



Minutes of GEOSNet board meeting, 11 Dec 2019, Taipei

Date: 11th December 2019

Time: 5 pm

Venue: Room E2-222 (Dept. of Construction Engineering), Taiwan University of Science and Technology

Present: D.V. Griffiths (Chair), J. Ching (Chair-Elect), J. Huang, Z. Liu, I. Papaioannou, B.A. Robbins, L.L. Zhang, J.H. Li (Secretariat)

Apologies: D.Q. Li

1. Welcome and introductory comments from D.V. Griffiths (Chair)

D.V. Griffiths convened the meeting at 5:00 pm.

2. Self-introductions (all)

Members introduced themselves.

3. Report on GEOSNet

The rules for the GEOSNet Board Members were reviewed. The minutes in 2009 stated restricting board membership to 2 terms or approximately 4 years. D.V. Griffiths pointed out most of the board members (Griffiths, Liu, Papaioannou, Robbins and Zhang) will step down after another term (i.e. After the 8th ISGSR in Newcastle, NSW). The lack of continuity in the Board was noted.

4. GEOSNet Awards

The GEOSNet Awards for 2019 were reviewed:

One GEOSNet Distinguished Award (Farrokh Nadim, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Norway), three GEOSNet Awards (Hongwei Huang, Tongji University, China; Dianqing Li, Wuhan University, China; Abdul-Hamid Soubra, University of Nantes, France) and two GEOSNet Young Researcher Awards (Jinhui Li, Harbin

Institute of Technology (Shenzhen), China; Zhongqiang Liu, Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Norway).

D.V. Griffiths confirmed that the awards will be presented during the Symposium Banquet. The voting process for the awards was also discussed. There can be a maximum of two Distinguished Awards and three Young Researcher Awards, but there is no limitation on the number of GEOSNet Awards. It was agreed that changes will be made to the rules to cap the number of GEOSNet awards at three.

I. Papaioannou suggested that in the event of too many nominations in any one category, the Board should adopt a ranking system to decide on the nominees that would go forward. The remaining nominees would then be voted on by the Board with a “Yes”, “No” or “Abstain” vote. If any nominee gets more than two votes that are not “Yes”, they would not be recommended for an award.

5. ISGSR 2022, Newcastle

J. Huang introduced the 8th ISGSR that will be held at Newcastle, NSW 11-13th July of 2022. He mentioned that Newcastle is a beautiful city that should attract many people. The conference venue will be at a hotel right on the beach. The transfer to Newcastle from Sydney involves a train journey of approximately 2 hours. J. Huang is considering offering technical tours to nearby open-pit mines and a social tour to the wine-growing Hunter Valley region. The board briefly discussed potential candidates for the 9th ISGSR in 2024. Bids to host this conference will be open immediately after the 7th ISGSR.

6. GEOSNet Executive Board

The composition of the Executive Board was reviewed. Dianqing Li who is stepping down from the Board after the 7th ISGSR had suggested that Y. Wang would be a good replacement. The board members discussed other possible candidates, seeking more gender and geographical diversity. L.L. Zhang raised a question on the numbers of the board members and it was noted that there could be up to 9 Board members, while we currently only have 8. After further discussion it was agreed that the Board could be expanded to 9 members and that D.V. Griffiths would approach both Y. Wang and T. Schweckendiek about joining. We have since learned

that Y. Wang and T. Schweckendiek have both accepted the invitation. Their membership of the GEOSNet Executive Board will be effective immediately.

Other Business and Closure

D.V. Griffiths thanked J. Ching once more for his excellent organization of the 7th ISGSR in Taipei.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.