

9th Open IAHR-EGW Membership Meeting in Thessaloniki

Location

Hydraulics Laboratory, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
ABC Hotel, Thessaloniki

Meeting: Friday, 12 April 2002, 9.00 – 18.00
Saturday, 13 April 2002 9.00 – 14.00

Participants:

Dr. Altinakar, Lausanne, Switzerland
Prof. Armanini, Trento, Italy
Dr. Babaeyan-Koopaei, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Dr. Fallico, Calabria, Italy
Prof. Ganoulis, Thessaloniki, Greece
Dr. Hinkelmann, Stuttgart, Germany
Prof. Kobus, Stuttgart, Germany
Prof. Latinopoulos, Thessaloniki, Greece
Dr. Molkenhain, Cottbus, Germany
Prof. Prinos, Thessaloniki, Greece

1. Welcome and meeting organisation

Prof. Ganoulis and Prof. Prinos welcomed the participants and explained the organisation of the meeting which has been excellently prepared by Mrs. Quartano, the secretary of Prof. Ganoulis. Then Prof. Kobus chaired the meeting which is a general meeting of EGW open to all network partners and guests interested in the EGW activities. The meeting was held under the special focus of EGW activities at the XXX IAHR Congress 2003 in Thessaloniki. Representatives of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) of the next IAHR congress, of the Section Committee on Education and Professional Development (IAHR-CEPD) and ETNET 21 were among the participants.

2. Activity report 2001

Nine courses were organized by EGW members in 2001. A list of these courses is published on the IAHR-EGW homepage (<http://www.iws.uni-stuttgart.de/IAHR>). All course organizers are requested to inform the EGW secretaries about the number of participants, questionnaires (which can be downloaded from the IAHR-EGW homepage), experiences and recommendations. This information should also be given for courses which were already held in 2000 and 2001 to complete the course statistics and to be able to make a quality assessment. A guideline for course organizer will be published on the EGW homepage soon to support course organizers.

The Master and PhD thesis list on the IAHR-EGW homepage will be continued. The EGW secretaries will make a link to each EGW member institution, if possible directly to local lists. Prof. Armanini will be responsible for maintaining and further developing the Master thesis lists. Such lists are a good information platform for students willing to study at the institutions of EGW members, e.g. sponsored by the Socrates or Erasmus student exchange programs.

The following two contributions were made to the IAHR newsletter in 2001:

- Issue 3: 8th Meeting of IAHR-European Engineering Graduate School Environment Water (EGW)

- Issue 6: IAHR-EGW Calendar of Courses 2002

Course Organizers are requested to write a small report (1-2 pages) about their EGW course. The reports should be sent to the EGW office which forwards the information to the editors of the IAHR newsletter. Contributions of course participants are also welcome.

3. EGW program 2002 / 2003

For 2002, nine courses have been announced, some of them were already held. Further information is found on the IAHR-EGW homepage. For a better distinction of the course offers, the courses should be differentiated in the announcements as

- *Short Course,*

- *Training Course,*

- *Internet Course,*

- *Summer School or*

- *Young Scientist Workshop.*

Dr. Fallico presented a concept of a new course proposed by Prof. Troisi which should deal with model validation. The idea is welcome, and Prof. Troisi is asked to specify his concept further. Partners are welcome to participate in this course.

The course announcements for 2003 should be sent the EGW office by *September 15th* at the latest to be published in the last IAHR Newsletter in 2002.

4. Graduate and doctoral programs, academic recognition

The discussions have shown a number of changes in existing graduate programs as well as a few new doctoral programs in the different countries. These topics were assessed as very important, also with respect to the declaration of Bologna. It was decided to establish a special task force to look into the various educational systems and the questions of academic recognition of EGW activities. Members of the task force are Prof. Armanini, Prof. Latinopoulos and a chairman. Prof. Jirka will be asked to chair this group.

A table of member universities versus EGW courses for indicating the status of academic recognition for each would be a useful start.

Course organizers should specify the academic recognition of the courses at their own universities and inform the EGW secretaries.

5. XXX IAHR Congress 2003 in Thessaloniki

Prof. Prinos and Prof. Ganoulis informed about the current status of the preparations for the IAHR Congress. A long discussion followed about Theme E: Linkage between Education, Research and Professional Development in Water Engineering. This discussion will be continued after the meeting to further organize and shape Theme E. EGW members are willing to prepare substantial contributions.

The International Symposium 'The Power of Networking for Water' held 28 June - 1 July in Budapest, Hungary, will be used to discuss the integration of the ETNET21 activities in Theme E.

6. EGW contributions to the IAHR Congress 2003

The EGW secretaries R. Hinkelmann and F. Molkenthin presented two special Open Distance Learning (ODL) courses / experiments in preparation for 2003, 'Modeling of Hydrosystems' and 'HydroWeb: Web-based Collaborative Engineering in Hydrosience'. Results and experiences from both courses are planned as contributions to the congress, including presentations from student participants. Other student activities are encouraged, e.g. from IAHR student chapters. These contributions will form an important part of Theme E2: New media in water-related engineering education.

Both ODL activities are running in close cooperation with ETNET 21 SPII 'Distance Learning Opportunities'. All EGW and ETNET21 partners are invited to join these ODL experiments as lecturers and / or to send students as participants. Further details will be published in October 2002.

7. Perspectives of EGW

The developments in EGW show clear trends, on the one hand towards open and distance learning and new media tools playing an ever increasing role, and on the other hand towards the global dimension involving partners from outside Europe both as teachers as well as participants. Therefore, EGW plans to drop the word European from the title, retaining the acronym EGW (Engineering Graduate School Environment Water) to reflect the change from the regional to the global scale.

The European pilot phase of IAHR-EGW, which was initiated in 1991 (as a regional pilot project in the global IAHR framework) and which has been operational since 1997 should consequently end with the Thessaloniki congress 2003. The IAHR-EGW with its new global dimension should in the future be continued within the Section on *Continuing Education and Professional Development (CEPD)*. This will constitute a major future activity of CEPD and will probably be pursued as a working group within CEPD. This is a logical development, for which continuity of key persons is given, since EGW promoters are members of CEPD as well. These developments will lead to a consequent and promising continuation of IAHR's efforts in education and professional development, and the more direct involvement of further CEPD members will certainly help to promote IAHR in this field. In support of the various events and activities and their coordination, such important questions as *quality control* and *academic and professional recognition* of IAHR activities will have to be continuously pursued in the future.

8. EGW framework and organisation

The members agreed to continue current EGW activities until September 2003. It was decided to have the next meeting immediately before the IAHR Congress in Thessaloniki in 2003, probably as a joint meeting with the CEPD section committee. During that meeting the future framework and role of EGW within the IAHR will be further discussed and specified.

EGW membership fees have been invoiced for the period up to September 2001. It was unanimously agreed that the membership fee for the two-years period from October 2001 until September 2003 should be 200 Euro per member institution. This fee should be invoiced soon, in some (very few) cases together with invoices for outstanding balances from previous periods. The amount collected will be used to support IAHR educational efforts and promotion of young scientists.

9. Links to other activities

EGW has a close connection to all ETNET21 activities, especially to SPII 'Distance Learning Opportunities'. A presentation of this close collaboration will be given by the EGW secretary F. Molkenhain on the International Symposium 'The Power of Networking for Water' held on 28 June in Budapest, Hungary. It is entitled *SPII: 'Distance Learning Opportunities: from talk to action through the European Engineering Graduate School Environment Water of IAHR'*.

Stuttgart and Cottbus, May 28, 2002

R. Hinkelmann, F. Molkenhain, H. Kobus

Enclosures

- Task List
- photographs of a part of the participants during the sight-seeing tour

Task list

- The EGW secretaries will make a **distinction** between Short, Training and Internet Courses as well as Summer Schools and Young Scientists Workshops on the EGW homepage.
- Prof. Armanini will take action and be responsible for maintaining and further developing the **Master thesis list** on the EGW homepage.
- The EGW secretaries will take care of completing the **course statistics** starting from the beginning of 2002. The questionnaire will be put on the EGW homepage and emailed to the EGW members.
- The EGW secretaries will prepare and distribute a **guideline for course organizers**.
- The EGW secretaries will write one **Newsletter report** about the meeting in Thessaloniki and another one about the planned ODL activities.
- EGW course organizers should send their **announcements for 2003 by September, 15th**. Prof. Troisi will specify his course plans.
- A **task force** dealing with academic recognition and graduate programs will be established consisting of Prof. Armanini, Prof. Latinopoulis and a chairman. Prof. Jirka will be asked to chair this task force. A table of member universities versus EGW courses for indicating the status of academic recognition for each would be a useful start.
- EGW course organizers should specify the **academic recognition** of their courses at their universities and inform the EGW secretaries and the task force.
- The **roles** of EGW, CEPD and ETNET for Theme E of the 2003 IAHR Congress will be clarified by Prof. Kobus, Prof. Armanini and Dr. Molkenhain.
- The EGW secretaries will update the **flyer** accordingly.
- The EGW secretaries will ask the IAHR secretariat to send invoices to all EGW members for the fee October 2001 to September 2003 in the amount of 200 EURO for each member institution.