



Society of Mining Professors Societät der Bergbaukunde

The 2007-2008 Council

Council Officers:

- President: **Prof. Per Nikolai Martens, RWTH Aachen, Germany**
- President-Elect: **Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite, University of New South Wales, Australia**
- Immediate Past President: **Prof. Vlada Pavlovic, University of Belgrade, Serbia**
- 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 31

August 2007

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

This newsletter, identified as Number 31, serves to notify members of the conclusions of the Annual General Meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, June 23-25, 2007, to inform Members on other initiatives pursued by the Society and to communicate SOMP news.

2007 Annual General Meeting

The 18th Annual General Meeting of The Society of Mining Professors / Societät der Bergbaukunde was held in Belgrade, Serbia on June 23-25, 2007. The meeting was the best attended AGM of the Society with 57 participants and 21 accompanying persons, representing 26 countries. Additional information, including the program of the meeting, activities and events and all of the presentations delivered during the formal sessions, can be found on the web site at http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2007/. The business session agenda and supporting information can also be found at http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2007/SOMP-07-Business.pdf

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, 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 2006-2007 Membership Committee

The Membership Drive undertaken by the Society to recruit new members during the 2006-2007 year included contacts by regional representatives, advertising via the website, SOMP exposure at major mining meetings (SME Annual Meeting 2007, IASMIN), international visits by the Secretary General and Officers of the Society and nominations of candidates by SOMP Members. This campaign resulted in the election of 14 new members as listed below (the nominating member is in parentheses):

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)
5. Assoc. Prof. Vladislav Kecojevic, The Pennsylvania State University (Pavlovic)
6. Prof. Bozo Kolonja, University of Belgrade (Pavlovic)
7. Prof. Nikola Lilic, University of Belgrade (Pavlovic)
8. Prof. Samuel Frimpong, University of Missouri-Rolla (Mousset-Jones)
9. Assoc. Professor Juraj Durove, TU Kosice (Rybar)
10. Prof. Milos Grujic, University of Belgrade (Rybar)
11. Assoc. Professor Jüri Pastarus, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia (Valgma)
12. Prof. Jorge Loredó Perez, Universidad De Oviedo, Spain (Földessy)
13. Prof. Andrew Korchak, Rector, Moscow State Mining University and Professor, Department of Construction of Underground Structures and Mines, Russia (Peshkova)
14. Prof. Raimondo Ciccu, University of Cagliari, Italy (Karmis)

Congratulations to the new members. Special recognition is also due to the many new members that were able to attend the Belgrade meeting. With the addition of the colleagues above, the Society has 136 active members at the close of the 18th Annual General Meeting.

During the Council and the Business meetings, the role of the council and in particular of the regional representatives in promoting the Society and recruiting new members was discussed. It was suggested to further mobilize the Council and ensure active regional representation. A number of options were suggested for improving SOMP presence in the Far East (China, India and Indonesia) and Africa, and possible representatives to the council from these regions were discussed.

Announcement of the 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 19th AGM will be held in Aachen, Germany in 2008 and the incoming Society President, Prof. Martens, presented a proposed program outline at the Belgrade meeting. The Aachen AGM is scheduled for May 16 to 20, 2008. Field trips and mining tours will be scheduled to enrich the program. The preliminary program is outlined below:

Friday, May 16	Arrival	
	Afternoon	Registration
Saturday, May 17	Morning	Technical sessions
	Afternoon	Technical sessions
	Evening	Dinner
Sunday May 18	Morning	Technical sessions
	Afternoon	Closing
	Evening	Dinner
Monday May 19	Morning	Technical Excursion
	Afternoon	
Tuesday, May 20	Morning	Excursion
	Afternoon	

The Aachen meeting will follow the 6th International Congress on “Rockbolting in Mining” scheduled for May 14 and 15, 2008 in Aachen, Germany. All colleagues are encouraged to attend both meetings.

Announcement of the 2009 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The 20th AGM will be held in Sydney, Australia in 2009 and will precede the SDIMI 2009 meeting. Details will be announced soon. Our colleague and President-elect Prof. Bruce Hebblewhite is planning a truly exciting program with opportunity to visit world class mining facilities while in Australia.

Proposals for the 2010 (20th AGM) and 2011 (22th AGM) Annual General Meeting – Election of 2010 and 2011 Officers

The Society members in Belgrade approved the recommendation of the Council and enthusiastically endorsed proposals for the 2010 and 2011 AGMs. The 20th AGM will be held in Estonia hosted by the Tallinn University of Technology in 2010, under the leadership of our colleague Prof. Ingo Valgma. The 21st AGM will be held in Lima, Peru and will be organized by our South American Council Member and colleague Prof. Mario Cedron Lassus. The official host will be the Universidad Catolicadel Peru, Lima, Peru. However, the meeting will be held in Arequipa, Peru, in conjunction with the 2011 Peruvian Mining Convention and Expo. This is one of the largest meetings in the world and will provide a unique opportunity for the SOMP members to participate and become familiar with Latin American mining. Information for both meetings will be uploaded to the web site as planning progresses.

2007 Emeritus Members

Upon the recommendation of the Honorifics Committee, the following two members were recognized at Belgrade as Emeritus Members in recognition of their contributions to the mission and goals of the Society. The official recognition will be conducted at the Aachen meeting in 2008. Congratulations to:

- Prof. Horst Gerhardt
- Prof. Walter Knissel

Treasurer's Report

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

http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2007/SOMP-07-Business.pdf

At the Belgrade AGM, the members accepted the recommendation of the Council that a reduced registration fee should be applied for all retired members and the cost will be recovered from the surplus of the treasury of SOMP.

Mineral Resources Engineering Journal

The Society would like to recognize Prof. Pasamehmetoglu for his tireless efforts to re-establish and begin publication of the MRE journal. As noted in the discussion in Belgrade, it is vitally important for the Society Members to support this journal by submitting quality papers for publication and promote 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.

Membership Development

At the Belgrade 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
- Industry partnerships
- Staff exchanges
- Student exchanges
- Society supporting other meetings

The success of a number of meetings supported by SOMP and the exposure of our society was discussed in Belgrade. Meetings supported by SOMP in the past year included:

- TAIEX, Estonia, November 2006
- SDIMI, Greece, June 2007

In addition, Prof. Buhrow presented plans for hosting another TAIEX meeting in Romania in the Fall of 2007 (see http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2007/SOMP-07-Membership-Buhrow.pdf). More information will be provided as it becomes available.

A special session was held in Belgrade where a panel discussion focused on Supporting Existing/Developing New Partnerships for Education and Research chaired by Prof. Karmis and Prof. Dalmijn (see http://www.mineprofs.org/info/annual_meetings/2007/SOMP-07-Membership-Dalmijn.pdf). The discussion highlighted some of the successful partnerships already in place and the contribution of the FEMP structure to manage and coordinate these

efforts. It was noted that international education and research programs should be more integrated. It was concluded that the Society should establish a working group to address the role of SOMP in working with the mining industry on the development of education and research programs and coordinating educational initiatives.

Membership of this ad hoc committee on Educational Partnerships includes Profs Karmis, Dalmijn, de Ruiter and Dr. Cross. If other colleagues are interested to contribute to this committee, please contact the Secretary General.

Website Updates

The website is continuously updated and upgraded to reflect the needs of the members 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.

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.

My best wishes for a successful and productive academic year 2007-2008.

Sincerely,



Professor Michael Karmis, Secretary General

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