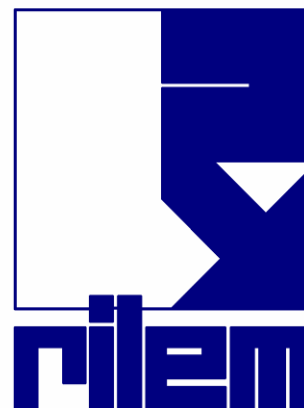


Contents

Word from Mark Alexander, RILEM President	1
RILEM Spring meetings Paris	2
New Technical Committees	2
Educational Events	2
John Provis, Robert L'Hermite Medallist 2013	3
Upcoming RILEM Weeks	4
Call for proposals RILEM Week 2018	4
Paying RILEM dues online	5
Regional RILEM Websties	5

**Word from Mark Alexander, RILEM President**

Dear RILEM Member

I am very glad to greet you and to encourage you to read this latest newsletter. It is full of interesting facts that indicate the strength and breadth of RILEM. It is a genuine privilege to lead the Association as President, since RILEM is a dynamic organisation that manages to combine youthful energy and mature experience in its range of members. Our members are the true heart of RILEM and each one is much valued and appreciated.

Talking of youthful energy, we want to encourage doctoral students to participate in our Technical Committees. If you are a doctoral student, or you have doctoral students that you think could contribute actively to a Technical Committee, please contact our Secretary General.

You will see in the newsletter that we have just concluded our Spring Meetings in Paris. In addition to the Standing Committee Meetings (MAC, TAC, EB, Bureau), we spent much time thinking about the strategic future of RILEM for the next several years. This is important not least because our very efficient and valued Director of Development, Prof. Geert de Schutter, will step down from this position in January 2014, thus completing his mandate. This will necessitate a reorganisation within the Presidency and the Secretariat, as well as the MAC, to ensure that the excellent development work done in recent years is able to continue. As part of our strategic planning, we will also be producing a revised RILEM Road Map to guide us into the future.

I wish you all the best for the coming months.

Mark Alexander
President of RILEM

RILEM Spring Meetings in Paris

On 11 and 12 March 2013, we had our administrative RILEM Spring Meetings in Paris, organized in the very nice quarter of 'République', at the 'Maison des Ponts'. While being 'Spring' meetings, we experienced a lot of snow in Paris during these days, and many attendees had travel problems while returning home. Some had to stay an extra day in Paris, before trains and planes resumed operation. In spite of these harsh weather conditions, we had productive meetings, with discussions on technical, educational and organizational issues. In this Newsletter, you will find some of the results.

New Technical Committees

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

- TC CMB (cluster E): Chemo-mechanical characterization of bituminous materials, chaired by Dr. Nicole KRINGOS.
- TC CMS (cluster A): Thermal cracking of massive concrete structures, chaired by Prof. Eduardo FAIRBAIRN. This is the first TC arising from our Lat-RILEM Regional Group.
- TC SRT (cluster D): Sulfate resistance testing, chaired by Dr. Véronique BAROGHEL-BOUNY.

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

Educational events

The "Educational Activities Committee", EAC is responsible for RILEM activities in the field of education. Within this area RILEM EAC is responsible for tasks such as:

- Proposition of new RILEM educational activities
- Approval of new RILEM educational activities, providing general organizational guidelines and giving advice to the host
- Monitoring of on-going RILEM educational activities
- Review of completed RILEM educational activities
- Serving as the contact point for educational activities outside RILEM

A RILEM member may propose an educational activity to be sponsored by RILEM EAC by submitting a proposal to the RILEM EAC chair (Prof Ole Jensen) or secretary (Prof. Konstantin Kovler). The sponsorship is a scientific sponsorship, i.e. it is an acknowledgement of the educational qualities of the event but it does not involve financial support from RILEM.

Activities that RILEM EAC sponsors include, in particular, Doctoral courses and short seminars for the profession (practising engineers), and Educational publications (including text books). In addition to a number of stand-alone events, RILEM scientifically sponsors several doctoral course series. These typically have one occurrence per year. The course series include:

- NIST computer modeling workshop (Jeff Bullard, NIST, Washington, USA)

- Multi Scale modeling of Concrete (MMC) (Eduard Koenders, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands)
- Concrete Microscopy Course (CMC) (Oguzhan Copuroglu, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands)
- Nanocem doctoral school (Karen Scrivener, EPFL, Lausanne, Switzerland)
- Doctoral courses on Construction Materials (Ole Mejlhede Jensen, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark)
- Chemistry of cement and concrete (Doug Hooton, Toronto University, Canada)
- Modeling of Localized Inelastic Deformation (Milan Jirásek, Czech Technical University, Czech Republic)

A list of upcoming Educational Activities events in 2013 is given hereafter:

- 24-28 June, Concrete Microscopy Course, Delft, The Netherlands
- July, NIST computer workshop
- September, Modeling of Localized Inelastic Deformation, Prague, Czech Republic
- 21-25 October, Multiscale Modeling Course for Concrete, MMC, Delft, The Netherlands
- 11-15 November, NANOCEM - Workshop "From Microstructure to Service Life Design", Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 25-28 November (to be confirmed), NANOCEM - Workshop "From Microstructure to Service Life Design", Monterrey, Mexico (city to be confirmed as well)

An updated list of Educational Activities can be found on the RILEM Website (www.rilem.net => Events => Educational Courses).

John Provis, Robert L'Hermite Medallist 2013



Prof. John Provis.

This year, RILEM received applications from sixteen 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 2013 is being conferred on Prof. John Provis of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Sheffield, UK, *'in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the research and development of geopolymers and other construction materials.'*

John Provis joined the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Sheffield in 2012 with a Chair in Cement Materials Science and Engineering. He took a combined BE(Hons)/BSc in Chemical Engineering and Applied Mathematics from the University of Melbourne, Australia, in 2002, followed by a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Melbourne in 2006. From 2006 to May 2012 he was research fellow then senior research fellow, manager (2006-8) and leader (2009-12) of the Geopolymer and Minerals Processing Group and holder of APD and DORA

fellowships, in the Department of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering at the University of Melbourne, before joining the University of Sheffield. His research centres on the development, characterisation and exploitation of advanced and non-traditional cement and concrete technology. Many projects involve alkali-activated and geopolymer binders, for use in infrastructure and waste immobilisation applications.

Prof. John Provis is Secretary of RILEM TC 224-AAM - Alkali activated materials, chaired by Prof. Jan S. J. VAN DEVENTER, and member of RILEM TC 238-SCM - Hydration and microstructure of concrete with supplementary cementitious materials, chaired by Prof. Nele DE BELIE. Since the last year, he also chairs the new committee TC-DTA - Durability testing of alkali-activated materials.

Upcoming RILEM Weeks

A high-level RILEM Annual Week takes a lot of effort and time to organize. Several teams worldwide are already working on a successful organisation of RILEM Weeks in the coming years. The following list of Annual Weeks has been confirmed:

- 67th RILEM Annual Week, **2013, PARIS, France**, 1-4 September, in conjunction with the 1st International RILEM Conference on Rheology and Processing of Construction Materials and the 7th International RILEM Symposium on Self-Compacting Concrete.
- 68th RILEM Annual Week, **2014, SAO PAULO, Brazil**, 31 August-5 September, in conjunction with the 13th International Conference on Durability of Building Materials and Components, DBMC13.
- 69th RILEM Annual Week, **2015, MELBOURNE, Australia**, 30 August-2 September, in conjunction with the Biannual Conference of the Australian Concrete Institute.
- 70th RILEM Annual Week, **2016, LYNGBY (COPENHAGEN), Denmark**, 15-24 August, in conjunction with numerous doctoral courses and conferences related to Materials, Systems and Structures in Civil Engineering.

This list of upcoming RILEM Annual Weeks illustrates the growing impact of RILEM on a truly international scale, worldwide. Mark your agendas, in order not to miss these exciting RILEM events!

Call for proposals: RILEM Week 2018

During the last year, RILEM received several informal proposals to host RILEM Annual Weeks in the coming years. As mentioned in the previous paragraph of this Newsletter, the RILEM Week venues have already been defined up to 2016, while proposals have been entered for 2017. RILEM is very happy to see that many organizers are willing to combine their international conference with the RILEM Annual Week meetings, making it a truly global event. On the other hand, RILEM is well aware of the fact that some organizers had to be disappointed, as their proposals for the coming years could not be accepted. In line with the democratic nature of RILEM, and in order to give all interested organizers a fair chance, **RILEM is now asking for formal proposals to host the 71st RILEM Annual Week in 2018**. This event should be organized in the first week of September, in conjunction

with a truly international conference related to materials, systems and structures in civil engineering. **Formal proposals should be sent to our Secretary-General, Mrs. Pascale Ducornet, at the RILEM Secretariat in Bagneux, at the latest by 31 January 2014.** During the RILEM Spring Meetings in Paris in 2014, the RILEM Bureau will make a first selection, and will invite shortlisted organizers to further present and defend their proposal in more detail during a Bureau Meeting in Sao Paulo, September 2014. Potential organizers requesting further information on this call for proposals are requested to contact the RILEM Secretary-General (pducornet@rilem.org) or the RILEM Director of Development (Geert.DeSchutter@ugent.be). A guide to potential organizers of the Annual RILEM Week can be provided, as well as a template agreement showing the needed conditions of the organization.

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.

Regional RILEM Website

The main RILEM Website can be found at www.rilem.net, as well-known. However, some regional RILEM websites have been developed in the previous year. A regional Russian RILEM website can be found at www.rilem-cis.net, while a Chinese RILEM website can be found at www.rilem.cn. RILEM is very grateful to Prof. Vyatcheslav Falikman (Russian site) and Prof. Yao Yan (Chinese site) and their co-workers. In view of a potential growth of number of regional RILEM websites, RILEM Bureau is discussing a general web policy. Further information will be provided in due time.

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



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