



• THE BRITISH •
GEOTECHNICAL
ASSOCIATION

35th Cooling Prize Final 2005

09/02/05

The final of the annual BGA competition for young engineers was hosted by the East Midlands Geotechnical Group on the 7th February. The meeting, at Nottingham University, was well attended and members of the audience were treated to four high quality presentations from the finalists:

Stuart Hardy (Mott MacDonald) - Non-linear Analysis of Large Pile Groups for the new Wembley Stadium
Jane Beresford (Edge Consultants) - Combined Solutions to Slope Instability Problems
Keith Emmett (Sheffield University) - Pile Disturbance in Layered Ground
Kenny Sorensen (UCL) - Stiffness revisited: Influence of Strain Acceleration on Stiffness of Clay in the Small Strain Region.

Finalists were also required to answer wide ranging questions from the audience. The finalists had been selected based on their written papers from 8 entries of a very good standard. The judging panel was chaired by Professor Hai-Sui Yu and included last years' winner, Dimitrios Selemetas. The judges were guided by Leonard Cooling's original criteria but nevertheless found it a difficult task to select the winner. During judging Professor Malcolm Bolton gave a highly entertaining talk challenging the need for finite element analysis in routine design calculations for deformation.

An outright winner was selected and congratulations go to Keith Emmett, winner of the 2005 Cooling Prize. Keith wins the prize decanter and £200 from Ground Engineering, which will be presented at the 3rd BGA Annual Conference in June. The winning paper will also be published in Ground Engineering this year and Keith will present his work at the iYJEC at Osaka this year. All the finalists received copies of 'Cone penetration testing in geotechnical practice' in recognition of their efforts.

The BGA are most grateful for the organisation of the EMGG and their current chairman, Dr Glenn McDowell.



Left: Keith Emmett, winner of the 2005 Cooling Prize, with Tony Bracegirdle, BGA Chairman
Right: From L to R, Tony Bracegirdle, Kenny Sorensen, Jane Beresford, Keith Emmett, Stuart Hardy and Dimitrios Selemetas (2004 winner)

Watch Ground Engineering and www.britishgeotech.org.uk for details of next year's 36th Cooling Prize Competition.



The BGA is a member
of the Ground Forum