



International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

ISRM Council Meeting

News Release

Cape Town, 2 October 2017

The ISRM held its 2017 Council meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, on the 1st of October, in conjunction with the International Symposium AfriRock 2017, organised by the South African ISRM National Group SANIRE and SAIMM. 50 out of the 61 National Groups were either present or represented. The Council was also attended by Past President Prof. Xia-Ting Feng, chairmen of several ISRM Commissions and a representative of the ISSMGE.

International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering

The Council approved the change of the name of the Society to International Society for Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering. The acronym will remain ISRM. The new name reflects in a closer way the current interests and activities of the Society, which is not only concerned with more theoretical and academic aspects of rock mechanics, but also with practical applications in engineering.

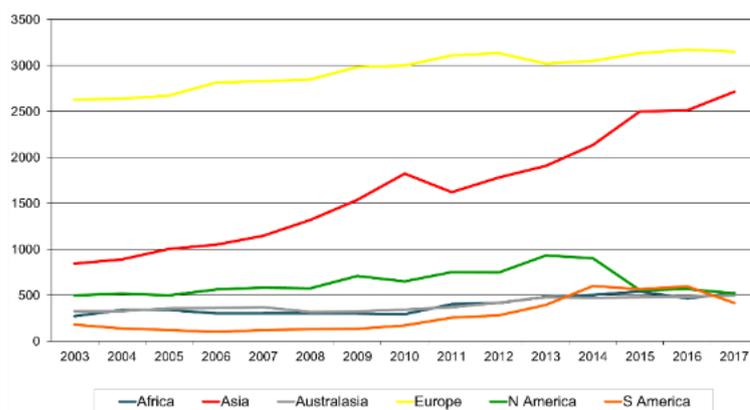


Prof. Reşat Ulusay elected ISRM President for the term 2019-2023

Two nominations for President of the ISRM for the term 2019-2023 were received: Prof. Reşat Ulusay (nominated by Turkey) and Prof. Jian Zhao (nominated by Singapore). The election took place during the Council meeting and Prof. Reşat Ulusay was elected as the next ISRM President. He will start his term of office after the 14th International Congress of the ISRM, which will take place in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, in 2019.

Membership of the ISRM

The ISRM has 7,829 individual members and 155 corporate members, from 61 National Groups. Macedonia joined the Society since the last meeting. 40% of the members come from Europe and 35% from Asia.



Four new Fellows of the ISRM

The highest and most senior grade of membership is Fellow of the ISRM. A group of ISRM Fellows is inducted every two years. During the AfriRock 2017 Symposium dinner four new ISRM Fellows will be inducted: Xia-Ting Feng (China), Álvaro J. Gonzalez Garcia (Colombia), Yuzo Onishi (Japan) and Ivan Vrkljan (Croatia).



Xia-Ting Feng, Álvaro Gonzalez, Yuzo Onishi, Ivan Vrkljan



Rocha Medal 2017: winners were announced

The Rocha Award Committee selected the winner of the Rocha Medal 2018, Michael du Plessis (South Africa) with the thesis “Design and Behaviour of Crush Pillars” (University of Pretoria, South Africa) and two runners-up: Javier Arzúa Touriño (Spain), with the thesis “Study of the Mechanical Behavior of Intact and Jointed Rocks in Laboratory with Particular Emphasis on Dilatancy” (University of Vigo, Spain) and Topias Siren (Finland) with the thesis “Excavation Damage Zones, Fracture Mechanics Simulation and in Situ strength of Migmatitic Gneiss and Pegmatitic Granite at the Nuclear Waste Disposal Site in Olkiluoto, Western Finland” (Aalto University, Finland). The award consists of the Rocha medal, a diploma and a cash prize. It will be given during the 2018 ISRM International Symposium in Singapore.

Best Performing National Group Award

The Board approved to give the award of best performing National Group to China and Japan.



Meeting of the ISRM Board 2015-2019 in Cape Town: Itr Petr Konicek, Manchao HE, Charlie Li, Norikazu Shimizu, Stuart Read, Eda Quadros, Luís Lamas, Doug Stead, Sofia Meess (executive secretary), William Joughin, Seokwon Jeon and Sérgio Fontoura

Eurock 2020 in Trondheim, Norway

The Board approved the application from the National Group of Norway to host the European Rock Mechanics Symposium Eurock 2020 in Trondheim, Norway, in June.

Activities of the Commissions

Several of the 17 ISRM Commissions met on 2 October. The Technical Oversight Committee, which coordinates the work of the Commissions, presented a report on the activities of the Commissions during the past year, with an assessment of the work they develop and recommendations for the future, namely concerning communication and relevance of the Commission products.

ISRM sponsored conferences were presented at the Council

The number of ISRM sponsored conferences has been rising. The following conferences were presented by their organisers: “3rd Nordick Rock Mechanics Symposium – NRMS2017”, Helsinki, Finland, 11-12 October 2017; “Shaoxing International Forum on Rock Mechanics and Engineering Geology”, Shaoxing, China, 27-28 October 2017; “1st International Conference on Advances in Rock Mechanics”, Hammamet, Tunisia, 29-31 March 2018; “Eurock 2018”, Saint Petersburg, Russia, 22-26 May; “RockDyn-3, Trondheim, Norway, 26-27 June; “ARMS10”, Singapore, 29 October-3 November 2018; “ISRM 14th International Congress”, Foz do Iguacu, Brazil, 13-18 September 2019.

FedIGS - Federation of the International Geo-engineering Societies

The Secretary General reported on the FedIGS Board meetings held in September 2017 in Seoul, Republic of Korea. FedIGS joins the IAEG, the IGS, the ISRM and the ISSMGE. He referred the activities of the Joint Technical Committees JTC 1 - Natural Slopes and Landslides, JTC 2 - Representation of Geo-engineering Data in Electronic Form and JTC 3 - Education and Training.

The ISRM Digital Library

The ISRM Digital Library, hosted by OnePetro (www.onepetro.org), continues to be updated with papers from ISRM sponsored conferences. It has now 48 conferences, with over 64,500 pages. Members can download 100 papers per year at no cost.

Communication

The ISRM website (www.isrm.net) continues to be the main source of information about the Society and most benefits are offered to the members in a password protected members' area.

 The ISRM LinkedIn page helps disseminate ISRM news to a broad audience of Rock Mechanics professionals.

 Look for @IntSocRockMec. Add us to your Twitter feed and don't miss any news.

The digital newsletter is sent to all ISRM members and subscribers every 3 months. It includes news about the society and other news of interest to rock mechanics. Contributions are welcome.

The latest issue of the News Journal contains the annual review of the Society's activity, the Müller and Rocha Lectures 2016 and other items of interest. It was posted on the website where it can be read online or it can be downloaded.

