



# **Society of Mining Professors** **Societät der Bergbaukunde**

## **The 2006-2007 Council**

### **Council Officers:**

- President: **Prof. Vlada Pavlovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia**
- President-Elect: **Prof. Per Nikolai Martens, RWTH Aachen, Germany**
- Immediate Past President: **Prof. Pavol Rybar, Kosice University of Technology, Slovak Republic**
- Secretary General: **Prof. Michael Karmis, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, USA**
- Deputy Secretary General and Treasurer: **Assoc. Prof. Hans de Ruiter, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands**

### **Council Members:**

- Member for Oceania: **Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite, University of New South Wales, Australia**
- Member for South America: **Prof. Mario Cedron Lassus, Universidad Catolica del Peru, Peru**
- Member for South Africa: **Prof. Huw Phillips, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa**
- Member for Asia: **Prof. Kenichi Uchino, Kyushu University, Japan**
- Member for North America: **Prof. Pierre Mousset-Jones, University of Nevada, Reno, USA**
- Member for Europe: **Prof. Carsten Drebenstedt, TU Bergakademie Freiberg, Germany**
- Co-opted Members:
  - **Prof. Günter Fettweis, Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria**
  - **Prof. Yevgeni Kuzmin, Moscow State Mining University, Russia**

**Newsletter Number 29**

**September 2006**

## **Progress report and update by the Secretary General** ***(For comments or questions please contact: mkarmis@vt.edu)***

This newsletter, identified as Number 29, serves to inform members on the outcomes of the Annual General Meeting in Kosice, June 17-21, 2006, to inform Members on the various initiatives pursued by the Society and to communicate other SOMP news.

### **2006 Annual General Meeting**

The 17th Annual General Meeting of The Society of Mining Professors/ Societät der Bergbaukunde was held in Kosice, Slovak Republic, on June 17 - 21, 2006. The meeting was one of the best attended meetings of the Society with 46 participants representing 24 countries. Additional information on the program of the meeting, activities and events and all the presentations delivered during the formal sessions can be found on the web site at [http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual\\_meetings/2006/](http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2006/).

In addition to the general meeting information, Society members can preview the official minutes of the meeting by linking to the Members only section. To do this, one should access: <http://www.iidesk.nl/somp/> enter username and password and login to the Members only section. At the top of that page, click on the link "here" below the first line, to access the minutes.

### **Report of the 2005-2006 Membership Committee**

The Membership Drive undertaken by the Society to recruit new members during the 2005-2006 year included: Contacts by regional representatives, advertising via the website, SOMP exposure at major mining meetings (SME Annual Meetings 2005 and 2006 and IASMIN 2005), international visits by the Secretary General (China, South America) and nominations of candidates by existing SOMP Members. This campaign resulted in to election of 20 new members as listed below (the nominating member is in parentheses):

1. Prof. Zhenfu Luo, China Univ. Mining & Technology China ( Galvin)
2. Prof. Matsui Kikuo, Kyushu Univ., Japan (Galvin)
3. Dr. Kevin Tuckwell, Minerals Tertiary Education Council, Australia (Hebblewhite)
4. Prof. Peter Lilly, WASM, Australia (Hebblewhite)
5. Prof. David Lawrence, UNSW, Australia (Hebblewhite)
6. Prof. Mku Ityokumbul, Penn State, USA (Karmis)
7. Dr. Larry Thomas, Dargo, UK (Pavlovic)
8. Prof. Russell Frith, UNSW, Australia (Hebblewhite)
9. Dr. Ronald Hähne, Consulting and Engineering, GmbH, Germany (Pavlovic)
10. Prof. Victor Arad, Univ. Petrosani, Romania (Hyrdygora)
11. Dr. Corina Hebestreit, Euromines, Belgium (Martens)
12. Prof. Michal Cehlar, Univ. Kosice, Slovakia (Rybar)
13. Prof. Erling Nordlund, Lulea Univ. Tech., Sweden (Kumar)
14. Dr. Hakan Schunnesson, Lulea Univ. Tech., Sweden (Kumar)
15. Prof. Herman Wotruba, RWTH-Aachen, Germany (Martens)
16. Dr. Ludger Rattmann, RWTH-Aachen, Germany (Martens)
17. Dr. Gian Andrea Blengini, Polytechnico di Torino, Italy (Badino)
18. Prof. Janos Foldessy, Univ. Miskolc, Hungary (Rybar)
19. Prof. Jozsef Molnar, Univ. Miskolc, Hungary (Rybar)
20. Prof. Jozsef Bohm, Univ. Miskolc, Hungary (Rybar)

Congratulations to the new members. Special recognition is also due to the many new members that were able to attend the Kosice meeting. With the addition of the colleagues above, there were 120 active members at the close of the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual.

### **Report of the 2006-2007 Membership Committee**

The 2006-2007 Membership Committee began its work immediately after the Kosice meeting. It is a pleasure to report the following four new members have been nominated and elected to membership by the committee:

1. Prof. Antoni Tajdus, AGH Univ. Science and Technology, Poland (Rybar)
2. Assoc. Prof. Piotr Czaja, AGH Univ. Science and Technology, Poland (Rybar)
3. Dr. Jacek Engel, CEO, IPR Ltd, Slovakia (Rybar)
4. Prof. Roussos Dimitrakopoulos, McGill University, Canada (Karmis)

Congratulations to the new members.

### **Announcement of the 2007 Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The 18<sup>th</sup> AGM will be held in Belgrade, Serbia in 2007 and the incoming Society President, Prof. Pavlovic, presented a proposed program outline at the Kosice meeting. The Belgrade AGM is scheduled for Saturday June 23, 2007, through Monday, June 25, 2007. Field trips and historical mining tours will be held on Tuesday, June 26 and Wednesday June 27, 2007. The Belgrade meeting will follow the SDIMI meeting in Milos, Greece, scheduled for 17 - 20 June 2007. Please visit: <http://milos.conferences.gr/?sdimi2007> for more information.

### **Proposals for the 2008 (19<sup>th</sup> AGM) and 2009 (20<sup>th</sup> AGM) Annual General Meeting – Election of 2008 and 2009 Officers**

The Society received proposals, according to the SOMP guidelines, for the 2008 and 2009 AGMs by Prof. Per Nicolai Martens of RTWH Aachen and Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite of the University of New South Wales, Australia. The Council discussed and enthusiastically recommended these proposals for approval by the full membership. This was unanimously accepted by the AGM in Kosice.

Presentations on behalf of the Aachen and NSW proposals were introduced at the AGM by Prof. Niemann-Delius and Prof. Hebblewhite. During these presentations, a preliminary discussion was conducted on possible dates and program highlights. A commitment was made by the future organizers to finalize dates and program suggestion as soon as possible to allow better planning and participation by the members. Please check the web site for future updates on these meetings. In addition, in order to expand opportunities for the meeting in Australia, it was also announced that SDIMI 2009 will be moved to Australia and will be held in conjunction with the 20<sup>th</sup> SOMP AGM.

The organizers of future society meetings were encouraged to keep meeting costs at a reasonable level and to ensure that programming and meeting arrangements are distributed well in advance of the meeting to allow planning.

### **Constitutional Amendments**

At the Kosice meeting, two constitutional amendments were approved:

**1. Industry Member Class:** A new membership class was approved to accommodate senior industry members or potential members. The appropriate sections of Article 7 were revised as shown below:

## **Article 7 - Classes of Membership**

There shall be six classes of membership (all of which are subject to review, at the discretion of the Membership Committee):

**Member:** A person who is a full professor engaged in minerals education and/or research; or a person who has demonstrated a sufficiently high level of competency in minerals education and/or research and who is appointed as a member of the academic staff at a university; or a retired member remaining active in minerals education, consulting and/or research.

**Industry Member:** An industry person actively engaged in minerals education and/or research and who, in the opinion of the Membership Committee, would be considered an asset to the Society.

**2. Membership Committee Addition:** It was approved to expand the membership committee by including the Deputy Secretary General/Treasurer. The Article 8 was revised as shown below:

## **Article 8 - Membership Committee**

The President, the President-Elect, the Immediate Past President and the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General/Treasurer will constitute the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall make determinations 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.

Please see the minutes on the web site for additional information. Also you can review the revised constitution under the governance link.

### **2006 Emeritus Members**

Upon the recommendation of the Honorifics Committee, the following three members were recognized at Kosice as Emeritus Members in recognition of their contributions to the mission and goals of the Society. Congratulations to:

- Prof. V. Badino
- Prof. R. Matikainen
- Prof. Dr. U. Bajzelj

### **Treasurer's Report**

The fiscal affairs of the Society were reviewed and discussed at the meeting in Kosice and full information on current and expected balance sheets has been included in the meeting information posted on the web site.

### **Mineral Resources Engineering Journal**

Prof. Pasamehmetoglu has continued his work to initiate republication of the MRE journal. It is important to ensure a good pool of quality papers before embarking on printing the first issue. It was decided at Kosice to work with regional groups, or disciplinary topics, in order to provide a theme and a focus to future journal publications. Many thanks to our colleagues

from Australia for volunteering to provide papers on technology innovations and practices in that region for a dedicated future issue. All SOMP members are strongly encouraged to support the journal by submitting quality papers and promoting the journal with colleagues in their institutions. The web site for the MRE is available on-line at <http://www.mre.atilim.edu.tr/>. Submission of papers can be forwarded by e-mail to the Editor-in-Chief at [gunhan@atilim.edu.tr](mailto:gunhan@atilim.edu.tr).

### **Membership Development**

At the Kosice meeting the importance of engaging in membership development activities that can support individual members, as well as their institutions, were discussed at some length.

Opportunities discussed included:

- Teaching collaboration
- Educational initiatives
- Research programs (carbon sequestration research was particularly mentioned)
- Industry partnerships
- Staff exchanges
- Student exchanges

The Society is eager to promote the use of sabbaticals/short term leaves amongst member-institutions and to assist in improving the visibility and viability of local mining education programs.

### **Website Updates**

The website is continuously updated and upgraded to reflect the needs of the Member and to ensure that all appropriate information is included. Members are encouraged to submit comments, questions or suggestions to improve the web site to our colleague Prof. Zach Agioutantis at [zach@mred.tuc.gr](mailto:zach@mred.tuc.gr).

### **Membership Involvement**

The Society currently has a number of standing committees:

- Research and Development Committee
- Education Committee
- Industry Committee
- Membership Development Committee

All members are encouraged to participate in these committees. If you are interested please contact the Secretary General at [mkarmis@vt.edu](mailto:mkarmis@vt.edu).

My best wishes for a successful and productive academic year 2006-2007.

Sincerely,



Professor Michael Karmis, Secretary General

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