



UNESCO International Centre for Engineering Education



Newsletter

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From the Director

Several universities in Australia have recently introduced a new accounting procedure, the so-called Assets Management. One of the aspects of this procedure is that accumulated funds cannot be carried forward from one year to the next. As a consequence, in April 2007, the UICEE lost over \$500,000 in savings, which were taken over by Monash University, the host institution of the UICEE. The UICEE's savings included close to \$400,000 of membership funds, dedicated to support UICEE research and development activities, and also earmarked for the UICEE's international activities. Also, over \$13,000 of ILG-EE funds (the UICEE is the host of the ILG-EE), held in UICEE accounts, were taken away in the process. Moreover, over the last few years, the University has charged substantially increasing fees for central services such as occupied space, human and financial services, Faculty overheads, etc, thereby making the UICEE's position particularly difficult.

These financial decisions, conduct and actions on the part of the University have financially crippled the UICEE to such an extent that I was unable to extend the annual contracts of the UICEE's support staff for 2008. With the UICEE being deprived of its financial and human resources, I was forced to suspend some of the activities that would have otherwise been conducted in 2008. However, I have decided to defend the UICEE and its very existence by challenging the financial and other decisions of the University so that the UICEE's financial position, and hence the activities, are fully restored.

It should be pointed out, with regret, that this unexpected and harsh treatment comes

after 14 years of exceptional service to Monash University that has resulted in placing this University on the world's map of engineering education, as well as bringing fame and enormous kudos to this academic institution, which aspires to be a global university.

Election of Rector at GMU



The picture shows Prof. Romuald Cwilewicz, Rector-Elect of the GMU (photo by T. Degorski).

We are delighted to inform our readers that on 17 April 2008, an election of the new Rector for the term 2008-2012 was held at Gdynia Maritime University (GMU), Gdynia, Poland, which is a long-standing and one of the most important Partner institutions of the UICEE, and the host to the *Centre for Maritime Engineering Education (CMEE)*, a satellite centre of the UICEE.

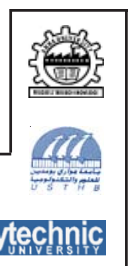
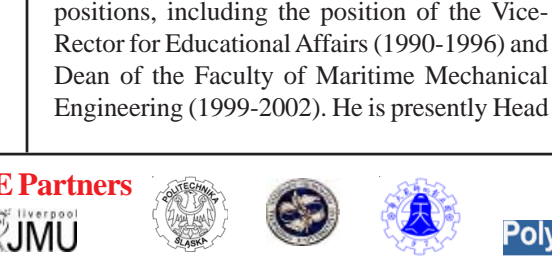
It is our particular pleasure to announce that Prof. Romuald Cwilewicz, presently the Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs, the Director of the CMEE, an extremely active member of the UICEE and a member of the Academic Advisory Committee, was elected to the helm of this highly specialised and internationally respected academic institution.

Prof. Romuald Cwilewicz graduated from the Technical University of Gdansk in 1962 with an MSc in mechanical engineering. In 1974, he gained a PhD, based on a dissertation concerning marine gas turbines, and a DSc in 1993 in the same specialisation.

He has been a professor of the Gdynia Maritime University (GMU) since 1993, and has held several managerial positions, including the position of the Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs (1990-1996) and Dean of the Faculty of Maritime Mechanical Engineering (1999-2002). He is presently Head



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of the Department of Marine Power Plants and Vice-Rector for Educational Affairs.

His professional interests are in the optimisation of power engineering processes and diagnostics of ships' technical systems. He has published extensively and is the author or co-author of many journal articles, conference papers and patents concerning his field of specialisation, as well as engineering education. He was a visiting professor of Hochschule Bremerhaven and Shanghai Maritime University.

Prof. R. Cwilewicz has received numerous distinctions and awards for his outstanding service to higher education, including the UICEE Silver Badge of Honour awarded in 1997 and the UICEE Gold Badge of Honour presented to him in 2005 for his exceptional contributions to global engineering education and to the achievements of the UICEE, in particular.

The UICEE members, staff, students and associates wish Prof. R. Cwilewicz good health, happiness, prosperity and all the success in his new position, and look forward to his support and collaboration with members of the *UICEE Global Family of Engineering Educators*.

The photo on the first page shows Prof. Romuald Cwilewicz, Rector-Elect of Gdynia Maritime University.

Hon DEng for UICEE Director

On 23 February 2008, the UICEE Director, Prof. Zenon J. Pudlowski, was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Engineering (Hon DEng) in recognition of his outstanding contribution to international engineering education by Kingston University, London, England, United Kingdom. The presentation took place at a gala Graduation Ceremony, held in the *Athinai Conference Centre* in Athens, Greece, organised in Athens for the graduands of the Technological Education Institute of Piraeus (TEI-Piraeus) in Athens, who received their Kingston University awards of Master of Science.

The Hon DEng was bestowed upon the UICEE Director by Kingston University's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sir Peter Scott, with the Sub-Dean, Prof. Dr George Metaxas, Head of the Civil Engineering Department at the TEI-Piraeus, and an active member of the UICEE, proposing the award and introducing the recipient.

In his award acceptance address, Prof. Pudlowski said: ... *I regard this award as the recognition of not only my academic achievements but also the efforts and accom-*



The picture shows Prof. Zenon J. Pudlowski (l) receiving the diploma of Honorary Doctor of Engineering degree from Prof. Sir Peter Scott, Vice-Chancellor of Kingston University.

plishments of those academic colleagues, members of our global network of engineering education, who have been associated with me for the last 20 or more years.

It should be mentioned that this Graduation Ceremony was held for the first time in Athens, and it was well-attended by the graduands, their families, local and overseas academic staff, several senior academics from Kingston University, including the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Peter Mason, and the Dean of the Faculty of Computing, Information

Systems and Mathematics, Prof. Timothy Ellis.

Several senior members of the UICEE network travelled to Athens for this Ceremony. The UICEE guests included the Chairman of the UICEE Academic Advisory Committee, Prof. Harold P. Sjursen of Polytechnic University of New York, Brooklyn, USA; Prof. Khedidja Allia of the University of Sciences and Technology *Houari Boumedienne* (USTHB), Algiers, Algeria; Prof. Derek Northwood of the University of Windsor, Windsor, Canada, accompanied by his wife Marilyn and Prof. Alexei F. Nesterov, General Director of the Russian Association of Technical Universities, Moscow, Russia, accompanied by his wife Galina. The local guests of the UICEE Director included Prof. Efrossini C. Kalkani of the National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece, and Prof. Georgios (George) Kabouridis of the Technological Education Institute of Patras (TEI-Patras).

In the evening, the guests were invited to a dinner held in the restaurant *Dionysos*, a picturesque restaurant located close to the Acropolis, where they were hosted by Prof. Metaxas and Prof. Pudlowski.

UICEE Order Awards

At the culmination of the Graduation Ceremony, held in Athens, Greece, on Saturday, 23 February 2008, the UICEE Director presented the *UICEE Order for Excellence in Engineering Education* to three outstanding members of the *UICEE Global Family of Engineering Educators*. The proud recipients of this award were: Prof. Khedidja Allia, Director of the *North Africa Centre for Engineering and Technology Education* (NACETE) based at the University of Sciences and Technology *Houari Boumedienne* (USTHB), Algiers, Algeria; Prof. Harold P. Sjursen, the Chairman of the UICEE Academic Advisory Committee and the Director of the *UICEE Center for Liberal Arts in Engineering Education* (UICEE-CLAE), based at Polytechnic University of New York, Brooklyn, USA; and Prof. Derek Northwood of the University of Windsor,

Windsor, Canada, formerly Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Ryerson Polytechnic University, Toronto, Canada, which then was the host of the *Ryerson Centre for Engineering Education* (RCEE).

The picture on this page shows the proud awardees accompanied by Kingston University's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sir Peter Scott, with the Sub-Dean at the TEI-Piraeus, Prof. Dr George Metaxas.

This higher UICEE award is being presented to those UICEE members, who have made an outstanding contribution to engineering education science and have, over a long period of time, played an exceptional role in facilitating the work and achievements of the UICEE. It should be pointed out that this Order has, so far, been presented only once and that was to Prof. Colin U. Chisholm, an Honorary Member of the UICEE, the immediate past Chairman of the UICEE Academic Advisory Committee and the former Director of the *Scottish Centre for Work Based Learning* (SCWBL), then a satellite centre of the UICEE based at Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, Scotland, UK.



The picture shows (l-r): Prof. H.P. Sjursen, Prof. Z.J. Pudlowski, Prof. G. Metaxas, Prof. K. Allia, Prof. P. Scott and Prof. D. Northwood.

possible ventures, including joint applications for research funding, were also high on the agenda. These would create an opportunity for more Russian technical universities becoming involved in the activities of the UICEE.

The bottom picture shows Prof. Alexei F. Nesterov accompanied by his wife Galina at the *Athinais Conference Centre* in Athens, Greece.

Awards for UICEE Staff

On the completion of the 14th year of the dynamic operation of the UICEE, a decision was made to honour its dedicated staff with UICEE Badges of Honour for their exceptional achievements in research, development and publishing, scholarly publications, administration and organisation of the UICEE international conferences. The awards were given in the UICEE Office on 12 December 2007 at an annual meeting, where the current status of the UICEE and potential future activities were discussed over a slice of cake and a glass of champagne.

The UICEE Gold Badge of Honour was bestowed upon Ms Dianne Q. Nguyen in recognition of her exceptional achievements and support provided to the UICEE for over 11 years of continued service. It should be pointed out that Ms Nguyen has dedicated herself to the development of the UICEE from its early days, and has been instrumental in developing new ideas and ventures. Her friendly and amicable character permitted her to liaise effectively with international academics and members of the UICEE, in particular. Of note is that Ms Nguyen has received numerous UICEE awards for best papers presented at UICEE-organised conferences, which were elected by conference participants in a popular vote. Over those many years, she has been able to build an enormous international base of friends and collaborators, which has helped her to pursue many joint initiatives, activities and ventures.

Two UICEE Silver Badges of Honour were presented to Mr Marc J. Riemer and Ms Elena A. Danilova for their outstanding achievements and efficient services provided to the UICEE. Of note is the fact that Mr Riemer commenced his work at the UICEE in December 1999 and after eight successful years decided to leave the Centre in order to take up a similar position

Meetings in Athens

Whilst in Athens, the UICEE Director held numerous working meetings with several international colleagues, including those senior members of the UICEE network who decided to attend the Graduation Ceremony, as well as several academics from Kingston University. The objective of these meetings was to discuss possible collaboration in engineering and technology education, including the possibility of preparing joint applications for funding future research and development projects.

Interesting discussions were held with Prof. Alexei F. Nesterov, General Director of the Russian Association of Technical Universities (RATU) based in Moscow, Russia. It was decided that the General Director of the RATU would explore the possibility of the joint organisation of a major international gathering of engineering and technology educators to be held in Moscow or St Petersburg in late 2008 or early 2009, with the RATU providing the local support, and with the UICEE organising the scientific programme. Other



The picture shows Prof. A.F. Nesterov and his wife Galina.

at the University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia. In thanking Mr Riemer for his long service to the UICEE, the UICEE Director pointed out his pivotal role in the life and welfare of the UICEE, indicating his particular contribution to the high standard of the UICEE-produced publications and his commitment to research and publishing concerning communication skills for engineers. In conclusion, Prof. Pudlowski wished him all the success in his new position.

Ms Elena A. Danilova, a PhD candidate and a part-time Project Officer at the UICEE, was the recipient of the second Silver Badge of Honour. Although being based at the UICEE for a much shorter time than the other two UICEE support staff members, Ms Danilova has made a tremendous contribution to the operation of the UICEE by participating actively in UICEE research, development, publication and conferences programmes, as well as vigorously pursuing her research concerning English for Specific Purposes (ESP) with a particular focus on the engineering profession. This has already resulted in the publication of numerous research articles and conference papers.

The awardees, pictured on this page, are cordially congratulated on their accomplishments.

Conference in Taiwan

The 3rd North-East Asia International Conference on Engineering and Technology Education of the North-East Asia Centre for Engineering and Technology Education, a satellite centre of the UICEE, will be held between 26 and 30 May 2008 in Taichung and Changhua, Taiwan.

The objective of the Conference is to bring together partners, members, associates, students and supporters of the UICEE and other scholars from all over the world, and to continue discussion on issues of importance to engineering education, technology education and vocational education, as well as to foster friendships already established.

It is anticipated that the Conference will further enhance UICEE links and other networks, and will set the stage for more innovative and collaborative ventures. The Conference is being organised and hosted by Prof. David W.S. Tai and his team at both Hungkuang University, Taichung, Taiwan, and the North-East Asia Centre for Technology and Vocational Education (NEACTIVE), based at the National Changhua University of Education, Changhua, Taiwan.

A preliminary Conference Programme is available on the Internet at the UICEE Conference site. It is envisaged that several keynote speeches and close to 40 paper presentations will be made, with the majority of articles coming from academics based at Taiwanese universities. It is anticipated that UICEE partner institutions will be represented by several senior academics. Also, it is hoped that there will be several papers originating from the UICEE presented there, showcasing the recent research and development activities of its staff and postgraduate students.

Visitors from Russia

In early to mid-December, the UICEE was pleased to host two senior academic representatives from Tomsk State University of Control Systems and Radioelectronics (TSUCSR), Tomsk, Russia. These two engineering educators were Prof. German S. Sharygin, Head of the Department of Radio Systems, and Prof. Ludmila I. Sharygina of the Department of Radioelectronics and Information Security. It was originally planned that the Russian delegation would also include other academics of the TSUCSR, including the Vice-Rector for Education, Prof. Mikhail T. Reshetnikov, but this did not occur due to other important commitments at their home institution.

Matters of importance concerning general engineering education were discussed, especially with regard to the educational

processes. Undergraduate and postgraduate engineering curricula and programmes at both the international and Australian levels were also reviewed and discussed. This included compulsory and elective courses, and study specialisations.

The discussions also raised the issues of collaboration on projects of mutual interest, as well as their financing. Other matters, including opportunities for publication and participation at forthcoming UICEE events were likewise covered in the discussions. Also of note was a dialogue concerning the possibility of the TSUCSR becoming a supporter member of the UICEE to add its strengths to the *UICEE Global Network of Engineering Educators*.

The UICEE has also arranged for the two academics to visit the University of Sydney, where they were hosted by Prof. Em. Trevor W. Cole of the School of Electrical and Information Engineering; and the University of South Australia, where they were assisted by Mr Steven Thatcher,



The picture shows the recipients of these awards (l-r): Mr M.J. Riemer, Ms D.Q. Nguyen and Ms E.A. Danilova proudly displaying their awards.

Program Director at the School of Electrical and Information Engineering.

The photo on this page shows the Russian visitors engaged in a friendly conversation with the UICEE staff.

100th Anniversary of HSW

Hochschule Wismar - University of Technology, Business and Design (HSW), based in Wismar, Germany, a long-standing partner institution of the UICEE, this year celebrates the 100th anniversary of the foundation of its predecessor - the Engineering Academy of Wismar. Since its inception in 1908, Hochschule Wismar has maintained a tradition of excellence, and as it looks to the 21st Century, its academic staff is committed to uncompromising excellence in teaching and research.

The tradition and experience of over eight decades of engineering education in Wismar, and almost 150 years of navy education in nearby Warnemünde, led to the foundation of Hochschule Wismar - University of



The picture shows (l-r): Prof. Z.J. Pudlowski, Prof. G.S. Sharygin, Prof. L.I. Sharygina and Ms E.A. Danilova.

Technology, Business and Design on 1 October 1992, with the nautical branch in Rostock/Warnemünde. The HSW consists of three faculties: Engineering (includes Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Mechanical Engineering/Process & Environmental Engineering, Maritime Studies), Business (includes Business Administration, Business Law, Business Informatics) and Design (includes Architecture, Interior Architecture, Communication Design and Media) and currently offers 35 courses of study.

At present, approximately 4,950 students study at Hochschule Wismar under the supervision of about 160 professors and 40 scientific staff. It cooperates with about 90 universities worldwide, and is a Partner of the UICEE with a UICEE satellite centre: the *Gottlob-Frege-Centre for Engineering Science and Design*.

On behalf of the members of the UICEE global network, UICEE staff, students and associates, we wish staff and students of Hochschule Wismar all the success in their academic endeavours, and look forward to our continued cooperation for the benefit of global engineering education.