

Report on Hydroinformatics 2004, Singapore

The Sixth International Conference on Hydroinformatics was uniformly well organised both from the location and from the scientific points of view. The city of Singapore is a delightfully exotic place and at the same time a modern Asian metropolis. About 350 delegates were very comfortable in the Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre; all the rooms were provided with air conditioning systems, which gave the Conference environment a pleasant and enjoyable atmosphere. A high-quality exhibition in the foyer outside the meeting rooms was an integral part of the Conference. The organisation of

the sessions was properly arranged as were the rooms where the presentations took place. The light and the audio systems in the presentation rooms allowed the audience to see the slides of the presentations and to listen to the speakers with no problems regardless of the place where people were seated in the conference rooms. At no time was there any sensation of crowding in the rooms despite the large number of people attending the Conference.

The food offered at the Conference and during the pleasant Conference dinner was appreciated. In particular, the local food was delicious (this is particularly



Figure 1 | Professor Abbot expresses the appreciation of the Hydroinformatics Community to Professor Liang, the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee.



Figure 2 | Opening ceremony: Dance by Arts Fission Company – “Variation on water drop”.

flattering when expressed by an Italian!) and the catering service was very well organised. The Conference venue was easily reachable from the hotels.

The presentations and the subsequent discussions were very interesting from a technical viewpoint and in particular the discussions were open to everyone attending the presentations and I think that the questions to the speakers were generally well posed.

All the keynote addresses were very interesting. Two of the keynote lectures focused on innovative technologies: Professor Kalyanmoy Deb of Indian Institute of Technology gave a lecture on “Single and Multi-Objective Optimisation using Evolutionary Computation” and Arthur Mynett of Delft Hydraulics on “Hydroinformatics Tools for Ecohydraulics Modelling”. The other two lectures by Professor Eng Soon Chan of Tropical Marine Science Institute (Singapore) “Towards Forecasting of Singapore Marine Environment” and Prof. Jorg Imberger on “A new Turbulent Closure Scheme for Modelling Stratified, Rotating, Wind and Tidal Forced Flows” addressed some of the topical problems. All the lectures were very well presented and of interest to a wide audience.

The proceedings of the Conference are now arranged in a most attractive book, containing all the presented papers. The organisation of the papers in these proceedings is well arranged, thus allowing an easy consultation of each article. Moreover the papers are also provided in electronic form on an accompanying CD-ROM which is very well arranged, and each article is easily available with a fast search based on proper keywords.

I definitely think that the Hydroinformatics conference is a very interesting event and a reference for a lot of topics concerning hydraulics, computational hydraulics and information systems.

Finally, on behalf of all the delegates I wish to express my congratulations to the organizers and to the scientific committee of the Conference.

The next, Seventh International Conference on Hydroinformatics will be held in Nice, France in September 2006.

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