

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE IA-FRAMCOS HELD IN TOLEDO. MARCH 10, 2013

Venue: Paraninfo de Envases de Cartón, UCLM Campus at Toledo, Spain
Date and Time: Thursday March 14, 2013 – 12.45-13.45h



Draft April 2, 2013. Revised and approved April 23, 2013

The General Assembly of the IA-FraMCoS had been included in the Program of the Conference, scheduled right after the last parallel sessions. Besides, the agenda had been handed out to all FraMCoS-8 participants during the previous day. The General Assembly (GA) was presided by the Board of Directors (except the Treasurer) and, according to the pictures that were taken, there were 89 delegates in attendance.



IA-FraMCoS members during the General Assembly

The General Assembly started on time and followed the issues that had been arranged in the agenda.

(1) Opening of the meeting by the IA-FraMCoS President (J.G.M. van Mier)

Jan G.M. van Mier opened the meeting and made a brief personal analysis of the situation of the IA-FraMCoS. He spoke about the disadvantages inherent to highly regulated societies, where directives may end up suffocating spontaneous initiatives. This is the way to go from science to politics, in his words. IA-FraMCoS was founded in 1991, right after a period of much enthusiasm and spontaneity based on the novelty and potentiality of Fracture Mechanics applied to concrete. In his opinion, the IA had been softening from then on, losing the initial momentum. Little by little the IA had been letting politics to be prominent in deciding, for instance, who the next President was going to be or where the next conference was going to take place. Jan G.M. van Mier pleaded for fostering again enthusiasm and spontaneity and for letting that prevail over politics.

(2) Brief report by the Treasurer (G. Cusatis)

The report was given by Jan G.M. van Mier since neither the Treasurer, Hamlin Jennings, nor his proxy, Gianluca Cusatis, attended the General Assembly. Jan G.M. van Mier explained the data contained in the file sent by the Treasurer reporting the financial activity to December 2012. The information of the file is reproduced below.



Jan G.M. van Mier during his speech to the GA

IA-FraMCoS Financial Activity

There are a few dollars every month in service fees, compensated in part by interest paid: not included in this report

Date	Checking	CD	Savings	Total	
30-abr-10	\$932.00	\$14,934.69	\$13,053.93	\$28,920.62	
25-may-10	\$9,855.00				Conference fee Korea
15-nov-10	\$6,080.00				Korea Concrete Institute
total checking 2010	\$16,867.00				
31-dic-10	\$16,817.00	\$14,972.13	\$13,093.38	\$44,882.51	
31-dic-11	\$16,805.00	\$15,009.59	\$13,110.85	\$44,925.44	
31-dic-12	\$16,794.00	\$15,039.72	\$13,136.00	\$44,969.72	

Jan G.M. van Mier asked for the approval of the report, which was given by the GA.

(3) Brief report by the Secretary (G. Ruiz)

Gonzalo Ruiz reported to the General Assembly on FraMCoS-8 and on the preparation of the web-page of the IA.

Regarding FraMCoS-8, Gonzalo Ruiz reminded the presentation he did at the opening ceremony. He explained that 223 full papers had been presented during the Conference and were published in the Proceedings, out of them 8 were plenary lectures (only 7 published) and 29 key-note papers. In total there had been 304 participants, including about 50 free registrations. It was particularly noteworthy that there had been 84 students registered, about 33% of the academic participants. Gonzalo Ruiz

thanked the plenary speakers and the work of the session organizers, since the success of the Conference was mainly attributable to them.

With respect to the geographical distribution of the delegates, Europe was the continent from where more delegates had come (148 regular + 57 students), specially from France (29 + 6), Spain (20 + 14 academic and 28 non-academic), Germany (13 + 8) and Italy (16 + 2). The attendance from Asia (45 + 16) was headed by Japan (26 + 8) and China (6 + 5). The delegation from America (17 + 5) had been mainly composed by delegates from the USA (11 + 4). Africa (7 + 1) and Australia (3 + 5) also had had participants in the Conference.

Gonzalo Ruiz also reminded that there was a post-conference workshop organized under the auspices of both the IA-FraMCoS and the Spanish Group on Fracture, which was going to take place the following day, March 15. The title was 'Nanotechnology and Sustainability in Construction', and it had been coordinated by Surendra Shah. The lectures were going to be given by some researchers attending FraMCoS-8 (Carmen Andrade, Hans Reinhardt, Viktor Mechtcherine, Eric Landis, Chris Leung) and by others explicitly invited for the workshop (Surendra Shah, Maria K. Gdoutos and Jorge S. Dolado).

Finally, Gonzalo Ruiz reported on the web-site for the IA. It should inform on IA-FraMCoS and its activities. It can also be a repository of all the papers published by FraMCoS or in FraMCoS conferences. Indeed, the site contains a search-engine that is already working, although only the papers from FraMCoS-7 had been up-loaded by then, since they were provided in electronic format. The papers from FraMCoS-8 could be up-loaded in no time, since their files were available and the publisher did not ask for copyrights. Papers from previous conferences can also be uploaded as soon as the IA gets or generates digital copies of them and solves possible copyright conflicts with publishers.

(4a) By-Laws: Membership for the IA-FraMCoS

The President reported briefly about the issue of membership. Until then it was customary to consider that attendees to FraMCoS conferences were considered members. Nevertheless, this was slightly ill-defined, since there had been many conferences and there was no record of the complete list of attendees. Besides, some of them might not know that they were members just because they attended a conference, or even they might not want to be considered members, since they had not applied for that. Indeed, the current Bylaws state that membership has to be applied in writing and, so, strictly speaking, there were no members since there was no record of any membership application.

So, in order to regulate membership, it was decided that the attendees of the last three Conferences, FraMCoS-6, 7 and 8 will be considered members during the following interval and, so, they were to be entitled to vote in the General Assembly or by other means. Such membership should be renewed every interval in writing, either directly by addressing a letter to the Secretary or by indicating one's will to continue as a member while registering to the following Conference, FraMCoS-9.

(4b) By-Laws: Election Procedure for the President Elect

The General Assembly was explained about the convenience of postponing the election of the next President, since it was felt that, on the one hand, the 'pendulum mechanism' was not fair and, on the other hand, the call for proposals for being President/Organizer of FraMCoS-10 had not been sufficiently publicized among the members. Besides, it was clarified that the next President is not necessarily the next conference organizer and, thus, the election has to be made on the basis of his/her appropriateness to be President rather than in the proposal for the conference that he/she may prepare.

So, a general call for applications to the position was made, with no restriction based on the 'pendulum mechanism' neither of any other kind. The only pre-requisite is that potential candidates must have made notable contributions to Fracture Mechanics for concrete and concrete structures. The applications could be submitted to the Secretary during the following six months. After receiving them, the Board would evaluate them and would make a selection of three candidatures that would be sent to all members for their perusal. The Board should organize an electronic ballot among the members so that they vote who the President-Elect would be. The process should guarantee both confidentiality of the votes and the transparency of the counting.

Hans Reinhardt made a remark to strongly support the idea of having the conference in other continents. Likewise, Kaspar Willam also manifested that he was against the rotation principle inherent to the 'pendulum' custom.

(4b) Yearly Prize for the Best Ph.D. Dissertation

Jan G.M. van Mier proposed a yearly prize for the best PhD thesis in the field, funded by the IA, to foster research on Fracture Mechanics for concrete and concrete structures. It was decided that the prize should be announced at the beginning of every year for thesis defended the previous year. The call will be made by e-mail and announced at the IA web-site as well. The panel to judge on the prize would be formed by one Board member plus, at least, two fellows. Thesis written in a language other than English must provide an extended summary and/or two papers that summarize the thesis content (in which case the author of the thesis must be the first author of these papers). The panel should make a decision public by April of each year. Besides the diploma and the financial aid, the awardees may be invited to give a lecture on their thesis during the following conference. It is understood that their conference fees would be waived.

(5) Election of Directors and Board Members

The Board presented to the General Assembly the nominations for the next interval directors and members of the Advisory Board, which were motioned and seconded as indicated in the following list:

		Motion	Second
Secretary	Gonzalo Ruiz	Jan G.M. van Mier	Surendra P. Shah
Treasurer	Gianluca Cusatis	Victor Saouma	Kaspar Willam
Member (2 intervals)	Gideon P.A.G. Van Zijl	Jan G.M. van Mier	Viktor Mechtcherine
Member (2 intervals)	Xiaozhi Hu	Jan G.M. van Mier	Viktor Mechtcherine
Member (1 interval)	Carmen Andrade	Gonzalo Ruiz	Christopher Leung
Member (1 interval)	Jan Cervenka	Gonzalo Ruiz	Christopher Leung
Member (1 interval)	Frederic Ragueneau	Gonzalo Ruiz	Christopher Leung
Member (1 interval)	Chandra Kishen	Gonzalo Ruiz	Christopher Leung

All the nominees were elected unanimously.

Regarding the auditors, Victor Saouma proposed that Folker Wittmann and Byung Hwan Oh did this service during the following interval, which was seconded by Gonzalo Ruiz and was also approved unanimously.

(6) Next Conference: FraMCoS-9 in USA

Before speaking about FraMCoS-9, Victor Saouma wanted to convey to Walter Gerstle, present in the room, the condolences on the passing of his father, Kurt Gerstle, on behalf of all FraMCoS members.

He proposed a minute of silence to remember and honor him, and everybody present stood up and kept a minute of silence.

Later on, he thanked Byung Hwan Oh and Folker Wittmann for their availability to serve as auditors to the IA. He also thanked the members leaving the Board for their service and dedication to the IA.

At this point, Victor Saouma explained what was his vision regarding the IA-FraMCoS. He did not concur with Jan G.M. van Mier's appreciation that FraMCoS was in its softening branch. He planned that the IA should give more support to new areas like durability, corrosion, coupled problems, earthquake engineering and new materials. FraMCoS should go on organizing the triennial conferences, but also workshops, thematic or regional, plus sponsored sessions in other conferences and short courses.

Regarding the organization of the IA, he was pursuing to diversify it, meaning by that to get more women and practitioners in the Board. Besides, he announced that he, with the help of Carmen Andrade, was going to rewrite the Bylaws so as to define the IA vision, membership and to improve its governance. Once ready, the new set of Bylaws would be sent to members by e-mail or, alternatively, be posted on the web-site of the IA. They should also be confirmed by an e-ballot casted among the members.

With respect to FraMCoS-9, Victor Saouma announced that he had asked Eric Landis and John Bolander to co-organize the event. The location for the Conference had not been decided yet, although it could presumably be in Maine, California or somewhere in between. His intention for the conference was to introduce themes like:

- A. Theoretical research
- B. Experimental research
- C. Computational research
- D. Durability and coupled problems
- E. Applications

Victor Saouma also expressed that the development of the web-page of FraMCoS was important for the IA. Indeed, he had bought the domain framcos.org and had started a page where he had posted some FraMCoS documents and some info on the history of the IA. It could also work as a repository of test results and of model analyses. It could also have a section for members where announcements and solicitations could be made. He supported the development of a searchable database containing the FraMCoS publications, although expressed his concerns on the uploading of copyrighted material.

At this point Alberto Carpinteri indicated that it was Balkema that published the three volumes of FraMCoS-6 and that he thought that the publisher retained the copyright of all the material. (Note: Actually, the publisher was Taylor & Francis). Günther Meschke suggested that the web-site might also work as a platform to pose questions or benchmark problems, following the style of some scientific blogs.

(7) Transfer of the Presidency

Jan G.M. van Mier transferred the hammer to Victor Saouma. Victor Saouma gave a present to the former President, an image of Don Quixote engraved on a plate, to acknowledge his service and dedication to the IA during the past interval.



Transfer of the Presidency



IA-FraMCoS hammer

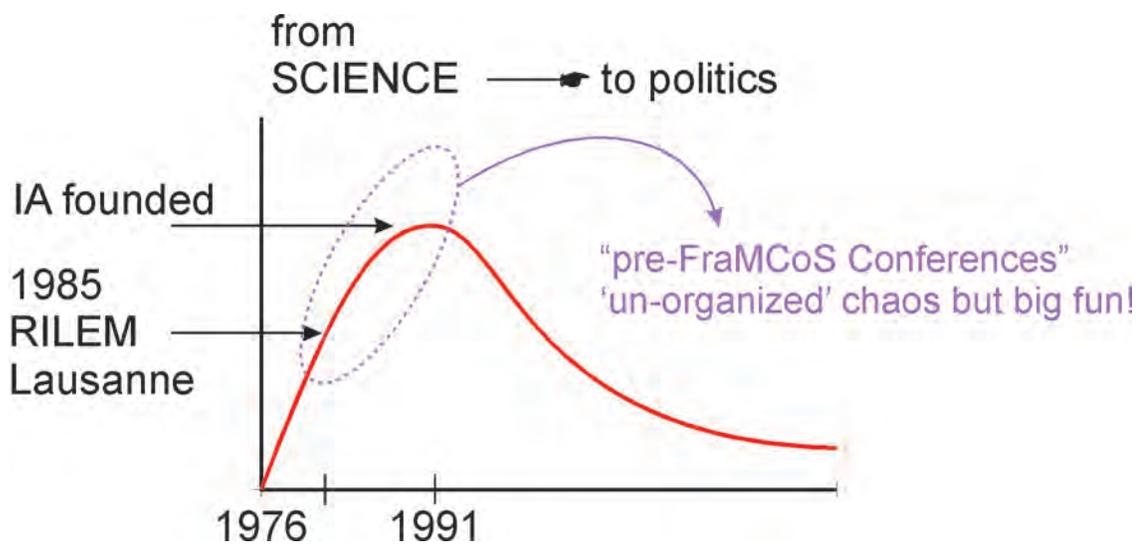
As there were no other business to deal with, the President closed the General Assembly at 13:45.

Gonzalo Ruiz, IA-FraMCoS Secretary

APPENDED DOCUMENTS

1. Figure from the presentation of Jan G.M. van Mier.
2. Presentation of Victor Saouma.

1. Figure from the presentation of Jan G.M. van Mier.



2. Presentation of Victor Saouma.

FraMCoS 9 (2016), USA

General Remarks

V. Saouma

saouma@colorado.edu

University of Colorado, Boulder

March 14, 2013

Acknowledgments

Thanks to my esteemed predecessor, Jan van Mier for his countless contributions

- **Experimental fracture mechanics**, numerous innovative tests.
- Brought new life to the **lattice models**.
- Dissemination of knowledge, **books**.

I first met him around 1984 when he came as a Post-Doc in Boulder to work with Kurt Gerstle. His PhD thesis **Multiaxial Strain Softening of Concrete** is by now a classic, and Kurt had worked with Kupfer on **Biaxial failure** criterion for concrete.

That was thirty years ago.

In Memoriam Kurt Gerstle †

1923-2013

- Kurt was a most inspiring teacher, colleague and friend.
- Many of you had a chance to meet him in Boulder, on the mountains or on campus.
- He was an enthusiastic early supporter of IA-FraMCoS, and enjoyed the visit of his numerous friends from around the world.
- On behalf of IA-FraMCoS, Would like to extend our condolences to his son Walter who is here amongst us.
- May I ask you that we observe a minute of silence.

IA-FraMCoS

I would like to extend my **thanks to Profs. Oh and Wittmann** who nominated me for the IA-FraMCoS presidency, I will try not to disappoint them.

Professional

Inspired by



Tony Igraffea



Kurt Gerstle



Kaspar Willam



Zdenek Bažant

VISION for FraMCoS

- Strengthen emphasis of the **Fracture Mechanics** in **FraMCoS**.
- Fracture Mechanics (and cohesive crack model) **support to**
 - **Durability** Corrosion, AAR, Sulfate Attack, Freeze-Thaw.
 - Coupled **transport/flow**
 - **Earthquake Engineering** connection with NEES.
 - **New materials** Fiber concrete, rock, polymers, ceramics, biomaterial
- Triennial conference, but also
 - **Workshops**
 - **Thematic** on a narrow field
 - **Regional**
 - **Sponsored**
 - **sessions** in other conferences
 - **Short courses**
 - **Facilitate** international research/collaboration.
 - Improved communication **new web page**

ORGANIZATION

- More diversified (gender) Board of Advisor, and **practitioner**.
- **Bylaws** will be revisited (Carmen Andrade and myself) and submitted to approval.
- Define **membership**, who is a member, what are the rights and obligation of members.
- **Governance** Roberts Rules 😞

FraMCoS-9



- Conference Organizers
 - John Bolander
 - Eric Landis
- **Where?** Somewhere between California and Maine
- Introduce Themes (tentatively), one “chair” will be assigned to each:

Theme A Theoretical

Theme B Experimental (B1: Material; B2: Components; B3: Structures).

Theme C Computational (C1: Micro; C2: Meso; C3: Macro; C4: Multi-scale).

Theme D Durability/Coupled problems (D1: AAR, D2: Chloride; D3: Freeze-Thaw; D4: Others).

Theme E Applications.

Web Site <http://framcos.org>

IA-FraMCoS

IA-FraMCoS

International Association of Fracture Mechanics for Concrete and Concrete Structures

What is the International Association of Fracture Mechanics for Concrete and Concrete Structures (IA-FraMCoS)

There are many conferences discussing damage, cracking and fracture of concrete, but mostly outside the context of fracture mechanics. There are many others dealing with fracture mechanics, but rarely with its application to concrete. To fill this gap was the motivation for founding FraMCoS.

Concrete is an archetypal quasibrittle material. It consists of brittle constituents and is characterized by a non-negligible material characteristic length which endows the material with a behavior that is transitional between the stress-strain relations for distributed damage at small scales and linear elastic fracture mechanics at large scales. This transitional behavior poses difficult challenges for theoretical, experimental and computational research.

Originally, IA-FraMCoS only activity was the triennial conference series with focus on concrete. Presently, it seeks to expand its activities to cover not only fundamental developments in concrete but also promotion of fracture-based approaches in engineering practice. Such an approach is long overdue in infrastructure life-cycle assessment (durability), environmental protection (long term waste storage, carbon dioxide sequestration), energy (nuclear vessels, fracking) and engineered design of new materials.

This will be accomplished not only through the perennial conferences, but also through seminar series, short courses (primarily to industry), and endorsements of high quality scientific research.

Past Conferences web pages

	Year	Location	Announcement	Program	Photos	Minutes
FraMCoS-8	2013	Toledo (Spain)	FraMCoS-8	Program-7		Minutes-7
FraMCoS-7	2010	Jelsu (S. Korea)		Program-6		Minutes-6*
FraMCoS-6	2007	Catania (Italy)	Announcement-6	Program-5		Minutes-5*
FraMCoS-5	2004	Vail (USA)		Program-4	Photos-4	
FraMCoS-4	2001	Cachan-Paris (France)	Announcement-3			
FraMCoS-3	1998	Gifu (Japan)	Announcement-2		Photos-2	
FraMCoS-2	1995	Zurich (Switzerland)	Announcement-1		Photos-1	
FraMCoS-1	1992	Breckenridge, (USA)				

* Board meeting and General Assembly minutes.

Honorary President

Z. P. Bazant (2004-)

Board (2010-2013)

	Board of Directors	Members
President-Chair	J.G.M. van Mier	C. Andrade
Past-President	B.H. Oh	T.N. Bittencourt
President Elect	V. Saouma	A.R. Ingraffea
Secretary	G. Ruiz	E. Landis
Treasurer	H. Jennings	V. Mechterine
		M. Ohtsu
		M. G. Pizzari

Conference organizers

IA-FraMCoS

FraMCoS-8 J.G.M. van Mier C. Andrade G. Ruiz

Membership

Under Construction.

First name*	Last name*	Year of birth*	Year
Position*	Department*	Institution*	
Country*	E-Mail*		

Archives

- FraMCoS History at a glance
- 1990-1993 FraMCoS founding documents
- FraMCoS ByLaws (revised in 2010)
- FraMCoS ByLaws (1995)
- Preface of FraMCoS 2 Proceedings by Whittmann
- Preface of FraMCoS 1 Proceedings by Bazant
- Photos Founding Meeting of FraMCoS

Contact

framcos@networks.org

<http://www.framcos.org/>

Web Site Web Site <http://framcos.org>

<http://framcos.org>

For the first time we will have a **permanent web site** portal to all our activities

- **Repository** of
 - All relevant **documents** (Bylaws, minutes, past announcements, photos)
 - Data base of contributed **test results and analysis models** (NEES model)
- **Members**
 - Composition of Boards (Directors, Advisors, others)
 - Membership application
- **Announcement**, solicitations
- **Searchable data base** of past papers, and FraMCoS conference presentations (Gonzalo Ruiz)

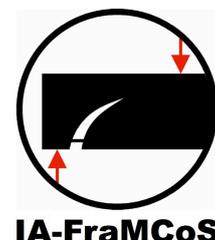
Looking forward to seeing you in the USA in 2016



Thank you for your attention.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE IA-FRAMCoS DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY BOARD. MARCH 10, 2013

Venue: Hilton Buenavista Toledo, Concilios de Toledo 1, 45005 Toledo
Date and Time: Sunday March 10, 2013 – 20.00-24.00h



Draft April 2, 2013. Revised and approved April 23, 2013

In attendance:

President: Jan G.M. van Mier
Past-president: Byung Hwan Oh
President elect: Victor Saouma
Secretary: Gonzalo Ruiz
Treasurer: Gianluca Cusatis [acting by proxi for Hamling Jennings]

Members of the Advisory Board:

Carmen Andrade
Stephen Foster
Eric Landis
Viktor Mechtcherine
Giovanni Plizzari

Not present:

Treasurer: Hamlin Jennings
Túlio Bittencourt
Anthony R. Ingraffea
Masayasu Ohtsu

Invited:

Folker Wittman

(1) Introduction

Given by Jan G.M. van Mier. He welcomed everybody present and introduced the topics that were about to be treated by reading the agenda displayed in the screen. The agenda had been sent to all Board members well in advance together with the following documents:

- Proposal for five new Fellows
- Amendments to the Bylaws
- Composition of the IA-FraMCoS Board
- Agenda for the General Assembly

(2) Brief outline of FraMCoS-8 (G. Ruiz)

Gonzalo Ruiz gave a presentation of the figures of FraMCoS-8. He said that there were 223 full papers accepted for presentation and published in the Proceedings, out of them 8 were plenary lectures and 29 key-note papers. In total there were 304 participants, including about 50 free registrations. It was particularly noteworthy that there were 84 students registered, about 33% of the academic participants.

Gonzalo Ruiz attributed the good attendance to the Conference to the appeal of the plenary speakers and to the work of the session organizers at the first place. Besides, the charm of the city of Toledo had also favored that people got attracted by the Conference. Moreover, the inexpensive registration fee (€550 for early regular registration, and only €300 for students) had also added to the Conference attractiveness.

Regarding the geographical distribution of the attendees, Gonzalo Ruiz showed two bar-graphs giving the number of delegates per country and per continent. Europe was the continent from where more delegates were coming (148 regular + 57 students), especially from France (29 + 6), Spain (20 + 14 academic and 28 non-academic), Germany (13 + 8) and Italy (16 + 2). The attendance from Asia (45 + 16) was headed by Japan (26 + 8) and China (6 + 5). The delegation from America (17 + 5) was mainly composed by delegates from the USA (11 + 4). Africa (7 + 1) and Australia (3 + 5) also had participants in the Conference.

Gonzalo Ruiz also presented the accounting of the Conference as of then. FraMCoS-8 income and expenses could be summarized as follows:

INCOME (in k€)		136.2
Regular fees	100.0	
Student fees	23.4	
Sponsorship	12.8	
EXPENSES (in k€)		130.0
Organization		
CIMNE	15.0	
Local Secretary	15.0	
Scholarships	5.0	
Acommodation	6.5	
Book and CD of Proceedings	9.1	
Print: Program, posters, badges	4.3	
Conference bags + gift	3.3	
Meals		
Welcome cocktail	7.0	
Lunches	18.0	
Coffee breaks	10.0	
Conference Dinner	14.0	
Social Program	5.0	
Invited speakers	6.0	
UCLM share	10.0	
IA-FraMCoS		
Web page	1.8	
Share [to be decided]		

Gonzalo Ruiz remarked that these figures of income and expenses should be regarded as provisional, since most of them could vary during the Conference.

Gonzalo Ruiz reminded that he and his team were organizing in parallel the 30th Meeting of the Spanish Group on Fracture, which was starting the following Wednesday in the same venue. They were going to share some of the activities, like the coffee-breaks and the social program. The main reason to have this meeting running in parallel was to make it possible the interaction between the FraMCoS community and the members of the Spanish Group on Fracture.

Moreover, the organizing team had also prepared a post-conference workshop on 'Nanotechnology and Sustainability in Construction', coordinated by Surendra Shah, which was going to take place on Friday, March 15. The lectures were going to be given by some researchers attending FraMCoS-8 (Carmen Andrade, Hans Reinhardt, Viktor Mechtcherine, Eric Landis, Chris Leung) and by others explicitly invited for the workshop (Surendra Shah, Maria K. Gdoutos and Jorge S. Dolado).

Finally, Gonzalo Ruiz thanked his University for letting FraMCoS-8 take place in its Campus of the Fábrica de Armas. It is a beautiful campus that uses the restored facilities of the historical weaponry factory of the city of Toledo.

(3) Organization of FraMCoS-9 in USA (2016)

Victor Saouma said that FraMCoS-9 would take place somewhere in the USA, not necessarily in Colorado. The place was not decided yet.

(4) Treasurer's report (G. Cusatis)

Given by Gianluca Cusatis acting by proxy for Hamlin Jennings. Gianluca Cusatis was proposed to replace Hamlin Jennings partly because he is a resident in the State of Illinois, USA, in which the IA is incorporated as a non-profit organization. Gianluca Cusatis reminded that this is convenient, since taxes there are very low. Folker Wittmann recommended not to move the IA from Illinois unless it is strictly necessary.

Gianluca Cusatis explained the data contained in the file sent by Hamlin Jennings reporting the financial activity to December 2012. The information of the file is reproduced below.

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The income from FraMCoS-7 was \$15,935, \$9,855 coming from the conference and another \$6,080 coming from the Korean Concrete Institute. Gianluca Cusatis said that it would be necessary to regulate how the Conferences contribute to the IA.

Folker Wittmann explained that at the beginning of FraMCoS it was felt that it was necessary to collect some amount of money to cover unexpected expenses, kind of having a short of insurance for critical situations that could arise. In the current situation it looks that there is enough money to fund the proposed prizes and it does not seem that there is a need to accumulate money endlessly.

(5a) Best-Paper Prize 2013 (V. Saouma)

Victor Saouma said that there were 30 papers opting for the prize to the best papers. Nevertheless, in the reviewing process only eight of them had been selected as possible winners by the scientific committee. Victor Saouma asked Eric Landis and Giovanni Plizzari to serve as members of the panel to decide which two papers will finally be winners. They were to read the papers and to attend the presentations. Finally, they were to meet on Wednesday afternoon to make a decision.

Victor Saouma said that each prize should be awarded with \$1,000. As the prizes started in Korea and there they were paid by the IA, Gonzalo Ruiz mentioned that he had made no budget provisions for these awards, although he could do so provided they were considered as part of the Conference contribution to the IA.

MOTION: Victor Saouma proposed a motion that the money to pay for these prizes should come directly from the IA. Gianluca Cusatis seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

(5b) IA-FraMCoS fellowships

Jan G.M. van Mier also reminded the proposal of the following five new fellows.

Christopher Leung (for his commitment as Secretary of the Board)
Keitetsu Rokugo (local organizer FraMCoS-3)
Jacky Mazars (local organizer FraMCoS-4)
Kaspar Willam (for organizing FraMCoS-5)
Pietro Gambarova (local organizer FraMCoS-6)

Gonzalo Ruiz recommended that Giovanni Plizzari also be proposed as a Fellow, since he had also been deeply involved in the organization of FraMCoS-6, which was supported by everybody present. It was recalled that the Bylaws only allow the appointment of 5 new fellows at every Conference, but it was preferred that the Bylaws were modified so that they did not limit the number. So, the appointment of the six new fellows was approved unanimously.

(5c) Yearly election of best PhD-thesis

Jan G.M. van Mier proposed the yearly prizes for the best PhD thesis in the field, again funded by the IA, to foster research on FM for concrete and concrete structures. His proposal had been made in writing so as to be added to the Bylaws. It reads as follows:

'In order to stimulate young researchers every year an award for the best PhD-thesis in the field will be granted. Selection of the winner from submitted proposals shall be judged by a jury chaired by the President Elect, who will ask two additional members. Theses produced in the research groups of the jury members will not be eligible for the prize.

Comment: The prize may consist of a certificate and USD 1000,- for each yearly winner. Only one PhD thesis can win in a certain year. If the quality of all submitted theses is considered sub-standard the prize will not be awarded in that year.

Certificates and prize-money can be handed to the winners during the next general assembly, which means there are up to three winners during each interval. Every year, for example in January, a call for submissions is circulated by the Secretary. Submissions should reach the Secretary six weeks after the call; the Jury will have 8 weeks for their judgment.

After some discussion, it was decided that the prize should be announced at the beginning of every year for thesis defended the previous year. As an example, by January 2014 the call will be made for the best PhD defended in 2013. The call will be made by e-mail and announced at the IA web-site as well. The panel to judge on the prize would be formed by one Board member plus, at least, two

fellows. Thesis written in a language other than English must provide an extended summary and/or two papers that summarize the thesis content (in which case the author of the thesis must be the first author of these papers). The panel should make a decision public by April. Besides the certificate and the monetary prize, the awardees may be invited to give a lecture on their thesis during the following conference. It is understood that their conference fees would be waived.

(6) IA-FraMCoS web-site (G. Ruiz)

Gonzalo Ruiz explained that he had been setting up a web-site for the IA. The web should inform on IA-FraMCoS and its activities. Gonzalo Ruiz explained that the web site can also be a repository of all the papers published by FraMCoS or in FraMCoS conferences. Indeed, the site contains a search-engine that is already working, although only the papers from FraMCoS-7 had been up-loaded so far, since they were provided in electronic format. Victor Saouma pointed out that there may be some copy-right problems at up-loading papers that are copy-righted by publishers. For instance, the Proceedings of FraMCoS-6 were published by Taylor & Francis and the publisher retains the copyright. In such cases it may be possible to obtain the right to upload the papers in our web-site at low or even no cost. Nevertheless, there were other conferences in which the IA retained the copyright of the papers, like FraMCoS-5, or others —like this one in Toledo— that let the authors retain their copyrights. In the last two cases the posting of papers in the web-site is straightforward.

It was agreed that having all the papers from FraMCoS conferences available in the IA web-site can be very convenient to disseminate interest in FM applied to concrete and to raise the interest in the IA activities.

(7) Nomination of next term directors and members of the Advisory Board

At this point the Board entered a discussion on the basic organization and purpose of the IA. It mirrored previous discussions maintained by e-mail before the conference. The main points were:

- The 'pendulum agreement' that had been assumed until then should no longer govern the decisions of the Board, since the Bylaws say nothing about it and such agreement could be detrimental to the rights of members from continents other than Europe.
- Membership. It had been agreed that attendees to FraMCoS conferences were considered members. But this was slightly ill-defined, since there had been many conferences and there was no record of the complete list of attendees. Besides, some of them might not know that they were members just because they attended a conference, or even they might not want to be considered members, since they had not applied for that. Indeed, the current Bylaws state that membership has to be applied in writing and so, strictly speaking, there are no members since there is no record of any membership application.
- IA-FraMCoS vision. Eric Landis wondered about what was FraMCoS vision. Gonzalo Ruiz said that IA-FraMCoS should do more than the triennial conference like, e.g., micro-conferences every year. Gianluca Cusatis gave the idea of fostering sessions in other conferences that may be sponsored by the IA-FraMCoS. For example, he is co-organizing EMI, a conference in which they allow this type of sponsored sessions. Besides, attention should be paid to disseminate information and advertise events like these ones through the IA web-page. Carmen Andrade reminded that there had been some discussions by e-mail on whether the IA activities should be more focused on pure FM applied to concrete or not. She expressed that there could be events focused on the main topics, but there should also be more open activities that target people interested in FraMCoS but whose activity is centered in another field. Jan G.M. van Mier concurred that there was no need to

narrow the conference themes, since there is always room for very focused sessions. Folker Wittmann pointed that there could also be sessions/workshops in specialized topics plus regional events that may facilitate the attendance of students. Jan G.M. van Mier proposed that it should be said in the General Assembly that IA-FraMCoS had the intention to organize specialized events and regional meetings on FraMCoS.

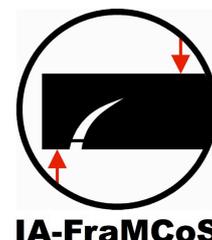
- New Bylaws. Victor Saouma mentioned that there was a need that the Bylaws were not only amended, but completely rewritten, so as to define the IA vision and to improve its way of functioning. Victor Saouma said that Carmen Andrade could do the job, since she had ample experience at directing scientific organizations. Folker Wittmann added that Bylaws should be reduced to the essentials, whereas there could be several 'manuals' to define particular aspects of the IA activities.
- New President-Elect & organization of FraMCoS-10 in 2019. There had been much controversy by e-mail on this point before arriving to Toledo. There were three proposals on the table: Viktor Mechtcherine proposed to organize FraMCoS-10 in Dresden, Germany; Maria Konsta-Gdoutos and Emmanuel E. Gdoutos presented a bid to take it to the Island of Rhodes, Greece; in the last days it had also been proposed to organize it in France by Gilles Pijaudier-Cabot. Besides, Chandra Kishen had expressed his intention of presenting a bid for the Conference to be taken to India, although the President did not allow him to do so since the 'Pendulum' required that FraMCoS-10 went back to Europe. In spite of having these several proposals, some in the Board expressed that there had not been enough publicity and that bids from everywhere should be considered. They pleaded for more transparency and democracy, which should imply an elective process involving all the members. Others manifested that the Board should go ahead with the rules it had been applying so far, thus making a choice among what was on the table, not implying that the Board should not facilitate changes to improve the IA in the future. Jan G.M. van Mier said that he would call the people responsible for the proposals to make a presentation on them during Tuesday afternoon, having the support of Stephen Foster and Viktor Mechtcherine. Victor Saouma said that he was not going to attend such a session as, in his words, it would be in violation of current bylaws and, thus, he would not recognize a president elected under those conditions. He added that he would support an open call for proposals that could lead to a fair election of the new President-Elect, which was backed explicitly by Gianluca Cusatis and Gonzalo Ruiz.

As there was no agreement on this last point, by midnight Jan G.M. van Mier decided to stop the meeting and to postpone the discussion until the following day at lunch time, in the Venta de Aires Restaurant, Toledo.

Gonzalo Ruiz, IA-FraMCoS Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE IA-FRAMCOS DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY BOARD. MARCH 11, 2013

Venue: Venta de Aires, Paseo Circo Romano 35, 45004 Toledo
Date and Time: Monday March 11, 2013 – 14.00-15.30h



Draft April 2, 2013. Revised and approved April 23, 2013

In attendance:

President: Jan G.M. van Mier
Past-president: Byung Hwan Oh
President elect: Victor Saouma
Secretary: Gonzalo Ruiz
Treasurer: Gianluca Cusatis [acting by proxi for Hamling Jennings]

Members of the Advisory Board:

Carmen Andrade
Stephen Foster
Eric Landis
Viktor Mechtcherine
Giovanni Plizzari

Not present:

Treasurer: Hamlin Jennings
Túlio Bittencourt
Anthony R. Ingraffea
Masayasu Ohtsu

Invited:

Folker Wittman

Jan G.M. van Mier called the meeting to order by 14:00. The discussion was centered again on how to nominate the new President-Elect and on who should organize FraMCoS-10. Most of the issues treated during the previous evening were revisited with few new ideas, if any, until Victor Saouma mentioned that he had taken the liberty of consulting Clement J. Carroll, who was the lawyer hired by Z.P. Bazant in the creation of the IA-FraMCoS and had worked on its incorporation to the State of Illinois. Victor Saouma said that he consulted the lawyer because there had been insinuation by some about dismantling the organization, and he felt that there were many misinterpretations of the Bylaws. Victor Saouma said that the lawyer recommended to define membership clearly, to retain the election of the new Board until it was clear how the IA had to operate and to revise the Bylaws. Carmen Andrade manifested her availability to do this task, as proposed by Victor Saouma. All these tasks could be done in a certain time frame and from then on the General Assembly should be consulted on these topics, physically or by any other means.

After additional discussions, the idea of following the advice of C.J. Carroll gained some strength. It was provisionally agreed that his advice should be followed.

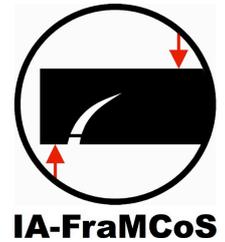
Besides the discussions, Carmen Andrade gave the piece of news that she was to receive the Willis Rodney Whitney Award of 2013 given by NACE International for her significant and widely recognized contributions to corrosion science. Everybody present congratulated her on that honor.

As the Conference had already started, the meeting could not be extended after 15:30. Jan G.M. van Mier called the Board again for a new session in Berlin Room of Hilton Buenavista Hotel the following day by 20:00.

Gonzalo Ruiz, IA-FraMCoS Secretary

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE IA-FRAMCOS DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY BOARD. MARCH 12, 2013

Venue: Hilton Buenavista Toledo, Concilios de Toledo 1, 45005 Toledo
Date and Time: March 12, 2013 – 20.00-23.30h



Draft April 2, 2013. Revised and approved April 26, 2013

In attendance:

President: Jan G.M. van Mier
Past-president: Byung Hwan Oh
President elect: Victor Saouma
Secretary: Gonzalo Ruiz
Treasurer: Gianluca Cusatis [acting by proxi for Hamling Jennings]

Members of the Advisory Board:

Eric Landis
Viktor Mechtcherine
Giovanni Plizzari

Not present:

Treasurer: Hamlin Jennings
Carmen Andrade
Stephen Foster
Túlio Bittencourt
Anthony R. Ingraffea
Masayasu Ohtsu

The President, Jan G.M. van Mier, called the meeting to order by 20:00. After the discussions that had been maintained until then, finally there was a consensus on how to proceed for defining and organizing the membership, electing the new President-elect and members of the Board of Directors and Advisory Board and modifying the Bylaws of the IA.

- 'Pendulum agreement'. It was decided that such agreement is no longer valid.
- Membership. The attendees of the last three Conferences, FraMCoS-6, 7 and 8 will be considered members and, so, they were to be entitled to vote in the GA or in the electronic voting process that might start soon. Such membership should be renewed every interval in writing, either directly by addressing a letter to the Secretary or by indicating that he/she wanted to continue as a member while registering to the following Conference, FraMCoS-9.
- Next term directors and members of the Advisory Board. As there had been no controversy but on the President-Elect, it was agreed to submit the following nominations to the General Assembly for their approval:

Secretary: Gonzalo Ruiz

Treasurer: Gianluca Cusatis

Members of the AB for 2 intervals: Gideon P.A.G. Van Zijl and Xiaozhi Hu

Members of the AB for 1 interval: Carmen Andrade, Jan Cervenka, Frederic Ragueneau and Chandra Kishen

With regard to the auditors two proposals were made by Victor Saouma, the first that they be selected amongst the fellows, and the second in which he nominated Byung Hwan Oh and Folker Wittmann.

- New President-Elect & organization of FraMCoS-10 in 2019. A general call for applications to the position should be made during the GA, with no restriction based on the 'pendulum mechanism' neither of any other kind. The only pre-requisite is that potential candidates must have made notable contributions to FM for concrete and concrete structures. The applications could be submitted during the following six months. After receiving them, the Board would evaluate them and would make a selection of three candidatures that would be sent to all members for their perusal. The Board should organize an electronic ballot among the members so that they vote who the President-Elect would be. Details on how to organize the e-ballot had to be worked out, but it was clear that it should guarantee both confidentiality of the votes and the transparency of the counting.

Victor Saouma made explicit that the President-Elect gets in office as President right after the GA. He also said that he did not want to be Past-President after his term and stressed that this particular statement be included in the minutes.

Victor Saouma announced that he had asked Eric Landis and John Bolander to assume the organization of FraMCoS-9. The location for the Conference had not been decided yet, although it could presumably be in Maine, California or somewhere in between.

- New Bylaws. Victor Saouma and Carmen Andrade would make a new set of Bylaws that would be sent to members by e-mail or, alternatively, be posted on the web-site of the IA. They should also be confirmed by an e-ballot casted among the members.

Jan G.M. van Mier assumed that all the points of the Agenda for the Board meeting had been addressed and satisfactorily solved and thus closed the meeting by 23:30.

Gonzalo Ruiz, IA-FraMCoS Secretary