

## THE ASCE PITTSBURGH SECTION GEO-INSTITUTE CHAPTER PRESENTS

# October 2015 Dinner Meeting The Evolution of Specialty Geotechnical Construction Techniques: The "Great Leap" Theory

Presented By: The 2015 Karl Terzaghi Lecturer DONALD A. BRUCE, Ph.D., C.Eng., D.GE, M.ASCE, President of Geosystems, L.P.



In historic literature, there is the "Great Man" theory, whereby history is reflected in the biographies of preeminent characters. In the more theoretical and academic branches of specialty geotechnical engineering, the theory holds with, of course, Prof. Terzaghi one of the heroic great men — a researcher, problem solver, and inspiration sans pareil. In contrast, in the branch of specialty geotechnical construction, technological advances occur principally through "Great Leaps" as opposed to steady and progressive evolution.

Six criteria must be satisfied in support of awarding "Great Leap" status, beginning with a project-specific challenge of unprecedented scope or

complexity, and ending with a legacy document detailing and codifying the leap. These steps are illustrated by reference to developments in drilling and grouting; cutoffs for dams; Deep Mixing; and micropiles, all techniques in which the author has been intimately involved throughout his professional career as a researcher, contractor, educator and consultant.

Attendance at this technical presentation qualifies participants for 1.0 PDH

### DINNER RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED PLEASE RSVP ON OR BEFORE Friday, October 23, 2015

Reservations made and not honored will be invoiced. Cancellations must be received by the RSVP deadline in order to qualify for a refund.

#### Date: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2015

- Place: Pittsburgh Athletic Association 4215 Fifth Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15223
- Time: 6:00 PM Social Hour 7:00 PM Dinner 8:00 PM Presentation

Cost: \$40 ASCE Pittsburgh Section Members \$50 Non-members \$10 Students

#### Entrée:

Chicken Breast Romano Herb Crusted North Atlantic Salmon Veal Marsala Grilled Vegetable and Portabello Stack

### PLEASE RSVP ON OR BEFORE Friday,

*October 23, 2015* by contacting Ms. Sarah Missenda with your meal choice at <u>sjersey@gmail.com;</u> or by registering online at <u>http://www.asce-pgh.org/</u>.