

WFEO-CEIE 41st Meeting

Time: Monday, 5 September, 2011 – Geneva (Switzerland)

Location: Centre International de Conférences

Meeting time: 15:00 – 18:00

1. Welcome and Opening Remarks

1.1. Welcomes address

Mr Alameddine welcomed all the members and guests of the Committee to the 41st meeting of the Committee on Education In Engineering in Geneva. He informed the attended colleagues that the name of the committee had been changed based on a motion passed at the Executive Council. He thanked all the members for their support in the previous months since Lebanon had taken over the lead of the Committee.

Mr Alameddine thanked Dr Wlodzimierz Myszalski for all the outstanding work he had done over the years, as well as that of the various past presidents in striving to make the Committee what it had become, and thanked them also for their ongoing support in having Lebanon host this Committee. He hoped that all members would promote the aims and visions of CEIE.

1.2. Approval of the Agenda

The final agenda had been distributed, and certain items subsequently added because of their importance to regional members. The agenda was then approved.

1.3. Presentation of the Committee guests

Mr Alameddine had been approached by Engineer Laila Saif, on behalf of Engineer Zainab S. Lari, Chair of the Young Engineers/Future Leaders Committee (WFEO-YEFL) from the Bureau of Kuwait, as they had been interested in attending the meeting.

He welcomed her and said that the CEIE had been looking forward to working hand in hand with YEFL as they shared ideas and visions, and agreed to work side by side with all of WFEO Standing Committees.

1.4. Presentation of the Committee Members

Each current member presented himself, and new members were introduced and welcomed. Mr Alameddine added that apologies had been received from certain other members of the Committee for not attending.

2. The Committee's Internal Organization

2.1. Summing-up the year 2010 – 2011

The Chairman questioned the members about their activities for the past year, but he also had met with Dr Adel Al-Hudaisi from the Federation of Arab Engineers – Committee on Engineering Education (FAE-CEE) as Chairman of WFEO-EIE on 17 July in Beirut (Lebanon). In this general meeting, they discussed future cooperation between the FAE-CEE and WFEO-EIE in the coming years, and their common participation to an International Conference which would then take place in Lebanon in 2012.

From December 2010 through April 2011, there were elections at the Federation of Lebanese Engineers, and a new President was elected with a mandate for the following 3 years, meaning that planning over 3 years for an event could go forward. During this period, Mr Alameddine also participated to the writing of an article in the Journal Australia where the visions of WFEO-EIE were outlined, and which was published in December 2010.

The Federation of Lebanese Engineers along with FAE-CEE, decided to hold a conference in Beirut between 22 – 23 March, 2012 under the title: “The second conference of officials of Engineering Education in the Arab World”.

The Chairman, expressed the hoped that in the coming years, the Committee's membership would rise from 23 members to a Committee that would have a representative from each member country in WFEO. He added, that it would take a lot of work from the committee, and that all members would have to work hard to achieve this goal. But also, that the Committee would participate in meetings of interest to CEIE and to WFEO which could be happening around the world, and that it would liaise with the International Federation of Engineering Education Societies (IFEES) for future collaboration.

2.2. Comments on the Minutes of the last meeting

The Chairman mentioned that he had not received any comments on the minutes and considered it to be therefore, approved.

3. Matters rising from the Minutes of the 40th CET Meeting in Buenos Aires, 2010 (see minutes file)

Since there had been no comments regarding the 40th meeting of the Committee, Mr Alameddine asked Mr Luis Arenaza to talk about their activities, as the 40th meeting had concerned Latin-American countries.

Mr Arenaza mentioned that activities would be conducted in South America, with a conference to be held in Buenos Aires (Argentina) in October 2012, and that he would inform the Committee members about it and would send out invitations to attend.

4. Proposal of Action Plan for 2012 (request from Lebanon to host a conference in 2012)

The Chairman of the committee mentioned that The Federation of Lebanese Engineers had agreed to host an International Conference in Lebanon along with WFEO-EIE under the title “Impact of globalization on Engineering Education” at the end of the year 2012 (around October or November).

And preparations for the conference would take place after the Chairman would get approval from the committee, and from WFEO’s Executive Board.

The proposal concerned hosting the WCEE in Beirut, under the name: “9th World Congress on Engineering Education”, the 8th WCEE having been held in Argentina in 2010, and this conference usually happening only every 3 years, and unfortunately had been postponed between 2009 and 2010.

Mr Alameddine also presented a short video about Lebanon, which showed the activities and the culture of the country. Members of the committee therefore approved the proposal, and it was decided that the conference would be held in November 2012, if the date did not present any conflict with other WFEO activities.

5. Report by Dr. Peter Greenwood on the Taipei, Taiwan International Engineering Alliance (IEA) event in June 2011

The Chairman then gave the floor to Dr. Peter Greenwood so that he could give his report and the outcome of the meetings.

6. Report on the upcoming Pan American Convention of Engineering XXXIII UPADI 2012 9-14, April 2012 Havana (Cuba)

<http://www.upadicuba.com/> by Dr Robert Warrington.

Dr Warrington not having been able to attend the meeting due to family matters, the Chairman then asked Mr Mike Sanio to report about UPADI, the Pan American Convention of Engineering activities.

7. Call for input for the IDEAS magazine (Num. 17), scheduled for publication in December 2011. The title for this issue being: “Improving Quality Assurance in Engineering Education”

A request had been sent out via the secretariat of WFEO to all National and International members, to participate in articles for the “IDEAS” journal, which is published under the supervision of WFEO-EIE.

For the first time the Committee had requested participation from National and International members to participate in order to have their opinion on special subjects, which would reflect their regions response to matters arising around engineering education.

Mr Mark Matthews, the managing Editor of PRISM, the award winning flagship publication and most popular magazine covering engineering higher education in the United States, promised to share articles with the publication IDEAS.

Mr Alameddine was also approached by Dr. Diran Apelian, a Professor of Mechanical Engineering in Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester Maryland (USA), to submit an article to IDEAS. He is currently the editor of a new book called 'shaping our world, engineering education for the 21st century' along with Dr. Gretar Trygvason.

Prof. Xila Liu had also agreed to submit an article for publication, being the first one to answer Mr Alameddine's request, for which he was very grateful.

The Chairman added he would also be submitting an article and hoped that other distinguished members of the committee would also contribute with papers that would reflect their various regions' views, and which he would also review before publication.