

HENRY

Hydraulic Engineering Repository

Ein Service der Bundesanstalt für Wasserbau

Article, Published Version

Calvo, Lucas; Senn, Carlos; Soo, Tom

Report from the 38th IAHR World congress

HydroLink

Verfügbar unter/Available at: <https://hdl.handle.net/20.500.11970/109466>

Vorgeschlagene Zitierweise/Suggested citation:

Calvo, Lucas; Senn, Carlos; Soo, Tom (2019): Report from the 38th IAHR World congress. In: HydroLink 2019/4. Madrid: International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR). S. 120-123. http://iahr.oss-accelerate.aliyuncs.com/library/HydroLink/HydroLink2019_04_a9d9sas0das9f.pdf.

Standardnutzungsbedingungen/Terms of Use:

Die Dokumente in HENRY stehen unter der Creative Commons Lizenz CC BY 4.0, sofern keine abweichenden Nutzungsbedingungen getroffen wurden. Damit ist sowohl die kommerzielle Nutzung als auch das Teilen, die Weiterbearbeitung und Speicherung erlaubt. Das Verwenden und das Bearbeiten stehen unter der Bedingung der Namensnennung. Im Einzelfall kann eine restriktivere Lizenz gelten; dann gelten abweichend von den obigen Nutzungsbedingungen die in der dort genannten Lizenz gewährten Nutzungsrechte.

Documents in HENRY are made available under the Creative Commons License CC BY 4.0, if no other license is applicable. Under CC BY 4.0 commercial use and sharing, remixing, transforming, and building upon the material of the work is permitted. In some cases a different, more restrictive license may apply; if applicable the terms of the restrictive license will be binding.





REPORT FROM THE 38TH IAHR WORLD CONGRESS PANAMA CITY, SEPTEMBER 1-6, 2019

BY LUCAS CALVO, CARLOS SENN & TOM SOO

Following on from the success of past World Congress events held biennially, the IAHR community gathered together at the 38th edition from 1 to 6 September 2019 held at the Riu Plaza Panama Hotel in Panama City, where nearly 925 participants from 54 countries attended. Some 751 full papers were presented at the Congress. The congress covered six main themes, including:

- Hydraulic Structures
- Ports and Coastal Engineering
- Hydro-Environment
- Water Management and Hydro-Informatics
- River and Sediment Management
- Climate Change and Extreme Events

The Panama IAHR World Congress was opened on Monday 2nd September by the Congress Chairman: Ing. Carlos Vargas, Executive Vice President of the Water, Energy and Environment Chapter of the Panama Canal Authority. Ing. Jorge Quijano, the former CEO of the Panama Canal Authority, was the opening speaker from Panama and gave a fascinating introduction lecture about the Panama Canal performance and perspectives. The second opening keynote was presented by Marisa Escobar, the Water Program Director at Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), about the topic of "Bridging Science and Policy: Creating a World with Equitable

Water Access". Both Kennedy-YPN Award winners Siddharth Seshan (IAHR Baden-Wurttemberg YPN) and Rosa Camila Timana Mendoza (IAHR UTEC-Peru YPN) gave inspiring motivational speeches. The congress closed on Friday 6th with closing remarks from the former IAHR President Peter Goodwin and the introduction of the newly elected IAHR President Joseph Lee.

During the week there were a total of 8 keynotes involving leading specialist and professionals in the hydro environmental domain from around the world, as follows: Dr. Jing Peng, China (Hydraulic Structures), Prof. Hubert Chanson, Australia (Hydraulic Structures), Dr. Iñigo J. Losada, Spain (Ports and Coastal Engineering), Prof. Vladimir Nikora, UK (Hydro-Environment), Prof. Lin Chuxue, China (Water Management and Hydro Informatics), Prof. Marcelo García, USA (River and Sediment Management), Dr. Tosi Nakaegawa, Japan (Climate Change and Extreme Events), Dr. Felipe Arreguín, Mexico (Climate Change and Extreme Events).

Throughout the congress, a series of side events took place: pre-congress Workshops, Forums, Special Sessions and multiple meetings of the IAHR Technical Committees, Regional Divisions and Journals Editors. Highly successful Workshops on Water Security (Identifying Areas of



1. Arthur Mynett, Emeritus Professor in Hydraulic Engineering, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, The Netherlands receiving his Honorary Membership Certificate from Peter Goodwin, IAHR President

2. 2019 Honorary Members, Young C. Kim, Angelos Findikakis and Arthur Mynett at the Opening Ceremony with Carlos Vargas and Peter Goodwin

3. Motivational Speeches given during the Opening Ceremony by the 2019 Kennedy-YPN Awardees Siddharth Seshan (IAHR Baden-Wurttemberg YPN) and Rosa Camila Timana Mendoza (IAHR UTEC-Peru YPN) Available in IAHR YouTube Channel!

4. 2019 Awardees together with IAHR Executive Committee Members and Willi Hager, founder of the Willi Hager Best Paper Award

Vulnerability and Enhancing Resilience) and Nature Based Solutions were held. A Global Forum consisting of a structured debate between leaders and experts from government agencies and research institutes took place seeking to exchange experiences and best practices in implementing landscape scale ecosystem management.

The congress hosted as much as 21 Special Sessions covering an extensive range of specific hydro-environment areas:

- Outfall Systems
- Nature Based Solutions in Water Management
- Large Scale Experimental Facilities for Ecohydraulic Research
- Recent Advances in Air-Water Flow Modeling Techniques
- Urban Drainage
- Transient in Pipes
- Robust, Climate-Change Sensitive and Adaptive Water Resources Management
- Coastal Reservoirs
- Low-Lying Coasts Under Climate Change and Anthropogenic Pressures
- Sustainable Water Storage to meet Water, Food, and Energy Development Goals
- Climate Change Impact Assessment on the Water Cycle
- Advances in Tools, Methods and Modeling of Water System Operation
- Advances on Tsunami Modelling and Characterization
- Riparian Vegetation Processes: Focused on Causes and Effects and Modeling
- Non-intrusive Measuring Techniques for Free-surface and Pressurized Flows
- Instrumentation and Modelling Tools to Mitigate Flood Risks Associated to Dam and Dike Failure
- Tribute to the Late Forrest Holly
- Flow-vegetation-sediment Interactions: Advances in Incorporating

- Natural Plant Features in Hydraulic Experimentation and Modeling
- Case Studies of Major Water Engineering Projects

Special activities took place at the exhibition area within the IAHR Stand such as the launch of the new White Paper Series, with a first issue published about Artificial Intelligence by Dragan Savic, and a debate on the history of IAHR World Congresses with the presence of the Honorary Members moderated by Willi Hager. Other exhibitors were Nortek, Macafferri, Flow 3D, Xylem, UTP, Cathalac, Panama Canal, SENACYT, CDS, UTP, USMA, Ulatina, Sequoi and Embassy of Israel and Embassy of the Netherlands.

The recently created Young Professionals network from Panama helped to coordinate a full programme of activities including a YP General Members Assembly, different talks, among them: "How to write good papers for JHR and other Scientific Journals" by Mohamed Ghidaoui and "Scientific innovations and novel technologies that turn arid basins into a productive land – the Israeli experience" by Eilon M. Adar, a technical tour, a YPN night to Panama Old City, and a YPN corner.

The congress was organized by the City of Knowledge Foundation (host), Panama Canal Authority (ACP), Technological University of Panama (UTP), Santa Maria la Antigua University (USMA), Universidad Latina de Panamá (ULATINA), Water Center for the Humid Tropics of Latin America and The Caribbean (CATHALAC) and National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT).

The congress was sponsored by SENACYT and the Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz International Prize for Water (Platinum Sponsors), Maccaferri (Silver Sponsor) and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Chinese Hydraulic Engineering Society (CHES) was a Partner of the



5



6

5. Keynote Speaker Jorge Quijano, Panama Canal Administrator

6. Keynote Speaker Marisa Escobar, the Water Program Director at Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

7. Farewell speech by Christopher George at the General Member Assembly

8. IAHR Secretary Generals, Jing Peng - IWHR, China - and Ramon Gutierrez Serret - CEDEX, Ministry Ecological Transition, Spain. Both institutions were recognised by their continuing support

9. Tom Soo, New IAHR Executive Director



7



8



9

Congress. Special thanks to IAHR hosts Spain Water and IWHR, China. The Technical Visits were a central part of the Panama IAHR World Congress. Some participants had the opportunity to visit the new Panama Canal Locks at the Agua Clara Visitors Centre on the Atlantic Ocean side. The trip back to the city was provided via the Panama Canal Railway, bordering the Gatun Lake and through the tropical forest. Other participants had the privilege to make a Partial Transit on a ship through the locks of the old Panama Canal. Visits to impressive Miraflores Visitor Center, Frank Gehry Museum and the Panama Bay Sanitation Project were also conducted.

The IAHR Awards were announced during the Opening Ceremony and the Congress Gala Dinner, including : Honorary Members, M. Selim Yalin Lifetime Achievement Award, Arthur Thomas Ippen Award, Harold Jan Schoemaker Award, Willi H. Hager JHR Best Reviewer Award, the new Kennedy-YPN Award and the World Heritage and Industry Awards (to see the list of awardees please go to page XX). At the end of the Gala dinner all participants enjoyed a very nice local spectacle and dance time!

IAHR News: General Members Assembly

Opening

The IAHR Annual General Members Assembly (GMA) was chaired by the IAHR President Peter Goodwin on September 5th with around 90 people present which was a 25% increase compared to past GMA's.

Recognition of Christopher George

IAHR President recognised former IAHR Executive Director, Christopher George recently retired, for his 20 years of dedication to the Association since he was appointed the first Executive Director in 1999. Council

Members, Past Presidents and close Members dedicated to him warm words, highlighting his charm and gentility.

Introduction of Tom Soo

A new Executive Director was introduced by Peter Goodwin. Tom Soo joined IAHR in April 2019 after being Executive Director of IWRA and the World Water Council. He has over 20 years of international leadership experience in the water sector and he is widely recognised as an ambassador for water and builder of networks.

Council Elections

The results of the 2019 Council Elections organised by the 2019 Election Nominating Committee chaired by Prof Roger Falconer were announced. A list of the complete council including the newly-elected members is provided in Hydrolink 3, 2010. Prof Arthur Mynett represented Prof Falconer, Chair of the NC in his absence. The results of the Elections show a higher gender balance compared with previous years: Members: 4 males / 4 females; Vice Presidents: 2 males / 1 female; Secretary Generals: 1 male / 1 female and Chairs of Regional Divisions: 4 males.

Constitution and Bylaw Changes

After an online consultation to members about a proposed constitution and bylaws change, the results were 84% YES, 5% NO, 11% ABSTAIN. Changes will take effect in 2021. The main ones are that the President will serve one 2-year term and one 2-year term as past president (rather than the current 2 x 2-yr terms).

Technical Divisions will be eliminated whereas the Council will be expanded to include chairs of Technical Committees (TCs), chairs of

10 & 11. Technical visit at Agua Clara Visitors Centre on the Atlantic Ocean side

12. Trip back on train bordering the Gatun Lake

13. YPN Technical Visit to the Hydro-Electric Station. Activity organized by the Panama YPN



Working Groups and Journal Editors, together with a YPN member from each region with IAHR support to participate.

Highlights

President Peter Goodwin remarked the launch of the new White Paper Series, as well as the new Technical Committees and Working Groups created such as Climate Change Adaptation, Sustainable Development Goals, Drones and Dam Reservoir Sedimentation; the numerous technical and regional congresses successfully organised in the previous two years receiving around 6000 delegates in total; the increasing number of Young Professionals Networks which amounts to 58 from 49 different countries; the increasing portfolio of Journals as well as the relaunch of the new IAHR Media Library created by Michelle Mossa.

2018 Financial Report

The 2018 financial report was presented by Prof James Ball, Vice-President and Chair of the Finance Standing Committee. The results, which have been audited by Ernst & Young, show an operating surplus for the year of €35K.

Regarding membership fees, they will remain unchanged for 2020. There is a general reminder to members who have not renewed their fees to make an effort to pay.

2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan - Draft

(1) A Task Force composed by James Ball, Angelos Findikakis, Joseph Lee, Silke Wieprecht, Peter Goodwin and Tom Soo was created and has been working to draw the new 4-year strategic plan. The draft plan is based on the following four pillars and will be finalised soon: Provide a world class international networking platform and great member experience

- (2) Inspire, disseminate and catalyse state-of-the-art knowledge and thinking
- (3) Institute events that set agendas, harness and amplify the collective knowledge of the global Hydro-Environment community
- (4) Act as a global voice on behalf of the Hydro-Environment engineering industry and research community

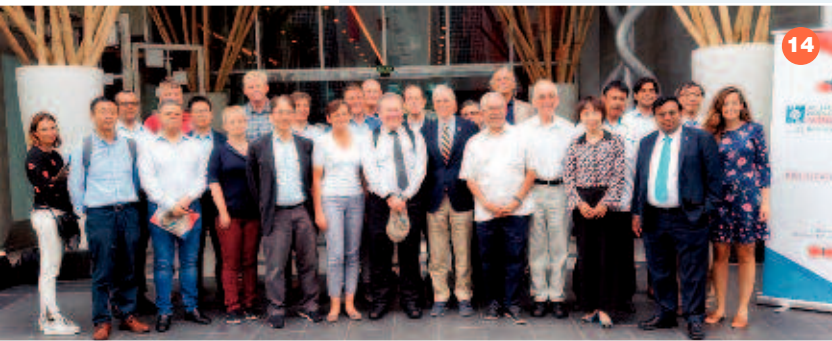
At the end of the GMA Siddharth Seshan President of the IAHR BW YPN (Germany) and 2019 Kennedy-YPN Award Winner shared the outcomes of the Global Forum. Ellis Penning from Deltares summarized the "Nature Based Solutions" Workshop.

Following the GMA the Ippen lecture was presented by Claudia Adduce on "Gravity Currents propagating over complex topography: implications for fluid entrainment and sediment transport".

The closing ceremony included some words from retiring President Peter Goodwin, an introduction of the new President Joseph Lee, a Congress report from Lucas Calvo, Chair of the Local Organising Committee, and the presentations of the next Congress Venue in from Granada 2021 and Vienna 2023.

The retiring council was acknowledged for their extraordinary work and dedication during a difficult transition period.

The post congress survey gave a good satisfaction rate from delegates. We thank all delegates for their participation, and we hope to see you in the next edition of the IAHR World Congress in Granada in 2021! ■



14. IAHR Council Meeting held ahead of the World Congress in August 30-31st

15. IAHR stand

16 & 17. Gala Dinner

18. Lucas Calvo, Chair of the LOC, Silke Wieprecht, IAHR Vice-President and staff from the Panama University

