

## Editorial



The importance of the ITACET Foundation for ITA can be evaluated from several different perspectives. One of the most effective ways is the examination of how many times the Foundation activities are referred to in the ITA Strategic Plan. It would be simplistic to notice that knowledge sharing through education and training is one of the six goals which have been defined to fulfill the ITA Mission. The importance of Foundation activities for the Association is demonstrated throughout the plan in many other aspects. Even before the plan, the SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) stated that the Association is a recognized platform for knowledge development and knowledge sharing. Whereas ITA is the body which concentrates knowledge, its dissemination has effectively been accomplished under the coordination of the Committee for Education and Training (ITA-CET) and implemented by the Foundation. Since the Foundation started its activities, training and education events have experienced pronounced increase in both number and geographical reach.

ITA and the Foundation must have common targets to overcome some of the weaknesses listed in the SWOT, namely the limited knowledge sharing in areas like financing and technology. With respect to financing, ITA has tried to attract the attention to that field in order to shortcut interfaces. The need for training may still require the identification of topics for distinct target publics. How to create training in that area is an important challenge for the Committee and the Foundation, as the implementation may require methods different from those used so far.

ITA and the Foundation will from now on share the same office in Geneva. When ITA moved to its new headquarters, it was decided to take an office large enough to accommodate the Foundation as well. This is a clear demonstration of the importance of the Foundation for ITA. After some time for negotiations related to partial sharing of personnel costs, the decision has already been made that the Foundation will soon move to the same office as ITA. It is expected that this may increase synergy and enhance the cooperation between the two organizations.

ITA is also in the process of implementing a new contract with the prospective WTC organizers including the activities of the Foundation related to the training session. This is one of the actions, among others under discussion to be adopted soon, which demonstrate the importance of the Foundation to ITA. By doing this we expect stronger collaboration and more training activities with benefits to all segments of the tunnelling industry.

**Tarcisio B. Celestino**  
**ITA President**

## Training session reports

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### STRUCTURAL USE OF FIBRE-REINFORCED CONCRETE IN PRECAST SEGMENTS

Date: 06/04/2018  
Location: Paris, France



Over the last two decades, the use of Fibre Reinforced Concrete (FRC) in tunnelling has progressed considerably and has proven to have numerous advantages. Within this scope, the ITACET Foundation and the French Association of Tunnels and Underground Space (AFTES) held a highly successful one-day training session...

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### UNDERGROUND SPACE USE

Date: 21/03/2018  
Location: Abuja, Nigeria



The Tunnelling Association of Nigeria (TAN) took the opportunity of its 2nd Annual Tunnelling and Underground Space conference to organize a seminar on "Underground Space Use" in collaboration with the ITACET Foundation. This seminar took place on the first day of the conference (21st March 2018) in Abuja...

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### CONTROL AND MONITORING OF TUNNELS AND UNDERGROUND SPACE

Date: 27/11/2017 to 28/11/2017  
Location: Thimphu, Bhutan



The ITACET Foundation and the Druk Green Power Corporation Limited (DGPC) collaborated to conduct a training session on the "Control and Monitoring of the Construction of Tunnels and Underground Space" on November 27th & 28th 2017 in Thimphu, Bhutan. Six international lecturers, including Alexandre Gomes, Vice President...

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### FLOOD CONTROL AND TUNNELLING

Date: 25/11/2017  
Location: Shanghai, China



The change in climate and the spread of urbanization are leaving populations increasingly at risk from flooding. Tunnels are an effective means of diverting flood water and over recent years, numerous cities around the world have built flood control tunnels in order to protect their inhabitants. China is no exception and Shanghai is currently...

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## Forthcoming sessions

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### WTC 2018: MAIN OPPORTUNITIES AND TECHNICAL ISSUES IN TUNNELLING

Date: Saturday, 21 April, 2018 to Sunday, 22 April, 2018

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

The United Nations estimates that by 2050, around 70% of all people will live in cities. Managing urban areas has therefore become one of the most important development challenges of the 21st century. Providing housing, public transportation, electricity, water and sanitation for densely settled urban populations will become ever more complex and require urban planners to increasingly exploit underground space. Sustainability has become a key issue in urban development and the use of the underground can not only limit environmental impacts on the surface, but also foster economic growth and meet growing societal needs.

The United Arab Emirates Society of Engineers and the ITACET Foundation are pleased to announce a two-day training session on "The Main Opportunities and Technical Issues in Tunnelling", as a pre-congress event within the scope of the WTC 2018. This event will take place on 21st and 22nd April.

The first day of this training session will provide an introduction to the basics of tunnelling, presenting the advantages and disadvantages of underground space use, especially in urban areas. It will provide illustrated examples from around the world and will take a look at sustainable underground solutions for urban planning. The key stakeholders in the design, construction and operation of such solutions will be presented, with a focus on the decision process and project management aspects, such as legal and compensation issues.

The second day of this event will first focus on more complex technical aspects related to tunnelling (ground investigations, main design parameters, different construction methods and their fields of application) and will then move on to look at underground structures for specific purposes (e.g. energy storage). Numerous case studies will be provided throughout the training session and discussion periods will enable interaction with the lecturers.

To download the programme, please visit: <http://www.wtc2018.ae/ita-cet/ITACET/>

To register, please visit: <http://www.wtc2018.ae/registration/>

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## Other events in preparation

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- Mexico – **"Choice of Excavation Method"** – May 2018
- Chile - **"Mechanized Tunnelling"** - May 2018
- Italy / France - **"Long Tunnels at Great Depth"** - June 2018
- Argentina - **"Management of User Safety"** - September 2018
- China - **"Utility tunnels"** - date not yet fixed
- Brazil - **"Innovations in Tunnelling"** - date not yet fixed

Visit the Foundation's web site for further updates.

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## Foundation scholarship recipients

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### PUSHING A CAREER IN TUNNELLING TO THE NEXT LEVEL



Sweta Nemani has received a scholarship from the ITACET Foundation to follow the Specialized Master's in Tunnelling and Tunnel Boring Machines at the Politecnico di Torino in Italy (2018 -2019)

Here she tells us what spurred her to enrol on the course and her first impressions:

"For those working on projects that are beneath our feet, work is never boring because an engineer working with underground structures or systems has the most challenging element to deal with, i.e. 'the ground'. In my six years of career as a Geotechnical Engineer, underground excavations, design of retention systems and metro/ transport projects were my go to options.

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### PARLEZ-VOUS TUNNELS? NEWS FROM OUR SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT IN FRANCE



Priscilla Antoniazza Campos from Brazil benefited from an ITACET Foundation scholarship for the year 2017 - 2018, enabling her to enrol on the Specialized Master's in Tunnels and Underground Works run at ENTPE / INSA - France

Here, she gives us an insight into what led her into tunnelling and what she thinks of the Master's:

"The underground world has fascinated me for a while. It all started with a tunnelling course with professor André Assis when I was an undergraduate student at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ). During that course, I realized how necessary underground construction is to improve the quality of life for society. Thus I decided to develop specialist knowledge in this field and to do the Specialized Master's in Tunnels and Underground Works at ENTPE/INSA.

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## Other news

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### IRF GLOBAL ROAD CONFERENCE: 7TH-9TH NOVEMBER 2018



The International Road Federation (IRF) is organizing its Global Road Conference which will take place on November 7th-9th 2018, in Las Vegas. This Conference is co-located with the Road2Tunnel Global Expo.

Within the scope of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the IRF and the ITACET Foundation, the latter will contribute to the organization of session 5 of the conference, dedicated to tunnelling (Conventional Mechanized Tunneling, New Micro-tunneling Technology, Health Safety Risk Management during Construction Operations, Operation and Maintenance of Road Tunnels).

For more information, please [visit the conference web site.](#)

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### A SUCCESSFUL COUNCIL MEETING IN PARIS

The Council of the ITACET Foundation met in Paris, France, on 9th February 2018 to discuss recent Foundation activities and current organizational, financial and strategic issues.

The meeting kicked off with discussions on the plan to relocate the Foundation's headquarters to the ITA's premises in Geneva, following ITA's proposal. An agreement with ITA will be drafted shortly.

The events organized since the last Foundation Council meeting in October 2017 were presented, with a particularly impressive turnout of 300 participants for the training session on Flood Control in Shanghai, China, on 25th November 2017 and over 90 participants for the session on "Control and Monitoring" in Thimphu, Bhutan on 27th-28th November 2017.

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ITACET Foundation,  
c/o BG Ingénieurs Conseils SA,  
Avenue de Cour 61,  
1007 Lausanne, Switzerland

Phone : + 41 (0)21 693 08 67

[www.itacet.org](http://www.itacet.org)