Canada

The Canadian Rock Mechanics Association (CARMA - http://www.carma-rocks.ca/) serves as the ISRM’s National Group for Canada. Members are from CARMA’s two constituent groups, the Rock Mechanics Division of the Canadian Geotechnical Society (CGS), and the Society for Rock Engineering of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (CIM). A combined total of 250 CIM and CGS members paid for ISRM membership in 2009.

CARMA’s recent and ongoing activities have included:

- The Canadian Rock Mechanics Association (CARMA), comprised of the Rock Engineering Society (RES) of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) and the Rock Mechanics section of the Canadian Geotechnical Society, has proposed to host the 13th ISRM Rock Mechanics Congress in 2015 in Montreal, Canada. A proposal package was presented during May, 2009 at SINOROCK 2009, the 2009 ISRM-Sponsored International Symposium in Hong Kong, by Dr. Ferri Hassani, of McGill University, who will be Chair of this proposed event. The decision will be taken at 2010 ISRM symposium in India. This initiative has the support of Canadian industry, the Federal Government of Canada, the Provincial Government of Quebec, and of academia from across Canada. Furthermore the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) has offered to collaborate fully and to contribute to the organization of this event.

- Slope Stability 2011, the International Symposium on Rock Slope Stability in Open Pit Mining and Civil Engineering will be held September 18-21 2011 in Vancouver, Canada  www.slopestability2011.ca

Awards

- Prof. Peter Kaiser (CEMI) has been nominated for the Muller Award for his life-long achievements in rock engineering.

- Douglas Stead (Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC) was awarded the Canadian Geotechnical Society’s 2009 Franklin Award for contributions made in the fields of rock mechanics and rock engineering. Established in 1993, the Award honours the past President of the International Society for Rock Mechanics (ISRM), John A. Franklin.

Projects

- During 2009-10 the Centre for Excellence in Mining Innovation (CEMI), located in Sudbury, Ontario, has hosted a series of Experimental Design
Workshops for its proposed International Fault Slip Control Research Initiative (IFSCRI), a multi-year program with a vision to develop a globally-recognized research initiative to improve fault slip control techniques in underground mines. Involving the input of research and industry leaders in seismicity, geophysics, structural geology, data integration and modeling as well as mine engineering, these multidisciplinary roundtable sessions were intended to provide valuable insights into the novel research and technology R&D projects needed to better understand how to control the energy release associated with fault slip in underground high stress ore bodies. More information can be collected from the CEMI website: http://www.miningexcellence.ca/projects/ifscri/

United States

The American Rock Mechanics Association (ARMA, www.armarocks.org) continues to help shape and respond to issues of national interest and concern including carbon sequestration, energy resource production, civil engineering infrastructure, and research and development through the proposed Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory (DUSEL). These opportunities were discussed at the 44th US Rock Mechanics Symposium in Salt Lake City Utah, in June 2010. A record 444 persons from 23 countries attended the event presenting close to 300 oral and poster presentations. The symposium featured 20 invited speakers including Dick Robbins who delivered the MTS Invited Lecture. A special workshop on Geomechanics preceded the symposium and was attended by 80 people.

[Caption: Bill Pariseau, Dick Goodman, Maurice Dusseault, John Curran, and Priscilla Nelson led the discussion at the 2010 Geomechanics Workshop in Park Lake City, Utah.]
ARMA Fellows

Wolfgang Wawersik and John Hudson were inducted into the ARMA Fellows at the Salt Lake City symposium. The ARMA Fellows program recognizes individuals who have achieved outstanding accomplishments in the area of rock mechanics and who have contributed to the professional community through ARMA.

[caption: John Hudson and Wolfgang Wawersik receive their ARMA Fellows medals at the 44th US Rock Mechanics Symposium in Salt Lake City in June.]

Awards

The 2010 ARMA Awards were also given out at the Salt Lake City symposium. Recipients were:


2010 Case History Award: Jonny Rutqvist, Barry Freifeld, Yvonne W. Tsang, Ki-Bok Min, Derek Elsworth, “Coupled Analysis of Change in Fracture Permeability during

[caption: Fellow Jean Claude Rogiers on the ARMA Awards Committee and Azra Tutuncu, ARMA President, congratulate Josh Taron on receipt of the 2010 Dr. N.G.W. Cook Dissertation Award]