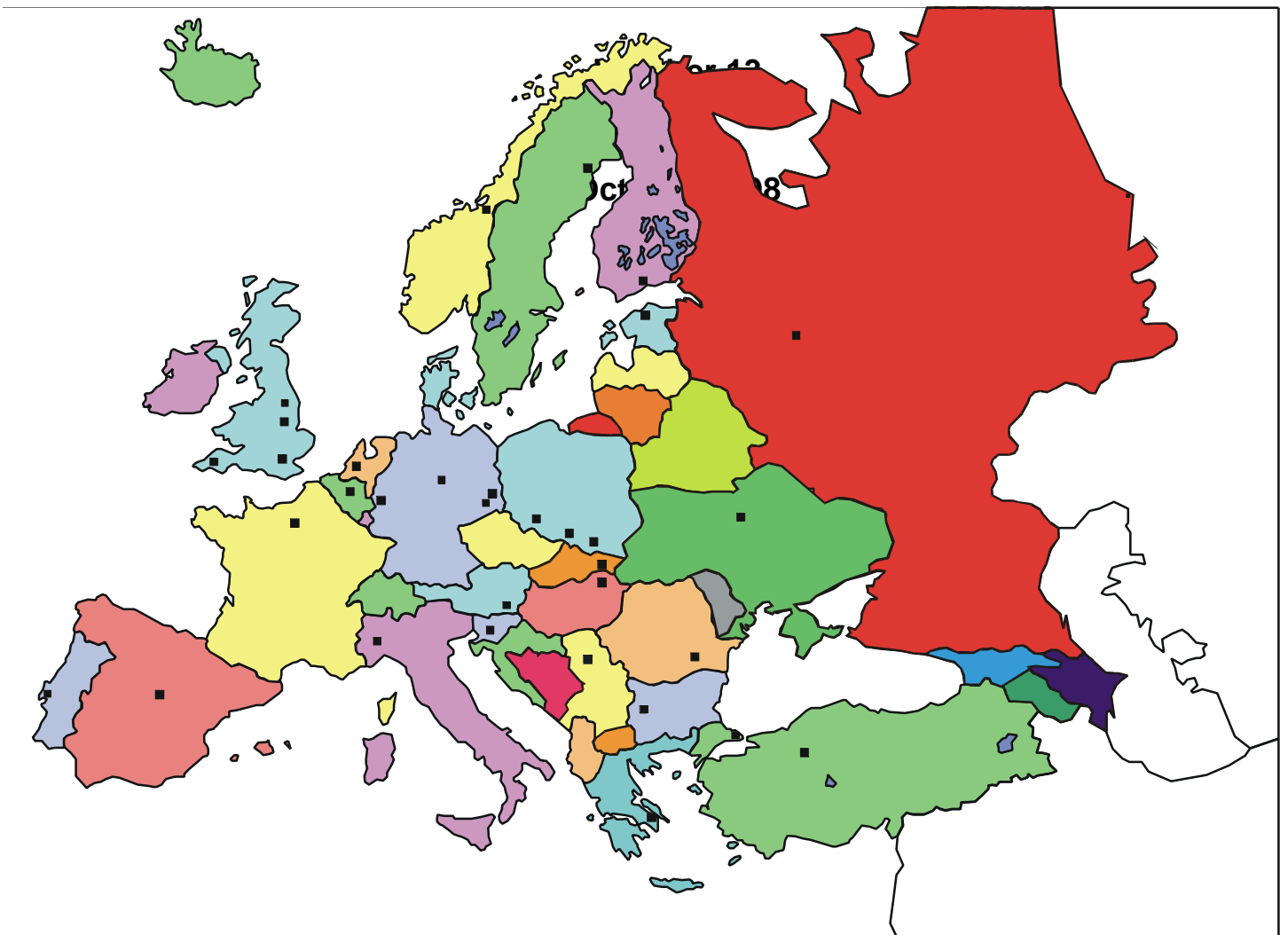


**NEWSLETTER**

**SOCIETY OF MINING PROFESSORS**



**SOCIETÄT DER BERGBAUKUNDE**





## Editorial

Another annual general meeting is now over and the minutes are reported later in this Newsletter. It is pleasing to report that the turnout for the meeting was the best the Society has yet had and it was a very good meeting as a result. The meeting was held with Eurominerals and there was a representative from Euromines there too. So we were able to exchange ideas about the future of mining in Europe with those two organisations.

Next year, in Germany, in Düsseldorf from June 8 – 10, 1999 there will be held an International Congress on Mining for Tomorrow's World. This is part of Minetime 99. At the recent meeting of the Society it was noted that for various reasons, mainly financial, the original ideas of Dr. Nemitz, of a major presence at this event of Eurominerals and the Society, had been watered down and we seemed to be left with a 2 hour press conference within the exhibition. It was reported that Dr Neu from Saarmontan has the power of decision and it was agreed that Profs Wilke, Stoll, Shaw and de Ruiter would form a small committee and would get into discussion with Dr. Neu as to what could be done.

The first meeting took place on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1998 and the result was that the press conference was confirmed for June 11, 1999. ~~The~~ A summary of the minutes of that first meeting are also in this copy of the Newsletter. Most importantly we are calling on all our member universities to send us a variety of materials if they have them.

Firstly, with regard to information about the educational sector itself:

“Mr. J.J. de Ruiter will ask the European universities to send samples. The best of these will then be selected for use.” Please send one copy of your brochures to:

J.J. de Ruiter  
Faculty Applied Earth Sciences TU Delft  
Mijnbouwstraat 120,  
2628RX Delft  
The Netherlands

Secondly, with regard to educational videos:

“Euromines is would like to borrow video material to be used (after permission) for a video about the mineral industry in Europe. Please send any videos available to Dr C. Hebestreit at Euromines.”

And thirdly there is also the possibility of a CD-ROM :

“Euromines is interested in CD-ROM material to look at a possible CD-ROM for schools in Europe. Please send any material that might be of help in this to Dr. C. Hebestreit at Euromines”.

Dr. C. Hebestreit  
Euromines  
Ave. De Broqueville 12  
B-1150 Bruxelles  
Belgium”

Any of you reading this editorial who may have any of material which might be of use for any of the above, or who have any other ideas for the event, please get in touch with one of the members of the Society's working committee and let us know your thoughts. We will be continuing to work on this in the near future and need all the input we can get.

And finally, I have now sent you all your invoices for your annual subscriptions. It must be remembered that the subscription to the journal Mineral Resources Engineering is paid out of your annual subscription to the Society, (in fact it is the bulk of the subscription, the running costs of the Society otherwise are very low). So, as I have no other source of funds to pay those subscriptions, please all of you who have not yet paid send me your Society dues as soon as possible. Thank you.

**I also have an urgent request to send us your e-mail address. This will enable us to keep you up to date with the latest news more frequently. Please send a message to: “mineprofs@ta.tudelft.nl”**



**MINUTES OF THE 9TH ANNUAL GENERAL  
MEETING  
POLITECNICO DI TORINO - CARRARA  
Sept 12 to 16, 1998**

Most of the registrants arrived in Carrara on Saturday 12th. September, and were accommodated in various hotels spread along the sea front of Carrara/Massa. There was a welcoming cocktail party held at the headquarters of Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara S.p.A. on the evening of the 12th for those who arrived in time, and registration also started then. On Sunday 13th June there was to have been a cruise along the Tuscan and Istrian coast. However, the sea was too rough so a bus tour to Porto Venere, sightseeing and lunch there followed by a cruise, on slightly less rough seas in the bays, from Porto Venere to La Spezia via Lerici was arranged instead. This gave the delegates and their accompanying persons a good impression of the Tuscan and Ligurian countryside and coasts. After this very interesting day there was a dinner in the evening at the Club Nautica in Marina di Carrara.

#### Day 1

The official opening of the meeting took place on the morning of Monday, 14th. September in the very good conference facility of Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara S.p.A.

The turn out was the best we have had yet for any meeting. 37 members actually attended the meeting. The members attending the meeting were:

Professors Y.G. Agafonov, V. Badino, U. Bajzelj, V.F. Byzov, I.V. Dementiev, B. Drzezla, M. Duchene, S. Eskikaya, J. Fabian, G.B. Fettweis, M. Georgescu, H. Gerhardt, W. Helms, W.T. Hennies, N. Ilias, M. Karmis, V.A. Kharchenko, W. Knissel, F. Kovacs, Y. Kuzmin, E. Lechner, P-A Lindqvist, R. Manana Vazquez, R. Matikainen, J. Palarski, (S. Pelizza), H.R. Phillips, F. Pla Ortiz de Urbina, J.J. de Ruiten, P. Särkkä, C.T. Shaw, Z. Somosvari, R.D. Stoll, W. Vogt, S. Vujec, F.L. Wilke, U. Yamaguchi and J. Yamatomi.

Note that Prof. Pelizza's name is in brackets because though he was there as President of the Society to welcome the participants on Saturday, he did not attend or take part in the actual meeting.

Sincere thanks should be recorded to Prof. Badino who took the load of organisation of this joint meeting with Eurominerals and to also thanks go to all those who assisted him in the planning and running of this conference.

(22 countries were represented - Austria, Brazil, Croatia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America.)

The opening ceremony was held in the conference room in the headquarters of Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara S.p.A., a very nice and comfortable venue. Firstly, Prof. Badino, as Vice-President of the Society, (Prof. Pelizza, the President did not attend the actual meeting), welcomed us all to Carrara and to the joint meeting of the Society of

Mining Professors/Societät der Bergbaukunde and EUROMINERALS. He welcomed all the delegates and those persons from EUROMINES who were also attending the meeting.

He then introduced the mayor of Carrara, Mr. Segnanini, who also welcomed the delegates and gave a talk on the importance of marble and the quarry industry to Carrara. Mr. Segnanini was thanked by Prof. Badino who then introduced Dr. Rabito, the managing director of Internazionale Marmi e Macchine Carrara S.p.A. who is to be thanked for the use of his company's facilities. Dr. Rabito gave us an interesting talk on the position of the ornamental stone industry in Italy and the background to it.

After these two welcoming speeches, Dr. F. Maranzana, the Chairman of the Mining Association of Italy, gave us a talk on Mining in Italy. He regretted that classical mining has gone. Up to the 1950s there were as many as 100,000 people employed in mining. However, now the last metal producer - of lead and zinc has closed and the only base metal production in Italy is some lead as a by-product of fluorite mining. Italy has one remnant coal mine. However, like most other European countries there is still a large industrial minerals industry with 21 companies producing silica sands, feldspar, bentonite, kaolin salt and of course talc. Italy has some of the best talc in the world. Some five to six million tons mined in all. In the past, each sector of the industry had had its own association, but now all are being brought together in the Society of Georesource Extraction.

Prof Shaw then highlighted a few of the problems in mining education as he saw them. The universities were getting too few students (in most countries), they had staffing problems and there were probably too many universities offering mining engineering in Europe. In most countries of the EU mining was seen as dying or dead as the quarry industry was not seen as mining. However, there were still the Europe based multi-nationals who did like to have employees from their own countries.

Another aspect was that universities were becoming more and more like businesses and one was expected to make a profit - which meant large numbers of students, in the UK a class of less than 20 is considered too small. The solution for Europe seemed to be that industry should make the governments understand that it still wanted the graduates, but that it wanted excellence. As each university would probably consider itself excellent, it would have to be outside judges which selected for excellence.

After a break for coffee the second session started with Prof Shaw giving a brief history of and introduction to the Society and what it was and was trying to achieve. He was followed by Prof. L. Segers, the President of Eurominerals, who gave a brief background and history of Eurominerals and how it had developed. It was a federation of the professional societies of the various countries of Europe. It now had a number of sub-committees, the most important from our point of view being the one on R&D and Education. This committee tried to keep good liaison with DGXII and DGIII of the Commission.

Prof. Segers was followed by Dr. C. Hebestreit of Euromines. She gave us the background to that organisation which is a development out of Eurometaux



(representing the non-ferrous metal industries in Europe). It membership consists of 8 national mining federations and a few major mining companies. Its functions are:

Lobbying the European Commission, Parliament and Council

Providing a discussion platform and services to its industries

Keeping an eye on environmental matters, in particular any legislation which might be applied to the mining sector and health and safety matters

Research and development – the fifth framework programme

Image and communication

And External affairs in particular looking at Europe; the CEEC, the CIS and central Asia and China. In this it liaises with Eurometaux.

She emphasised that in R&D the projects most likely to get funded were ones where the technology developed, while it would be useful for mining, would find other uses in other sectors of industry – something with cross-sectorial applications. It was important to involve the developing world in the research if possible, and it should be joint action with industry.

Euromines was also helping with the image of mining and education. They wanted to supply basic information on mining and would need help and know-how to do this. Education was a major issue.

Finally in External affairs Euromines was fostering co-operation with the CIS and other developing world countries, with a special focus on health and safety.

There followed some lively discussion. Prof. Karmis pointed out that universities needed to generate and distribute resources, focussed on their core business of education and research. But there was now, in the USA, no government money for R&D, and unless industry is prepared to invest itself the research base would dwindle. Dr. Hebestreit said the Euromines could not do anything about the reduction in funding by industry, and there was a problem with industry funded research of confidentiality. It was easier to generate multi-company funding if companies from different sectors could be involved.

Prof. Wilke pointed out that part of the problem was the profit minded attitude of the current university administrations. In the new EU Framework programme mining was rarely mentioned, but it should be possible to generate interdisciplinary proposals with at least 2 countries and industries. Prof. Wilke was willing to act as a focus for exchanges of ideas. In the 5<sup>th</sup> Framework, countries outside the EU are eligible, including most of Eastern Europe and including these might be a help.

Prof. Segers addressed the problem of competition and suggested that in choosing industrial partners choosing them 'vertically' – producer, end user and so on – would be the best bet to overcome the problem.

Prof. Fettweis then asked what had happened to the original intention of this meeting for the Society and the two other organisation to produce a 'Rome Declaration' with regard to raw materials production. He felt this was still needed as the image of mining was still decreasing and there were

some opportunities ahead to improve the image. However, for example, in the World Exhibition in Germany in 2000 georesources are not a theme. Something needed to be done to change this. Part of the problem seems to be that industry does not want to spend any money on it and this could be a long term mistake.

Dr. Hebestreit responded that to change the image a number of groups needed to be targeted and firstly there is a need to define clearly on who does what. Euromines was currently ~~focusing~~ **focussing** on the EU. Her member national federations tended to concentrate on their own governments. So the **Society members should talk to their national federations and companies**. Some of the ideas that might be used were:

A major press conference for 1999-2000

Action on public opinion – especially getting the message into primary and secondary schools

A web page giving information

A CD ROM to put into the schools

Prof. Segers pointed out that Eurominerals had wanted to make a video but could not find the minimum of ~~Ecu~~ 150,000 **Euro** that would be needed to make it. Prof. Fettweis said we need to make sure that our own industry is aware of the need to improve its image and maybe the Society should write a letter. Prof. Karmis pointed out the just about every mining company in the US had volumes of materials for this purpose. They were busy financing the most spectacular exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute in Washington as part of their programme. This would be a 10 year exhibit and was costing a lot but they felt it would be worthwhile. There is a huge volume of material out there and it can be obtained.

Dr. Maranzana suggested that we needed to do the calculations of the effect of stopping all mineral production of any kind in the EU and find out what the import replacement bill would be. He felt this could be used to scare some action out of the politicians.

There was a suggestion that industry should provide the funding and Dr. Hebestreit asked what each of the delegates was going to do. The message she put across was that if we wanted funding we would have to prepare a proposal in as much detail as a research proposal and put it to industry before we were likely to see any funds. There would be no blank cheques!

The final message was that each one of us and the Society must do our bit or nothing will happen.

At this point the discussion was halted and representatives of Atlas Copco came in and gave a short presentation of some of the equipment made by that company. In particular the merits of the Swellex rock bolting system were explained. The meeting then broke up and the delegates went out to have the traditional photograph taken of the attendees of the Annual Conference of the Society. This year's photograph also of course includes the delegates from EUROMINERALS and EUROMINES. After that a break for lunch was taken.

Due to the fact that Prof Badino was slated to attend both this meeting and the Eurominerals one going on in parallel, he was asked to give his talk on mining education in Italy immediately after lunch. He gave a brief history of mining education. There was currently low mineral production,



high import reliance, no mining policy but there was a long history and tradition of mining in the country. The result had been a big change in mining education.

It was interesting to note that while Pliny had written histories of mineralogy and metallurgy, underground mining in Italy had been forbidden during the Roman period. The modern attitude seems to be much the same, shifting the production to the third world.

Mining education was started in Italy in 1752 with the foundation of a school of Mineralogy. In 1820 an actual mining school was founded. However, in 1989 mining was abolished as one of the engineering disciplines. In 1910 the following engineering disciplines were recognised in Italy:

Civil, Mining, Industrial engineering

In 1960 these were augmented to include:

Aeronautical, Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Electronic, Mechanical, Mining and nuclear engineering

In 1989 they were changed to:

Aeronautical, Chemical, Computing, Management, Materials, Telecommunications and Environmental & Territorial engineering

The latter includes georesources engineering, geotechnical engineering, soil protection engineering, environmental engineering and territorial planning. The result has been increasing numbers of students.

Prof. Eskikaya asked who would now run underground mines? Prof. Gecchele defended the changes and is very enthusiastic about them. At this point Prof. Badino asked Prof. Davini from the University of Pisa to give a brief description of the new course they have started in

	Royal School of Mines	Camborne School of Mines
First year	12	14
Second Year	6	23
Third Year	11	35
Fourth Year	3	
TOTAL	32	72

The major problems facing the universities were:

- Accreditation - B.Eng./B.Sc. will soon not be recognised as a full engineering level degree courses by the engineering institutions.
- Staffing - It is becoming almost impossible to attract mining engineering staff at any level to teach at university.
- Research - This is now the key criterion for university staff. Research funding is not easily available.

All British University degree courses in Engineering have to be accredited by one of the Professional Engineering Institutions to enable the graduate to operate as a full engineer. The Engineering Council has indicated that in future the three year engineering degree courses will no longer be registerable for full Chartered Engineer status. It will be noticed from the above table that there is only one mining engineering degree course with students currently on it which meets the four year criterion. Secondly there is an indication that students entering universities with low

Mechanical Engineering for Marble Production. It is a 3 year diploma course and details of it were given. It is not a degree course at present.

Prof. Shaw then gave a brief talk on the changes that are taking place in the UK. There are four universities offering mining engineering degree courses. Three of the four have recently combined a number of departments into one larger school (effectively a larger department). The fourth Camborne is on a separate campus from the rest of the university of which it is now part. The institutions are:

- Imperial College of Science, Technology & Medicine - Royal School of Mines – the T.H. Huxley School of Environmental, Earth Sciences & Engineering
- The University of Exeter - Camborne School of Mines
- The University of Leeds - School of Process, Environment & Materials Engineering
- The University of Nottingham - School of Chemical, Environmental & Chemical Engineering

In addition there is one technical college – Doncaster College – the better students of which doing their national diploma in mining, can get their degree upgraded to an honours degree in Quarrying by spending an additional year at Leeds University, or an honours degree either in Mining Engineering with Electrical Studies or Mining Engineering with Mechanical Studies by spending an additional year at Nottingham University.

The estimated numbers of students for the academic year 1998-1999 were:

	Royal School of Mines	Camborne School of Mines	University of Leeds	University of Nottingham	TOTALS
First year	12	14	16	7	49
Second Year	6	23	12	7	48
Third Year	11	35	18	12(5)	76
Fourth Year	3				
TOTAL	32	72	46	26	176

entry standards might not be acceptable to the Engineering Council for study on the four year courses. There are very few students entering mining who meet the higher required entry standards at present. It is also possible, with the changes being forced on the content due to the above mentioned mergers, that these courses will also no longer be eligible for exemption when earning a mine manager's certificate in South Africa and Australia for example.

Both in the UK and in the USA the staffing of the mining departments is becoming difficult. Firstly academic salaries are now so far out of line with industry that it is almost impossible to attract people from there back into academia. It is also of course equally hard to hang on to those that are at universities as it is difficult to face the fact that many of their first time graduates get starting salaries not much less than a long term lecturer earns.

Secondly, the emphasis at all the best universities in those countries is now on research. However, government research funding in mining has all but dried up and also industry is not spending much. The result is that there will



be a lack of PhDs earned and as a result fewer eligible people who might become university staff.

So the UK situation is more or less stable but still very difficult.

Prof. Kuzmin then gave a short talk on the situation in Russia. He was talking in place of Prof. Puchkov who regrettably could not come due to the situation in Russia at the time of the meeting. The student numbers are healthy, indeed Moscow is expecting 950 students to enter this academic year. The Russian system divides mining into 10 specialities and so these students would be spread over those fields. With these sort of numbers they are optimistic about mining education. It is a little hard to imagine though that there will be jobs in mining for that number of graduates each year.

Mr. Hans de Ruiter then gave an update on the European Mining Course. This is of course the joint fourth year between the Helsinki University of Technology, the Delft University of Technology, the RWTH Aachen and the Royal School of Mines. The third cohort of students was starting in Helsinki even as he was talking. The course had been well received and supported by industry. The students on it unanimously considered it to be better than they could have had without it. Mr. De Ruiter gave a very good talk on the course in general.

After a short discussion of the information given in these talks there followed a fairly comprehensive discussion on membership. This arose from a recommendation by Prof. Mousset-Jones that the membership of the Society be thrown open to all mining professors world wide. This was discussed fully and the problems involved were aired. It was pointed out that mining education in Europe was not yet in a stable state and that we still had many problems to discuss and take concerted action on. Secondly, there was already a problem of the venues for the meetings and the organisation of them, and this would be exacerbated if the whole world were included. So, while it was agreed that the Society needed to expand its membership, it was reaffirmed that Professors at European universities should be actively recruited, but that those from universities outside Europe should be recruited on a selective and invitation only basis. A slow increase of non-European membership was the target. The objective was still to have as broad a coverage within Europe as possible and also to have representatives from most major mining countries, but on a selective basis. China and countries in South America other than Brazil, which is already represented, were mentioned as countries from which members needed to be sought.

The meeting closed at 6.00 p.m. and the delegates were bussed back to their hotels to change and then were taken on an excursion to the town of Carrara where there was an International Sculpture exhibition. This was very interesting and was followed by a pizza supper in Marina di Carrara.

## Second Day

In the morning the Society started with the normal business meeting. Before starting on the main business Professor Kharchenko made the announcement that Prof. N. Ilias had been elected a member of the Russian Academy of Science

and congratulated him on this and handed him a certificate of membership.

Apologies were received from Profs. Brady, Brenner, Bulychev, Dowd, Dunham, Fotieva, Ghose, Hardygora, Martens, Mousset-Jones, Pavlovic, Potts, Puchkov, Ramirez Oyanguren, Reuther, Sitz, Sokolov, Stead, Strzodka, Uchino, Vervoort, Wagner and Weber.

The minutes of the previous meeting held in Helsinki in June 1997 had been circulated and were accepted as a correct record.

The date and venue of the **next meeting** was the next item for discussion. This will be hosted by the Urals State University of Mining & Geology, and will be held in **Ekaterinberg from 10th to 14th July, 1999**. The university is in an area of great mining activity and there should be some very interesting technical visits attached so it is recommended that all members plan to be there.

Since the Urals State University of Mining & Geology was the next venue for the meeting of the Society, by the rules of the Society Professor Dementiev was unanimously elected as the President of the Society for the period from the end of this meeting until the end of the meeting in Ekaterinberg in 1999. Please note that this is a change from what was decided last year when London was chosen for 1999. The reason for this change is explained below.

The venue/s for the following meeting/s were then discussed and it was agreed that the next meeting after Russia would be in Spain, in Seville hosted by the Universidad Polytechnica de Madrid, in the year 2000. For the very good reason that the year 2001 is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Royal School of Mines in London, the Society agreed that the 2001 meeting will be held there. It is planned to have this take place in conjunction with the other celebrations of that event.

Other bids were received from Professor Byzov of the Krivoy Rog Ore Mining Institute with the meeting planned to be held in Yalta and from Prof. Eskikaya of Istanbul Teknik Üniversitesi. These proposals were narrowly outvoted, but the bids are in and will be considered for future meetings.

The **Council** for 1998/99 therefore consists of, **Professor Dementiev**, President, **Professor Shaw**, Secretary General, **Mr. Hans de Ruiter**, deputy Secretary General, **Professor Pelizza**, immediate past President, **Professor Badino** immediate past Vice-President, **Professors Matikainen**, the past president but one, **Professor Fettweis** and **Professor Karmis**. It was noted that also due to be on council was the president elect who is the person due to run the next but one meeting. In this case it is not yet clear who from Madrid will be the president so that post will be filled when their decision comes through.

General discussions then started. The first item covered was Minetime99 in Germany in 1999. There was to be a joint declaration with Eurominerals on the value of mining to the EU. After some discussion a small sub-committee consisting of Professors Badino, Fettweis, de Ruiter, Shaw and Wilke was formed to do the preparation of this draft



document to be discussed with Eurominerals. Some work has already been done on this it was pointed out.

Further comments on the issue of enlargement were then raised. Professor Fettweis said that there should be no change in the statutes of the Society, but that we should slowly enlarge, taking in outside members where interest was shown. It should be done very slowly. Professor Badino agreed that this was the way to do it and said that a decision to this effect should be recorded for this meeting.

Both Professors Karmis and Fettweis then moved the topic of some mechanism whereby younger faculty could attend the Professors meetings. This would be in the interest of bringing them on, developing them and their expertise. It was also suggested that it might be possible that students might be invited to attend part of the meetings too. It was agreed that this would be a topic for discussion in Ekaterinberg, and members who have suggestions in this regard should send proposals to the Secretary General.

The next item to be discussed was the paper by Professors Galvin and Roxborough included in Newsletter 11.

Professor Fettweis disagreed strongly with the sentiments in the first paragraph of that paper following the heading 'Mining Engineering as a Discipline'. He not only disagrees in the concept that mining is not really a separate discipline, but also that it is so intimately tied to the industry that it could not be taught without it. There was general agreement with Prof. Fettweis in this matter. Prof. Wilke also did not like the idea of the teaching being moved to the mine and done by mining staff. His opinion was that mining is a science and should be taught as such. It is of course vital for mining engineers to get practical experience, but this should be to reinforce the science they have been taught and not to replace it.

Professor Phillips pointed out that he separated the discipline into skills based material and knowledge based material. The skills based material might be able to be taught in fairly short stints at a mining site, but the knowledge based material needed to be absorbed over a much longer time frame. Others to comment and agree with the general trend of the comments on this paper were Prof. Lindqvist and Prof. Särkkä. The consensus was that science based mining was still being developed and that the universities are needed to continue with this process.

Professor Pla then raised then issue that most people, and even many of the mining professionals limited what was understood by the term mining. In his opinion it was the recovery of anything from the earth which was not animal or vegetable. (If it didn't grow then somebody somewhere mined it.) He urged the Society not to take the narrow view, not to limit ourselves. Most agreed with him and agreed that this was part of the message that needed to be got across.

The discussion, led by Prof. Badino, then widened out into the careful use of 'non-renewable' resources. We could not recover these without making changes to the environment and this needed to be fully understood and managed. Sustainable use of resources was vital.

Prof. Pla pointed out that while this was agreed, up to now the mining industry had taken a defensive attitude to the

attacks on environmental issues. What was needed was a counter attack procedure rather than acting defensively. He pointed out (and most agreed with him) that there are in fact no finite resources. We know now of more resources in the ground of just about everything than were estimated for the Club of Rome report, and this despite the mining that has taken place since that report was generated. The only shortages that really occurred were of the so-called 'renewable' resources!

At this point Professor Lindqvist told the members about the new course they have developed in Luleå called 'Management of Controversial Projects'. This had grown out of a course in the management of nuclear projects. He gave a brief outline of what was taught and it seems to be a good course. Of course, all mining projects of any kind can now be looked upon as controversial, and so this course will be of great assistance to the industry.

At this point the discussion went back to Minetime. Prof. Duchene pointed out that for various reasons, mainly financial, the original ideas of Dr. Nemitz had been watered down and we seemed to be left with a 2 hour press conference within the exhibition. It seems that Dr Neu from Saarmontan has the power of decision and it was agreed that Profs Wilke, Stoll, Shaw and de Ruiter would get into discussion with him as to what could be done.

There were a few other matters discussed at the meeting. It was pointed out that there is a direct flight from Frankfurt to Ekaterinberg on Lufthansa which may ease the difficulties of getting there. It was also agreed that another topic for discussion at the next meeting would be the development of Mining Sciences.

This ended the meeting and Professor Shaw thanked Professor Badino for a very good joint meeting, well organised both with regard to the working sessions and to the touristic part of the meeting. Of course he was thanking him as the only person so far who had had to run the meeting as Vice-President and not as President. Professor Shaw and the Society then welcomed Professor Dementiev as the President for 1998 - 1999.

The meeting was then closed.

Following this the delegates were again bussed to their hotels to change and then the buses took them on a visit into the mountains to the famous Carrara marble quarries. This was a most fascinating visit. In the evening there was a final dinner on a wine farm - out under the trees and stars, looking down on the lights of the coastal towns. This was a most enjoyable affair with the delegates from the Ukraine adding much to the evening's musical enjoyment.

On Wednesday there was a visit to Pisa where the delegates were given a very comprehensive picture of the work that is going on there to save the famous tower. This was followed by sightseeing in Pisa, lunch and then sightseeing in Florence. That then was the end of a most enjoyable meeting. Those of you who did not manage to attend really missed a very good meeting indeed.



## PRESS CONFERENCE – MINETIME '99

### Summary of the Minutes of the Meeting between the Minetime '99 Sub-committee of the Society of Mining Professors, and representatives of Euromines & Eurominerals

Aachen - 26 October, 1998

Present: Euromines: Dr. C. Hebestreit  
 Eurominerals: Dr. T. Neu,  
 Prof. L. Segers  
 The Society : Prof. P.N. Martens,  
 Dip.-Ing. L. Rattmann,  
 Prof. F.L. Wilke,  
 Prof. R.D. Stoll,  
 Ing. J.J. de Ruiter

- It was decided to organise a press conference during Minetime '99, with the objective of getting the message across to the press, (and thus the public) that the minerals play an essential role in Europe (mankind depends on them). The industry is a modern one, which takes care of the environment and that this industry offers interesting employment with a good future. The target audience is the public at large, not the mining professionals.
- This will be done by:

- Recruiting a well known speaker (Jacques Santer, E.U. or Mr. Ruud Lubbers (ex prime minister of the Netherlands).
- One paper will be given by industry (Mr. Antero Hakapaa, president of Euromines) covering the importance of minerals, etc.
- One paper will be given by a representative of education (Ing. J.J. Hans de Ruiter, Society of Mining Professors) covering the important roll of research and education.
- A chairman / moderator will be selected from Eurominerals (Prof. Luc Segers).

- The conference will be held in the morning of June 11, and will be followed by a round table conference, with other experts present to help answer questions from the floor. This will be followed by a lunch where a young professional will give a talk about his experiences in the industry. In the room will be posters from industry regarding new developments, with young professionals present to give explanations of these. There will also be room for the European universities to have brochures available.
- The papers will be in English, all other material can be in either English, German, French or Spanish.
- The possibility of having display space in the "non-profit" section of the main fair will also be investigated.
- The logos of all three organisations will be used.

? Arising from this there were the following agreed Action points:

Organise room	Eurominerals, Prof. L. Segers	Either a cheaper one at the conference, or one at an hotel nearby.
Paper from industry	Euromines, Dr. C. Hebestreit	Final paper deadline May 1 <sup>st</sup> , 1999. Drafts will be sent around when available
Paper from the Mining Professors	Society of Mining Professors, Ing. J.J. de Ruiter with the assistance of Professors F.L. Wilke, R.D. Stoll, P.N. Martens, G.B. Fettweis and C.T. Shaw	Prof. F.L. Wilke will ask Prof. G.B. Fettweis for material. The target date for the paper to be ready is March 3 <sup>rd</sup> 1999
Opening speaker	Eurominerals will first ask Jacques Santer. If this is negative, or not reliable, then Ing. J.J. de Ruiter will ask Mr. Lubbers.	To be completed before January 1 <sup>st</sup> 1999
Posters	Eurominerals, Prof. L. Segers	This material must be ready by January 31 <sup>st</sup> 1999 and is to be sent to Dr. Neu
University material	Ing. J.J. de Ruiter will ask universities to send samples. The best of these will then be selected for use.	The deadline for receiving samples from the universities is March 1 <sup>st</sup> 1999
Press	Euromines, Dr. C. Hebestreit. Companies will probably sponsor the journalists travel	
Logos	All parties are to send their logos to each other.	
WWW	All parties are to refer to each other's www sites. (they must send the web address plus a short description to the other organisations)	



- Other items of discussion:
  1. Euromines is would like to borrow video material to be used (after permission) for a video about the mineral industry in Europe. Please send any videos available to Dr C. Hebestreid at Euromines.
  2. Euromines is interested in CD-ROM material to look at a possible CD-ROM for schools in Europe. Please send any material that might be of help in this to Dr. C. Hebestreit at Euromines.
  3. Prof. F.L. Wilke drew attention to the upcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Framework research programme of Brussels.
  4. ~~Ing.~~ J.J. de Ruiter and Dr. C. Hebestreid will visit Brussels regarding funding of the European programs.
  5. ~~Dr. C. Hebestreid will send Ing. J.J. de Ruiter information about www-pages (www.....org).~~
  
- Date of next meeting: 22 February, Aachen, 14.30