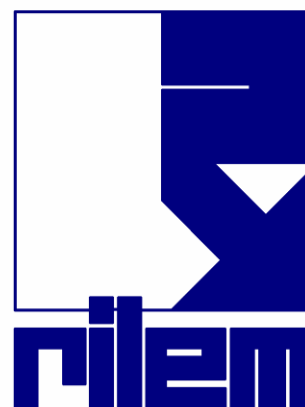


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**Word from Peter Richner, RILEM President**

Dear RILEM Members,



Today's newsletter is devoted to the 65th RILEM Week in Hong Kong. Thanks to the perfect organization by Prof. Chris Leung and his team the conference and the administrative meetings proceeded in a very relaxed and constructive atmosphere. The new format with the integration of the L'Hermite lecture and the presentations by TC Chairs within the conference proved to be a very attractive model and created an excellent visibility for RILEM among the attendees.

To establish a closer connection to the Chinese research society was one of the primary goals when Hong Kong was selected as the venue of this years annual meeting. Our expectations were certainly met. Again Prof. Chris Leung but also Prof. Changwen Miao were crucial in reaching this goal. The fact that during this meeting the first Technical Committee which was primarily initiated by colleagues from China was aproved by TAC gives evidence to our progres in the desired direction.

As always, the agenda of the Bureau and the General Council (GC) were densely packed. Probably the most important decision was taken by the GC regarding the voting rights at the GC. Article 9 in our statutes reads now as follows:

Membership. The General Council is composed of the Members of RILEM (but excluding members who have a temporary free membership).

Voting right. Every member present has a voting right. In order to pass a decision, a majority of more than 50% of the members present and a majority of more than 50% of the countries present is needed.

With this change in our statutes we are sending a sign of appreciation to all our members and let them know that they are welcome to participate in all discussions concerning the operation of RILEM.

**RILEM General Council
in Hong Kong**



Another important decision was taken by the Bureau regarding our Journal Materials and Structures: Prof. Jacques Marchand has expressed his wish to step down as Editor in Chief and Prof. Jason Weiss was elected as his successor. The transition will take place in the coming months and you will be informed accordingly. This will then also be the time to recognize the enormous and successful work of the last years by Jacques Marchand appropriately.

Furthermore, the Bureau has decided to prolong the contract with Prof. Geert De Schutter as Director of Development for two more years starting in February 2012. The work done by Geert De Schutter has made a big impact on how RILEM is positioned today and in the next period the emphasis will be on consolidating many of the new developments and on the improvement of the communication of RILEM towards its members and the outside.

Finally, Prof. Mark Alexander gave a very promising presentation on the 66th RILEM Week 2012 in Capetown and I can only urge you to attend this event. You will have the chance to visit one of the most beautiful cities of the world, attend an interesting scientific conference and meet plenty of your RILEM friends from around the world. I sincerely hope to see you in Cape Town in September 2012.

Peter Richner
President of RILEM

RILEM Annual meeting Hong Kong

The 65th international RILEM Week was successfully organized in Hong Kong, China, 4 to 8 September 2011. Prof. Christopher Leung and his team at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) did a great job in organizing the RILEM meetings on the campus of KHUST and the International Conference on Advances in Construction Materials through Science and Engineering, in some very nice hotel venues downtown Hong Kong, attracting about 200 participants from all over the world.

Prof. Christopher Leung

In two plenary sessions, some very interesting keynote presentations were given by Prof. Surendra Shah, Prof. Carmen Andrade, Prof. Ole M. Jensen, and Prof. Zongjin Li. Furthermore, an invited lecture was given by Engineer Albert Cheng, Head of the Hong Kong – Zhuhai – Macao Bridge Project Management Office in Hong Kong, giving background and details on this remarkable engineering project including several technical and engineering challenges.



Eng. Albert Cheng

New this year was the incorporation of RILEM Technical Committee Reports within the plenary sessions of the International Conference, instead of grouping them in a separate technical day. Excellent technical presentations were given by Prof. Wolfgang Brameshuber, Prof. Maria Rosa Valluzzi, Prof. Jannie Van Deventer, Prof. Erik Schlangen, and Dr. Nicolas Roussel, attractively summarizing the topics dealt with in their respective technical committees. Also the RILEM L'Hermite Award Lecture was now incorporated in the plenary sessions of the conference (see further).

New Technical Committees

Some new technical committees have been created during the RILEM Annual Meetings in Hong Kong:

- TC TDC (Cluster D): Test methods to determine durability of concrete under combined environmental actions and mechanical load, chaired by Prof. Yan Yao, Chinese Building Materials Academy, Beijing, China. This new TC successfully held its inaugural meeting during the RILEM Week in Hong Kong.
- TC TDK (Cluster A): Testing methods for determination of double-K criterion for crack propagation in concrete, chaired by Prof. Shilang Xu, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China.

- TC RTE (Cluster E): Reinforcement of timber elements in existing structures, chaired by Prof. Thomas Tannert, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada.

All RILEM members interested to actively contribute to the work of these newly created committees are requested to contact the RILEM secretariat. A complete list of all active RILEM technical committees can be found on the RILEM website: www.rilem.net

Laura De Lorenzis, Robert L'Hermite Medallist 2011

The RILEM L'Hermite Award Lecture 2011 was given by Prof. Laura De Lorenzis, University of Salento, Italy, on the topic 'Recent results and open issues on interface modelling in civil engineering structures'. Prof. De Lorenzis was selected for this award **'in recognition of her outstanding contribution to experimental researches and modeling studies on building materials and structures.'**



Laura De Lorenzis is Assistant Professor of Structural Engineering at the Department of Innovation Engineering of the University of Salento, Italy, since 2000. She obtained a MS in Materials Engineering in 1998 at the University of Lecce (Italy), followed by a MS on Science in Structural Engineering at the University of Missouri, Rolla (USA, 2000), and a PhD in Composite Materials for Civil Construction at the University of Salento in 2002.

Prof. Laura De Lorenzis, receiving the RILEM L'Hermite Medal from TAC Chair Prof. Ravindra Gettu

Her expertise ranges from experimental characterization of the mechanical behaviour of various building materials, theoretical studies on fracture mechanics and contact problems, and strengthening of structures and components, including architectural heritage. In her award lecture, she gave a very interesting overview of her research activities.

RILEM Honorary Member Sidney Mindess

During the RILEM Banquet in Hong Kong, Prof. Sidney Mindess was named RILEM Honorary Member, for his long lasting commitment and devotion to RILEM, leading numerous technical and management activities.



Prof. Mindess has over the years taken a major role in leading a range of RILEM technical activities, and set a benchmark for excellence which made an impact on the whole scientific community associated with RILEM. He has demonstrated vision and devotion along his many years in RILEM, which have brought unique value to the members of RILEM.

Prof. S. Mindess, receiving RILEM Honorary Membership from Dr. P. Richner, RILEM President

RILEM Fellows: Prof. Christopher Leung, Prof. Øystein Vennesland, and Dr. Ólafur Wallevik

Three outstanding colleagues have been named RILEM Fellow. During the RILEM Banquet, Prof. Øystein Vennesland was named RILEM Fellow. Two other fellows were named during the general council: Prof. Christopher Leung and Prof. Olafur Wallevik. The three fellows were named in recognition of their exceptional scientific contribution to RILEM's work.



RILEM Fellows Prof. Vennesland (left, with Dr. Richner, RILEM President), Prof. Leung (middle) and Dr. Wallevik (right)

RILEM Special diploma for Prof. Changwen Miao

RILEM expresses its great appreciation to Prof. MIAO Changwen, for his continued support of RILEM doctoral courses and workshops in China, and of the RILEM Annual Week 2011 in Hong Kong. RILEM gratefully acknowledges the ongoing efforts of Prof. MIAO Changwen to encourage world-wide transfer of knowledge in the field of cementitious materials and concrete structures, a field to

which he has contributed substantially. RILEM presents this certificate specifically to honour Prof. MIAO Changwen for his outstanding contribution to the development of RILEM in China.



Prof. Changwen Miao, receiving the RILEM Special Diploma from RILEM President P. Richner.

RILEM Regional Groups

As already mentioned in the previous RILEM Newsletter, a new Regional RILEM Group has been established in Latin-America, called Lat-RILEM. This group is chaired by Luis Lima. At this moment, a second Regional RILEM Group is in preparation within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Thanks to the efforts of Vyatcheslav Falikman, it is anticipated that CIS-RILEM could be inaugurated before the end of 2012.

All Regional RILEM Groups should contribute to the transfer of knowledge from RILEM towards their region and vice-versa. This transfer of knowledge should be organized in an appropriate way, considering the possibilities and demands of the specific region. The following important items should be considered within the transfer of knowledge:

- **Doctoral courses:** In close cooperation with RILEM's Educational Activities Committee EAC, doctoral courses should be organized on a regional level. The language can be a local language, but EAC should be able to check the quality of the organization, if needed by providing an English translation of the scope and contents of the course.
- **Other courses:** Besides doctoral courses, other courses can be organized for a target audience of practitioners, engineers, architects, This should also be done in close cooperation with RILEM's Educational Activities Committee EAC.
- **Seminars, workshops and conferences:** Local seminars, workshops and conferences, in a local language, can be organized on topics which are of interest to the region. These activities should be organized in cooperation with RILEM's Technical Activities Committee TAC. If relevant, it is advised to have some active contribution (invited lecture, technical committee, ...) from international experts.
- **Technical Committees:** Whenever a new RILEM TC is created, regional groups should spread the information within the region, and look actively for possible members. A local sub-committee could be defined if appropriate, in close cooperation with the RILEM TC chair. Local sub-committees should focus on gathering the regional information, and transferring it to the international RILEM TC. Local sub-committees should not become 'stand-alone' committees at any time. Of course, regional RILEM Groups can propose to define a new (fully international) RILEM TC, following the general rules defined within TAC.
- **State-of-the-art reports:** State-of-the-art reports produced by RILEM Technical Committees can be translated by regional languages, in cooperation with TAC.
- **Recommendations:** RILEM Recommendations produced by RILEM Technical Committees can be translated to regional languages, in cooperation with TAC.
- **Books:** Technical books in the language of the region, not published through RILEM, could obtain the intellectual support of RILEM, depending on final approval of RILEM EAC.
- **Website:** Regional groups can define a regional RILEM Website, in the language of the region. This website should contain a translation of the information available on the main RILEM website. It could also obtain additional regional information. Regional websites should be accessible through the main RILEM Site, and should be approved by RILEM Bureau.

- **International partners:** The local RILEM Group should contribute to the success of existing agreements with international partners active in the considered region. The local RILEM Group can suggest new partners to the RILEM Bureau.

RILEM Week 2012 in Cape Town

Mark your agendas! The 66th RILEM Annual Week will be organized in Cape Town, 2-6 September 2012. In conjunction with the RILEM meetings, an international conference will be organized on the topic 'Concrete Repair, Rehabilitation and Retrofitting' (ICRRR 2012), co-chaired by M. Alexander (RILEM President-elect and RILEM Honorary President 2012), H. Beushausen, F. Dehn, and P. Moyo. The call for papers has been extended to 30 September 2011. More information can be found on www.civil.uct.ac.za/icrrr. Although the conference theme is devoted to concrete repair, sessions on other aspects or on other building materials can also be organized. Please contact Prof. Mark Alexander (Mark.Alexander@uct.ac.za) with any proposal to have your special session!



Cape Town, The University of Cape Town Campus

To receive all data in due course, thank you for checking your email address on your private page or please inform the General Secretariat of any change concerning your contact information. Some RILEM Members cannot vote because they are not able to receive our news anymore.

For all questions concerning RILEM publications and activities, please contact:



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