

## NZGS Committee Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014

### NZGS Membership 1034

#### NZGS members with International Affiliations

Society	Members
IAEG	207
IAEG Student Rate	2
IAEGJrnl	158
IAEGJrnl Student Rate	2
ISRM	162
ISRM Student Rate	2
ISSMGE	600
ISSMGE Student Rate	7

- The Committee thanks Riley Consultants and Tonkin & Taylor for recent ASCE sponsorship assistance in Canterbury.
- The Committee wishes to thank Nick Harwood for his efforts and contributions over the past two years as an elected Committee member. Nick will progress some projects already underway as a co-opted member of the Committee during 2014.
- The Committee formalised the current arrangement where serving NZGS Committee Members are not charged the annual NZGS membership fee.
- The 2014-15 Budget now accommodates the anticipated surplus from the Symposium in Queenstown which has mainly been tagged as 'seed' money for the forthcoming Symposia in Wellington and Christchurch in 2015.
- Committee debated the overseas membership fee, particularly with regards postage costs of Geomechanics News issues. It was agreed to not change this fee at present.
- The Committee accepted in principle that a 'long service membership' class be investigated.
- The Committee approved an increase in annual subscriptions from \$100 to \$105 per member, effective 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014.
- Sixteen nominations were received from YGP members to receive sponsorship assistance to attend the 10<sup>th</sup> ANZ YGP in Noosa. Ten sponsorships of \$1,000 each are to be awarded and a subcommittee was identified to assess the submissions. Thanks to EQC for again supporting this event to the value of \$5,000. NZGS contributes the other \$5,000.
- The Committee discussed the uptake of PEngGeol. An assessment of the degree courses offered in NZ Universities is being undertaken, to identify key aspects of the knowledge base that should be required in part fulfilment of the post nominal.

- Nicki Crauford (Deputy CE, IPENZ) joined the meeting to discuss the current update to the IPENZ Code of Ethics and developments in occupational regulation of engineers.
- IPENZ began a review of their Code of Ethics in April 2013; consultation on draft improvements is now underway. NZGS members have been asked to contribute.
- Occupational Regulation of Engineers; the next ERG meeting is in April, and Gavin Alexander will represent NZGS at this meeting.
- John Scott of MBIE, addressed the Committee about the Canterbury Geotechnical Database and a plan to make the database national. This is a huge project, but the benefits nationwide would be sizeable. Watch this space – Ken Read will be NZGS Representative on this project.
- Discussions continue with Standards Australia about the update of AS1726/CE015. The update could take the form of a joint NZ/Australia Standard. Tony Fairclough is the NZGS representative on this project.
- The apparent slow progress on the three Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering modules was debated at length. We have since received for review an update to Module 1, and are exploring options to combine Module 3 (Retaining walls) with a forthcoming MBIE guidance document. Module 2 (Foundations) is equally important to our community, and we are considering alternative delivery mechanisms for it.
- The Editors of Geomechanics News received 216 responses to their survey on the Society's publication. There was strong support to retain the paper copy of the Bulletin in parallel with a digital issue; a number of other layout and content changes reflecting survey responses will be evident in the next issue.
- Progress continues on both the ANZ2015 (Wellington) and 6ICEGE (Christchurch) Conferences.
- Vaughan Griffiths will present a short course in Wellington and Christchurch in late June.
- John Wood will travel throughout NZ in 2014 to present the Geomechanics Lecture, culminating at the ANZ2015 next year.
- David Burns presented an assessment of NZGS Rules updates required to the Committee, and later at the AGM too. Further detailed progress required before adoption of any Rule changes at the Society's AGM in 2015.

Next NZGS Committee meeting: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2014, Christchurch.