

10th Open IAHR-EGW Membership Meeting in Thessaloniki

Location

Hydraulics Laboratory, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Meeting: Sunday, 24 August 2003, 14.00 – 15.30

Participants:

Dr. M. Altinakar, Oxford, Mississippi, USA

Prof. A. Armanini, Trento, Italy (Chairman, EPD)

Prof. J. Bogardi, Paris, France (UNESCO)

Prof. P.A. Davis, Dundee, UK

Dr. R. Hinkelmann, Stuttgart, Germany (Secretary, EGW)

Prof. G. Jirka, Karlsruhe, Germany

Prof. J. Josza, Budapest, Hungary

Prof. H. Kobus, Stuttgart, Germany (Chairman, EGW)

Dr. F. Molkenhain, Berlin, Germany (Secretary, EGW and EPD)

Prof. N. Tamai, Kanazawa, Japan (Chairman, Division I)

1. Welcome and meeting organisation

H. Kobus welcomed the participants and introduced the agenda of this meeting. In addition to the agenda that had been mailed out, it was suggested to introduce a new topic 6 about 'Information about UNESCO IHP activities'.

2. Activity report May 2002 – August 2003, course program 2004

In the period May 2002 – August 2003, 5 Short Courses, 3 Summer Schools, 3 Internet Courses and 12 Professional Development Courses were organized by EGW members. 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 is needed to complete the course statistics and to allow a quality assessment.

The following contributions were made to the IAHR newsletter:

- Issue 5, 2002: HydroWeb 2002 - Web-based Collaborative Engineering in the HydroScience
- Issue 5, 2002: 9th Meeting of IAHR - European Engineering Graduate School Environment Water (EGW)

- Issue 1, 2003: IAHR-EGW Calendar of Courses 2003
- Issue 3, 2003: HydroWeb: IAHR Student Chapters on-line collaboration

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

Some courses have been already announced for 2004. For a better distinction of the course offers, they should be differentiated in the announcements as Short Course, Internet Course, Summer School, Young Scientist Workshop or Professional Development Course.

The course announcements for 2004 should be sent to the EGW office by **November, 1st** at the latest to be published in the first IAHR Newsletter in 2004.

3. Financial report

In the reporting period (May 2002 to September 2003), total expenses of about 2500 Euro have been incurred, including about 1000 Euro for office and travel expenses, 2 scholarships of 500 Euro each for students of EGW partners to attend the congress in Thessaloniki and about 500 Euro for the dinner for participants of 10th EGW membership meeting. Furthermore, the IAHR secretariat will deduct an administration fee. Finally, EGW will probably end up with a reserve amounting close to 3000 Euro.

Final accounting as of September 30, 2003 will be made by the EGW secretaries with the IAHR secretariat in Madrid.

It was decided that the remaining funds will be handed over to the IAHR Section on Education and Professional Development (EPD) which will decide about the purpose of this money. In view of the total amount available, it is recommended primarily to use this money for a minimum organization rather than for scholarships.

4. Young Scientists Workshop in 2004

The idea of Young Scientist Workshops or Master Classes was discussed. F. Molkenhain and R. Hinkelmann are planning such an activity in 2004 in combination with one or two EGW courses in the field of Hydroinformatics and Modeling of Hydrosystems. The initiative is welcome, but the participants raise concern that such a workshop should not have a very broad theme and would need to be focussed carefully on a certain topic in order to ensure fruitful communication among the participants.

5. Termination of European pilot phase and start of EGW on the global scale

Following up the discussions in the meeting 2002, IAHR Council has agreed to the EGW proposals:

- The European pilot phase ends on September 30, 2003.
- The name of EGW is changed (by dropping the word 'European') in order to reflect the ongoing globalization in continuing education.
- As of October 1, 2003, the EGW activities will continue on the global scale as a working group within the Section on Education and Professional Development (EPD). Present members in the Section of EPD who are EGW members include A. Armanini, M. Altinkar, R. Hinkelmann and F. Molkenthin. R. Hinkelmann and F. Molkenthin are willing to continue as EGW secretaries.
- Within the Section on EPD, the EGW group will start to extend its activities to non-European members / universities.

6. Information about UNESCO IHP activities

J. Bogardi informed about UNESCO IHP (International Hydrological Programme) activities. In the future, IHP will continue to support initiatives which are related to water and sustainable development. The IHE (International Institute for Infrastructural, Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering) in Delft has recently been installed as an UNESCO institute and consequently will have a major role in the water-related further education programs of UNESCO. J. Bogardi emphasizes the importance of joining forces of different initiatives such as IHP, ETNET and EGW.

7. Recommendations for IAHR-EPD

At the transition to the global scale under the umbrella of EPD, the following recommendations from the past experiences of EGW are passed on:

The **key issues** for the success of EGW which need to be pursued primarily, are

- **quality control**, and
- **academic and professional recognition**.

First steps towards these issues have been made and need focussed attention in the further development. All EGW members are requested, as a first step, to specify the academic recognition of their courses at their own universities. This is a basis for the academic recognition by other EGW members and a prerequisite for initiating international graduate or doctoral programs. Furthermore, it is recommended to maintain the practice of collecting an annual membership fee (for example 200 Euro / year).

8. Other items

A. Armanini thanks H. Kobus in the name of all EGW members for the successful initiation and establishment of EGW in its 12 years pilot phase. In addition to research cooperations, EGW has been one of the first collaborations of a number of European partners in the field of education, finally leading from the European to the global scale.

H. Kobus expresses his great thanks to all colleagues and EGW members whose engagement has helped to make the EGW pilot experiment a success. With this, he closes the 10th and last European EGW meeting.

Stuttgart and Berlin, October 1, 2003

R. Hinkelmann, F. Molkenhain, H. Kobus

Enclosure

– Task List

Task list

- The course organizers are requested to inform the EGW office about the number of participants and to send the questionnaires starting from April 2002 to complete the **course statistics**, if not done yet.
- The EGW secretaries will write a **Newsletter report** about this meeting. Other Newsletter contributions of course organizers or participants are welcome.
- EGW course organizers should send their **course announcements for 2004** to the EGW office by November, 1st.
- The EGW secretaries take care of '**closing**' the **EGW account** as of September 30, 2003 at the IAHR secretariat. The EGW member institutes will be informed about the result and the transition to EPD.
- The **remaining funds** of EGW membership fees will be handed over on October 1, 2003 to the Section on EPD as a starting base for the continuing activities on the global scale.
- Within the Section on EPD, the EGW working group plans to **restructure the organisational framework** (new membership, annual fee, web page, flyer, ...), the course program (extension to non-European members / courses, Open Distance Learning, ...) and collaborations. Special emphasis will be given to recruit suitable **non-European member institutions** in the effort to make EGW a truly global activity.