

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Environmental Hydraulics Technical Committee (Sunday, 8 Sept. 2002, Hawthorne Room, Doubletree Hotel, Lloyd Center, Portland, Oregon)

Members present: D. Lyn (chair), V. Neary (vice-chair), T. Bui (Secretary)

Report of the Chair:

The chair reported on the highlights of various committee meetings relevant to the Env. Hydraulics Technical Committee (EHTC). These included

- The 2002 EWRI Leadership Workshop held the previous day in Portland
 - The incoming EWRI President, Cecil Lue-Hing, plans to improve communication between the Governing Board and all levels of the EWRI hierarchy
 - The PAES process: a means of keeping track of the activities within EWRI
 - Steve Abt of CSU is incoming chair of the Hydraulics and Waterways Council, under which falls the EHTC, and plans to re-examine the various technical committees under this Council
 - EWRI will go back to the large conference format, though small specialty conferences will still be encouraged; five smaller conferences require five times as much resources, and yet in total yield in terms of attendance about the same as one large conference
 - Gerald Selke (gse@inel.gov) is program chair of the 2004 Conference in Salt Lake City, and so ideas about sessions should go through him (see below for more)
 - Valued EWRI activities were not necessarily revenue-producing activities (revenue from publications was minimal, and so is not the main motivation for publications)
 - Use of teleconferencing as an additional cost-effective means of enhancing coordination of committee activities (Vince Neary commented that he plans to make extensive use of e-mail with his proposed committee)
 - Some limited funding available for the development of continuing education courses that would be offered by EWRI
 - Distinction between ASCE Press and ASCE Publications: the former deals with individual authors, the latter with EWRI task committees
- The 2002 Hydraulics and Waterways Council annual meeting in Estes Park
 - Reports of the various standing committees within the Council, including the past year activities of the EHTC
- Oversight committee EWRI/IAHR
 - EWRI and IAHR would like to collaborate as much as possible at all levels and in all activities (conferences, task committees, etc.)
- Informal meeting at Estes Park conference with other members of EHTC
 - Met with Phil Roberts, David Zhu, and Doug Laiho (also with Brian Barkdoll)
 - Need to improve communications and possibly collaborate more with other technical committees (specifically the River Restoration TC)
 - Possible workshop topic: David Zhu suggested that there might be general interest in tracer tests-how to perform them in different context, experiences with doing tracer tests, etc. (any feedback?)
- Contact with IAHR Ecohydraulics group: Stimulated by the IAHR Oversight meeting, the chair contacted the IAHR Ecohydraulics chairperson (Klaus Jorde, now at U. Idaho, Boise), and expressed general interest in collaboration—no definite plans
- Contact with other EWRI TC's
 - River restoration: (Immediately after our annual meeting, the chair and the secretary met with a small group of River Restoration TC, and exchanged information about current activities and plans)
 - Experimental Measurements: at Estes Park, expressed some general interest in participating in work on acoustic Doppler measurement technologies
- International contacts
 - David Zhu suggested collaboration possibilities with colleagues from the People's Republic of China, as well as from Canada (Tai Bui, who is also from Canada, echoed this possibility)

Report on Task Committees

- Two 'official' task committees
 - Advanced Environmental Modeling, chaired by Fotis Sotiropoulos
 - Fotis was not present, but sent in minutes of the meeting of his committee, which met during a conference sponsored by the American Fisheries Society
 - Minutes indicate significant interest and activity
 - Applications of wavelets in hydraulics and hydrology, chaired by Paul Liu
 - Paul was not present, but the chair had contacted him earlier, and after some discussion, it was decided to terminate this task committee because of inactivity
- Planned or proposed task committees
 - Vegetative flow resistance, to be chaired by Vince Neary
 - Vince has already completed the official EWRI form to apply for official task committee status, and plans to submit this within the next few weeks – main sticking point is finding officers who are required to be EWRI members
 - Water quality issues in pipelines, to be chaired by Brian Barkdoll
 - Brian suggested this as a possible task committee during the Orlando conference, where this and related topics seemed to be a quite active area of work – due to a change from U. Mississippi to Michigan Tech, Brian was not able to proceed with the task committee proposal over the past year, but has said that he will do so in the very near future
 - Other suggestions: Tai Bui indicated that he might be interested in exploring the possibility of a task committee on fine-sediment and gravel bed interactions. The chair suggested a number of other possibilities for task committees, including one of large woody debris, and their role and related hydraulics in the river environment, as well as one on an integrated (systems?) approach to urban environmental problems, including both stormwater as well as wastewater components
- Future activities
 - New members
 - Two new members were suggested by the chair: Brian Barkdoll, now at Michigan Tech, who had indicated interest in forming a task committee (see above), and Chris Rehmann at U. Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, who has interests in bubble plumes and the spread of zebra mussels, among others. Both were accepted as new members. (In the ensuing discussion with the River Restoration TC, Don Carpenter of Lawrence Tech. , who chairs a task committee on urban stream restoration, expressed interest in participating in the EHTC).
 - Conference schedule and sponsoring sessions
 - The schedule for conferences is Philadelphia in 2003 and Salt Lake City in 2004. There is some debate about the conference locale (Charleston or Anchorage) for 2005. In any case, as far as proposing sessions or other major direct participation in a conference, the chair indicated that the Philadelphia conference was most probably all set, and that it would be too late for the EHTC to make any significant impact on sessions. Focussing on Salt Lake City in 2004 would be more effective (as noted above, Jeri Selke is program chair, and will be soliciting input later this year). The chair suggested that we build on the committee work of Fotis (on Advanced Environmental Modeling) and promote a track, i.e., multiple sessions, on ecological or biological hydraulics, which would encompass issues regarding fisheries, algae, zebra mussels. Workshops on hydraulics for fisheries professionals, or similarly on fishes or biota for hydraulics professionals, could be developed. Tai Bui suggested that panel discussions/-debates might also be of interest. Co-sponsorship by the American Fisheries Society (or other relevant professional organizations) might also be sought. Tai Bui indicated that he could contact Canadian colleagues to assess the level of interest in such an undertaking. The chair intended to contact Fotis to initiate discussions on this.
 - Workshops and continuing education

- As noted above, there are some funds available from EWRI to develop continuing education short courses that would be offered through the EWRI. The chair reported that Fotis had expressed an interest in developing a CFD short course, but did not know how far that was pursued. The chair expressed the view that such short courses would need to be practically oriented in order to have a broad appeal, e.g., HEC-RAS or culvert hydraulics courses (though an ASCE course was developed for the SMS/RMA-2 series of models, which is a two dimensional finite-element flow model). A course on BMP's or TDML's might be possibilities, but whether any member of the EHTC would be interested in developing such courses is questionable (other technical committees or councils, such as the Urban Water Resources Council, might already have some efforts in this direction). Other possibilities?