

Minutes for the General Assembly of IA-FraMCoS (2010)

Date: May 27, 2010

Venue: Jeju Island, South Korea

The President, Byung-Hwan Oh, called the assembly to order and welcome the members. He started with a brief report on FraMCoS-7. At the conference, there were a total of 295 participants from over 30 countries, with the highest number from Korea (77), followed by Japan (64), France (24), China (20), Italy (12), U.S.A. (14), Germany (14), Denmark (14), the Netherlands (7) and others. Among the participants, there were about 60 students. During the 4-day conference, 280 papers were presented. Also, 12 “Organized Sessions” for specific topics have been organized.

The President-Elect, Prof. Jan van Mier was then asked to give an introduction to FraMCoS-8 in Ciudad Real, Spain. After paying tributes to the funding members of IA-FraMCoS and giving a brief introduction of himself and his own work, Prof. van Mier shared his ideas about the technical content of the next conference, which would be co-organized by himself, Prof. Gonzalo Ruiz and Prof. Carmen Andrade. He has identified two major themes, including Fracture Mechanics and Durability as well as Fracture Mechanics and Design of New Concrete. Within these themes, it is possible to bring together people with different technical backgrounds to work on important problems with potential for high impact. In addition, he would be soliciting ideas for numerical simulation problems that can be validated through experiments. Various groups would be asked to come up with solutions to certain problems based on the numerical tools they developed. The results would be presented at FraMCoS-8. Then, experiments would be designed to validate the predictions. Comparison between numerical and experimental results would be presented in FraMCoS-9. To facilitate this exercise over the next 6 years, the first-ever FraMCoS Technical Committee would be set up.

Prof. Gonzalo Ruiz then delivered a general presentation on the organization of FraMCoS-8. He showed the brochure for the event and explained the meaning behind the chosen logo. The suggested date on the brochure was March 2013, but it would be changed to June to avoid conflict with ACI Conference in the U.S. Also, the weather in June may be better. Prof. Ruiz then went on to introduce the transportation to Ciudad Real, the Conference Venue at the University of Castilla-La Mancha as well as attractions in the surrounding region. He highlighted the town of Almagro in the neighborhood, where social/cultural activities and the conference banquet would be held.

The election of new Directors was then conducted.

Victor Saouma (nominated by Byung Hwan Oh, seconded by Folker Wittmann) was elected as President-Elect.

Gonzalo Ruiz (nominated by Byung Hwan Oh, seconded by Stephen Foster) was unanimously elected as Secretary.

Hemlin Jennings (nominated by Byung Hwan Oh, seconded by Gonzalo Ruiz) was re-elected as Treasurer.

Jan van Mier, the President-Elect, automatically becomes the new President, while the current President, Byung Hwan Oh, will become the Past President in the next Board.

Election of new Advisory Board members was then conducted. Viktor Mechtcherine (nominated by Byung-Hwan Oh, seconded by Hans Reinhardt) and Masayasu Ohtsu (nominated by Byung-Hwan Oh, seconded by Chandra Kishen) were elected as Advisory Board members to serve two terms on the Board.

Byung-Hwan Oh announced that the present Board of Director has nominated four additional members, Carmen Andrade, Tulio Bittencourt, Stephen Foster and Eric Landis to serve on the Advisory Board for one term.

The next item was the proposal of Amendments to the IA-FraMCoS By-laws. The first amendment was under the section on Conference, and related to the creation of a Best Paper Award for Young Researchers presenting papers at the FraMCoS Conference. Discussions were carried out on a number of issues such as the definition of 'Young researcher', the possibility to create two different kinds of awards (one for all members and the other for young members) as well as nomination and review processes. Prof. Oh explained that the current proposal was generated after several months of email communications among the Advisory Board, and this should be a good first step towards recognizing the work of our members. A motion to vote on the amendment was proposed by Byung-Hwan Oh and seconded by Gonzalo Ruiz. It was carried by majority vote from over 2/3 of the participating members.

The other amendment was the creation of a Fellow Grade under the Membership section. All former Presidents as well as the President-Elect will automatically become Fellows of IA-FraMCoS. At each FraMCoS Conference, a limited small number of new fellows will be nominated and elected by the board of directors and Advisory Board. A motion to vote on the amendment was proposed by Walter Gerstle and seconded by Stephen Foster. It was carried by majority vote from over 2/3 of the participating members. (Note: the final amendments are attached to the end of this minute.)

According to the revised By-laws, all presidents and president-elect of IA-FraMCoS became Fellows. The elected fellows are Zdenek P. Bazant, Folker Wittmann, Hirozo Mihashi, Rene de Borst, Victor Li, Alberto Carpinteri, Byung Hwan Oh, Jan van Mier, Victor Saouma.

As the Treasurer was unable to attend the meeting, Byung-Hwan Oh reported briefly on the financial situation of IA-FraMCoS. The balance, after the last conference in Italy, was \$27,988.62 as of April 30, 2010. The organizers of FraMCoS-7 would contribute \$9,900 to the association. The new balance would become \$37,888.62. (Note: a detailed financial statement is attached to the end of this minute.)

To officially transfer the Presidency, Byung-Hwan Oh passed the hammer to Jan van Mier.

The General Assembly came to a close.

Amendments to the By-laws approved at the 2010 IA-FraMCoS General Assembly Meeting

New paragraph under MEMBERSHIP

Active Members of FraMCoS who have made important contributions to a research area within the scope of the Association are eligible for election to the grade of Fellow. All FraMCoS Presidents and the President-Elect will automatically become Fellows. Six months before each FraMCoS conference, the Secretary will write to all Fellows to ask for nominations of new Fellows. The CV of nominees will then be solicited. During the Conference, the Board of Directors and Advisory Board will discuss the nominations and up to 5 Fellows will be elected each time. For someone to be elected, a majority vote among those present at the Board Meeting is required. New Fellows will be announced at the General Assembly Meeting of the Conference, when they would also receive an official Certificate from the President.

New Paragraph under FraMCoS CONFERENCE

At each FraMCoS Conference, paper awards, entitled "IA-FraMCoS Young Researcher Best Paper Award", will be granted to two researchers under 40 years of age. While the paper may be co-authored with a senior colleague, the young researcher must present the paper at the Conference, as the award is based on the quality of both the written paper and the presentation. The judging panel will be chaired by the President-Elect, who will appoint additional members (with a minimum of 2 from the Advisory Board) to help him/her conduct the evaluations. Official Certificates will be given to the winners at the General Assembly or Banquet of the Conference.