

## President's address



It is my great pleasure to announce that the ITACET Foundation and the IRF are joining their expertise to build a comprehensive programme of training sessions on tunnelling with the help of the ITACET Committee.

The aim is to run the programme for three years, starting January 2018, and to offer a set of training sessions on specific topics such as tunnel design, construction of tunnels, tunnel operation and tunnel maintenance.

The target audience will comprise young professionals and tunnel owner representatives from emerging countries in particular.

I feel confident that this initiative will prove beneficial to all those involved and look forward to launching the first training sessions in the coming year.

Eng. A. Al-Mogbel

ITACET Foundation President

## The Foundation Council meets in Dubai

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The ITACET Foundation's Council made the most of the presence of several of its members at the 5th IRF Middle East and North Africa Regional Congress and Exhibition in Dubai to hold a meeting. The meeting took place on October 30th 2017 at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

The meeting kicked off with strategic discussions on the Foundation's relationship with the International Tunnelling Association and with ITA Member Nations, covering issues such as the future organization of the traditional World Tunnel Congress training sessions, ITA requests for training sessions in developing countries and the future hosting of the head office of the Foundation at the ITA headquarters.

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# Training session reports

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## INNOVATIVE PERSPECTIVES FOR EFFICIENT TUNNEL OPERATION

Date: 30/10/2017

Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates



The International Road Federation recently organized the 5th edition of its Middle East and North Africa Regional Congress and Exhibition. Within the scope of this event, the ITACET Foundation was invited to co-organize a "partner session" focused on "Innovative perspectives for efficient tunnel operation"...

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## RISK MANAGEMENT IN TUNNELLING

Date: 06/09/2017 to 07/09/2017

Location: Santiago, Chile



Underground works are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, which must be sufficiently taken into account by all stakeholders if a project is to meet with success. Over recent years, growing awareness of the importance of risk management has led to an increasing demand for training on this topic from ITA Member Nations...

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## SUSTAINABILITY AND ECO-FRIENDLY TUNNELLING

Date: 06/09/2017

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina



The magnificent "Palacio de las Aguas Corrientes" was the stunning venue for this training session on sustainability and eco-friendly tunnelling, which was organized on 6th September in collaboration with the Argentinian Tunnelling and Underground Space Association (AATES). The course was part of the 7th Tunnelling and Underground Workshops...

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## WTC 2017: EXCAVATION AND SUPPORT IN SOFT GROUND CONDITIONS

Date: 09/06/2017 to 10/06/2017

Location: Bergen, Norway



There has been an incredible worldwide development in soft ground tunnelling over recent years and many major ongoing tunnel projects involve difficult soft ground excavation. With this in mind, the 2017 WTC training course focussed on the topic of "Excavation and Support in Soft Ground Conditions"...

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## Forthcoming sessions

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- **Flood Control and Tunnelling**, Shanghai, China, 25th November 2017
- **Control and Monitoring of Tunnels and Underground Space**, Thimphu, Bhutan, 27th - 28th November 2017
- **Choice of Excavation Method: Conventional or Mechanized?**, Mexico City, Mexico, 1st - 2nd February 2018 (to be confirmed)

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## Other events in preparation

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- **Underground Space Use**, Lagos, Nigeria, 21st March 2018
  - **Basic Principles of Tunnelling**, Dubai, UAE, 21st – 22nd April 2018
  - **Utility Tunnels**, China (date and venue not yet fixed).
  - **Structural Use of Fibre-reinforced Concrete**, Paris, France (date not yet fixed)
  - **Innovations in Tunnelling**, Brazil (date and venue not yet fixed)
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## Foundation scholarship recipients

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### THE ITACET FOUNDATION GRANTS TWO NEW SCHOLARSHIPS



The ITACET Foundation is pleased to announce that it has granted two scholarships to students enrolled on ITA-endorsed Master courses for the academic year 2017 - 2018.

Priscilla Antoniazza Campos from Brasil, will follow the Specialized Master's in Tunnels and Underground Works at the ENTPE / INSA in France and John Paul Ramirez Santa from Colombia will follow the MSc in Tunnelling and Underground Space at Warwick University in the United Kingdom.

The Foundation wishes them both success in their studies.

[Read more...](#)

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## HELPING YOUNG MINDS DIG DEEPER



Alfredo Vasquez received a scholarship from the ITACET Foundation to follow the 2016-2017 edition of the Specialized Master's in Tunnelling and Underground Structures, run by the ENTPE / INSA in Lyon France.

Following his successful graduation, he talks about how the Foundation helped him start his career.

"Tunnelling has been a part of our lives for more than 100 years. We have long come to realize that the surface will one day become congested and that the best way to connect two points beneath the ground is by a tunnel.

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## ENCOURAGING NEWS FROM SCHOLARSHIP STUDENT IN THE UK

The ITACET Foundation was delighted to receive recent news from one of its scholarship students for the current academic year 2017-2018.

John Paul Ramirez Santa from Colombia was awarded a scholarship by the Foundation to follow the MSc in Tunnelling and Underground Space at Warwick University in the United Kingdom.

Here's what he has to say about his experience so far:

"The first term at Warwick started on October the 2nd. Up to now I have been through one module, Geological Investigation and Ground Characterization in addition to some tutorials in preparation for the final exam in January. Next week we start Underground Construction Methods. The lectures with the first module have been excellent, especially since it is the first time I have got to know professionals with so much experience in the field who share with us what they discovered during construction projects and how they dealt with it. I have learned things I would never find in a textbook. I have been putting in many personal study hours in order to grasp what was given in the lectures, but it is an exciting process, because I get to learn more about something I really like. And the campus is really nice!"

The Foundation wishes Jean Paul all the best for the future.

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## Other news

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### TARGETING A WIDER PUBLIC THROUGH LINKEDIN

Social networks are becoming an increasingly important media used by organisations to communicate on their activities. With this in mind, the ITACET Foundation has recently increased its activity on its LinkedIn page, with regular posts on forthcoming training sessions and events that have taken place.

The advantage of social networks are they allow interaction with readers, who can like, comment on and share posts, potentially enabling a much wider audience to be reached. Analytics of activity for the last six months are encouraging, with followers and social engagement (interaction) on the increase.

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## THE FOUNDATION'S WORK FEATURED IN TUNNELTALK MAGAZINE



The mid October issue of the on-line magazine “TunnelTalk” included a special focus on education and training in the tunnelling industry. As part of this focus, an article was specifically dedicated to the work of the ITACET Foundation and ITA-CET Committee.

[Click here to see the article](#)

A second article in the same issue took a look at the ITACET training course which was organized within the scope of the WTC in Bergen in June 2017.

[Click here to see the article](#)

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