



The Sir Alcon Copisarow Award 2019

Citation for Professor Roger Frank

Summary

Professor Roger Frank is recognised for his outstanding contributions in the field of science and engineering, through original research, teaching, collaboration and scientific presentations all around the world. One of his most noted contributions is in leading in collaborative style, the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE), comprising 89 Member Societies and around 21,000 individual members, which is recognised as providing the focal point for Member Societies in 90 countries.

Born in New York, raised in the UK, Switzerland and France (and married to a Greek wife, Vassilia), Roger Frank speaks various languages, which helps to facilitate the maintenance of his large international network of colleagues and friends

Education

- Civil Engineering, École Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (ENPC)
- Doctorate in Engineering, Pierre et Marie Curie University, Paris (1974)
- Doctorate of Science, Pierre et Marie Curie University, Paris (1984)

Career

- Honorary Professor of Geotechnical Engineering and Emeritus Research Director (ENPC)
- ISSMGE President (2013–2017). Board Member (2009-2013), Vice-President Europe (2005-2009)
- Chairman of Eurocode 7 committee on Geotechnical Design (1998-2004)
- Member Advisory Committee (Environment & Construction) University of Minho, Portugal
- External Council Member National Technical University of Athens (2013-2016)
- 1st President of European Civil Engineering Education and Training Association (EUCEET) (2009-2010)
- 40 years (1974- 2014) of soil mechanics and geotechnical engineering

- Delivered invited lectures for 43 years in 58 countries
- Author or co-author of more than 200 papers, including 45 co-authored with foreign colleagues

Outcomes

By his work on Eurocode 7, Roger Frank has promoted and facilitated standardisation in geotechnical engineering via agreements reached between experts from quite distinct technical cultures.

Through training, conferences and presentations about Eurocode 7, improving knowledge, he has a direct influence in bringing about improvements in geotechnical practice in construction and civil engineering.

Promotion of International Co-operation

- Collaborative work over many years with the Building Research Establishment (UK) and with Imperial College with the aim of improving buildings and infrastructure
- Lectures in 58 countries, including Prague, Budapest, Zagreb, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain and across Canada.

Honours and Awards

- Chevalier de l'ordre national du Mérite, France (2000)
- Doctor Honoris Causa of Technical University of Construction, Bucharest (2005)
- ICE George Stephenson Medal (2008)
- Széchy Károly Medal, Hungary (2011)
- De Beer Prize, Belgium (2013)

Quality and Significance of contribution

Professor Roger Frank has made a remarkable international contribution in the field of science and engineering, through original research, teaching, collaboration and presentations all around the world.

He embodies the spirit of international collaboration and today is a world recognised ambassador for geotechnical engineering and human endeavour.

Westminster, London, 1st July 2019