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year will be as we are faced with the worst global financial crisis that our generation has ever known.

A quarter of the way through 2009, and it is increasingly evident how challenging this

For some of us, this is the first time in our careers that we will have to deal with an economic crisis, let alone one of this scale. While it is now too late to avert it, and knowing that we do not possess the tools to change the course of it just yet, it is important that we take the time to better understand the global fabric of today's world so that we as Young Professionals can seize this opportunity to learn from past mistakes.

Whilst we shouldn't underestimate the consequences of this event on individuals, it is important for us to look at the crisis in its entirety, with all the rationalism that our industry asks of us, and try to imagine what the world will look like when we will come out the other side.

Our industry possesses valuable tools that will influence the world that will emerge from this crisis. As future leaders of our industry, we need to make sure that we are fully engaged in the way these tools are used to establish the new order.

This crisis is our wake up call; a unique opportunity to reassess our values and to promote a fair and sustainable society for future generations.

This is obviously a demanding aspiration, but one that can be realised if we all pull together in the same direction.

In September 2009, the FIDIC conference will take place in London. The economic status of the world will be discussed intensely on the conference floor, but also in private between individuals from different countries who have different experiences to share. The FIDIC YPFSC understands the significance YP's have in this crisis, and will be there to promote the involvement of Young Professionals, as it is we who will inherit the future of our industry in the coming years.

There may never have been a more important time to be there and make ourselves heard.

Our role at the conference will be to represent the views of YPs from around the world. We would therefore like to hear from as many of you as possible over the months leading up to the conference, regarding your experiences and ideas for the future. The YPFSC is your network and we want to represent you as fully as possible.

We are making great progress, so please keep in touch so that we can move forward together.

Alex Eyquem YPF SC Chairperson

Chairperson's message



Alex Eyquem (YP from UK)



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Sustainability: The Six Degrees of Recognition

by: Bill Wallace

Chair, FIDIC Sustainable Development Committee

"Define 'sustainability' in terms understood and fully supported by the...members as well as their clients and employees." As a member of a newly organized task force on sustainable design for a major professional society, that was my assignment. Working in a small sub-group, we put our collective heads together, trying to craft the "Rosetta Stone" of definitions, one which would clear away once and for all the confusion and conflicts over the terms *sustainability* and *sustainable development*. For several meetings we struggled, each bringing forth our own versions of environmental, economic and societal balancing, coupled with our concern for future generations, all garnished generously with multiple aspects of civil engineering.

Then it finally hit me. We know how to define sustainability. We just cannot agree on the scope, scale or the seriousness of the issues. Without broad agreement, the stakeholders will never agree on how to address the problems and consequences of non-sustainability, that is, what do, when to do it, and how to work with one another to get it done.

Sustainability can reasonably be defined as the set of environmental, economic and social conditions in which all of society has the capacity and opportunity to maintain and improve its quality of life indefinitely without degrading the quantity, quality or the availability of natural resources and ecosystems. Good so far. Where people differ is in recognizing the limitations of society's current form of development along with its consequences and urgencies.

As I thought more about this issue, I came up with what I'm calling the Six Degrees of Recognition:

- 1. Value. Natural resources and ecological systems have value as feedstocks or as natural system services like water purification. However, they are thought of as so plentiful they are considered essentially limitless. Fortified with this mindset, the message from the developed to developing world has been, "Resources are plentiful. You just don't have the political systems or capacity to develop them. You're not as good as we are!"
- **2. Limits.** Natural resources and ecological systems are finite. While still plentiful, people are beginning to comprehend the limits. Now the message has changed. The message from the developing world to developed world is this: "You are using up resources and damaging the environment. You are improving your quality of life at our expense!"
- **3. Stewardship.** Finite natural resources and ecological systems must be effectively managed, maintained and enhanced. While still assuming that resources and carrying capacity are sufficiently plentiful, people recognize that there is a moral, economic and possibly a regulatory obligation to manage them well.
- **4. Predicament.** Society is using up resources and ecological carrying capacity faster than they can be replaced, replenished or restored. At this point, people recognize that stewardship efforts are not sufficient, and that society may soon reach resource and capacity limits.



**Bill Wallace** 



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- **5. Consequences.** Society now understands that reaching or exceeding resource or carrying capacity limits has serious consequences in terms of scale and severity. Society's message, particularly from the developed world, is this: "We know resources are getting scarce and we understand the consequences. However, we need these resources to maintain our current life style. We will fight for them if we have to!"
- **6. Urgency**. Society is now beginning to experience the consequences of reaching and/or exceeding these limits. Society must act soon before these consequences become inevitable, devastating and irreversible.

While our task force agreed with this perspective on the range of recognition, we were also saddened by our perception of the level of recognition that exists within our professional society members. Having been chosen because of our understanding of sustainability issues, our task force judges itself to be at level six. However in our opinion, the level of recognition for the general membership is somewhere between levels two and three.

I suspect that in FIDIC, the levels or recognition among the members are similar, meaning that the impetus for action is limited. That leaves it to the young professionals within the FIDIC membership to force these issues to the forefront. As the age group most affected by these consequences, I encourage you to get involved in the FIDIC sustainability activities and insist on strong positions and actions.

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## **NEWS**

## FIDIC Young Professional Management Training Program 2009

FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Program (YPMTP) has started in February 2009.

21 Participants from 15 countries world wide have registered in this year's program and they form two classes. The Participants meet each other via virtual encounters on eFIDIC platform and discuss management topics including

- > Growth and profit
- > Market Development: new technologies, cultural changes and globalization
- > Ownership structures
- > Marketing of consulting services
- > Organization and human resources development
- > Multicultural management, Business integrity and Professional Services Agreements

The discussions will continue for 7 months before the annual conference where the participants and facilitators meet for two days in one of the Royal Over-Seas League club near the conference venue to finalize their discussions and prepare for their "Future Leaders" presentation in the annual conference. This year's Virtual platform is streamlined to the class room so the class room can be accessed from the platform. Communication between the team members is also enhanced.

The program's objective is to engage young potential managers in the discussion of management issues, to develop new approaches, leadership skills and intercultural understanding and to become acquainted with the FIDIC activities through participation in the FIDIC Annual Conference.

Steen Frederiksen is the program coordinator and he will be assisted by a board of mentors including Richard Kell, Ben Novak, Maxime Mazloum and Bayo Adeola.

The final presentation of the program is called the Future Leaders Workshop. It is attended by senior members of the FIDIC community, as well as YPs and emerging leaders, for the opportunity to hear the voice of Young Professionals' regarding the emerging trends in the industry and the future of our professions.

Although there has been less participation this year than the previous years (40 participants in 2008 and 29 in 2007) that can be a result of worldwide financial crisis, the program is not less fruitful. In addition to the preparation of a formal presentation, the YPMTP program represents an opportunity for participants to network, make new friends around the world, and establish a network of professionals within the FIDIC community.

You can find more information about the YPMTP09 on: http://www1.fidic.org/events/mt/ypmt/



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## **NEWS**

## The Sydney Future(net) Business Leaders Program has been run in Sydney with great success

The 2008 Future (net) Business Leaders program has been run in Sydney, Australia for the second consecutive year with great success. The course is run by the ACEA (the Australian FIDIC member association) and is supported by a number of other industry organizations in the property, building and construction arena. The first program attracted 27 young professionals and this increased in 2008 to 31 professionals. Participants come from a range of backgrounds including engineering, surveying, architecture, town planning, estimating and project management. The program has two broad components – presentations by industry experts and a team project. Business and management related topics for example: leadership, relationship building, finance, contracts and risk management were presented by industry experts. Although these topics were relevant and instructive, many participants remarked that the high point of the program was the team assignment.

## Jacinta Holmick (Australia)

For this component, teams of five or six worked together to prepare a masterplan for the development of a prominent site in Sydney. Each team had to prepare a written report, presentation and poster to convey their vision for the site. The teams met for two months to work on the project, and each team was assigned a mentor to act as a guide offering ideas and input. After the two month period the reports were submitted and each team presented to a panel of prominent individuals chosen as judges that included the director of a land development company, a past government minister and senior staff from government infrastructure agencies. The benefits of the team project and presentation were many, including: networking with other professionals, the opportunity to meet (and potentially impress!) the high profile judges and mentors and working closely with other professionals on a challenging project.



The winning team in 2008



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## **NEWS**





Liu Luobing (china)

## First FIDIC-China Excellent Young Professionals Award

In 2005, the China Young Professionals Forum was founded within FIDIC to promote the growth of young professionals in China. This forum is aimed at providing outstanding young professionals in China with multi-disciplined expertise, global vision and pioneering spirit. Their involvement with FIDIC aims to introduce them to the stage of the international consulting engineering industry, and accelerate the development of the professional consulting engineering industry in China.

On Nov 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008, CNAEC (China National Association of Engineering Consultants) held its annual conference in Beijing. The theme of this conference was "Further Learning and Practicing the Scientific Development Outlook in the Engineering Consulting Industry". Representatives from China's engineering consulting industry and related institutions as well as government officials attended this conference. Dr. John Boyd, President of FIDIC attended the conference and gave a very passionate and encouraging speech. , Dr. John Boyd personally awarded honor certificates and signed cups to 24 excellent young professionals. The 24 winners were the "First FIDIC-China Excellent Young Professionals Award" recipients, and all of them made outstanding achievements in their fields and contributed to the development of engineering in China. This is the first award specially created for young professionals in FIDIC's 95 year history. The young professionals were rightly proud of their individual achievements, and the award also gave recognition to the companies in which they worked and the Chinese engineering industry as a whole.

To further enhance the influence of the consulting engineering industry, and to honor the contributions made by the awarded young professionals to the socioeconomic development, the award has been published on People's Daily, the Chinese Consulting Engineers magazine and the websites of People's Net and CNAEC.





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## **NEWS**



**SAYPF** 

## Michele Kruger (South Africa)

### **GAMA Conference, Durban South Africa**

The GAMA (Group of Africa Member Associations) conference took place this year from March 15 to 18th at the Southern Sun Elangeni Hotel in Durban, South Africa. CESA (Consulting Engineers South Africa) hosted an extremely successful Group of Africa Member Associations (*GAMA*) conference attended by some 160 delegates representing 10 countries. The theme of the conference was "The Millennium Development Goals". The content of the presentations was relevant and of high quality and can be accessed either via the CESA website, or FIDIC's website.

Unfortunately due to the economic circumstances, only a few YPs from South Africa could attend. Kieren Brown, Chairperson of the CESA YPF presented on the successes of the South African YPF and how these successes can be carried through to the rest of Africa. A call was made to all African MAs to encourage the creation of local YP Forums and that these will be supported by the South African YPF as well as the FIDIC YPF through the African steering committee member Michele Kruger. Strong responses were received from Nigeria and Kenya.

CESA Young Engineer of the Year for 2008, Andries van Wageningen presented on the

activities of the YPF during the FIDIC Conference in Quebec in September 2008.

Overall, a strong message of MENTORSHIP FOR YPs was delivered during GAMA by the outgoing chairperson Exaud Mushi, which was supported by many presenters.

Incoming chairperson Mayen Adetiba was welcomed as the first female chairperson of GAMA, a

role which she accepted with great enthusiasm.



There was a healthy balance of conference input and social programme, which included a cruise into Durban harbour to have a look at the widening of the harbour mouth, a visit to the new stadium being built for the 2010 Soccer World Cup and as always the wonderful Gala Dinner.





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## **NEWS**

### **About Young in RIF**

The Association of Consulting Engineers Norway (RIF) has a group of young representatives from the member companies in the association. The group, called 'Young in RIF' has eight members younger than 35 years of age.

Young in RIF was founded in 2006 after initiative from RIF. Our main objective is to work for the positive involvement of young engineers in the business of consulting engineering. We aim to increase our visibility in media, influence and promote RIF, and contribute to the exchange of knowledge and experience between member companies.

### **Activities:**

Our Young in RIF board meet six times a year. We arrange different courses useful for consultants, which are highly regarded. Topics include ethics, contract establishment and presentation techniques. We arrange the nomination of the annual, national award "best young consultant". Every month, we also represent "the young consultant of the month" on our web site, to raise the profile of young engineers. We write journal articles, typically twice a year on topics relevant to young engineers. Futhermore, this fall, members of the board participated in both the FIDIC and the EFCA conference.

## Thorn Fredrik Hensen (Norway)

### **Future plans:**

In the future we will keep up the good work! We will continue our work with courses, articles and nominations. We will also continue our presence in FIDIC and EFCA. Currenly we are in the process of establishing two local RIF's young professionals boards in the second and third largest cities in Norway, Bergen and, Trondheim.



uRIF juleavslutning - 2008-12-17



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## **NEWS**



ACEC

## **ACEC Introduces Young Professional Program at Annual Summit**

From June 25-27 2009, ACEC (Association of Canadian Engineering Companies) will be hosting the Canadian consulting engineering industry at its Annual Summit in beautiful Whistler, British Columbia.

New for 2009 is the introduction of a Young Professionals parallel program that will compliment the main program. Designed for the under-35 professional, the YP program is intended to allow YPs the opportunity to interact and network with their professional peers, and to participate in a number of sessions and tours designed particularly for young professionals. With business sessions on human resource challenges and motivation, social and environmental challenges, a Cross-Country YP roundtable, and tours of several of the 2010 Olympic venues, the YP program is sure to educate and stimulate.

A full social and business program will allow for extensive networking opportunities with senior executives, optional tours designed to showcase the splendor of the Whistler region, and an optional pre-event PSMJ bootcamp. There are certainly no shortage of opportunities awaiting YPs in Whistler!

For more information, visit www.acec.ca, or contact the ACEC office.

Eiko Watatsu (AJCE)

### FIDIC/ASPAC TCDPAP International Conference 2009 in Kathmandu

The FIDIC / ASPAC TCDPAP International Conference 2009 was held at Kathmandu, Nepal in 11-13 March 2009 under the theme "Making Globalization Work: The Role of Consultants." TCDPAP, The Technical Consultancy Development Program for Asia and the Pacific has been associated with FIDIC and ASPAC (the Asia/Pacific member association) for many years.

During the Conference, the ASPAC Extra Meeting was held to discuss the following three issues: 1)Capacity Development Program, 2)ASPAC Young Professionals Forum(YPF), and 3)Progress of the Action Plan.

Various YP delegates from FIDIC member associations participated in the meeting and reported on the YP activities of their associations. The delegates were Mr. Liu Luobing from CNAEC China, Mr. Nader Shokoufi, Mr. Monouchehr Azizi, and Mr.Shayan Moin from ISCE Iran and Miss. Watatsu from AJCE Japan.

This meeting became an opportunity to officially announce the creation of YPF Pre-Steering Committee for ASPAC. The Pre-Steering Committee is the first step towards creating a YPF Steering Committee. After Quebec 2008, the FIDIC secretariat asked member associations to recommend a young engineer as a Steering Committee member and the list is expected to be finalized soon. In the coming FIDIC London Conference 2009, the activity of ASPAC YPF will be reported to FIDIC member associations.



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### **NEWS**

FIDIC President, Dr. John Boyd, introduced his aim for the next FIDIC annual conference which is the participation of more young professionals in the conference and FIDIC committees. He pointed out that it is very important to start bringing young professionals into various FIDIC committees in order to ensure a more future-looking perspective. This aim is one of the major objectives of the FIDIC YPF.

On the last day of the conference, Mr. Nader Shokoufi was chosen as a session co-chair a well deserved honour.

The conference was a great opportunity to demonstrate the presence and activity of young professionals to FIDIC/ ASPAC member associations.

### Eiko Watatsu (AJCE)



(from left to right: Mr. Monouchehr Azizi from ISCE Iran, Mr. Mirodil Mirakhmedov from Uzbekistan, Mr. Nader Shokoufi from ISCE Iran, Miss. Watatsu from AJCE Japan, Mr. Liu Luobing from CNAEC China)



Mr. Nader Shokoufi and Mr.Subhash Mehrotra)



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## **NEWS**



ACE



**Nicola Slattery** 

## **Making Progress**

ACE's Progress Network is a thriving and active group set up by a collective of young professionals within the consultancy and engineering sector across the United Kingdom. Nicola Slattery provides an update on their year so far...

Progress Network is viewed as the younger branch of ACE with all events organised with the intention of promoting and enhancing ACE values to future generations. The network currently has over 2,000 members over five different regions of the UK, each of which is run by a team of ten young professionals supported by ACE staff to provide members with the opportunity to network with their peers and the chance to develop business skills and gain a better understanding of the sector as a whole.

2009 has seen Progress Network grow from strength to strength. Wednesday 4 March saw Progress Network Midlands host a wine tasting evening at Aston Business School. Nearly 60 people attended this event to learn their cabernet from their carmenere and their chardonnay from their chenin blanc. It was an extremely enjoyable evening, which will no doubt be repeated throughout the year.

Progress Network North West also hosted its first event of the year, at Manchester Business School. Members came to hear a very useful seminar entitled Boom or Bust - Where is our industry going? in which Pat Lawless of ESR Technology and Richard Coackley of WYG gave an objective look at the consultancy and engineering profession, highlighting current trends and offering an insightful look at what the future may hold in these challenging times.

Not to be outdone, The Progress Network team in London and the South East has hosted two engaging events this year. On Tuesday 27 January the ODA's John Armitt, Geoff French of Scott Wilson, Michael Whitwell of Jacobs and Michelle McDowell of BDP and ACE's own Nelson Ogunshakin sat on the panel of experts who answered questions from an audience of 150 Progress Network members on how to make the most out of their careers in the industry. The second event hosted by London and the South East saw record numbers of 250 attend the park plaza hotel to listen to a panel of distinguished speakers from Halcrow, Faber Maunsell AECOM Europe, WSP Group, TLT, Capita Symonds and Chapman Bathurst who shared their knowledge of previous downturns and discussed the current economic situation, the danger signs to look for, and which issues Progress Network, as future leaders of the profession, should consider.

Progress Network is looking to grow further by 2010 with wine tasting events planned for Belfast and Cardiff as well as the establishment of groups in the North East and Scotland. Membership is free and open to all young professionals, 35 and under, working in the built and natural environment. Membership gives the opportunity to participate in the free business seminars, network with others in the sector, the opportunity to volunteer for activities, and, for those who nurture a desire to change the course of consultancy and engineering for the better, the chance to become part of a management team to help lead the network.

For further information on joining the Progress Network contact ACE's senior business development executive Nicola Slattery at nslattery@acenet.co.uk.



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## **NEWS**





Manoochehr Azizi ISCE YPF Chairperson

### **ISCE YPF NEWS**

-Iranian Socity of Consulting Engineers YPF held a meeting in 29 April 2009 with a live music concert for YP members.



- Five ISCE YP members participated the FIDIC/ASPAC TCDPAP International Conference 2009 in Kathmandu.
- Two YP members joind ISCE EC.
- One ISCE YP member joind the ASPAC YPF SC.
- A series of training programs were organized for the YP members by the ISCE YP education committee for Spring and Summer 2009.





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Communications Chairperson FIDIC YPF Steering Committee



Michele Kruger

### HOW TO BECOME PART OF THE FIDIC YPF GROUP

Become part of this young dynamic group of people and receive updates, newsletters and information on upcoming events, such as FIDIC conferences and training opportunities.

International YPF Groups: find out what the YPs in your country are doing and how to connect with them! Please register on the YPF homepage listed below.

Once we have your details this way, we will send you our newsletter and other info as it comes up. Please remember to keep your details updated!

For general information about us and FIDIC, go to: http://www1.fidic.org/resources/young/default.asp

For more information or if you need help to connect, contact me at: fidicypforum@gmail.com

Michele Kruger Communications Chairperson FIDIC YPF Steering Committee

## Starting your own YPF in your country

If you liked what you saw of the FIDIC YPF and YPFs across the world, why not start your own. This is best achieved through your country's Member Association (MA) of FIDIC. However, if no such association exists, or your MA does not want to have their own YPF, you can contact us to find out how to start your own YPF. Through FIDIC we may have some contact to make it easier or help partner it with you. All you need is your enthusiasm for Engineering! From there you decide what it is that you want your YPF to represent. What is your focus? Is it training Young Professionals? Is it getting the youth interested in Engineering? Is it just socializing with your peers? Or is it all of the above? As the FIDIC YPF, we will do all we can to support your new endeavor!

Contact us at: fidicypforum@gmail.com