



GEOTECHNICAL RESEARCH BOARD

Minutes of the Annual Meeting *(draft)*

Fairmount Hotel, Vancouver, Moresby room
October 3rd, 2006, at 7:00

Attending:

Executive members: Richard Bathurst, James Blatz, Dave Sego, Murray Grabinsky, Michel Aubertin. Also: Jit Sharma, Greg Siemens.

The proposed Agenda (distributed in advance by e-mail) is read and accepted at the opening of the meeting.

1- Review of the annual report

The report sent to the executive members of the GRB is accepted as it is. The next report will be circulated before it is forwarded to the CGS Board.

2- Membership

The mandate of the executive members of the GRB is for 3 years; it is renewable. Those that do not wish to renew their mandate at the end of their terms should inform the Chair as soon as possible. Suggestions for new members are welcomed.

3- Workshop

A workshop is planned for the next Conference to be held in Ottawa. The date proposed for the half-day workshop is Oct. 24, 2007 (in the afternoon); this needs to be confirmed with the Local Organising Committee (LOC). The workshop will be organised in conjunction with the Canadian Young Geotechnical Engineers and Geoscientists Conference, which will be held Oct. 25-27, 2007. The main organisers of the workshop are Dave Sego and Michel Aubertin; other members of the GRB will be invited to participate. The CGS executive board members (including the new Director General, Victor Sowa, and the new President, Peter Wu) will be kept informed of the progress. The workshop will focus on issues related to means available for attracting funding to a developing research program and for developing industrial relevant programs.

4- Colloquium

Strong applications have been received in 2006, for the 2007 Colloquium. The executive members of the GRB are encouraged to promote this award, so that equally valuable nominations can be received again this year (and in the coming years).

It is recalled that any Society member can nominate candidates for the presentation of the Colloquium. A call for nominations will appear in the December issue of CGS News. The nominator must provide a nomination letter that introduces the candidate with his main accomplishments, an extended abstract of the proposed talk (approx. 2000 words), and the nominee's *Curriculum Vitae*, which must clearly list practical experience relevant to the topic and the publication record (especially in refereed journals). Nominations are to be submitted to the Society Secretariat by January 31. More details are given on the CGS web site (in the Awards Manual).

5- Links with NSERC

Michel Aubertin will contact Lise Desabrais (from the NSERC GSC 06) to discuss the membership of the committee, and also the reallocation process. At least one member of this grant selection committee should be a member of the GRB to insure close ties with NSERC.

6- Web site

The GRB web page needs to be brought up to date more regularly. Jit Sharma has offered to help the GRB in this regard. The site should include the GRB reports, minutes of meetings, and other information that relates to its activities.

7- Other activities and tasks

The members propose that a specialty session be organised at the next CGC in Ottawa. The session would include a series of short presentations (10) on research needs, as perceived by reputable professionals from academia and industry. A panel discussion would follow. A short report would be produced as a result of the session; it would be sent to the CGS board, and possibly distributed to agencies and organisations that could benefit from this exercise.

The organisation of this special session will have to be discussed with the LOC. Michel Aubertin will initiate the process, and will ask for the collaboration of other members of the GRB to help organise the activity. The outcome of this session will be used in the workshop to be held later in the week (see item 3 above).

8- Varia

Nothing is raised. The next meeting will take place in Ottawa in October 2007.

Closure of the meeting at 7:45.

Minutes by Michel.Aubertin@polymtl.ca in collaboration with attending members.