I first learned about International Press-in Association (IPA) during the Steel Sheet-Pile Symposium organised at my university on December 6, 2018. Noticing my interest, my lecturer suggested that I contribute to the association by writing an article to this Newsletter.

Civil engineering has always been my main passion as I thrive in critical thinking. Coming upon the IPA Newsletter is like discovering a treasure trove as it is filled with abundant knowledge regarding the engineering field. Starting from its first publication on September 2016, it has maintained its quality content on research, shared experiences and discussions. It is also easily accessible from its website which serves as a helpful reference for many engineering students. IPA has proved to be a paragon that has solved many emerging engineering issues. In fact, I look forward to having my own research paper published within the Newsletter when given the opportunity.

As mentioned by the Malaysian Investment and Corridor Development Committee chairman (2018), Malaysia is in need of more engineering expertise to solve specific problems relating to public transportation, natural disasters, agriculture and other matters without relying on professionals from other fields. I believe that civil engineering is a fundamental component of a country's strength towards a nation's development. I hope, with the help of IPA, civil engineer students in Malaysia will be able to expand their knowledge and skills towards the betterment of our country by, as a start, getting first involved in their many events.



(Ms. Arif is the first one from the left)