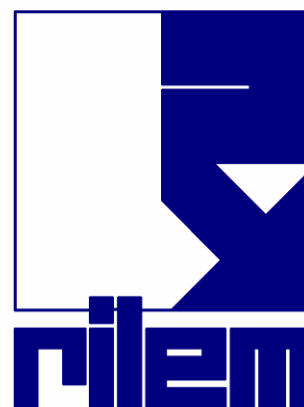


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## Word from Peter Richner, RILEM President

Dear RILEM Members,



The strength of RILEM is based on the devotion of its members to commit a substantial part of their valuable time voluntarily for RILEM activities. More than 50% of our members are active in one or more technical committees! To keep the organization running, RILEM also relies on a number of members which engage themselves in standing committees such as TAC, MAC, EAC or the Bureau. However, the person carrying the heaviest load is without any doubts the Editor in Chief of our journal Materials and Structures.

Since the end of 2005, Jacques Marchand served as Editor in Chief and during all those years he made an incredible effort in order to ensure and increase the quality of the journal. During his term, the production and distribution of Materials and Structures was transferred from RILEM Publications SARL to Springer which resulted in a more than turbulent transition period. Together with Pascale Ducornet and the Board of Editors he managed to master all the different challenges. He was dealing with thousands of submitted manuscripts and not all authors always appreciated the decisions taken by Jacques and his team. To find reviewers for all articles was also an enormous challenge. However, Materials and Structures continuously gained prestige thanks to the work of Jacques Marchand. One point I would like to emphasize especially is the fact that the Journal is covering a variety of materials and disciplines and that we have a truly global authorship which also reflects the mission of RILEM as a global organization. Jacques: You did an excellent job and we are all extremely grateful

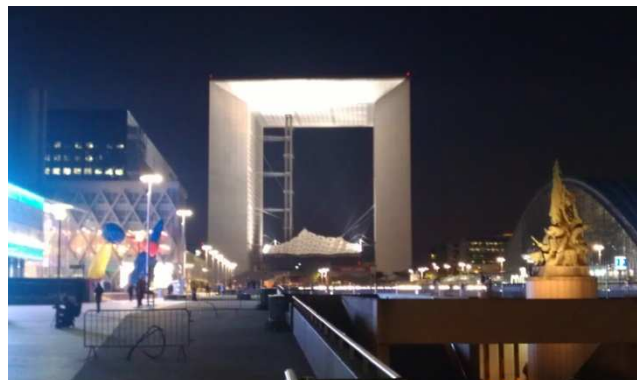
to you for your contribution! Since January 2012, Jason Weiss has taken over as Editor in Chief and I am sure that he will continue to develop our Journal in the coming years.

We are all excited to go to Cape Town for the 2012 RILEM Week which will take place in combination with the 3rd International Conference on Concrete Repair, Rehabilitation and Retrofitting at the beginning of September. I hope to meet as many as possible of you personally in Cape Town. The conference, a decent number of TC meetings and a wonderful city will make this trip certainly worthwhile! Finally, you will all be able to participate in the General Council of RILEM and participate in the election of the new President and Vice President of RILEM.

Peter Richner  
President of RILEM

### **RILEM Spring meetings Paris**

The RILEM standing committees (MAC, TAC, EAC, Bureau) have had their Spring Meetings in Paris, La Défense, Tour Atlantique, on 12 and 13 March 2012. It is remarkable to see that about 40 members have travelled sometimes very long distances for the administrative RILEM meetings. This illustrates how active and alive RILEM is as an organisation. The growth of RILEM is clearly noticeable when looking to the increasing number of active Technical Committees (37 TCs active in 2011, coming from 31 TCs active in 2008), and the even more significantly increasing number of educational events (15 Educational activities in 2011, coming from 7 in 2008). During the Spring Meetings in Paris, important decisions have been taken to consolidate this growth, and even further increase it towards the coming years. The international contacts, with RILEM Regional Groups, National Delegates and International Partners, will be more formally structured by introducing Regional Convenors within the Management Advisory Committee (MAC). A more detailed report will be given to the RILEM members during the General Council in Cape Town, September 2011.



### **New Technical Committees**

Some new technical committees have been created during the RILEM Spring Meetings in Paris:

- TC DTA (cluster D): Durability testing of alkali-activated materials, chaired by Dr. John Provis.
- TC ISC (cluster A): Non destructive in situ strength assessment of concrete, chaired by Prof. Denys Breyse.
- TC MMB (cluster B): Methods of measuring moisture in building materials and structures, chaired by Prof. Lars-Olof Nilsson.

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](http://www.rilem.net)

**Dimitrios Aggelis, Robert L'Hermite Medallist 2012**

This year, RILEM received the application of about eleven excellent candidates for the Robert L'Hermite Medal. After duly considering all applications, the jury was impressed by the very high quality of many of the applications. The RILEM L'Hermite Medal for 2012 is being conferred on Dr. Dimitrios G. Aggelis of the Departments of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Ioannina, Greece, *'in recognition of his outstanding contribution to research on wave propagation through engineering materials, and the assessment and monitoring of structures through nondestructive techniques.'* Dimitrios G. Aggelis is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Ioannina, Greece, since 2008. He obtained a PhD degree from the Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautics Department of the University of Patras (Greece) in 2004. He has also worked at Tobishima Corporation (Japan) as a Research Fellow from 2006 to 2008. His expertise ranges from the characterization of materials such as concrete and CFRP through the analysis of wave propagation, the development of nondestructive techniques for damage detection, to the monitoring and maintenance of highway bridges, tunnels and other structures.

**New term for Director of Development**

Geert De Schutter just entered his second term as RILEM Director of Development, running until 31 January 2014. The following mission has been defined for the coming years:

- To structure international communication and the development of regional groups
- To attract active members for our TC's
- To consolidate the link to new members
- To consolidate the achievements of the last years until 2014

During the Spring Meeting, RILEM Bureau has defined the priorities for the coming year, focusing on the International Contacts and on Communication issues. Furthermore, a working group has been defined, in order to update the RILEM Road Map, as developed by Geert De Schutter three years ago, and in order to prepare the future organization of RILEM after the mandate of Geert De Schutter will have come to an end.

**New Editor-in-Chief for Materials and Structures**

After six years as Editor-in-Chief of Materials and Structures, Jacques Marchand has stepped down handing over this position to Jason Weiss, Professor at Purdue University, USA, and active RILEM member already since many years. RILEM is very grateful to Jacques Marchand, for his leadership and commitment to RILEM helping to lead our flagship journal to its current status as a well-respected and well-known international journal. We wish Jason Weiss all the best as new Editor-in-Chief.

On this occasion, it is good to remind all of you that the success of the Materials and Structures journal depends on the quality of the peer review process. As RILEM member, active in one or more of our Technical Committees, we appreciate you accepting invitations by the team of editors to review submitted manuscripts within the area of your research interests when called upon. It is only with your valuable help that we will be able to maintain the high quality of our journal Materials and Structures, while striving to keep review times as low as possible. Your help in reviewing papers is greatly appreciated!

### **Nicolas Roussel received the Medal of the AFGC**



On March 27th, 2012, the French Association of Civil Engineering (AFGC) Medal has been awarded to Dr. Nicolas Roussel for his work on rheology, mix design and processing of cementitious materials. Dr. Nicolas Roussel is in charge of the research program dealing with mix design and casting of concrete at IFSTTAR (ex LCPC, Paris, FRANCE). He is the chairman of the RILEM Technical Committee 222-SCF, dealing with simulations of flow of fresh concretes and has received in 2007 the Robert L'Hermite RILEM award for his work on rheology of fresh concrete. He is the author or co-author of more than 60 papers in scientific journals such as Materials and Structures, Cement and Concrete Research or Journal of Non Newtonian Fluid Mechanics.

### **Visit of ACI presidency to RILEM Headquarters**

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, ACI Presidency will visit the RILEM Headquarters in Bagneux. Jim Wight (ACI President) and Ron Burg (ACI Executive Vice-President) are making a round-trip through Europe to visit some of their International Partners. It is our true pleasure to welcome ACI Presidency at our Headquarters. It will further help us in strengthening our relations. Recently, RILEM Vice-President Mark Alexander, attended the ACI Spring Convention in Dallas, where he also had a short meeting with Ron Burg. Thanks to the International Partner Agreement between RILEM and ACI, RILEM members can attend ACI conventions at reduced registration fee. Please, contact the RILEM Secretariat if you need more information.

### **National RILEM activities in Japan**

During the recent MAC meeting in Paris, Shiro Nakajima reported about some RILEM National Activities in Japan. Once a year, the Building Research Institute (BRI) is organizing a National Meeting for the RILEM members in Japan, and this already since 1978! The meeting is a half-day meeting, enabling the members to exchange their knowledge and information related to RILEM activities. The meeting is chaired by the National Delegate of Japan, currently Dr. Syuzo Murakami, from BRI.

The RILEM Japan National Meeting is composed of 60 RILEM individual members, 6 RILEM associate members, and 2 titular members. The members of the National Meeting are from research institutes, testing labs, universities, material producing companies, general contractors, etc... The Japan Concrete Institute (JCI, International Partner of RILEM) and the Architectural Institute of Japan (AIJ) are also participating in this meeting.

RILEM congratulates Japan with this excellent organization of RILEM activities in their country. It can serve as an example to many other countries.

### **Joint RILEM-JCI event CONCRACK 3**

Recently, the Japan Concrete Institute (JCI) and RILEM co-organized the joint RILEM-JCI International Workshop Concrack 3 'Crack control of mass concrete and related issues concerning early-age of concrete structures', 15-16 March 2012, organized at ENPC, Champs sur Marne, France. This workshop is the first joint organization with combined efforts of RILEM and our International Partner JCI. A large Japanese delegation attended the workshop. Furthermore, the workshop attracted a lot of attention from the construction industry (mainly from France). In total, there were more than 100 participants. The proceedings of the workshop have been published by RILEM Publications S.A.R.L., as RILEM Proceedings PRO 85. The practical organization was in hand of IFSTTAR (the former LCPC), with François Toutlemonde and Jean-Michel Torrenti co-chairing the event. RILEM is very grateful to their commitment!



**Joint RILEM-JCI International Workshop CONCRACK 3**

### **Visit of RILEM DD to China**

In May 2012, Geert De Schutter, RILEM Director of Development, will visit China in order to strengthen the cooperation between RILEM and the Chinese colleagues. During the one week trip, he will visit the Chinese Building Materials Academy (Prof. Yao Yan, also chairlady of RILEM TC-TDC) in Beijing, and Subote R&D Center (Prof. Changwen Miao, also member of MAC) in Nanjing. Furthermore, Geert De Schutter will also visit Wuhan University of Technology in Wuhan, and Tongji University in Shanghai. Some presentations about RILEM are scheduled, as well as some general discussions about the cooperation between RILEM and China.

### **Paying RILEM dues online**

RILEM members can renew their membership by paying the annual RILEM dues (membership fees) online through the RILEM website. To do so, please login on the RILEM website, and go to your private area. There, within the area "My access", you will find the option "Pay my dues". If you need more information on this option, please contact the RILEM Secretariat. They will be happy to help you.



**RILEM Week 2012 in Cape Town**

As already announced in previous issues of the RILEM Newsletter, the 66<sup>th</sup> 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. More information can be found on [www.icrrr.uct.ac.za](http://www.icrrr.uct.ac.za). This event promises to be very interesting, as a large number of high quality papers have been accepted for oral presentation. Parallel to the conference, RILEM Technical Committee meetings, as well as administrative meetings of RILEM Standing Committees will be organized. Please note that the meetings of the Technical Committees are open to visitors! An overview of the scheduled meetings, as well as a registration page will soon become available on the previously mentioned conference website. For the first time, registration for the conference and for the RILEM meetings will be combined within one single registration page. In this way, scheduled TC meetings as well as conference sessions become more visible to members and non-members. No excuses anymore to stay away from high level technical and scientific meetings ... unless maybe the appealing and beautiful city and area of Cape Town!



Cape Town, The University of Cape Town Campus

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