

Minutes for the IA-FramCoS Board of Director Meeting at Vail, Colorado

During the conference at Vail, two separate board meetings were held. The first meeting was attended by the Board of Directors and the FraMCoS-5 organizers, while the second meeting was attended by the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board members. The minutes for the 2 meetings are given separately below:

First Meeting

Date: April 11, 2004

Attendees:

Victor C. Li (VL), President
Alberto Carpinteri (AC), President Elect
Christopher Leung (CL), Secretary
Hemlin Jennings (HJ), on behalf of Zdenek Bazant, Treasurer
Kasper Willam (KW) and Sarah Billington (SB), on behalf of the FraMCoS-5 organizing committee

Apology:

Rene de Borst, Past President

Remarks on the Organization of FramCoS-5

KW reported that the total revenues received from registration were around \$60,000 after paying administrative fees to the University of Colorado. In addition, a total support of \$23,000 had been committed by various organizations. This included a sum of \$15,000 from NSF, which was dedicated to the Interface Workshop on April 16. The estimated expenditures for the conference were around \$59,000, so the budget was rather tight. KW mentioned that the \$380 registration fee had been determined 2 years ago when the US dollar was very strong. In hindsight, this seemed a bit low. For the next FraMCoS conference, it might be possible to increase the registration fee a little bit to put us in a better financial condition.

250 copies of the 2-Volume Proceedings had been published. After the conference, remaining copies would be sold for \$80 per copies, including shipping. Several months later, unsold copies would be donated to libraries.

According to VL, the publisher (American Concrete Institute) ~~had misquoted~~ quoted a the very favorable price when signing the agreement with us to publish the Proceedings with ACI contributing to some cost of having the proceedings published. To have Proceedings of similar quality for FraMCoS6, we should expect the cost to be higher. The quality of the published proceeding is very good.

VL made a remark that we should follow former practice and try to contribute \$5,000 to IA-FraMCoS after the conference. On the other hand, the expenditure for student stipend to attend FraMCoS5, which amounted to \$5,000, should be coming out of IA-FraMCoS. These two amounts would thus balance out one another.

VL also reported on the procedure for the offering of student stipend. The decision was essentially based on merit after reviewing the CV submitted by the student and the supervisor's recommendation letter. The student should be presenting the paper, and first authors had higher priority. VL remarked that he forgot to set a deadline for the application, and strongly recommended that **an application deadline for student stipend should be set and published early in advance** for future conferences.

If there is a positive balance after the conference, the Board agreed to use the extra funding in the following priority:

- (1) Provide partial support to the 7 keynote speakers (e.g., waiving of registration fee) to show our appreciation
- (2) Provide support to the organizers, in the priority of KW, Yunping Xi and VL.

The Organization of FraMCoS-6

AC suggested to open up the conference to researchers in Masonry, Ceramics and Rock, to facilitate the exchange of ideas with colleagues of these related fields. VL asked if AC has decided on a specific theme for FraMCoS-6. He pointed out that a good theme could help participants find a suitable focus for their presentations, and could drive the direction of research. AC agreed to come up with a theme for FraMCoS-6 and presented it at the IA-FraMCoS General Assembly to be held on April 15.

VL asked if AC had plans to co-organize FraMCoS-6 with other Italian Universities. AC would consider this issue.

About the venue, AC would look into the possibilities of holding the conference at an attractive location in Italy (e.g., around lakes in Northern Italy).

Treasurer's Report

HJ gave the treasurer's report on behalf of Zdenek Bazant. With a balance of \$19,723.48 (based on last statement in Jan.2004), the financial situation was very healthy. VL moved to accept the report, and the motion was carried with unanimous support from the Board.

In view of the growth in IA-FraMCoS revenue over the years, VL suggested to increase the number of student stipends from 5 to 7 for FraMCoS-6. This proposal received unanimous support from the Board.

Second Meeting

Date: April 12, 2004

Attendees:

Victor C. Li (VL), President
Alberto Carpinteri (AC), President Elect
Christopher Leung (CL), Secretary
Hemlin Jennings (HJ), on behalf of Zdenek Bazant, Treasurer
Kasper Willam (KW), Toshioki Hashida (TH) and Henrik Stang (HS), members of the Advisory Board

Apologies:

Rene de Borst, Past President
Hans Reinhardt, Milan Jirasek, Franz Ulm, Hirozo Mihashi, H.Horii, members of the Advisory Board

Proposals for the Organization of FraMCoS-7

Three separate proposals for the organization of FraMCoS-7 were received from:

- (1) Prof. Appa Rao, from IIT Madras
- (2) Prof. Ravindra Gettu, who will join IIT Madras in the coming months
- (3) Prof. Byung Hwan Oh, from Seoul National University

The Board assumed that Prof. Rao and Prof. Gettu would organize the conference together so there were actually 2 proposals to be considered. VL told the Board that B.H. Oh would organize the conference together with researchers from Yonsei University and KAIST.

After some discussions, VL called for a motion to have FraMCoS-7 held in Korea. The motion was seconded by HJ and TH. The motion was carried with a 6:1 vote, and so FraMCoS-7 would be held in Korea and B.H. Oh would be nominated as President-Elect of the next Board of Directors.

The Board would like to encourage the Indian colleagues to consider the hosting of FraMCoS conference the next time it is held in Asia.

Plausible Coordination with Euro-C

Euro-C is a higher visible conference in Europe on the numerical modeling and computational aspects of Concrete Fracture. The conference is held every 4 years, and will have a direct conflict with FraMCoS-7 in 2010. The organizers of Euro-C would like to see if it is possible to have FraMCoS conferences staggered in time with Euro-C conferences. In this case, however, we would have to change the frequency of FraMCoS conference to 4 years as well. As there was no urgency to decide on this issue, and the Board felt that further discussions with

Euro-C organizers would be necessary, this issue was left for consideration by the next Board of Directors.

Nomination of New Directors and Advisory Board Members

In the new board, VL would become the Past President. AC was nominated as President and B.H. Oh nominated as President-Elect. CL was re-nominated as Secretary and HJ nominated as Treasurer.

Regarding the Advisory Board, all members except Milan Jirasek and Franz Ulm, would rotate out of the board. Jaime Planas and Henrik Stang were nominated to serve on the Advisory Board for two intervals and their appointments would have to be voted at the General Assembly. It was agreed that AC would be given the right to choose the remaining 4 members of the Advisory Board. They should be chosen to expedite the organization of Framcos-6 in Italy.

Minutes for the General Assembly of IA-FraMCoS (2004)

Date: April 15, 2004

Venue: Vail, Colorado

The President, Victor Li, called the assembly to order and welcome the members. He reported that there were a total of 186 registrants at FraMCoS-5. During the 4-day conference, 7 keynotes and over 150 papers were presented. He acknowledged the assistance of Kasper Willam, Yunping Xi, Sarah Billington and Christopher Leung in the organization of this successful event.

The election of new Directors was then conducted.

Alberto Carpinteri (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Christopher Leung) was elected unanimously as President

Byung Hwan Oh (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Ravindra Gettu) was unanimously elected as President-Elect

Christopher Leung (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Zdenek Bazant) was unanimously re-elected as Secretary

Hemlin Jennings (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Kasper Willam) was unanimously elected as Treasurer

Election of new Advisory Board members was then conducted. Henrik Stang (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Surendra Shah) and Jaime Planas (nominated by Victor Li, seconded by Zdenek Bazant) were unanimously elected as Advisory Board members to serve two terms on the Board.

Victor Li announced that the present Board of Directors had agreed to give the new President the right to select another four Advisory Board members, who would serve one term on the Board.

Alberto Carpinteri gave a brief report on the organization of FraMCoS-6 in Italy. The conference theme would include Design of Concrete Structures and Non-destructive Evaluation of Structures. He would invite participation of researchers in related disciplines including rock, ceramics and masonry. The venue was not yet finalized and various locations in Italy (such as the lake regions in the north, the seaside and the southern part) would be considered. For the organization of the conference, a local committee would be formed among Italian colleagues.

Byung Hwan Oh gave a short speech as the new President-Elect. He mentioned that there were many researchers in Korea with interest in Fracture Mechanics of Concrete. With their support, he would try his best in the organization of FraMCoS-7. He believes that there is a need for more advanced yet simple approaches to employ fracture mechanics in the practical design of reinforced and prestressed concrete structures. This is going to be a challenge to the researchers in this field.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Zdenek Bazant. The balance, as of Jan. 2004, was \$19,723.48. Jacky Mazars, one of the organizers of FraMCoS-4, mentioned that \$5,000 had been transferred to IA-FraMCoS after the last conference. However, this amount did not show up in the report. Zdenek Bazant would look into this matter once he returned to office after the conference. Victor Li moved to accept the report (noting that the above matter will be resolved between J. Mazars and Z. Bazant afterwards). The motion was seconded by Ravindra Gettu, and passed with unanimous support from the members.

Post-Meeting Note: It was discovered that due to the move of Jacky Mazars from Cachan to Grenoble, the sum of \$5,000 was never transferred to IA-FraMCoS due to some bureaucratic problems. Prof. Mazars has fixed the problem, and a sum of \$5808.92, rather than \$5,000, has been transferred to our organization.

Victor Li moved to establish the new position of Honorary President for IA-FraMCoS. The motion was seconded by Ravindra Gettu and passed with unanimous support from the members.

Victor Li then moved to elect Zdenek Bazant as the Honorary President. The motion was seconded by Bhushan Karihaloo and passed with unanimous support from the members. Zdenek Bazant then gave a speech to thank the FraMCoS members for this honour. In the speech, he highlighted the important role of IA-FraMCoS in the creation of a system to coordinate research on the fracture mechanics of concrete, with emphasis on the science of fracture mechanics.

Folker Wittmann suggested that an archive of programs, photographs and President's speech should be created to keep record of former FraMCoS conferences. It was agreed that relevant information should be sent to Christopher Leung, who would organize the materials and post them on the IA-FraMCoS website.

To officially transfer the Presidency, Victor Li passed the hammer to Alberto Carpinteri.

The General Assembly came to a close.