

WCSMO11 - EC Meeting Minutes
Sydney, Australia
June 7, 2015,

Present: Ole Sigmund (President) Alejandro Diaz (Vice-President), Koetsu Yamazaki (Vice-President), K.K. Choi (Past President), Erik Lund (Treasurer), Raphael T. Haftka, Vassili Toropov, Nam-Ho Kim (IPC Chairman), Qing Li (LOC), Grant Steven (LOC).

Absent with apology: Byung Man Kwak (Past Secretary-General), Helder Rodrigues (Secretary-General), George Rozvany (Life member)

- Meeting was called to order by O. Sigmund at 3:00 pm.
- Approval of minutes. Minutes of the Orlando WCSMO10 meeting of the EC, May 20, 2013, were approved, as distributed by H. Rodrigues.
- IPC Report (Kim). IPC chairman Nam-Ho Kim presented his report (see **Appendix**).
Additional comments:
 - The procedure followed by the IPC followed essentially the same procedure used in 2013.
 - After their meeting in Sydney, all members of the committee agreed that the opportunity to discuss paper submissions in person was valuable and made the trip to the local venue worthwhile.

Discussion: The EC thanked the IPC for its efforts. Some discussion ensued regarding rules for poster presentation. Several committee members reminded the group that the rule that limits the number of presentations to one per author applies also to poster presentations. It was noted that this rule should be publicized and enforced for the next WCSMO meeting. Committee members also expressed their support to including in future IPCs at least one member with experience from prior meetings.

- LOC Report (Li, Steven). WCSMO11 Co-Chairs Grant Steven and Qing Li presented the LOC report.
 - Web page was launched immediately after site selection was announced and the site received a very large number of hits.
 - Congress statistics: 363 registrations from 31 countries; 447 abstracts submitted from 37 countries, 437 accepted (317 lectures, 26 posters).
 - Congress Activities: Six parallel sessions. Three planned social events: Reception (Sydney Harbor cruise); Conference Banquet; Excursion to Sydney Opera House.
 - Conference received strong support from University of Sydney and financial support from Altair and a number of other sponsors.
 - LOC reached goal of attracting financial support from companies and reported a healthy state of the finances.
 - LOC expressed concern about insuring that participants requesting reduced registration fees qualify for the reduction. In future meetings, student advisor may be asked to verify student status.
 - Fellowship awards were granted to eligible students and postdocs.

Discussion: The EC thanked the LOC for its efforts and congratulated the committee for its success in achieving financial targets in an expensive venue such as Sydney. Recipient of fellowship awards will be announced at the GA.

- Treasurer’s Report (Lund). EC Treasurer Erik Lund presented his report. Balances in ISSMO accounts are:

	Euros	DKK
Balance – May 2013 (reported at WCSMO-10, Orlando)	42,968	320,111
ISSMO membership fees from WCSMO-10, Orlando	12,669	94,384
Interest income	827	6,168
ISSMO Web 2013 (new website ISSMO.net + support)	-4,801	-35,768
ISSMO Web 2015 (website update & 1 year support);	-1,379	-10,275
IPC meeting Sydney – travel expenses (economy class)	-8,891	-66,234
ISSMO/Springer Prize (USD 1,000)	-885	-6,595
Balance – June 2015 (prior to WCSMO-11, Sydney)	40,508	301,791

Discussion: There was a brief discussion on how to spend society funds supporting new initiatives. Haftka suggested the introduction of best paper awards and recognitions similar to Fellow appointments in other societies (ASME, AIAA). Others expressed support for keeping the egalitarian and welcoming nature of ISSMO.

- Society Web Page (Diaz, on behalf of Rodrigues). A Diaz, on behalf of Secretary General H. Rodrigues, reported progress in construction of the society web page
 - Members can upload a pdf file with a short CV.
 - A poll/election capability was implemented and tested.
 - Previous WCSMOs Proceedings (WCSMO-7 - 10) can be accessed from the site
 - Discussion Forum capabilities are under construction.

Discussion: There was some discussion on the benefits of leveraging venues such as Facebook, LinkedIn, iMechanica or StackExchange to increase the ISSMO’s presence and support technical discussions. Maute expressed the importance of maintaining a strong presence on-line and ISSMO as the place to go for know-how on optimization topics, particularly on topology optimization, now that the increasing popularity of additive manufacturing is likely to bring a whole new audience to the field.

- SMO Journal matters (Haftka). Journal co-Editor R Haftka presented an update on issues pertaining to the SMO Journal
 - The recent absence of George Rozvany has been handled by Haftka with help of H Rodrigues and M Zhou.
 - Journal is doing well. There have been increases in submissions and downloads since 2012. Impact factor has increased. Time in review has increased and efforts should be made to shorten the review cycle.

Discussion: There were several comments emphasizing the importance of maintaining the quality of the review. Maute stressed the importance of the role of the Chief Editor in keeping an overview of the process and the quality of the reviewers. Several members thanked Haftka

for his work and expressed their support of the way the Journal has operated during Rozvany's absence.

- Affiliations with other organizations
 - Toropov discussed the status of affiliations with AIAA and ASME; expressed concern regarding the timing of the AIAA meetings in relation to WCSMO as being too close to each other. EC asked Toropov to work with AIAA on this issue.
- Ideas for new initiatives
 - Sigmund will bring up the topic to the new EC committee. Possibilities include: sponsoring Working Group activities; special sessions for working groups at WCSMOs; support for awards e.g., more best paper or poster awards for young researchers; support to develop web tools to support Working Groups in, e.g., social networks.
- Working Groups
 - No progress was reported on working groups
 - Haftka expressed uncertainty regarding the best way to implement on-line teaching resources.
- Call for WCSMO12
 - Several members expressed concerns regarding costs and the difficulties in keeping costs down in future congresses. Affordability will be kept as an important criterion on call for site proposals but the consensus opinion was that costs are expected to increase.
 - Location of previous congresses suggests that the next meeting should be in Europe.
- Springer Prize
 - Reviewed eligibility rules
 - LOC will distribute to the audience during the opening ceremony a list of eligible individuals and their WCSMO11 presentation schedule. Audience will be reminded that they can nominate papers for the award and after the congress the Secretary General will send out an official call for nominations.
 - For future meetings, the EC recommends that a list of eligible contenders be made available to congress participants prior to the meeting.
 - Haftka expressed support to having more than one prize in the future
- Other matters
 - Sigmund reported that election results will be sent by H Rodrigues to Sigmund and Diaz on Tuesday (9 June) morning. A meeting of the EC will be called if necessary.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30

Respectfully submitted by: A Diaz

APPENDIX: IPC Report