

Education and Professional

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As new Chair of the Educational and Professional Development (EPD) Committee of IAHR I would like to thank first of all the people who nominated me to this position.

I would also like to thank also Prof. Reinhard Hinkelmann who preceded me as Chair for his work during the last two-year period.

Herebelow I report on the work which in the near future I plan to start with the help of the new EPD Vice Chair, Dr. Ioana Popescu, the members of the new Leadership Team Rob Ettema, Frank Molkenhain, Guillermo Palau Salvador and the Past Chairman Reinhard Hinkelmann.

As regards the EPD web page, whose main aim is providing information on our activities, it will be ready in the near future. In it we will insert also the IAHR Multimedia activities and news in a single IAHR web page.

I would like to merge the IAHR Media Library promotion and information with the more general activities of EPD on the same IAHR EPD web pages. Anyhow, in order to better continue the activities of IAHR Media Library the IAHR Media Library web site will remain separate.

The problem of Young Researchers' attendance at upcoming IAHR congresses should also be addressed. I would like to start with the IAHR Media Library Web TV. We could also use this new facility (I hope) for researchers of developing countries or young researchers that have

economical difficulties, in order to enable them to see the main events of the congress free of charge and in real time on the web site. Some technical problems could be faced and possibly solved if we think that could be a solution (or a part of the solution) of the problem. Other incentives could be grants offered by the organization or by sponsorship of companies involved in hydraulics to the researchers who need economical help, taking into account the long and expensive trip from some countries. This help could be limited, for example, to the needy researchers who will have written the best papers. A commission could evaluate their work.

In the near future I would be very glad also to extend the EPD Committee Leadership Team by including more members, especially from Asia and Latin America.

As regards master classes this must be coordinated with the IAHR Technical Divisions and Committees and, in my opinion, even if we have to delegate the local organizers much of the work, all the master classes organized under the aegis of IAHR should be promoted by IAHR but involving EPD in some way.

IAHR has been experimenting with FaceBook during the last two years and our group – called IAHR Young Researchers – now has 550 members. Kevin Denn of the IAHR Iowa Student Chapter has managed this and we organised a meeting in Vancouver to discuss the value of the FB group. Our conclusion was that it is very valuable when used to prepare for and follow up student meetings during the Congresses. We

have a Student Intern in IAHR Madrid who will help the Committee develop these activities further during 2010.

A further activity directed by former EPD Chair Prof. Aronne Armanini is the development of a database of PhD Theses which will help doctoral students publicise their thesis topics in the early phase of their research - before they are able to publish! This development has started as an initiative of the IAHR Europe Division – but it is the intention to open it up to students from all countries once functional.

As Past Chairman, Reinhard Hinkelmann will be further responsible for the Engineering Graduate School Environment Water (EGW). Most of the remaining successful courses run under a bi-annual basis. They have in common that they aim at higher education, that they are of high quality and that they foresee a national or international lecturer team. The transition of EGW from the European to a global dimension has not been as successful as expected. As different further education activities are running within the other IAHR Committees, all new chairs are encouraged to put these activities under the EGW umbrella. Lecturers are encouraged to open their specialized PhD courses also to students of other EGW partners and to announce them to EGW which will spread this information. As the exchange of students is ongoing and increasing in Europe within the Bologna process and as the academic recognition of courses from other universities has become easier in the last years, EGW activities will be maintained in the future.



Figure 1.
Page views
from January
2005.

Development (EPD) – PART II

As regards the IAHR Media Library (the web resource for the storage and dissemination of photographic, animation and video material relating to hydraulics, hydrology and water resources, www.iahrmedialibrary.net). Figure 1 shows the web page views from January 2005. The total number is 66,506. It is important to highlight that this number does not take into account the same visitor twice or more, i.e. if the same user visits the same page twice or more, his/her visit is counted only once. The figure also shows cyclical events, with peaks in conjunction with events that were particularly innovative and important for the web resource – for example, a news item in the IAHR NewsFlash. Moreover, the figure shows an increasing general trend of the page view numbers of the IAHR Media Library with extraordinary peaks, some of which are in conjunction with the following main events that could have had positive effects on the website:

- 1) September 2007: after the International IAHR Congress in Venice.
- 2) December 2007: publishing and distribution of leaflets and posters of a restyling of the IAHR Media Library and International ISEH Congress 2007 in Arizona.
- 3) April 2008: launch of the new IAHR Media Library with a new section devoted to didactic tools.

The future for the IAHR media library in the EPD committee of IAHR

During the IAHR 2007 Congress in Venice I showed the slide in Figure 4, observing that in order to follow the aims and scope of the web resource it was necessary to develop a second branch of the web site hosting lectures, freeware software, e-books and so on. This was promptly achieved some months later.

Any future consideration of the IAHR Media Library now has to take into account that its outstanding success requires new efforts to improve and eliminate certain flaws that are still present in this service. First of all, it is important to underline that in order to update the web resource, it should not only be used for downloading materials, but also uploading new movies, photo, software, e-books and so on. This responsibility is down to all of us. Therefore, I would like to ask all the participants at the IAHR

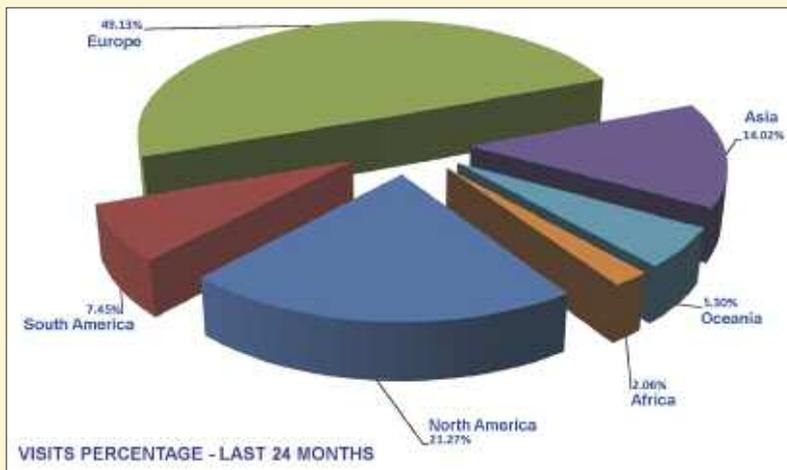


Figure 2. Percentage of the geographic distribution over the last 24 months (July 07-June 09).

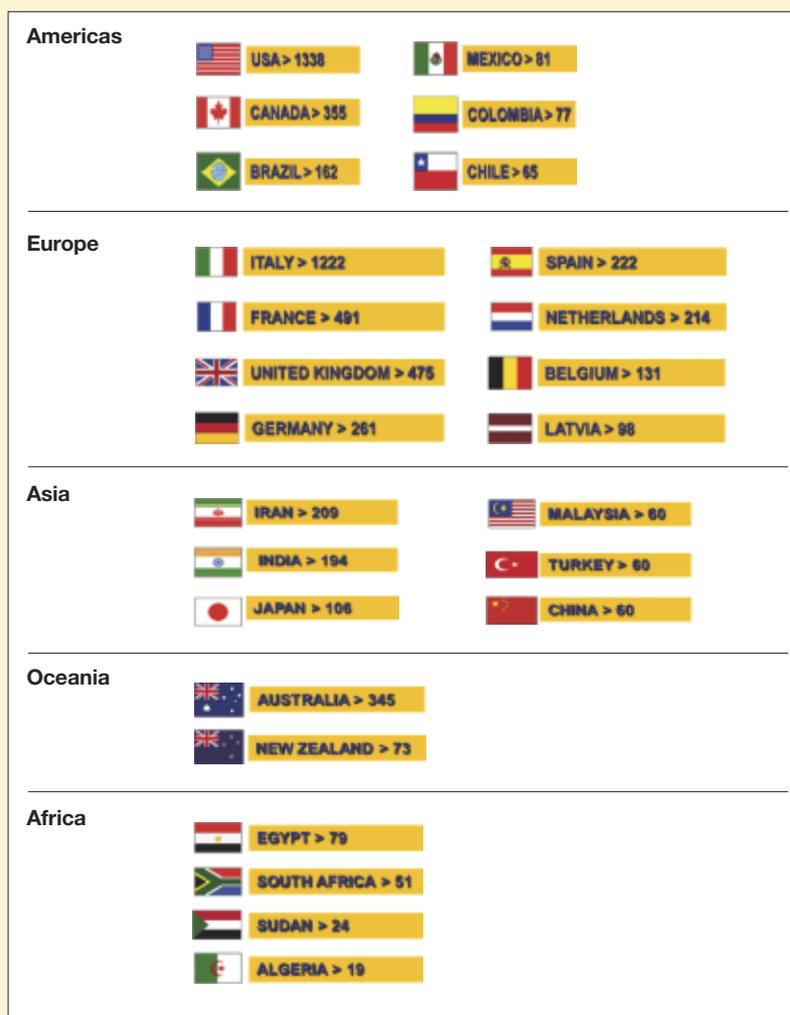


Figure 3. Details of the geographic distribution of visits from July 07 to July 08 in North, South and Central America, Europe, Asia, Oceania and Africa.

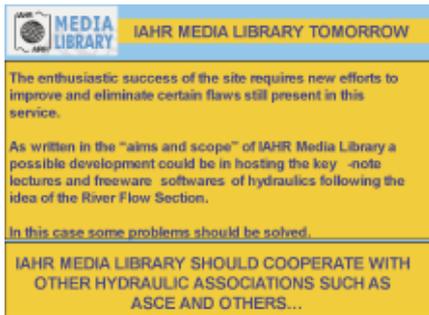


Figure 4. A slide presented during the 2007 IAHR Congress in Venice, the illustrated aim of which was achieved some months later.

Congress and all IAHR Media Library users to contribute much more enthusiastically to this project, so helping both me and the entire Editorial Board.

Furthermore, as written before, the IAHR Media Library could become a more effective and operative tool with a web TV service broadcasting congresses on demand.

Anyone who may be interested in collaborating or proposing improvements can contact me at my e-mail address. At the moment the IAHR Media Library has been set up with the funding of the Fondazione Caripuglia (Research Project LIC-MON of 2003) and of the Project IMCA (Integrated Monitoring of Coastal Areas, financed by the Department of University and Scientific Research of Italian Government, MIUR PON D.M. 593/00). Both projects are of the Coastal Engineering Laboratory of the Water Engineering and Chemistry Dept. of the Technical University of Bari, Italy.

In order to maintain the web site and to develop it with a web TV service we require the following tools and / or services:

- Professional high capacity hosting (1000Mb) with video streaming technology until 31/12/2013, with an updating of the present web site
- Management and input of new material (similar to what has been achieved over the past two years) and maintenance of the website in question until 31/12/2013 with helpline and online assistance.
- Establishing a channel for live video streaming platform for transmission of events from any location.
- Statistical surveys and access to the site
- Backup and full offline content of the library with annual generation of offline content index.

Introducing EPD Committee Leadership

Chair: Prof. Michele Mossa

Prof. Michele Mossa is full professor of Hydraulics at the II Faculty of Engineering (Taranto) of the Technical University of Bari (Italy), where he has taught Hydraulics and Maritime Hydraulics. His expertise areas are the mechanisms of waves, sea currents, local erosion phenomena, buoyant and non-buoyant jets issued in steady or wave environment or in crossflow, also with macroroughness at the bottom (ripples or vegetation), channel flows and their local phenomena, such as hydraulic jumps. He has been editor and reviewer of many international journals of Hydraulics and Maritime Hydraulics. He has been involved in many national and international research projects of Hydraulics and Maritime Hydraulics also as Examiner.

Some of the principle positions held in the last years

Since September 2009: president of the IAHR Education and Professional Development committee (IAHR EPD Committee) and Editor of IAHR magazine *Hydrolink*.

Since October 2008: coordinator of the PhD course in Environmental Engineering.

From December 2007 to 2009: secretary of the IAHR Education and Professional Development (EPD) Committee.

Since December 2007: person in charge of the Coastal and Maritime Hydraulics of the Italian Universities Consortium of the Sea Sciences (www.conisma.it).

Since June 2007: president of the Apulian Section of the Italian Association of Hydrotechnique (www.idrotecnicapugliese.it).

Since 2005: Editor of the web resource for the storage and dissemination of photographic, animation and video material relating to hydraulics, hydrology and water resources IAHR Media Library www.iahrmedialibrary.net

For further details and information visit the web site www.michelemossa.it

Vice Chair: Dr. Ioana Popescu

Dr. Ioana Popescu is Senior Lecturer in Hydroinformatics at UNESCO-IHE Institute for Water Education in Delft, The Netherlands. Her expertise areas are mathematical modelling and ICT. This foundation has led to her current research interest and expertise in the development and application of modelling systems for water related areas. Particularly she is having experience in Hydroinformatics in the area of numerical methods (theory and application), river system modelling and use of water related tools for modelling

Her experience with ICT technology and modelling software has led to an increasing competence in designing knowledge management applications, particularly in the areas of knowledge mapping and e-learning systems. She has been actively involved in developing on-line courses, such as Flood Modelling for Management in two set-up: the classical teacher centered approach in parallel with the student-centered approach.

She has been involved in national and international research projects related to floods in rivers, as well as educational development projects, such as FloodSite (www.floodsite.net), Thematic European network for Competence development (www.tencompetence.org), EnviroGRIDS (www.envirogrids.net), lenvis (www.lenvis.eu)

In the Educational and Professional Development Committee of IAHR she will act as a deputy, and together with Prof. Michele Mossa, who is the Head of the EPD section of IAHR, will help in organising classes and keeping the community up to date with relevant information regarding their professional development.