

IABSE Newsletter 2013/01

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1. Happy New Year!

Best Wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year from the IABSE Secretariat!

2. IABSE Conference Rotterdam 2013

Early Bird registration deadline: **February 15, 2013.**

For reduced fees: Register by February 15, 2013 for the Rotterdam Conference 2013 'Assessment, Upgrading and Refurbishment of Infrastructures' (May 6-8).

[Register here..](#)
[Download the brochure..](#)

3. WG 8 Forensic Structural Engineering - Nominations

Working Group 8 on Forensic Structural Engineering is looking for potential members from Australia, New Zealand, Asia and South America (Europe and US membership is well covered). More about WG 8 and membership nomination/application [here..](#)

5. News from Members

- **Michael Havbro-Faber**, on December 13-14, 2012, attended as an invited expert on catastrophic risks and risk informed decision making, the High Level Risk Forum in Paris, which was conducted under the auspices of the OECD, with participation of representatives of the G20 countries. The main focus of the meeting was directed on establishing a common framework for the G20 countries on the management of high impact risks within and across nations states. Based on a recent Press Release by the 'Joint Committee on Structural Safety (JCSS)' related to the problematic handling of the L'Aquila earthquake case in Italy, Michael was also asked to prepare and present a paper on the 'Need for a Protocol on Risk Communication and Accountability'. [More..](#)

- **Shankar Nair**, Senior Vice President exp US Services Inc., and Past Chairman

CTBUH, Chicago, IL, will give the first of three lectures of the 'Spring 2013 Khan Distinguished Lecture Series' to be held at Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA. He will talk on 'The Evolution of the Skyscraper', Friday, February 15, 2013. Additional information about the Fazlur R. Khan Distinguished Lecture series [here..](#)

6. News from the National Groups

Sweden - On November 6, 2012, the Swedish Group of IABSE together with Luleå Technical University (LTU) and Stalbyggnadsinstitutet (SBI), Stockholm, organised an IABSE Seminar on Eurocode loads for bridges. 65 bridge designers from some 20 different companies and industry players gathered to get a thorough review of how Eurocodes have affected how we view our loads on bridges, [more..](#) (in Swedish)

USA - Joe Tortorella, Chair USA Group of IABSE reports: "In early December, the US Group Board met to discuss the Task Force initiatives as presented in Seoul by IABSE. The entire board met at the offices of Hardesty & Hanover for a five hour business and strategy meeting. Several initiatives were discussed for possible implementation in 2013. The first initiative included a membership drive to encourage current members to recruit and mentor at least one young engineer from within their university or office. The purpose of this initiative would be to add members while lowering the average age of IABSE membership; thus, leading to sustained long term organization growth. The second initiative is to hold the USA Group's first ever "Winter Meeting". This event will take place in early March in Scottsdale, Arizona and will include technical presentations by IABSE members as well as a 'non-technical' keynote lunch-time speaker." [Read more..](#)

7. Obituary

It is with great sadness that we inform you that Prof. Emeritus Paul Grundy, Australia, passed away on January 6, 2013, at the age of 77. After practical experience in consulting engineering Paul Grundy served Monash University for 34 years, where he became Chair Professor of Structural Engineering (1994) in the Dept. of Civil Engineering, and then Head of Dept. (1996-1998). His central interest was the lifetime performance of structures, his extensive research resulted in many publications and useful advice to industry. He provided continuing advice on West Gate Bridge, from its collapse during construction in 1970 and through subsequent upgrades. At IABSE he will be remembered for his great work for natural disaster prevention in engineering.

Following the Tsunami of December 2004, Paul Grundy launched the 'Joint Working Commission for Disaster Reduction on Coasts' at the IABSE New Delhi Conference 2005 and Groundwork was laid at a Symposium on Disaster Reduction the same year at Monash University. The scope of work expanded to address all disasters resulting from natural hazards, co-operating with UN ISDR and UNESCO. As a Chair of the Australian Group of IABSE (1999-2010) he strengthened the ties between structural engineers in Australia and the rest of the world and show-cased Australia's structural engineering achievements with the organisation of the Melbourne Symposium in 2002. Paul Grundy became a Member of the Order of Australia and was awarded the John Connell Gold Medal by Engineers Australia for his outstanding achievements in structural engineering. He was presented with IABSE Honorary Membership in 2007 and received the Anton Tedesko Medal by the IABSE Foundation at the Seoul Congress

2012. Paul's wide group of IABSE friends and colleagues will miss his dedication and wisdom. IABSE presents its sincere condolences to his family.

8. Calendar of Events

2013

IABSE Workshop

February 14-15, 2013, Helsinki, Finland 'Safety, Failures and Robustness of Large Structures', organised by the Finnish Group and the Finnish Association of Civil Engineers (RIL). [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

May 2, 2013, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, SEI/ASCE 'The Structures 2013 Congress'. [More..](#)

IABSE Conference

May 6-8, 2013, Rotterdam, The Netherlands, 'Assessment, Upgrading and Refurbishment of Infrastructures' organised by the Dutch and Belgian Groups of IABSE. [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

May 17-19, 2013, Shanghai, China, IC-SDCI (International Conference on Sustainable Development of Critical Infrastructure) organised by China Civil Engineering Society (CCES) and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

July 24-26, 2013, Guimares, Portugal, 'ICSA 2013' with the theme 'Structures and More' organised by the School of Architecture, University of Minho. [More..](#)

IABSE Symposium

September 24-27, 2013, Kolkata, India, 36th IABSE Symposium 'Long Span Bridge and Roofs - Development, Design and Implementation' (Annual Meetings precede Symposium). [More..](#)

2014

co-sponsored by IABSE

June 30 - July 2, Porto, Portugal, EUROLYN'2014 - IX International Conference on Structural Dynamics. [More..](#)

More [events](#) on the Calendar of the Liaison Committee.