

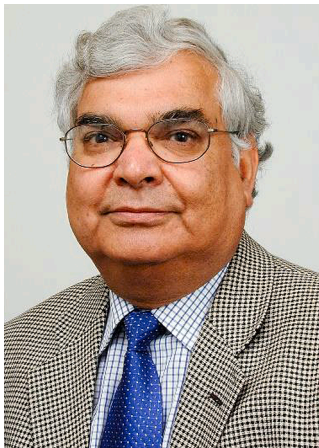
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Editorial

In Memory of Prof. Gyan N. Pande (1939–2020)



This Special Issue of *Computers and Geotechnics* is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Gyan N. Pande, Professor of Civil Engineering at Swansea University (Swansea, Wales, UK) who passed away suddenly in January 2020. Gyan was a remarkable person who made a lasting impact in the Geomechanics research community and will be deeply missed by his close friends and collaborators.

Gyan Pande was born in Shikohabad (state of Uttar Pradesh, northern India), and obtained a B. Tech. degree in Civil Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur. He subsequently worked for over 10 years as a project engineer in hydroelectric installations in the Himalayas. He received his Ph.D. degree from Swansea University (Wales) in 1976, for research into computational modelling of jointed rocks, conducted under the direction of the late Professor O.C. Zienkiewicz FRS. After completion of his doctoral degree, he joined the Department of Civil Engineering as a lecturer. In 1994 he was awarded a professorship in recognition of his academic and research accomplishments.

Gyan was the founding editor of *Computers and Geotechnics*. He served as one of the editors of this journal for over 25 years (1985–2010). He also launched and co-organized a series of 10 International Symposia on ‘Numerical Models in Geomechanics’ (NUMOG). The meetings were held in Zurich, Switzerland (1982); Ghent, Belgium (1986); Niagara Falls, Canada (1989); Swansea, U.K. (1992); Davos, Switzerland (1995); Montreal, Canada (1997); Graz, Austria (1999); Rome, Italy (2002); Ottawa, Canada (2004) and Rhodes, Greece (2006). He was also the co-organizer and co-chair of a series of International Symposia on ‘Computational Geomechanics’ (ComGeo), which were a sequel to the

NUMOG series. These meetings took place in Juan-les-Pins, France (2009); Dubrovnik, Croatia (2011); Krakow, Poland (2013) and Assisi, Italy (2018). In addition to these activities, Gyan was also the founding president of the International Centre for Computational Engineering (IC2E), a ‘not for profit’ organisation registered in the Aegean island of Rhodes and aimed at establishing a closer collaboration between universities and industry.

His research interests were focused primarily on Computational Geomechanics and encompassed a broad range of topics. These included the development of constitutive relations for geomaterials (soils, jointed rock masses, etc.), analysis of partially saturated soils, research in the areas of artificial intelligence (AI) as well as in computational modelling of structural masonry. His research output is evidenced by numerous papers published in leading International Journals devoted to Geomechanics, as well as the co-editorship of a large number of Conference Proceedings and Technical Monographs. He supervised numerous Ph.D. students from around the world and many of them have kept in touch with him throughout his lifetime.

Gyan has received several awards and honors; he was the recipient of the special achievements award of the ‘International Association of Computer Methods and Advances in Geomechanics’ (IACMAG) in 2014 and was given the best paper award from the same organisation in 2001 and 2002. He also received The Manby Prize from the Institution of Civil Engineers in London in 2005. In his private life he had close personal relationships with his family and friends. He was involved in various charitable projects and was the founding member and trustee of the Tridev Meditation and Spiritual Awareness Society at Swansea.

Gyan Pande was an empathetic and sensitive person and he touched the lives of many of us. The NUMOG and ComGeo Symposia are a testimony to the harmonious way in which he was able to allow both established and younger researchers to participate and disseminate leading edge research in Computational Geomechanics. This Memorial Issue contains 26 invited contributions, which are ordered alphabetically according to the corresponding author’s surname. The Guest Editors are grateful to the authors for their willingness to contribute and to the reviewers for assisting in the evaluation of the contributions. All these contributions are a fitting tribute to the memory and accomplishments of Gyan.

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