

NZGS Background

The New Zealand Geotechnical Society (NZGS) is the affiliated organisation in New Zealand of the International Societies representing practitioners in soil mechanics, rock mechanics and engineering geology. Full members of the NZGS must be affiliated to at least one of these societies:

- International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM)
- International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ISSMGE)
- International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment (IAEG)

The NZGS is represented on the committees of these three organisations by an Australasian Vice President, who is normally nominated for a four-year period. We take turns with the Australian Geomechanics Society (AGS) to nominate a suitable candidate to represent the interests of both national groups.

When the Australasian Vice President (VP) is based in New Zealand, this individual sits on the NZGS management committee. When the Australasian VP is based in Australia, the NZGS selects a local representative to support the VP and report to the NZGS.

The NZGS is a strong supporter of actions to help develop the skills and experience of our younger members. We run events in New Zealand and jointly with our colleagues in Australia and have a Young Professional Representative on the NZGS management committee. This position, selected from nominations, is focused on activities in New Zealand and Australia.

Role summary

The NZGS management committee has identified the need for a new role, to be filled by a younger NZGS member (under 40 years old, in accordance with ISRM rules) with the following objectives:

- To facilitate better linkages between young NZGS members and their international colleagues.
- To promote a wider understanding within the NZGS membership of the role and activities of the ISRM.
- To promote YGP activities and collaboration in the ISRM.
- To develop young NZGS members for future leadership roles in the NZGS and / or the International Societies.
- To support the Australasian Vice President (or the NZGS representative, where the Australasian VP is based in Australia).

The role is intended to sit outside the main NZGS management committee. Because this is a role focused on coordination and collaboration, there will be three reporting lines:

- To the NZGS management committee, through the Australasian Vice President (or NZGS representative, where the Australasian VP is based in Australia).
- To the NZGS management committee, through the NZGS Young Professionals representative.
- To the young professional group within the International Society, where one exists and subject to the agreement of the relevant Society.

ISRM Background

The ISRM has a Young Member's committee within the Board that aims to enhance the engagements of the young rock engineers and get them more involved in society activities.

Tasks & Expectations

- a) Identify opportunities to work with the ISRM to work with the Young Members committee and develop activities for young professionals. This may require attendance at video-conferences. To accommodate time zones of the various members, online meetings may occur early in the morning or late in the evening.
- b) Encourage greater participation by young NZGS members in ISRM activities.
- c) Identify opportunities to include young professional group activities in ISRM events.
- d) Liaise with the NZGS Young Professional Representative, the Australasian VP, and the Young Professional Coordinators for the other two International Societies (ISSMGE & IAEG) to coordinate activities and share ideas. As a minimum, a video meeting every second month is recommended.
- e) Represent the needs and interests of NZGS young professionals.
- f) Advocate for and facilitate increased involvement of NZGS in ISRM activities.
- g) Prepare reports on activities for NZGS committee meetings and NZ Geomechanics News (biannually).
- h) Be active in the organisation of the Australia and New Zealand YGP conference held biannually, in close cooperation with the NZGS YGP representative.
- i) Promote the ANZ YGP conference within the ISRM to incentivise attendance of young members from other National Groups.
- j) Be involved in the organisation of ISRM conferences in the Australasia region.
- k) Bring your own ideas and contribute to shape up the future of the ISRM.

Time Commitment

There is no formal time commitment for this role, however, the more you put in the more you get out. As a guideline, you should expect to dedicate a minimum of 12 to 16 hours per month, plus additional effort in the run up to the ISRM Conference and ANZ YGP Conference.

We ask that you plan to remain in the role for a 2-year term.

For further information about the ISRM please contact Paul Horrey. For information about the NZGS please contact Ross Roberts. Both can be contacted via secretary@nzgs.org