

The International Society for Rock Mechanics held its Council meeting in New Delhi, India, in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> Asian Rock Mechanics Symposium, organised by the Indian National Group of the ISRM and the Central Board for Irrigation and Power. 36 of the 47 National Groups were either present or represented. The Council was also attended by three Past Presidents, the chairmen of the ISRM Commissions and a representative of ITA.



### Nick Barton selected as the 2011 Müller Award recipient

Three nominations for the Müller Award of the ISRM were received: Dr Nick Barton, Prof. Richard Goodman and Prof. Peter Kaiser. Selection took place during the Council meeting and Dr Nick Barton was selected as the 6<sup>th</sup> Müller Award winner. He will receive the award and deliver the Müller lecture at the 12<sup>th</sup> ISRM Congress in Beijing, in October 2011. The Müller Award honours the memory of Prof. Leopold Müller, the founder of the ISRM, and is made every four years in recognition of distinguished contributions to the profession of rock mechanics and rock engineering.

### Montréal, Canada, selected as the venue for the 13th ISRM International Congress

Two nominations were received to host the 13th ISRM International Congress: from Canada, in Montréal, and from India, in Agra. The proposal received from CARMA, the Canadian Rock Mechanics Association, was selected by the ISRM Council. The 13<sup>th</sup> Congress of the ISRM *Innovations in Applied and Theoretical Rock Mechanics* will take place on 29 April to 6 May 2015 and will be chaired by Prof. Ferri Hassani.



### Rocha Medal 2011

The Council was informed that the Board decided to award the Rocha Medal 2011 to Dr Dohyun Park, from the Republic of Korea, for the thesis entitled "Reduction of Blast-Induced Vibration in Tunnelling Using Barrier Holes and Air-deck". He will receive the award at the 12th ISRM International Congress in Beijing, China. The Board also awarded 1 runner-up certificate to Dr Li Bo, from China, for the thesis entitled "Coupled Shear-flow Properties of Rock Fractures".



### The ISRM Digital Library was launched

The main aim of the ISRM digital library is to contain all the papers published in the ISRM Congresses and sponsored Symposia, thus giving them a greater visibility and making them available to all the rock mechanics professionals.

The ISRM digital library is part of OnePetro, a large online library managed by the Society of Petroleum Engineers. ISRM individual members registered on the ISRM website are allowed to download, at no cost, up to 100 papers per year from the ISRM conferences, and ISRM corporate members can download 250 papers. To register on the OnePetro website ([www.onepetro.org](http://www.onepetro.org)) as an ISRM member, the only necessary information is the username and the password used to access the members' area of the ISRM website. Non members can purchase the ISRM papers online. The ISRM digital library has now 2,000 pages of papers published in nine conferences, and these numbers are expected to double in the next six months.





# International Society for Rock Mechanics

## Commissions

Reports were presented to Council on the activities of the Commissions. The following Commissions are now active:

- Application of Geophysics to Rock Engineering
  - Preservation of Ancient Sites
  - Testing Methods
  - Mine Closure
  - Rock Engineering Design Methodology
  - Radioactive Waste Disposal
  - Rock Dynamics
  - Education
  - Spalling
- Two new commissions are now being formed and they will officially start their work in October 2011, will the next ISRM Board:
- Crustal stresses and earthquakes
  - Petroleum Geomechanics



## Communication

The website is the main source of information about the ISRM and most benefits are offered to the members in a password protected members' area. Several videos were recently included (only for members): - the keynote lectures presented at the EUROCK'2009; - the 1st Müller lecture delivered by Evert Hoek in 1991; - the 2nd Müller lecture delivered by Neville Cook in 1995; - the lectures on Geological Engineering by John Franklin. Videos of the keynote lectures to be presented at the ARMS6 in New Delhi will also be included.

The **News Journal**, Issue N. 12, of December 2009, was distributed in paper to all members and includes a summary of activities of the Society, plus technical articles. An electronic version is available on the website for download.

The **digital newsletter** started in March 2008 and is sent to all subscribers every 3 months. It includes news about the ISRM and other news related to rock mechanics. Contributions are welcome, with short news on rock mechanics issues of general interest.



2009 Annual Review, Technical Articles on China and Rock Dynamics, Invitations to Switzerland and India



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## ISRM sponsored meetings

The organisers of the conferences sponsored by the ISRM presented the progress on their organisation.

- 23-27 October 2010, New Delhi, India - *ARMS 6 – International Symposium on Advances in Rock Engineering: the 2010 ISRM International Symposium*
- 2-4 December 2010, Lima, Peru - *VII South-American Rock Mechanics Congress: an ISRM Regional Symposium.*
- 16-21 October 2011, Beijing, China - *Harmonizing Rock Mechanics and the Environment: the 12<sup>th</sup> ISRM International Congress.*
- 15-17 October 2011, Beijing, China - 2nd International Young Scholars Symposium on Rock Mechanics: *an ISRM Specialised Conference.*
- 27-30 May 2012, Stockholm, Sweden - EUROCK'2012 – Rock Engineering and Technology: *an ISRM Regional Symposium.*
- 21-26 September 2013, Wrocław, Poland - EUROCK'2013 – Application of Rock Mechanics to Civil and Mining Engineering: *an ISRM Regional Symposium.*
- 29 April to 6 May 2015, Montréal, Canada - *Innovations in Applied and Theoretical Rock Mechanics: the 13<sup>th</sup> ISRM International Congress.*

## Revision of the ISRM Statutes

The ISRM Statutes were revised by the Council in three aspects. French and German will no longer be used as official languages of the ISRM, which from now on is only English. Specialised Conferences were introduced as a new type of ISRM sponsored event, focused on specific topics. The category of Fellow was created. It will be conferred on individual members who have achieved outstanding accomplishments in the field of Rock Mechanics and/or Rock Engineering and who have contributed to the professional community through the ISRM.

## Membership of the ISRM

The ISRM has now 6312 individual members and 136 corporate members belonging to 47 National Groups. This represents an increase of 5% in the number of individual members since the last year and the highest number of individual members ever. 48% of the members come from Europe, but Asia has been the fastest growing region in the last years. Bolivia was welcomed as the latest National Group to join the ISRM.

