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### **1. David A. Nethercot Recognised by The National Academy of Engineering, USA**

David A. Nethercot, President of IABSE, has been elected as New Foreign Member of the National Academy of Engineering in the USA, which is the country's premier body for engineering. He was made a Member 'for contributions to structural steel design and construction and for service to structural engineering worldwide'.  
[More..](#)

### **2. IABSE Conference Nara 2015 - Final Invitation**

The [Final Invitation](#) for the IABSE Conference Nara, May 13-15, 2015, is now available online. In the afternoon before the Conference a workshop for young engineers with a design competition for a pedestrian bridge in Nara will be held.

The main Theme of the Conference is 'Elegance in Structures' and is supplemented by following topics: Elegant Structures; Historical Structures; Aesthetic Design; New Application of Materials to Structure; Innovations of Analysis, Design, and Construction; Smart Solutions to Mitigate Natural Disasters; New Technological Advances on Sustainability; New Structural Form.

*Keynote Speakers are:* Mike Schlaich, Germany; Ian Firth, UK; Kaori Fujita, Japan; Joseph Tortorella, USA; Limin Sun, China; Akio Kasuga; Sumitomo, Japan; Masao Saito, Japan; Ryoichi Kanno, Japan, and Woo-Jong Kim, Korea.

Register by **March 15, 2015**, to benefit from early registration fees.

Register online [here..](#)  
Book your accomodation [here..](#)  
More information [here..](#)

### 3. IABSE Conference Geneva 2015 – Sponsorship Opportunities!

Sponsorship/Exhibition for the IABSE Conference in Geneva is filling up fast!

Make sure that your company/organisation is well represented at this conference to gain international exposure and display your new products and services.

Create your own package that suits your needs! Don't miss this opportunity, download the [Sponsorship and Exhibition Brochure here..](#)

### 4. IABSE Membership Increase!

Good news! [As per January 1, 2015](#), IABSE Membership 2015 counts 365 more members compared to last year. This significant increase in Membership means a healthy growth from the past years. Thanks to the support and activities of our members, National Groups and recent IABSE events which are an integral to this increase of membership. In addition, the integration of the new [‘Join Now’](#) online application button on the website has made membership application easy and fast.

IABSE is aiming for more growth to deliver better services to its members! Remember, that every word that you spread about IABSE contributes to the growth of the association. Spread the word: tell your friends about the [benefits](#) of being an IABSE Member and how to [join](#).

Have you renewed your IABSE Membership yet? Click [here..](#)

### 5. SEI 1/2015 Published!

The SEI February 2014 issue covers ‘Tensile and Membrane Structures’, ‘Recent Structures and Research’. Hard copies have been sent to all members and subscribers. See the Table of Contents [here..](#)

### 6. Chinese Edition of SED 11

Structural Engineering Document (SED) 11 ‘Design for Robustness’, by Franz Knoll and Thomas Vogel, has been published in Chinese by [CABP \(China Architecture & Building Press, Baiwanzhuang, Beijing, China\)](#). Market demand in China is reported to be good. Orders can be placed at [www.china-building.com.cn](#). Other SEDs translated and published in Chinese include SED 8 ‘Use and Application of High-Performance Steels for Steel Structures’ by Hans-Peter Günther (Editor) and SED 9 ‘Cable Vibrations in Cable-Stayed Bridges’ by Elsa de Sa Caetano. [SED Past issues..](#)

### 7. News from Members

**Pete Popovic, USA** - Pete Popovic, USA, Vice-President and Senior Principal at Wiss Janney, Elstner Associates Chicago, and former President of IABSE, was recently elected as an Honorary Member of the [Engineering Academy of Serbia](#). The Academy was founded in 2000 to develop and advance the engineering profession in Serbia. There have been eight previous honorary members.

**Zdeněk P. Bažant, USA** - Zdeněk P. Bažant Medal for Failure and Damage Prevention has been established by ASCE to honour Zdeněk P. Bažant, a recognised expert in the field of analytical and computational modeling of failure of quasi-brittle materials. The award was instituted on January 8, 2015. [More..](#)


## 8. News from the National Groups

**The Philippines** - The Philippine Group of IABSE is supporting the Association of Structural Engineers of the Philippines (ASEP), in organising the 17th ASEP International Convention 2015 'Advancing Structural Engineering for Cross-Border Practice', May 28-30, 2015, in Manila. Call for Papers is by **February 28, 2015**. [More..](#)

## 9. Obituary

**Prof. Hans von Gunten**, Honorary Member and Past President of IABSE passed away on January 25, 2015. Born in 1930, he graduated from the 'Swiss Federal Institute of Technology' (ETH) in Zurich and earned his PhD in 1960. He worked in private practice in Switzerland until 1968. In 1966 Hans von Gunten, was appointed Associate Professor for Structural Statics and Construction in the then Department for Architecture and was promoted to full professor in 1969. From 1972 to 1974, he headed up the Department for Architecture and was the Head of the Institute for Building Technology from 1977 to 1979. From 1983 and until his retirement in 1995 he served as ETH Rektor.

A member of IABSE since 1960, Hans von Gunten served as technical advisor to Working Commission 1, then as general secretary, later secretary to the Technical Committee, Administrative Committee, and as chair of the Scientific Committee for the 1979 Zurich Symposium before being elected President. During his term as President of IABSE (1985-1993), Hans von Gunten presided over the congresses in Helsinki in 1988 and New Delhi in 1992. The first long-range plan was adopted, and the By-laws were revised again in 1993, the presidency internationalised, and the IABSE Foundation created. The journal SEI was launched and the Outstanding Paper Award was also introduced during his term in office. After his term of office as president ended, he was awarded both the Honorary Presidency and Honorary Membership in 1993. Subsequently, from 1993 to 1995 Hans von Gunten served as the first President of the IABSE Foundation that he had cofounded.



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Hans von Gunten's legacy to IABSE is significant, especially in bringing IABSE to a far greater internationalisation. IABSE friends and colleagues around the world will keep him in honourable and dear remembrance.

[Excerpt 'IABSE – The First 80 Years'](#)  
[Obituary at ETH](#)

## 10. Calendar of Events

### 2015

#### IABSE Workshop

February 11-12, 2015, Helsinki, Finland, IABSE Workshop 'Safety, Robustness and Condition Assessment of Structures'. [More..](#)

#### Co-sponsored by IABSE

April 23-25, 2015, Portland, USA, 'Structures Congress 2015' [More..](#)

#### IABSE Conference

May 13-15, 2015, Nara, Japan, IABSE Conference 'Elegance in Structures'. [More..](#)

#### Co-sponsored by IABSE

July 1-3, 2015, Porto, Portugal, International Conference 'Multi-Span Large Bridges'. [More..](#)

#### IABSE Conference

September 23-25, 2015, Geneva, Switzerland, IABSE Conference 'Structural Engineering – a solution provider to global challenges', Annual Meetings precede the Conference. [More..](#)

### 2016

#### IABSE Conference

May 8-11, 2016, Guangzhou, China, IABSE Conference 'Bridges and Structures Sustainability - Seeking Intelligent Solutions'. [More..](#)

#### Co-sponsored by IABSE

June 15-17, 2016, Zielona Gora, Poland, 'ICMS 2016 – XIII International Conference on Metal Structures'. Call for Abstracts until February 28, 2015. [More...](#)

#### Co-sponsored by IABSE

July 27-29, 2016, Guimares, Portugal, 'ICSA 2016 - 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Structures and Architecture'. Call for Abstracts until February 15, 2015. [More..](#)

#### IABSE Congress

September 21-23, 2016 Stockholm, Sweden, 19<sup>th</sup> IABSE Congress 'Challenges in Design and Construction of an Innovative and Sustainable Built Environment'. Annual Meetings precede Congress

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

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## **IABSE National Group Events**

**2015**

### **Bangladesh Group of IABSE**

August 21-22, 2015, Dhaka, Bangladesh, Joint IABSE-JSCE Conference 'Advances in Bridge Engineering-III - Towards Owning a Resilient Infrastructure'. [More..](#)

### **British Group of IABSE**

- March 27, 2015, Manchester, UK, 'Future of Design'. [More..](#)
- March 28, 2015, Walking Tour of Manchester most interesting bridges. [More..](#)
- May 21, 2015, Annual General Meeting, [More..](#)
- May 21, Annual Lecture and Dinner, [More..](#)

### **German Group of IABSE**

- March 23, 2015, Stuttgart, Germany, 'Young Engineers Colloquium 2015'. [More..](#)

### **The Philippine Group of IABSE**

- May 28-30, 2015, Manila, The Philippines, 17th ASEP International Convention

2015 ' Advancing Structural Engineering for Cross-Border Practice'. Call for Papers by February 28, 2015. [More..](#)

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