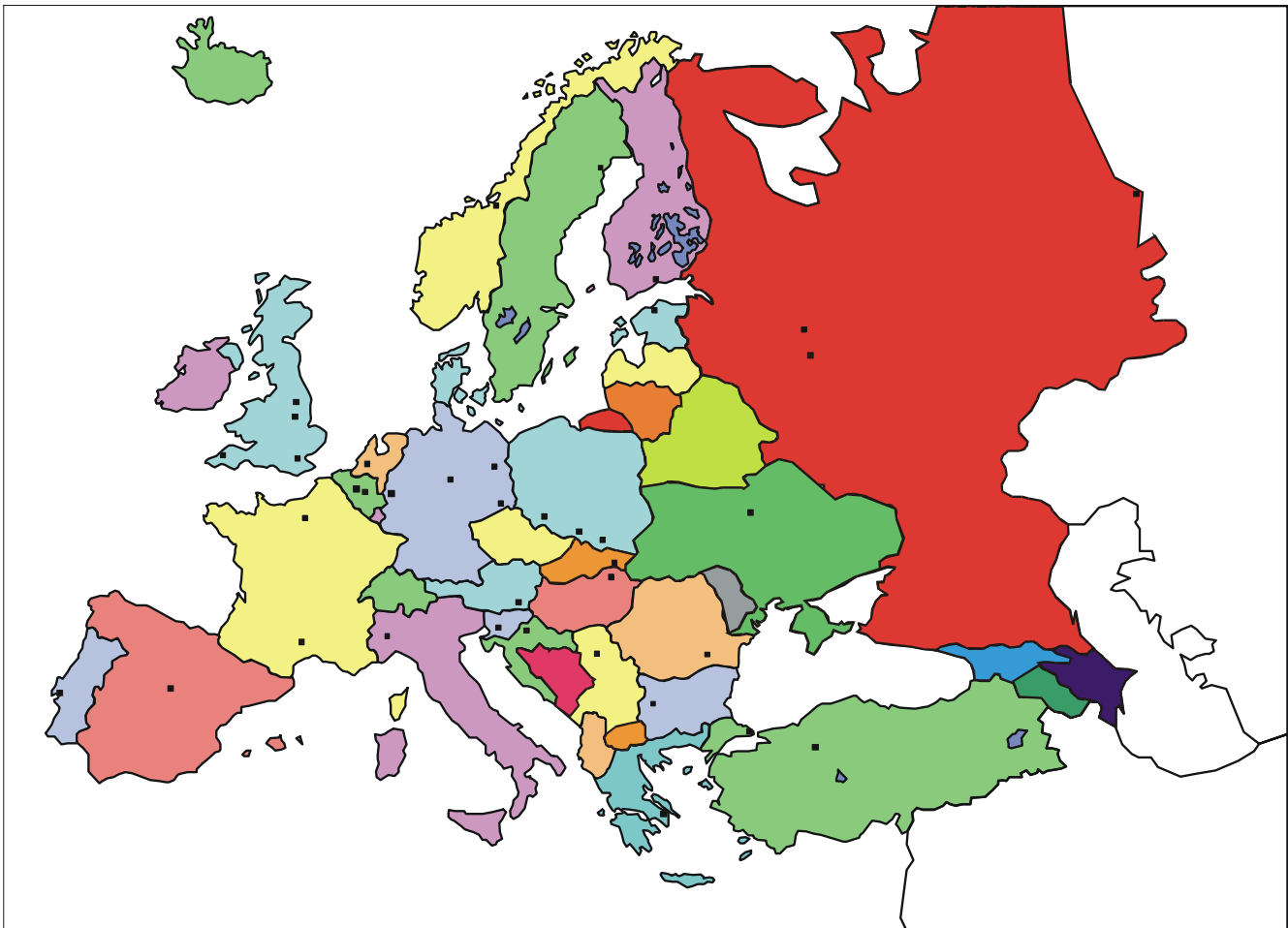


NEWSLETTER

**SOCIETY OF MINING PROFESSORS**



**SOCIETÄT DER BERGBAUKUNDE**



**Number 24**

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## Editorial

Another Annual General Meeting is now over and a very good one it turned out to be. It was held in Freiberg in Germany and the attendance was the second best the Society has ever achieved with 43 professors taking part. As ever there was a good programme of social events as well as an interesting and useful series of business sessions.

Most importantly though, the initiative started in Milos to look at the way the Society works and to try and regenerate ourselves to be more effective, took a further step forward. In Newsletter 23 the results of the meeting of the special committee set up to look at the future of the Society was reported. This material was incorporated into a draft new constitution for the Society and this was debated at the Freiberg meeting.

The result of these discussions was a new, interim, working constitution on which the Society will operate for the coming year. During this period a full new legal document, along the same lines will be developed for discussion, and hopefully acceptance by the members, in Ankara next June. I urge you all to read this document, and if you have concerns please let your Secretary General know so that the final constitution really reflects the wishes of the members.

Another point of interest from the meeting was that it was pointed out that the present Secretary General would complete his third term of office at the Ankara meeting and wished to hand over to his successor in a measured way. In the light of this, Prof. Mike Karmis was elected as the next Secretary General with his term of office starting in Ankara in June next year. He and the present incumbent will work together through the intervening period to ensure a smooth hand over.

There were numerous interesting papers presented at this year's meeting and they are available on the Society's web site at <http://www.mineprofs.org/>

At the business meeting in Freiberg, a resolution was adopted which gave the Society a new set of statutes under which to operate for the coming year only. This document is reproduced here in full (the last one in this Newsletter). I urge you all to read it carefully as it forms the basis for the proposed new statutes which will be being developed over the coming year for presentation and ratification at the next AGM. If you have any concerns please let the Secretary General know what they are.

You will have gathered from some of the remarks above that the next AGM of the Society will be held in Ankara in Turkey. The dates will be roughly the same as this year, that is from the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2005. These meetings are good and are producing useful work – I urge as many of you as can to reserve those dates in your diaries now to ensure that you can take part in the formulation of the future constitution of your Society.

## Members need to:

- **Read the new constitution and pass on any comments to the Secretary General**
- **Help to elect their regional representative to the new council**
- **Put the date of the next meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2005 in Ankara in Turkey in their diaries. We need a good turnout as the final constitution is due to be ratified at that meeting.**

## Officers of the Society

The new officers of the Society are:

**President: Prof. Pasamehmetoglu**  
**President-elect: Prof. Rybar**  
**Immediate Past President: Prof. Drebenstedt**  
**Secretary General: Prof. Shaw**  
**Deputy Secretary General/Treasurer: Prof. de Ruiter**

## Council

Also on council are Profs. Fettweis and Karmis as co-opted members at present. There remain to be elected to council the regional representatives.

## Membership Committee

The new membership committee consists of:

**President: Prof. Pasamehmetoglu**  
**President-elect: Prof. Rybar**  
**Immediate Past President: Prof. Drebenstedt**  
**Secretary General: Prof. Shaw**



**MINUTES OF THE  
15<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF  
THE SOCIETY OF MINING PROFESSORS/  
SOCIETÄT DER BERGBAUKUNDE**

**JUNE 12-16, 2004, FREIBERG, GERMANY**

The 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Society took place in the old mining town of Freiberg, in the Erzgebirge (Ore Mountains) in Germany from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> June, 2004.

Those attending the meeting were Profs. Y. Agafonov, Z. Agioutantis, G. Badino, U. Bajzelj, C. Buhrow, C. Drebenstedt, B. Drzezla, G. Fettweis, J. Galvin, H. Gerhardt, T. Golosinski, M. Hardygora, B. Hebblewhite, M. Karmis, V. Kharchenko, W. Knissel, Y. Kuzmin, E. Lechner, J. Likar, W. Lukas, K-H. Lux, P. Martens, P. Mousset-Jones, K. Nielsen, Ch. Nieman-Delius, J. Palarski, A. Pasamehmetoglu, H. Phillips, F. Pla Ortiz de Urbina, L. Puchkov, J.J. de Ruiter, P. Rybar, P. Särkkä, T. Shaw, D. Stoll, R. Thompson, K. Uchino, I. Valgma, A. Vervoort, S. Vujec, L. Wilke, H. Wolff

(This was the second highest attendance so far, only the Delft meeting with 45 attendees has attracted more participants. This meeting might have had the highest attendance had all the potential delegates received invitations, but several people, even some of those on the programme, seem not to have received invitations from the organisers.)

21 countries were represented - Austria, Australia, Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Holland, Italy, Japan, Norway, Poland, Russia, Slovenia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, U.S.A.)

#### **The Weekend of Arrival**

Arrival for many of the attendees was during Saturday the 12<sup>th</sup> and the delegates went first to their various hotels. In the evening we all went to the main square of the town from whence we were ferried to the Alte Elisabeth Mine, owned by the Bergakademie, and a bit of a museum. We were regaled with beer and rather nice food and then shown around the mine surface arrangement which included some magnificent old, still operational beam engines and a wonderful old compressor.

Sunday the 13<sup>th</sup> there was a guided tour of the town of Freiberg, ending with a rather good lunch. Then we were bussed to the Königstein which was a wonderful old fort, never conquered. From there we went down to the river Elbe, passing nearby and boarded a genuine paddle steamer and steamed down river to Pillnitz where there was a rather magnificent palace. Here we had a look around followed by a dinner at the castle hotel. After dinner we bussed back stopping in Dresden on the way to see the ancient centre of the city and the restoration of the bombed church.

This ended the pre-conference activities, which as always, had given delegates an insight into the history and culture within which their host university was operating.

Prof. Drebenstedt welcomed the participants to Freiberg.

He then introduced the Rector of Freiberg University, Prof. Unland, who added his formal welcome. He gave us a good overview of the University and its history. At the end of his talk Prof. Drebenstedt gave the Rector one of the silver medals which had been specially struck for this meeting.

Prof. Drebenstedt then introduced Dr. Schmidt the Chief Inspector, who welcomed the delegates on behalf of the state of Saxony and also gave delegates an insight into the state of mining in Saxony today. He too was presented with the medal and thanked by Prof. Drebenstedt.

The third speaker introduced by Prof Drebenstedt was Dr. Schächter, the General Manager of the German Mining Association. He gave a very interesting talk on the German Mining Industry and this is available on the Society's web site.

The presentation of a medal to Dr. Schächter completed the opening session and the delegates broke for coffee and informal discussions.

#### **First Working Session Morning – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> am – Constitutional Revisions**

Chaired by Profs Karmis and Shaw.

Since this meeting was to have the chance to discuss some fairly dramatic changes in the constitution of the Society proposed by the Special Sub-committee on Constitutional Reform, the session was introduced with a brief first look at the new constitution, a draft of which had been included in the documents handed to delegates on registration.

Prof. Karmis, as chairman of the sub-committee chaired this part of the session. He reminded members of the purpose of the meeting of the special sub-committee on the Future of the Society, which meeting had been held in January in Delft. He then summarized the report of that meeting. He pointed out that there were recognised many interdisciplinary matters. Also addressed were matters like education and research. Many things are the same across the whole of the mining educational spectrum, but there were also differences which were regional, like co-operation programs between universities and so on.

He reminded delegates that the report was not 100% global, because not every region was represented, in particular there was very little about the far east.

He suggested that the next step is to decide what the Society should be doing, what was still needed in the future and how would the Society have to change in the future?

This led on to discussion about the new statutes in more detail. To lead this certain aspects were highlighted. Firstly it was pointed out that the new statutes, under article 6, envisaged much broader membership in the Society, both disciplinary and career wise.

There was then a lively discussion highlighting various points which still needed attention. (Such as whether the term miner-



als should be used instead of mining, correcting Chemnitz to Schemnitz and adding its present name of Banska Stiavnica.)

The broadening of the membership was confirmed and agreed that people such as experts in mine surveying and mineral processing would now become eligible for membership. The idea is to admit all those who are involved in mineral education and research who wish to join.

Prof. Karmis also pointed out that at the associate member level there could be admitted persons from industry who have interest (e.g. Corinne Hebestreit from Euromines)

Prof. Golosinsky suggested, at the end of a lot of debate on 'minerals education', that the name should be changed to Mining and mining related education. Prof. Särkkä pointed out that Universities should be preparing people for production, not just for research and teaching.

Chapter III, the new council was discussed and it was pointed out that it was proposed that there be regional representatives elected by members from the regions concerned. It was expected that there would also be regional meetings to discuss regional issues in future.

Council could also still co-opt 2 additional people for a specific reason if it so wished. Another change was that the post of President and the Host of the next AGM need no longer be the same person.

On the voting it was indicated that only members and associate members would have the vote, and also Emeritus members as they would now have expressed an interest in continuing and also would be fee paying members of the Society.

Another important new provision was the new post of Deputy Secretary General and Treasurer. There followed some discussion on the people involved, but the results will be included in the minutes of the business meeting later on in the newsletter.

Another innovation was that it was intended that the President-elect would indicate what he intended to achieve during his year of office as President. (The next president, Prof. Pasamehmetoglu indicated that in his case it would be the re-launch of the journal Mineral Resources Engineering.)

It was pointed out that subscription rates would be decided upon by council, but that they would be endorsed by the membership at the AGM. The current membership fee for both members and associate members is Euro 40.00 per year.

A vote was then taken and it was agreed that a small group would work on the changes so far indicated and produce another version of the statutes to be discussed at the Business meeting of the Society.

At this point the meeting broke for the lunch break.

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### **Second Working Session – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> pm – Education**

This was a session of papers presented by various members. Each of these is available on the Society's web site for reference if members are interested in seeing them.

The first presentation was by Hans de Ruiter, on the present state of the co-operative courses in Europe. This was followed by Prof Palarski talking on Mining Engineering education in Poland. Prof Golosinski gave a very interesting presentation on distance web-based teaching. Finally Prof. Drebenstedt gave a paper on student recruitment.

### **Third Working Session – Monday 14<sup>th</sup> pm – Research**

Chaired by Prof. Martens

This session departed somewhat from the original agenda as several of the originally advertised speakers had somehow not been invited to the meeting. However, Prof Martens was able to start the session by giving the delegates an introduction of NESMI and EmiRec. This material is available on the web site.

Prof Palarski followed with a very interesting talk on mining research in Poland as a representative state of the new member states of the EU. This too is available on the web site.

The session was completed by going back to education and having Prof Galvin give his talk on the educational situation in Australia. Available on the web site this paper is well worth a read as it indicates how, even when great effort is put in by both industry and the education sector, things still get worse for mining education.

That ended the first day's proceedings. There was a brewery visit to the Freiberg Brewery followed by a pleasant Society dinner in the evening.

Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>

The morning started with the members collecting in the town square for the usual group photograph. Unfortunately a few members had other commitments at that time and so were not included in the photograph.

Back in session the first item was to approve the amended version of the interim statutes, which were approved nem con. The meeting then went into session.

### **Fourth Working Session - Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> – Education**

This session was chaired by Prof. Palarski. It opened with a paper by Prof. Drebenstedt on Mining Education in Germany. This too is available on the web site. Following that Prof. Phillips gave an interesting insight into the current situation in South Africa where they propose to combine the current four providers of mining education into one unit at the University of the Witwatersrand. An interesting experiment!

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The final session of the meeting -  
**The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting – Business session**



The annual business meeting of the Society followed and was opened by the Secretary General, Prof. C.T. Shaw at 11.00.

**Apologies.** The Secretary General recorded the apologies that had been received namely from Professors; A. Adamson, J. Antoniak, B. Barchanski, V. Byzov, M. Cedron, I. Dementiev, S. Durucan, M. Georgescu, A. Khokriakov, U. Kumar, N. Ilias, P-A. Lindqvist, P. Moser, V. Pavlovic, C. Pelley, D. Potts, E. Reinsalu, M. Scoble, B. Smart, K. Strzodka, H. Wagner and, B. White

**Matters arising from the minutes.** There were no matters arising from the last minutes.

**The Secretary General's Report.** The WSG reported that the main item of work which had been done during the year was of course the meeting of the sub-committee on constitutional change. This had already been discussed in full and so he would not add anything further. We now have, arising from that work, a new interim constitution for the year ahead so good work had been done. During the coming year the whole matter would be put into legal shape and it was hoped it would be approved at the next AGM.

It was pointed out that the steering committee of the Society now had some new positions, and that we needed to clarify just who was on the committee. The SG pointed out that there were elections as the next item on the agenda and said that it would be dealt with then.

It was asked if it was clear when matters would be decided by the vote of the membership and when by council. This would be clear in the final document, but it was also mentioned that with previous constitution the Society had always been flexible in its interpretation of its own rules and this should continue to be the way we operated.

**Membership:** It was reported that there had been a number of additions to the membership in the previous year and that four members were attending their first AGM. These were Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite, Prof. Jacob Likar, Prof Pavol Rybar, and Prof. Roger Thomson. The SG mentioned that there were several other new members but that they had not come to this meeting.

Replying to a question the SG reported that the Membership Committee works by e-mail. He also said that there had been a few applicants who did not qualify under the old rules, but would qualify now. It might be possible for them to reapply.

As the new membership system was now in effect we could look for new members. We would also be needing regional representatives on Council. All this would be published in the next Newsletter.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be in Turkey, Ankara. A lot of Turkish mining professors are in Ankara (70-80 incl. mineral processors). There are two mining departments in Ankara and it is closer to the mines. The goal is to attract more members.

The project for the coming year is to re-start the Mineral Resources Engineering Journal. Prof. Karmis, Prof. Durucan and Prof. Pasamehmetoglu will do the work of bringing the journal back into publication. Support of the members will be needed

for papers. It is proposed that the first issue will be in March 2005. The aim is for the journal once more to achieve citation index status. There is also a need for members for the editorial board.

Prof. Pasamehmetoglu will produce a preliminary programme for the meeting in 2-3 months time. In the meanwhile put the 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> June 2005 in Ankara, Turkey in your diaries for the next AGM. The meeting will be followed with the offer of an archaeological excursion for those who wish to see some of the very long history of Turkey.

Prof. Martens announced that the next Sustainable Development in the Mineral Industries meeting will be from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May 2005 in Aachen.

The meeting following the Ankara one was then discussed. It had been agreed in Milos that the next meeting would be in Belgrade. Regrettably there was no representative from Belgrade at this meeting, and the Society rules state that in that event another location shall be chosen for the next meeting. An offer was received from Prof. Rybar of Kosice and was accepted, so the 2006 meeting will be held probably split between Banska Stiavnica and Kosice in Slovakia.

**Council Elections:** It was proposed that Prof. Pasamehmetoglu as the host for the next meeting be elected as the president of the Society for 2004-2005. This was carried unanimously. In line with the new constitution, the next post to be discussed was President-elect. Prof. Rybar, as the host for the next following meeting was proposed and elected unanimously. Professor Rybar is therefore President-elect and will hold office from 2005 to 2006.

Professor Shaw then pointed out that he was in his third term of office as Secretary General of the Society. Not only did he consider it time for a change, but the new constitution would allow only two consecutive terms of office. This meant that he would retire from the post at the meeting in Ankara. However, he felt that it was important to have an orderly hand over of duties and suggested that the new Secretary General be selected and elected now, to take office in 2005.

This was agreed and Professor Mike Karmis was proposed for the post. Prof. Karmis was unanimously elected as the future Secretary General of the Society to take office in 2005. He and Prof. Shaw will work closely together in the intervening period to ensure the smooth change over.

Also included in the new constitution is the post of Deputy Secretary General/Treasurer of the Society. (Up till now the Secretary General has acted as treasurer as well as his other duties). Prof. Hans de Ruiter was unanimously elected to this post.

Also allowed for in the new constitution are the regional representatives. Since these need to be elected by members from the regions this would have to happen later. It was agreed that during the next few months the regional membership would be

encouraged to select their representatives on council. The Secretary General will soon write to all members telling them to which region they belong, so that this process may go forward.



There being no other business, the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was closed with sincere thanks being expressed to the hosts for their efforts in organising the meeting.

### Post meeting activities

On the evening of Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> the members all gathered at the Freiberg Cathedral to hear a brief organ recital on the rather magnificent Silbermann organ there. We were also shown around the Cathedral.

On Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup>, those members who wished went on an Excursion to the Overburden Conveyor Bridge – System / F60 at the “Lignite Mine „Nochten“, Vattenfall Europe.

### A motion proposed for adoption at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society of Mining Professors at Freiberg, Germany on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2004.

That the Society accept for the coming year the following:

#### PRINCIPLES OF CONDUCT AND MANAGEMENT for the SOCIETY OF MINING PROFESSORS/SOCIETÄT DER BERGBAUKUNDE For the year 2004/2005

#### CHAPTER 1 - NAME - OFFICE - PURPOSE – DURATION

##### Article 1 - Name

A non-profit making Society was constituted at a meeting in Leoben in the year 1990, pursuant to the laws of the European Union. The corporate name of the Society is “The Society of Mining Professors/Societät der Bergbaukunde” (The German name, “Societät der Bergbaukunde” makes this Society the successor to the first ever international professional scientific/technical Society, founded in 1786 in at **Schemnitz** (Banská Stiavnica) in what is now Slovakia, with 154 members from 21 countries).

##### Article 2 - Offices

The registered office shall be established at (an address to be chosen). It can be transferred upon decision by the Council to any other location. The decision will be published within a month of its adoption.

##### Article 3 - Purpose

The Society of Mining Professors/Societät der Bergbaukunde (hereinafter referred to as the Society) is designed to be a vibrant global Society, representing the majority of **mining and mining-related** academics. The purpose of the Society is to promote Mining Engineering as an engineering discipline, to facilitate information exchange, research and teaching col-

laboration and joint action among its members.

#### More specifically the Society will be committed to:

- Ensuring that university based education at the highest level in those disciplines concerned with the provision of mineral products from the crust

of the earth continues to be available to those who wish to avail themselves of it.

- Ensuring that advancement, through research, of the scientific and engineering knowledge and processes in the areas of relevance to the provision of mineral products continues.
- Establishing a network of academics involved in achieving the above goals.
- Enhancing the image of the minerals-producing industries, promoting development of educational courses within these disciplines and fostering pride in the disciplines.
- Establishing and maintaining ongoing contacts with the global mineral industry players.
- Promoting co-operation in educational and research programmes and identifying co-operative research opportunities.

##### Article 4 - Language

The official written language of the society shall be English. German may be used, as needed, in spoken communications and at meetings.

##### Article 5 - Duration

The Society shall have an indefinite duration. The Society's working year shall expire on at the Annual General Meeting each year. Its financial year shall run concurrently with the Northern European academic year – i.e. from October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### CHAPTER II: MEMBERSHIP

##### Article 6 - Eligibility

The full spectrum of engineers and scientists actively participating in minerals education and research shall be eligible to be members of the Society.

##### Article 7 - Classes of Membership

There shall be five classes of membership (all of which are subject to the discretion of the Membership Committee):

- **Member:** A person who is a full professor, or who has demonstrated a high level of competency in minerals education and/or research and who is appointed as a member of academic staff at a university, or a re-

**tired member remaining active in minerals education, consulting and/or research.**

- **Associate Member:** A person who is a member of academic staff and who does not yet meet the full requirements of the ‘Member’ category, but who can demonstrate an important contribution to minerals education and/or research, or a person actively engaged in minerals education and/or research and who,

in the opinion of the Membership Committee, is considered an asset to the Society.

- **Junior Member:** A postgraduate student involved in minerals education and/or research and who, in the opinion of the Membership Committee, shows potential for an academic career.
- **Emeritus Member:** A retired Member invited by the Membership Committee in recognition of their contribution to the Society.
- **Corporate Member:** An organisation actively promoting minerals education and/or research and which contributes towards the Society achieving its goals.

#### Article 8 - Membership Committee

The President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past President and the Secretary General will act as the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall pronounce on all applications for membership, taking into account the curriculum vitae of the applicant and a supporting letter from the council member for the region in which he/she works. The vote shall be by secret ballot, if desired. A three-quarters majority of the total membership of the committee is required for the admission of an applicant, or for the exclusion of a member.

#### Article 9

A member who wishes to resign from the Society shall give notice of resignation addressed to the President of the Society. The resignations shall take immediate effect but shall not relieve the resigning member from any undischarged financial responsibility to the Society that he/she accepted prior to resignation.

#### Article 10 - Termination of Membership

The Council may terminate the membership of any member, the activities of whom are considered to be incompatible with the objectives of the Society. Such termination shall be proposed by the Council after having heard the defence (orally or in writing) of the interested party. They may also terminate membership for non-payment of the annual membership subscription, provided that the offending member shall first have received a reminder that he/she is overdue, followed by a warning that such termination is imminent if she/he continues to be in default of payment. The vote on the resolution to terminate the membership of any member shall be by secret ballot.

### CHAPTER III: OFFICERS

#### Article 11 - Officers of the Society

The Officers of the Society will be the President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, a Secretary General and a Deputy Secretary General.

#### Article 12 - Election of Officers

All appointments start and finish at an AGM.

The Secretary General shall be elected by the voting members of the Society upon the recommendation of the Council and shall have a five-year term of office (renewable for a maximum of one additional term). The Secretary General shall be responsible for conducting the correspondence of the Society, assisting the President in organizing the AGMs, ensuring the

implementation of decisions taken at all meetings, distributing information of interest to members and maintaining records.

The Deputy Secretary General shall be elected by the voting members of the Society upon the recommendation of the Council and shall have a five-year term of office. The responsibilities of the Deputy Secretary General of the Society will include maintaining the finances of the Society.

There will be a President-Elect who will hold office for one year. He/she will be elected by the members present at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and shall be nominated by Council (normally a Professor from the University at which the next AGM is planned to be held).

The President will normally be the last President-Elect. His or her appointment will be confirmed at the AGM by the voting Members of the Society being present.

### CHAPTER IV - THE COUNCIL

#### Article 13 - Make-up of the Council

The Society shall be run by a Council.

The Council shall consist of the five Officers, together with representatives from the following areas: Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Oceania. The Council may co-opt a maximum of two other Members for specific assignments. If the organizer of the next annual general meeting is not one of the Council, then he/she will automatically be one of the co-opted members.

The majority of the Council members shall normally be from the category of Member (as defined in Article 7). Associate Members shall be eligible to hold office and be members of Council, but the number of Associate Members holding office or being members shall always be a minority in the Council.

#### Article 14 – Role of the Council

Council shall order the affairs of the Society.

The President supported by the Secretary General and the Council shall have an annual programme of action, setting priorities for the activities of the Society during his/her term of office and this programme shall be considered at the Annual General Meeting of the Society (that programme will have been drawn up during his/her year as President-Elect).

The council shall meet at least once per year, normally at the time of and at the same site as the Annual General Meeting. The President in agreement with the Secretary General may convene other meetings in case of need. Notices of such meet-



ings shall be sent at least 21 days before the dates of such meetings.

#### Article 15 - Election of Council Members

The Officers of the Society shall all be ex officio Council Members.

In addition to the Officers, regional members will be elected by voting members of the Society from the region concerned, for a term of up to three years. The Secretary General shall be responsible for the conduct of the regional voting process.

#### Article 16 - Quora and Voting

A quorum of the Council shall be 3 Officers of the Society (ref. Article 11). In the absence of a quorum a notice shall immediately be issued to reconvene the meeting to resolve any matters on which a vote is required. Such a reconvened meeting shall be held not less than 21 days and not more than 42 days after the original meeting, those present at the reconvened meeting constituting a quorum.

When a vote is taken in the Council, each member shall have one vote. In the event of an equality of votes the President shall have a second (casting) vote.

The vote in council shall be by secret ballot, if desired. Decisions shall be by simple majority of those present, except that a three-quarters majority of the total membership of the Council is required for modification of the Statutes. In this latter case, postal voting is acceptable.

#### Article 17 - Action between meetings

Between meetings of the Council the Secretary General shall have the authority to act in the name of the Society in urgent matters after seeking the agreement of the President and/or the President-Elect or that of other members of Council as appropriate

#### Article 18 - Council responsibilities

All acts binding the Society shall be signed, except when a special proxy-holder has been designated, by two representatives of members of the Council or by the Secretary General, who will not need to prove the powers on which they are acting to third parties.

The Council shall be entrusted with court cases in which the Society is involved either as a plaintiff or as a defendant and the Society shall be represented in litigation by the President,

Secretary General or by a member or members of the Council designated for this purpose.

### CHAPTER V - MEETINGS

#### Article 19 – Annual General Meeting (AGM)

There shall be an annual general meeting held once per year. The venue for each AGM shall be chosen by vote at a previous AGM of the Society. Normally, the location of the next two AGMs only will be agreed at each meeting.

Any voting member may bid to hold an AGM. These proposals will be considered by the members present at the AGM during which the bid is made and the result will be decided by vote.

Once a site for a future AGM has been accepted, it is essential that the university concerned with the organization of that

event, be represented and any AGM between such acceptance and the actual date of the meeting. In the event of no representative being present at an intervening AGM, the right to hold the next (or subsequent) AGM may be withdrawn and it may be offered to an alternative venue.

Notice of AGMs will be sent out with the minutes of the previous AGM. In addition, the organizers will be expected to contact all members and inform them of the venue, dates etc of the AGM. The organizer of the AGM, with the agreement of the Council represented by the Secretary General, is responsible for all invitations to speak, and the organization of the actual programme.

#### Article 20 – Voting Members

At any meetings of the Society where a vote is required, only those members, within the membership categories of Member, Associate Member, and Emeritus Member (as defined in Article 7) are eligible to vote, provided that such members have paid their annual membership fees of the Society for the current year.

#### Article 21 - Ordinary General Meetings (OGM)

An ordinary general meeting may be held at any time. Such meetings will be official meetings of the Society, but, unlike the AGMs will have no connection to the election of Society Officers. The organizers of the OGM will be expected to give the members ample prior information on the venue, dates and agendas of the meeting (minimum 28 days).

#### Article 22 - Minutes of meetings

The minutes from each meeting of the Society shall be recorded. The said minutes shall contain a summary of all discussions, the text of proposals/motions submitted to the meeting and of the decisions taken, and shall include the results of any ballots taken.

The minutes shall be kept in the English Language and shall be distributed by the Secretary General as soon as practicable after the close of the meeting to all members. Any proposals

for amendment of the record shall be submitted to the Secretary General within two months of the distribution and shall be considered at the next meeting of the Society. The final version of the record shall be signed by the President.

### CHAPTER VI - SOCIETY PROGRAMMES AND INITIATIVES

#### Article 23 – Academic Programmes

The Society should foster the development of initiatives to ensure:



- Guardianship and leadership of academic knowledge and standards
- Awareness of health, safety, environment, community and sustainability in minerals education programmes
- Clusters/networks between universities, industry, governments, NGOs and alumni for the purpose of facilitating exchanges, sharing facilities and course offerings and reviewing and assessing programmes of participants
- Establishment of a register and data bank of programmes, personnel, facilities and other resources associated with minerals education and research
- Recognition of undergraduate, postgraduate and post academic / CPD programmes of participants
- Succession training of future academics in minerals disciplines

#### Article 24 - Research Programmes

The Society will actively seek to enhance the funding base for minerals related research with governments and industry. The Society will also actively promote coordination of research grants and the undertaking of major research initiatives.

#### Article 25 - Communications

The Society will pursue various means of communication amongst members (for example a regular newsletter); and publication of educational and research material (for example through a technical mining journal).

#### Article 26 - Exchange Opportunities

The Society should foster the development of initiatives to establish and maintain international student and staff exchange programmes.

#### Article 27 - Development of Conferences and Short Courses

The Society should consider supporting the development of conferences and short courses to benefit its members.

### CHAPTER VII - FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

#### Article 28 - Annual Subscriptions

An annual subscription rate for each membership category, shall be proposed by the Council, for endorsement by the voting members of the Society at each AGM. The income from such subscriptions shall be used, in part, to meet expenses duly approved by the Council (for example those for administrative matters and organisation of activities and support of any journal which the Society may, from time to time, adopt as its official Journal). The Council shall report on the financial circumstances of the past year, and present a budget for the coming year, at each AGM.

#### Article 29 - Costs of AGM

The costs associated with the AGMs, will be born by the participants in the form of a registration fee. The AGM is expected to be run as a non-profit function and the fee charged to members is expected to be kept to the minimum required to cover the costs.