

CEO NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL

ICF: The World Academy of Structural Integrity

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ICF-WASI Chief Executive Officer; Treasurer and President-Emeritus

(1) The formal CEO Report is provided on the ICF-WASI website for Council and this is a summary for the ICF-WASI Spring Newsletter. This has been an unprecedented and exceptional quadrennium for ICF working as designated "Chief Executive Officer" very closely with the ICF President 2009-2013 Alberto Carpinteri and the Executive Committee to create a substantial metamorphosis in ICF into "**ICF: The World Academy of Structural Integrity**".

(2) This is by no means simply a development in **name** but builds on the globally-respected ICF brand in **substance** in various very significant ways. This is a project still in process and this transformation will continue in the next quadrennium to ICF14 in Rhodes in 2017 and in the following quadrennium 2017-2021 to ICF15 in Vancouver in 2021 as effectively a ten-year project 2011-2021.

(3) As described in the opening keynote paper by Taplin & Saxena at the 2011 Sendai IQ conference the "project" for the creation of ICF took ten years from ICF0 in Swampscott 1959 through ICF1 in Sendai in 1965 to ICF2 in Brighton 1969 when ICF was formally established by Statute through the leadership of Takeo Yokobori. This "project" for the transformation of ICF into a "World Academy" is also a ten year "project" from effectively the ExCo in Anaheim in 2011 through ICF13, ICF14 to ICF15 in Vancouver in 2021. However we are well on our way and it is at ICF13 that our new "World Academy" will be formally launched at ICF13 in Beijing.

(4) This imaginative management of the Academy - especially regarding the development of our well-established global "ICF-BRAND" - requires encouragement of volunteer work for the common good, self-financing Quadrennial and Interquadrennial conferences and in other respects. Much work has been accomplished in this arena during this extraordinary quadrennium. There has been discussion this quadrennium regarding the possible financial underpinning of the Academy via establishing the Academy as a Registered Charity in the USA and seeking industrial and other donations worldwide. However no national or individual membership subscription is anticipated or sought and the present concept is based on a very modest financial underpinning via simply a levy on the registration fees from the quadrennium conferences.

(5) ICF13 will be held in Beijing in June 16-21 2013 www.ICF13.org with Shouwen Yu as ICF13 Executive Chairman with well-defined target metrics. Liaison work with the ICF13 team has been progressing very productively and iteratively in accord with the ICF/ICF13CSTAM MoU with the whole CSTAM/Tsinghua Team - with especially

also Alberto Carpinteri, Yiu-Wing Mai, Rob Ritchie, Tong-Yi Zhang, Xiqiao Feng. The terms of ICF13 management are covered in the ICF/ICF13 MoU and Addendum.

(6) ICF14 will be held in Greece, Europe in June 18-23 2017 www.ICF14.org in accordance with the geographical rotation guidelines of ICF. The terms of ICF14 management are covered in the ICF/ICF14GGF MoU. A comprehensive ICF14 site visit took place in February/March 2013 to Athens & Rhodes which was very successful and is reported on separately with a full ICF14 Progress Report at ICF13. Following the ICF precedent of the jointly organised USA-Japan ICF10 in Hawaii ICF14 will be organised by a Pan-Europe, Greek-Anglo-German consortium for Rhodes, Greece with Emmanuel Gdoutos as ICF14 Executive Chairman, James Marrow as ICF14 Technical Programme Chairman and Dietmar Klingbeil as ICF14 Industrial Programme Chairman.

(7) A formal bid for ICF15 has been logged by Vancouver, Canada via TMS, UBC and the new Vancouver Convention Centre, VCC. ICF15 would be thus located on the Pacific Coast of North America and there are plans for this to also be a Pan-America joint consortium on the precedent of the Pan-European ICF14 in 2017. The ICF15 Executive Chairman will be Ashok Saxena (President of Galgotias University, India and Dean Emeritus, University of Arkansas, USA). Thus there is a major input in ICF15 additionally from India just as with ICF10 in the USA via Japan. Whilst we have geographical guidelines for the rotation of the quadrennials in its wisdom Council has quite often departed from this rotational guideline. This guideline is less important today than in the era before our interquadrennial programme became well established. In any event there has been so far just one bid for ICF15 after very comprehensive analysis.

(8) So far there has been just one strong indication for a bid for ICF16 from Berlin, Germany in July 2025 with as the proposed ICF16 Executive Chairman Dietmar Klingbeil and this will be discussed at ICF13. There have been thoughts that India might bid for ICF16. However India is strongly involved in ICF15 and in fact various considerations suggest that ICF17 in January 2029 is likely to be suitable for a quadrennial in India.

(9) The decision on ICF13 was made at ICF11. There is now an established need for a longer lead time for the Quadrennial Conferences than the 3-4 years of previous times. The reasons for this are several-fold. Firstly the process of negotiating, agreeing and signing the MoU can be protracted and until that is formally agreed & signed the actual organising process cannot properly begin - allowing maybe three years in past arrangements. Secondly the booking of major conference facilities worldwide needs 5-8 years lead time for the best world-class centres. Thirdly with the need for close collaboration in joint consortia 3-4 years is insufficient for optimal management and industrial and government support and funding. Hence it is recommended that the decision on ICF15 be made by ICF Council at ICF13 in Beijing on June 18 2013. Also that the decision on ICF16 be made at ICF14 in Rhodes on June 20 2017.

(10) There will be separate reporting to ExCo/Council by Mimoun Elboudjaini on Interquadrennial Conferences in 2009-2013 - and regarding plans for the next quadrennium building on the growing MoU network. There will also be separate reporting at ExCo/Council on the Website/Newsletter by Francesco Iacoviello and on Publications by Krishnaswamy Ravi-Chandar. Full documentation on the work in the Academy "portfolio management" arena is logged with the Registered Office of ICF in Sendai, Japan with the ICF Secretary-General. This is also uploaded with files and minutes via IGF on the Academy website www.ICF-WASI.org via Francesco Iacoviello. A new pro-active management structure will be developed via President Shouwen Yu with the CEO during 2013-2017. This might involve perhaps ten specific Regional Directors with defined development responsibilities and Regional Committees (Ibero-Region, Far-East Region, South Asia Region, Oceania Region, Pan-America Region, Middle East/Africa Region, Mediterranean Region, Northern European Region, Russian/Former USSR Region). This idea was incorporated within the ICF Nominations Report of Yiu-Wing Mai in April 2013 via also a suggestion of additional ExCo Directors being appointed (possibly 5-8 co-options). This will be discussed and hopefully acted upon by ExCo/Council at ICF13.

(11) ICF is in a very healthy state and indeed has developed through many phases in a competitive and imaginative manner ever since ICF1 in Sendai Japan under the Chairmanship of Professor Takeo Yokobori our Emeritus Founder-President. However the developments this quadrennium have been extensive and unprecedented during the Presidency of Alberto Carpinteri. In particular the work of the Academy via the ExCo meetings (Formal/Informal) has progressed substantially: Ottawa 2009; Dresden 2010; Sendai 2010; Anaheim 2010; Torino 2012; Rhodes 2013.

(12) A key aspect of the work of our new Academy is in regard to our prestigious Awards Programme which has been led by **Awards Chairman** Ashok Saxena 2005-2013 (two quadrennial for continuity) as fully reported in the **2013 Awards Report**. This core work for the evolution of the new "World Academy" as **Awards Chairman** will continue under the leadership of Alberto Carpinteri 2013-2021. Conscious of the creation this year by the UK Royal Academy of Engineering of the Global Queen Elizabeth Engineering Prize we may consider creating such a single major "Yokobori Prize". This might be funded from Japan.

(13) Another key aspect of the work of the Academy has been led by **Nominations Chairman** Yiu-Wing Mai 2005-2013 in the Nominations process and this is fully reported in the **2013 Nominations Report**. This is not simply a process of recommending the ExCo team and President for each quadrennium but a creative process to develop a management structure suitable for the new Academy. This involves an ongoing role of CEO working with the President, Secretary-General & Quadrennial Chair and we anticipate an enlarged ExCo with perhaps ten "Regional Directors". This work as **Nominations Chair** will be continued 2013-2021 by Robert Ritchie, once again for two quadrennial for continuity.

(14) A core aspect of any global Academy is a very active website and this has been addressed via the good offices of the Italian Group on Fracture (IGF) and Francesco

Iacoviello who will be **Website/Newsletter Chairman** also for two quadrennial 2013-2021. This website already has adventurous features including the uploading of the full ICF Proceedings since ICF0 in 1959. Our vision is to have all proceedings of the World Academy to be freely available on the internet.

(15) There are many whom it would be appropriate to explicitly acknowledge as major contributors in this quadrennium. However just a few key people will be mentioned herein: paramountly the extraordinary ICF leadership of Alberto Carpinteri is especially important to record as ICF President 2009-2013 and indeed as our next Awards Chairman 2013-2021; along with the excellent work of Senior Vice-President Professor Shouwen Yu as ICF13 Executive Chairman; Xiqiao Feng ICF13 Secretary-General has played a major part coupled to the whole ICF13/CSTAM team www.ICF13.org ; Emmanuel Gdoutos as ICF14 Executive Chairman who has created via GGF a truly Pan-Europe quadrennial www.ICF14.org ; the substantial contributions of Ashok Saxena as both Awards Chairman in an innovative programme 2005-2013 and as ICF15 Executive Chairman through an outstanding international host, TMS; Yiu-Wing Mai as Nominations Chairman 2005-2013; Robert Ritchie in various liaison capacities and as next Nominations Chairman 2013-2021; Mimoun Elboujdaini as Interquadrennials Chairman with an extraordinary programme in North Africa; Francesco Iacoviello as Website/Newsletter Chairman adding substantially to the Academy via IGF; Susanne Bachofer as MoU Network Chair via the ICF/DVM MoU following ECF18 in Dresden; Dietmar Klingbeil as Chairman of the ICF16 bid for Berlin; along with the sustaining genius of the ICF Founder-President , Professor Takeo Yokobori and of the Secretary-General Professor Toshimitsu Yokobori.

David Taplin

ICF-WASI CEO; ICF Founding Council Member (1969-); ICF President (1981-1985) ICF4 Executive Chairman (1973-1977); ICF Treasurer and Quadrennial Chair

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