



**Professor William Van Impe**

William Frans Van Impe, ISSMGE president for the term 2001-2005, graduated with high honours as Doctor of Applied Sciences - Geotechnics in June 1981 at the Ghent University after an initial period (1973 - 1981) as research assistant on soil mechanics/dynamics of Professor E. De Beer at the Laboratory of Soil Mechanics, he was appointed lecturer in 1982, director of the Soil Mechanics lab in 1985 and full professor at the Ghent State University since 1991. Prof. Van Impe is also Professor of Soil Mechanics in the Faculty of Engineering of the Leuven Catholic University Belgium since October 1988. In 1995 he got the Prof. honoris causa degree at the University UMSS in Bolivia.

W.F. Van Impe served many times as chair or core-member of several technical committees within the ISSMGE (TC on deep foundations, TC on environmental geotechnics, on ground improvement) and took office as ISSMGE Vice-President for Europe from 1994 to 1997. He acted as chair of the Belgian Geotechnical Society from 1997 to 2001.

W.F. Van Impe also acts as a scientific member and member of the board of directors of the Royal Academy of Overseas Sciences - Technical Office in Belgium. He acted worldwide as invited speaker in many major conferences, and actively lectured in more than 40 Universities. He was the first Vienna-Terzaghi lecturer in 1999, the Nonweiller lecturer and the John Mitchell lecturer in 2002 and he received the De Beer Award – Brussels 2004 and the Szechy award – Budapest 2007. Besides being the author and co-author of 3 books, he is the author of about 180 papers, editor of 5 proceedings on Numerical models in geotechnics and on Bored and Auger piles.

In the geotechnical profession Professor W.F. Van Impe deals globally with major projects on Nearshore Geotechnics and Dredging Geotechnical Issues, projects on Deep Foundations, Soil Improvement, soil parameter analysis, as well as mainly on projects related to Environmental Geotechnics problems-flow of contaminants through porous media.

Today (since March 2008), Prof. W.F. Van Impe acts as well as the President of the FedIGS – Federation of the International Geo-engineering Societies.