

2019 - Reviewer of the Month



The **Reviewer of the Month Award** highlights each month our outstanding referees who made a significant, positive, and constructive contribution to the peer-review process, regardless of the final editorial decision on the paper.

We recognise that most of our reviewers demonstrate professionalism, compassion, and collaborative spirit and thus the decision to highlight only selected referees monthly may seem unfair. We are equally grateful for the support of all our referees, and we do hope that this page will bring the deserved attention to the paramount contribution of peer-reviewers to the progress of science and engineering.

December

Saurabh Rawat, *Jaypee University of Information Technology, Wanknaghat, India*

Civil Engineering, *Slope Stability*



Dr. Saurabh Rawat is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Civil Engineering, Jaypee University of Information Technology (JUIT), Wanknaghat, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, India. His research interest covers conventional soil nailing and helical soil nailing techniques, finite element modelling of reinforced slopes, reinforced earth analysis, landslide mitigation, slope stability analysis, and ground improvement methods. He is a recipient of the 2019 IGS - Shri R.N. Prasad Biennial Award for the best paper on "Slope Stability and Land Slides." He is also a life member of the Indian Geotechnical Society (IGS).

On peer-review, Dr. Rawat says: "The process of peer-review is a systematic approach for rectifying and enhancing the technical, as well as presentational, aspects of the reported research. A good review process adds quality, discussion, and rationales to the final outcome. Authors, reviewers, and readers benefit from a constructive and thorough review process: the authors seek thorough interpretations; reviewers are updated on the current developments; and readers with quality technical content. In scholarly communication, the time to publication is also important as it directly affects how soon novel research findings can reach the interested audience. So initiatives and strategies to maintain the highest standards of peer-review while increasing the efficiency of the process and reducing time to publication will always be desirable."
