

May 19, 2013

Dear Colleagues:

At the Board of Directors meeting in Toledo (March 2013) it was decided that all participants at FraMCoS 6, 7 and 8 were *de facto* members.

As such, I created a FraMCoS group (within Google) and sent just under 1,000 invitations to those conference participants to join and become “official members”.

About 210 responded positively, and this first newsletter is being addressed to you in order to bring you up to date with some of the latest developments of your organization.

WEB SITE

One of my first projects was to develop a [web site](#) for the organization (as opposed to individual conference).

I invite you to consult it, as it contains a wealth of information:

PROCEEDINGS

All the papers presented in FraMCoS 8, 7 and 6 (more coming), that is about 800 papers are available as individual pdfs. To facilitate your search, there is an internal Google Search Engine (and a translator :-)

WORKSHOPS

The board agreed that we should be more present during the three years separating one conference from another. As such, local or thematic workshops will be either offered or sponsored by FraMCoS. Already one such (sponsored) workshop is planned for December 2013. I am asking all workshop organizers to make sure that presentations will be uploaded to our web site for the benefit of others.

DATA REPOSITORY

Inspired by [NEES](#), I am creating a repository where researchers could share with others experimental data, and/or input data files, and results of analysis they performed. Those files could in turn be downloaded and benefit a much broader audience. Board of Advisor member Prof. Chandra Kishen has offered to help in this task.

MINUTES/ARCHIVES/STATISTICS

In these pages you will find minutes of the Board of Directors and General Assembly meetings. You could also access the “Archive” section which contains some historical document, or the “Statistics” section which lists all the key facts associated with each of the previous 8 conferences.

FINANCES

Thanks are extended to our Treasurer, Prof. Cusatis, for ensuring that the legal status of our association is kept in tune with the legislation of the State of Illinois (where IA-FraMCoS is registered), and updating us on the status of the finances. Prior to FraMCoS-8, the association had a balance of about \$49,000. It paid for the two Young Researcher Best paper Award \$2,000.00, and we are still waiting to receive the contribution of FraMCoS-8 organizers.

Prof. Oh, and Wittmann were selected as Auditors for the finances of our association. They were given “carte blanche”, and asked to remit a final report by FraMCoS-9.

NEXT PRESIDENT

We had some “spirited” discussion in Toledo about the geographical location of FraMCoS-10 and the geographical origin of the President. It was finally recognized that we are not legally bound to a “pendulum” euro-centric system which prevailed so far (America-Europe-Asia-Europe-America), and thus the next President Elect could be selected from any country. As a result of these lengthy discussions, we were unable to select/elect a President elect in time by the end of the conference.

Furthermore, whereas in the past the Board of Directors selected a President Elect and the General Assembly (composed of those who stayed until the last day of the conference) endorsed him without much deliberation (to the best of my knowledge the GA has never been presented two candidates to select from), things are changing.

It was decided for this round that a formal solicitation for the role of President Elect will be issued ([you can download it here](#)), that the Board will select two or three and then ask you as members to electronically vote.

GOVERNANCE

It has also become clear to me that our governance needs to be revisited. Presently, we have 5 Directors, supported by 8 Advisors, and at least 2 conference organizers and 2 auditors.

With 15 members, it is at time nearly impossible to achieve coherent discussion, let alone consensus. Also, do we need 15 people for our limited activities?

As such I have asked Dr. Carmen Andrade to help me in revisiting our Governance, and propose a new set of Bylaws (and Operating procedures) for our organization in light of its 24 years of operation.

It is my intention to proceed with the election of the President as soon as possible, so that (s)he can participate in the Bylaws revisions and play an active role in the organization (s)he will be leading in 2016.

I look forward to work with you in reinvigorating our association, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question, concern or suggestions.

FRAMCOS-9, USA

Prof. John Bolander (UC-Davis) and Eric Landis (Univ. of Maine) are co-organizing this event in 2016. Site location has not yet been identified.



Thanks and Regards,

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