

ICOMES 2007 Meeting Review

ICOMES 2007 was held in Brussels, Belgium on March 17 and 18 at the Sheraton Hotel.
(Agenda attached)

Attendees numbered 34 (including presenters)
(List attached)

The meeting opened on Saturday, March 17th with an official welcome by Prof. Yvan Baudoin of the Belgian Society of Mechanical Engineers (BSMEE), Dr. Terry Shoup, American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and Mr. Alec Osborn, Institution of Mechanical Engineers (ImechE)

Following the opening of the meeting, the attendees introduced themselves.

Two sessions were held:

Session I: Societal Issues, led by Dr. Colin Brown, Director of Engineering at ImechE with presentations on: Environmental Issues-Sustainable Transport by Mr. Ian Arbon, ImechE and Energy Resources and Power Generation by Mr. Brian Robinson, ImechE Technical Manager, Sustainable Energy.

Session II: Growth Areas, was led by Prof. Yvan Baudoin, General Secretary of BSMEE with presentations on: Mechatronics by Dr. Chris Decubber of AGORIA and Bio-Manufacturing Technology in China by Dr. Peifan Ding, CMES Consultant.

Following each session, time was allowed for discussion of the presentations.

Two sessions were held on Sunday, March 18th, followed by a Technical visit to the Royal Military Academy:

Session III: Relationship Building, led by Dr. Nobuhide Kasagi, President of JSME who also gave a presentation on JSME's Challenge Toward Relationship Building, followed by a presentation on Mechanical Engineering Societies & Government by Dr. Terry Shoup, President ASME and followed by a presentation on EIIL Survey & Conferences by Mr. M. Steven Price, Executive Director EIIL.

Session IV: The Profession, was led by Dr. Moustafa Chaaban of the Egyptian Society of Engineers who also gave a presentation on Engineering Ethics. Mr. Ren Hongbin, Vice President of CMES gave two presentations: Accreditation of Higher Education of Mechanical Engineers and Ideas on resource savings in Manufacturing in China.

The afternoon was devoted to a visit to the Royal Military Academy, hosted by Col Jean Marsia with visits to various labs at the Academy.

A number of issues surfaced from the discussions that are critical to all societies:

How does the engineering profession attract more women?

The public domain must be educated regarding the energy crisis

The world governments must take a stand on the energy crisis

What will mechanical engineering be like 50 years from now?

ICOMES societies should share best practices

Societies in Developing Countries need

- training
- conferences
- seminars
- publications

Society-to-Society visits

The general feeling of the attendees was that the meeting was heading in the right direction, addressing strategic issues of concern for all societies and the need for ICOMES 2009 to follow this type of program addressing strategic issues.

The Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society has offered to host the meeting in 2009, co-located with a conference and will be working with Elizabeth Barna, Secretariat of ICOMES.