

Minutes of the General Assembly of IASMiRT

Date: August 23, 2017, from 16:10 - 17:35 h
Venue: BEXCO Convention Center, Busan, Korea
Board: President: David Shepherd, UK
Vice President and Secretary: Abhinav Gupta, USA
Treasurer: Farhang Ostadan, USA
President Elect and Chairman of the Conference: Goon-Cherl Park, Korea
Advisor General: Vernon Matzen, USA

The invitation with the agenda was published in due time by email and on the IASMiRT web site, **Attachment A24-6a and b.** No written or oral changes to the agenda were received from members.

1. Call to Order

David Shepherd called the General Assembly to order at 16:10 h. A total number of 72 (out of 81) members attended the meeting, **Attachment A24-7a to d.** The assembly had a quorum for all decisions later on the agenda.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved unanimously with one change: the proposal to increase IASMiRT dues will be moved from item 16 to item 6.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the General Assembly in Busan, Korea, on November 17, 2016

The minutes of the General Assembly held on November 17, 2016 in Busan, Korea, were published on the IASMiRT web site, **Attachment A24-8a to c.**

The minutes were approved unanimously without changes.

4. Report of the President on Board Meetings

David Shepherd summarized the discussions and decisions of the previous meetings of the Board and Advisory Board as follows:

- a transfer of the registration of IASMiRT from Germany to the USA is intended (see item 5)
- the IASMiRT web site was updated and expanded, see www.iasmirt.org
- proposals for SMiRT 26 in 2021 from Germany and France (see item 10)

5. Legal Matters of IASMiRT

Rainer Gillot informed the audience about the taxation of IASMiRT for SMiRT 23 in the fiscal year 2015. The reason for the federal and city tax request of about 8.300.- Euros was the fact that the revenue authorities in Berlin consider IASMiRT responsible for the conference finances acc. to § 2 of our statutes, and that parts of the conference income from sponsors were handled as commercial income. This happened for the first time, and might happen again in the future.

Vernon Matzen explained financial and practical reasons for moving the registration of IASMiRT from Germany to the USA, such as:

- tax situation in Germany vs. USA
- public sentiment in Germany has turned against nuclear power generation
- German government has decreed that all nuclear reactors must be shut down before the end of 2022
- IASMiRT would still be an international association and function the same way it does today
- SMiRT 26 proposed to be held in Berlin in 2021 would not be affected by this change.

He moved that:

(1) IASMiRT registered in Germany be dissolved, with the dissolution to be completed by December 31, 2018; and concurrently

(2) the legal process be initiated immediately after this meeting to create a new IASMiRT which will be registered in North Carolina, USA, as a nonprofit organization.

The motion was seconded by Adeola Adediran.

After the discussion David Shepherd asked the audience for a decision: 69 attendees voted in favour, with three abstentions. This means that 96 % of the audience support the dissolution of IASMiRT in Germany and the move to the USA. Both requirements of § 11 of our statutes (at least 80 % of the attendees representing more than 50 % of the total membership) are satisfied.

6. Report of the Treasurer

Farhang Ostadan presented his report for the period from August 2015 to July 2017, **Attachment A24-9a and b**. This report was audited and approved without objections on August 20, 2017, by Nilesh Chokshi and Ajaya Gupta.

Present surplus is 36.119,58 USD in the US account, 594,11 EUR in the German checking account, and 54.097,22 EUR in the German savings account. The present total balance is about 81.700,- USD.

The report was accepted unanimously, all actions of the treasurer were formally approved, and he retired from office.

David Shepherd reported on the decreasing assets of IASMiRT over the past decade, and informed the audience that the dues to be paid by the conference will be increased from 25.000,- to 35.000,- USD from SMiRT 27 onwards, plus 15.000,- USD for travel reimbursement of Advisory Board members.

7. Report on NED

David Shepherd reported that a topical issue of Nuclear Engineering and Design (NED) with selected and updated papers from SMiRT 24 is planned.

8. Report on SMiRT 24

Goon-Cherl Park gave a short summary of SMiRT 24: 506 delegates from 26 countries came to the conference, 478 papers from 10 divisions were presented, 106 papers came from Korea. On August 28 and 29, 2017, a Post SMiRT Seminar with the theme “Enhancement of Nuclear Safety Against External Natural Events” will be held in the University of Tokyo, Japan. Another seminar on “Fire Safety in Nuclear Power Plants and Installations” will be organized on October 4 and 5, 2017 in Bruges, Belgium, and a third one in Turkey.

Selected papers will be published in Nuclear Engineering and Design (NED), in the German ATW journal, and in the International Journal of Pressure Vessel and Piping (IJPVP).

9. Report on SMiRT 25

Abhinav Gupta summarized the latest information on SMiRT 25 as follows:

- the conference will be held from August 4 to 9, 2019, in Charlotte, NC, USA
- the conference site will be the Westin Hotel, the contract is completed
- Charlotte is the new energy capital of the American Southeast with lots of nuclear related offices
- sponsorship will come from the North Carolina State University (NCSU), the Center for Nuclear Energy Facilities and Structures, and numerous other companies and institutions
- NCSU and the Center for Continuing Education will ensure financial solvency of the conference
- the updated version of the conference web tool will be used for the conference
- Sujit Samaddar is chairman of the International Scientific Committee, together with Andrei Blahoianu
- in addition to the traditional divisions another one on Severe Accident Management is planned
- dates: February 9 and 10, 2018 Board meeting in Charlotte, NC, October/November 2018 planning meeting in Raleigh, NC.

Claude Faidy sees a need for clarification regarding timescale and scope of workshops, panel sessions, post conference seminars, etc.

10. Venue for SMiRT 26

David Shepherd informed the audience that two proposals were submitted for SMiRT 26 in 2021, one from Germany and one from France. Both were thoroughly discussed by the Board and judged as equally excellent. Since the SMiRT conferences started in Berlin in 1971, the intention was to celebrate the 50th anniversary in Berlin. The French colleagues withdraw their proposal, and will endorse the German proposal. David Shepherd expressed sincere thanks again to the French colleagues, especially Emmanuel Viallet, for all their endeavours to prepare the proposal.

Astrid Petersen from TUEV Nord EnSys in Hamburg summarized the German proposal as follows, **Attachment A24-10a-e**:

- SMiRT 26 will be held in Berlin, Germany, from August 8 to 13, 2021
- the conference site will be the Maritim Hotel in the center of the city
- the organizing group will also involve experts from Switzerland and France
- the program will focus on up-to-date research, but will also celebrate 50 years of IASMiRT
- the German Society for Nondestructive Testing (DGZfP) guarantees the financial solvency of SMiRT 26
- support from all kind of institutions, industry, manufacturers, utilities, societies, regulators was received
- technical tours, sightseeing tours, and post conference seminars will be organized
- the registration fees will be in the traditional range and depend on the time of registration.

The proposal to hold SMiRT 26 in Berlin, Germany, was approved unanimously.

11. Election of the Vice President / Secretary

Based on the nomination of Astrid Petersen as chairman of SMiRT 26, her election as vice president and secretary of IASMiRT for the next two years was approved unanimously. She accepted the election.

Farhang Ostadan leaves the Board and will become a permanent member of the Advisory Board.

12. Election of the Advisor General

Both the Advisory Board and the Board proposed Vernon Matzen again as Advisor General. His re-election was approved unanimously, he accepted the election.

13. Composition of the New Board

After the approval of the German proposal to host SMiRT 26 in Berlin, Germany, and Astrid Petersen as chairman of the conference, the new Board for the next two years is composed as follows:

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|--|--------------------------|
| a) President: | Goon-Cherl Park |
| b) Vice President and Secretary: | Astrid Petersen, Germany |
| c) Treasurer: | David Shepherd, UK |
| d) President Elect and Chairman of the Conference: | Abhinav Gupta, USA |
| e) Advisor General: | Vernon Matzen, USA |

All five Board members were elected unanimously and accepted their election. The previous Board retired from office.

14. Election of the Auditors

Nilesh Chokshi and Ajaya Gupta were re-elected unanimously as auditors for the IASMiRT accounts for the period September 2017 to August 2019. They accepted their election.

15. Nomination of the Statutes Custodian

Rainer Gillot was again nominated as statutes custodian to manage the move of IASMiRT from Germany to the USA. He accepted the nomination.

16. Miscellaneous

Sergio Möller from Porto Alegre, Brasil, informed the audience that this was his last conference, after many others he attended in the past. He thanked the community for all the scientific input and friendship he got in all these years, important for his career, and encouraged future organizers to keep an eye on young engineers and to support them.

The next General Assembly will be held in Raleigh, NC, USA, in October/November 2018, together with the planning meeting and a Board meeting.

17. Adjourn

David Shepherd closed the meeting at 17:35 h.

David Shepherd
President

Abhinav Gupta
Secretary