Vancouver Geotechnical Society
A Local Section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society

www.v-g-s.ca

2014-2015 Executive Committee:

Chair	-	(Kumar) S. Sriskandakumar, BGC	604-684-5900
Past-Chair	-	Ryan Mills, Tetra Tech EBA	604-685-0275
Program Director	-	Ali Amini, NAGL	604-984-0759
Treasurer	-	Chris Longley, Stantec	604-340-5123
Secretary	-	Yoshi Tanaka, Levelton	604-278-1411
Registrar	-	Robyn Barnett, Tetra Tech EBA	604-685-0275
Web Manager	-	Marc Bossé, Thurber	604-684-4384
CGS Director	-	Jason Pellett, Tetra Tech EBA	604-685-0275
Member-at-Large	-	Mustapha Zergoun, Thurber	604-684-4384
Member-at-Large	-	Andrea Lougheed, Thurber	604-684-4384
Member-at-Large	-	Mike Hopson, Nilex	604-420-6433

NOTICE OF UPCOMING TECHNICAL PRESENTATION

Thursday, May 14, 2015

SUBJECT: **On the Importance of Kinematics in the Analysis of (Large) Landslides**
Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS) Cross Canada Lecture Tour – Spring 2015

SPEAKER: **Nicholas Sitar, Ph.D., P.Eng.**

Nicholas Sitar, Ph.D., P.Eng., is the Edward G. Cahill and John R. Cahill Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of California at Berkeley. He received his B.A.Sc. in Geological Engineering from the University of Windsor in 1973, and his M.S. in Hydrogeology in 1975 and Ph.D. in Geotechnical Engineering in 1979, both from Stanford University. He taught in the Geological Engineering Program at UBC from 1979 to 1981. He joined the faculty in Geotechnical Engineering at UC Berkeley in 1981. Most recently he served as the Director of the University of California Earthquake Engineering Research Center from 2002 to 2008.

Dr. Sitar's professional and research interests include engineering geology, geotechnical earthquake engineering, rock mechanics, groundwater modeling, groundwater remediation and the application of numerical and stochastic methods to engineering analysis. He is the author and co-author of over 170 publications in geotechnical engineering, engineering geology, groundwater and groundwater remediation. His particular interests in geotechnical earthquake engineering include seismic slope stability, seismic response of retaining structures and mechanically stabilized walls, and the performance of improved ground. In engineering geology he has concentrated on the influence of the depositional environment on the properties of coarse sediments, debris flow initiation, and modeling of jointed rock masses.

His awards include the Huber Research Prize from ASCE in 1993, the Presidential Young Investigator Award from NSF in 1984, the Douglas R. Piteau Award from AEG in 1986, the James M. Robbins Excellence-in-Teaching Award from the Pacific District of Chi Epsilon in 1998, a Chancellor's Professorship from UC Berkeley 1998-2001, and the endowed Edward G. Cahill and John R. Cahill Chair in Civil and Environmental Engineering. Most recently, he presented the Korean Geotechnical Society Award Lecture in 2012, the Hilf Memorial Lecture at the University of Colorado in 2012, as well as keynote lectures at the ASCE Geo-Congress in 2012 and Chilean Geotechnical Society Congress in 2014.

CONTENT: The most convenient methods of slope stability analysis rely on limit equilibrium solutions which assume a pre-determined slide plane geometry and rigid body deformation. However, many, particularly very large landslides are composed of many individual blocks that may be toppling, rolling or otherwise moving downslope in a manner inconsistent with the above assumptions. Example results of discrete body deformation modeling will be used to show that in such cases the traditional limit equilibrium methods would lead to erroneous and possible very unconservative conclusions.

DETAILS:

Location: Executive Inn, 4201 Lougheed Highway, Burnaby, BC V5C 3Y6 (Phone: 604-298-2010)
Social Hour: 5:30 to 6:30 pm (drinks available at the hotel bar)
Technical Presentation: 6:30 to 7:30 pm (No need to RSVP)
Dinner: 7:45 pm ($30 will be charged for dinner)
If you would like to stay for dinner, please RSVP to Robyn Barnett via email or at the door Robyn.Barnett@tetratech.com

The VGS would like to thank the following companies (in alphabetical order) for sponsoring this Cross Canada Lecture Tour:

- *Geo-Slope International*
- *KGS Group Consulting Engineers*
- *Tetra Tech EBA*
- *Thurber Engineering Ltd.*

The Cross Canada Lecture Tour is organized by the Canadian Geotechnical Society and its various local sections, and travel funds are provided by the Canadian Foundation for Geotechnique.