

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Environmental Hydraulics Technical Committee
(Saturday, 21 June 2003, Gettysburg Room 2, Adam's Mark Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

Members present: Dennis Lyn (chair), Tai Bui, Brian Barkdoll, Qizhong (George) Guo, Aaron Packman
Guests present: Mustafa Altinakar, Yafei Jia

Introduction of persons present at meeting (attendance sheet)

Remarks on travel re-imbursements: the procedure for travel re-imbursements for committee meetings was explained

Visit of Wayne Davis

- EWRI conference announcements
- Explanation/clarification of committee budgets

Report of chair

- minutes of annual meetings, including the 2002 meeting in Portland, were posted on the EHTC Web Site (<http://gemini.tntech.edu/~vneary/EHTC.html>); eventually, the 2003 minutes will be posted there also
- leadership meetings in Portland (Sept. 2002) attended by the chair and in Reston (Feb. 2003) attended by vice-chair
 - o The PAES process: a means of keeping track of the activities within EWRI—the EHTC as well as each task committee should submit a PAES form
 - o 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 (added news: Steve has also recently become Vice President of the Governing Board, and will be assuming his new responsibilities at the end of the year.)
 - o Other news can be viewed in the minutes of the 2002 meeting
- Task committees
 - o Current task committees:
 - Advanced Environmental Modeling, chaired by Fotis Sotiropoulos of Georgia Tech, and deals with CFD techniques applied to hydropower problems with direct implications for fisheries
 - Vegetative resistance, chaired by Vince Neary of Tennessee Tech (and vice chair of EHTC), dealing with the hydraulics of flows through vegetation—should check that this task committee has been formally approved (added note: discussed this with Steve Abt after the committee meeting, and was told that the paperwork had been submitted by him to the appropriate people—he would check on this.)
 - o Defunct task committees:
 - Wavelet applications to hydrology, chaired by Paul Liu of NOAA: this task committee was inherited from the former Hydromechanics Technical Committee, and was terminated for lack of activity
 - Debris flows, chaired by C.L.-Chen of USGS: this apparently quite active task committee was also inherited from the former Hydromechanics Technical Committee, but was not 're-authorized' by EWRI
 - o Formation of EWRI task committees
 - Procedure for forming a task committee is straightforward with relatively few restrictions on membership, only chair and vice-chair need to be EWRI members: necessary forms are available on-line in appendix to EWRI handbook (downloadable from <http://www.ewrinstitute.org>)
 - task committees do require effort and time from chairs and members, so commitment and serious thought should be given to formation of committee

Ideas for new task committees

- The chair noted that a good first 'deliverable' for a task committee would be a forum article in the Journal of Hydraulic Eng. outlining the mission and interests of the task committee; other deliverables might include journal paper, special issues of a journal, conference sessions, publishable report.

- Qizhong Guo suggested the possible topic of hydraulics principles related to best management practices (BMP's) and commercial devices for stormwater quality (e.g., for Phase 2 compliance): some discussion followed regarding how broad a topic a task committee should take on, and to what extent the performance of specific commercial devices should be assessed. Qizhong intended to see what was being done under another committee looking at related issues, and would pursue forming a task committee if this would be a contribution
- The chair mentioned other possibilities suggested at different times by Brian Barkdoll (water quality issues in water distribution systems) and Tai Bui (water quality issues raised by the interaction of fine sediment and gravel). Another suggestion from the chair concerns the hydraulics related to large woody debris in streams (Yafei Jia mentioned in this regard research being done by the group at the National Sedimentation Laboratory at Oxford, MS).
- Paul Mathisen (Worcester Polytechnic), who was attending the conference but could not attend the committee meeting, had sent an e-mail indicating an interest in greater involvement with the committee, possibly in a task committee working on sediment-bed or benthic processes

Presence of the EHTC at the 2004 EWRI Salt Lake City Congress

- The chair suggested that the 2004 EWRI Salt Lake City Congress would be a good opportunity for the EHTC as a whole to make a significant contribution in terms of organizing a possible track
- Aaron Packman related the problems associated with getting a single session accepted, and opined that organizing an entire track may permit greater control by the organizers
- Discussions with Fotis Sotiropoulos have been ongoing as to developing a track with contributions by his Advanced Env. Modeling committee at the core, with however a broader scope that might include not only directly fisheries issues, but general habitat and ecological issues. Also e-mail discussions with Jerry Sehlke (the conference chair) implied that more specific details, such as the number of sessions in the track, the timing, etc. would need to be spelled out in any proposal for a track.
- The committee discussed various possibilities:
 - o A narrow-focus track devoted entirely to work related to the Advanced Env. Modeling committee's topics—if there were sufficient contributions to this track already, then this might prove the more doable option
 - o A broader-focus track including issues that may not be directly fisheries related or CFD related, but that might encompass some indirectly or tangentially related issues such as vegetative resistance, large woody debris, etc.
 - o A third option would be a very broad track, e.g., Environmental Hydraulics, that might include, e.g., urban hydraulics, etc.
 - o Note added: conversations with Jerry Selke after the committee meeting indicated that the conference committee would not be in favor of the third option, but would prefer tracks with a more sharply defined focus, with some connection to the general themes of the conference (need some clarification here)
- Some clarification is needed as to
 - o How many sessions can the Advanced Env. Modeling committee by itself deliver? How well would these sessions as a track fit into the general theme of the conference?
 - o How well would other habitat-related presentations fit into the general theme of the conference?
 - o Note added after meeting: conversations with Jerry Sehlke indicated that the conference organizers could be flexible as to fit with general theme

Miscellaneous

- Rotation of officers: the chair explained the normal practice regarding rotation of officers of a committee, and suggested that, in accordance with the usual practice, Vince Neary and Tai Bui become chair and vice chair at the end of the current term. The post of secretary remains to be filled.
- New members: Both Mustafa Altinakar and Yafei Jia indicated interest in joining the committee. They will be asked to submit brief resumes, but as far as the chair was concerned, their participation in the committee work would be very welcome. The chair also reported of receiving an e-mail message from Earl Hayter (EPA) requesting that he be dropped from the committee due to other commitments.