The Canadian Academy of Engineering



L'Académie canadienne du génie

MINUTES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS 2010 June 4, 2010 – 7:45 AM EDT Auditorium A MaRS Collaboration Centre 101 College Street, Toronto, Ontario

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Gordon Agnew Stavros A. Argyropoulos* Michael A. Ball Douglas Barber Jens Bornemann* Clem Bowman Douglas Boyd* James Carter Michael E. Charles Zhizhang (David) Chen* Ron Crotogino Norman Epstein Nabil Esmail Robert L. Evans Frank Frantisak* Peter Frise Ralph Haas Carolyn Hansson Arthur Heidebrecht Keith Hipel Allan Kupics Branko Ladanyi John Leggat Moyra McDill Axel Meisen Ron Nolan Eugene Polistuk* M. A. Rahman C. (Ravi) Ravindran Gamal Refai-Ahmed* Gedas A. Sakus David Sanborn Scott* Malcolm Scoble Ernest Siddall Tarlochan Sidhu* Kim Sturgess (telecon) Lorne Trottier Carlos E. Ventura* Robert S. Walker Bert Wasmund David Wilkinson* Michael Worswick* Safwat George Zaky*

(* = New Member)

1. WELCOME

President **Axel Meisen** opened the meeting at 7:45 AM, and extended a warm welcome to all members, old and new to the **24rd Annual General Meeting** of the Canadian Academy of Engineering. He noted that since 1987 the Academy has grown from its 44 founding members – to some 306 active members, 125 emeritus members and 3 honorary members at this time. We believe that our members clearly include many of the country's most accomplished engineers, and we salute their dedication to the engineering profession. The President introduced the head table participants – President-Elect, **Michael Charles**, Past-President **John Leggat** and **Michael A. Ball**, Executive Director, and noted that Secretary-Treasurer **Kim Sturgess** was joining the meeting via teleconference.

2. RECOGNITION OF DECEASED FELLOWS

President Meisen asked the assembly to pause for a moment to recognize Fellows who we are aware of who have passed away since our last AGM: (PowerPoint slide with the names of the deceased Fellows was projected on screen)

Roger A. Blais, elected in 1990, died on September 25, 2009
Alan G. Davenport, elected in 1987, died on July 19, 2009
Zdenek Eisenstein, elected in 2002, died on June 1, 2009
Lesmere F. Kirkpatrick, elected in 1987, died on January 27, 2010
Reginald E. Tweeddale, elected in 1989, died on June 27, 2009
Robert J. Uffen, elected in 1988, died on July 18, 2009

3. QUORUM

The President noted that our By-Laws require a minimum of 20 members or 20% of the active membership (whichever is less) to constitute a quorum. He observed that there were clearly more than 20 active Fellows present, and hence declared a quorum. He reminded attendees that while Emeritus Members are welcome to participate fully in the discussion and to address the meeting, they are **NOT** eligible to cast a formal vote, or to propose or second motions. He requested participants to identify themselves, when making motions or addressing the meeting, to ensure that we have an accurate record of the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The President invited any additions or modifications to the agenda distributed (Attach. 4). In the absence of any changes, it was moved by R. Crotogino, seconded by C. Hansson that the Agenda as distributed be approved. CARRIED.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AGM 2009

It was noted that the Minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting in Calgary on July 13, 2009, had been available on the CAE website for an extended period of time, and were also included in the folders for this meeting. It was moved by R. Ravindran, seconded by R. Evans that the Minutes for AGM 2009 be approved. CARRIED.

6. **REPORT OF PRESIDENT – 2009/2010**

President A. Meisen delivered his report to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Academy of Engineering (CAE).

Since our 2009 Annual Meeting, we have pursued the course set out in our Strategic Plan. The Plan foresees a comprehensive set of actions to elevate our Academy beyond an honorific organization and to heighten its value to members, the engineering community and the public at large. Your Board of Directors took the view to focus on major initiatives that reflect the three

principal thrusts of our Strategic Plan: Insight, Inspiration and Influence, abbreviated I^3 . Consistent with the values of the engineering profession, I^3 is to be pursued with the view to furthering the public good and safety.

Our first major initiative was to host the 18th annual CAETS convocation in Calgary. CAETS (the International Council of Academies of Engineering and Technological Societies) consists of 26 engineering academies and technological societies from around the world. In addition to the usual business meetings, we held a major symposium on *Global Natural Resources – Management and Sustainability*. The symposium was introduced by Peter Lougheed, former premier of the Province of Alberta, who reflected on the long-term consequences of his key decisions in the area of natural resources, including the development of the Alberta oils sands. Natural resources are of world-wide importance and the presentations and deliberations resulted in a major declaration. This declaration, the full text of which can be found on the CAE's website, calls for sustainable stewardship of natural resources, with particular emphasis on energy. CAETS also facilitated the formation of a multi-national project on the Analysis of Strategies to Accelerate the Deployment of Low Emissions Technologies for Electric Power Generation in Response to Climate Change, initiated by the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE). Professor Robert Evans, FCAE is representing the CAE in this international project.

While the CAETS convocation was largely a gathering of members of the engineering community, it also attracted considerable interest from the media and helped the public and policy makers to gain a better understanding of engineering issues. The CAE recognizes the importance of politicians being well informed about engineering matters. The Academy therefore encouraged and facilitated presentations by Fellows to Federal parliamentarians and senators. I want to recognize particularly the presentations made by Fellows Donald Mavinic (*Wrestling with phosphorus: How new Canadian environmental technology is helping address an urgent global problem*), Robert Evans (*Four Ways to Combat Climate Change*) and Richard Marceau (*The current state and future of Canada's energy sector*). These presentations were extremely well received and helped to inform our legislators on current and emerging engineering issues.

Clem Bowman and Richard Marceau also took key roles in a series of energy studies. The most recent one is *Canada's Energy System: Progress Toward Goals – Our Report Card* and *Electricity: Interconnecting Canada – A Strategic Advantage*, which were the cornerstones of a workshop held by the CAE and the University of Western Ontario in Sarnia on May 18, 2010. I was privileged to attend the workshop and to engage in the debate on Canada's role in energy. Prime Minister Harper speaks about Canada being an energy superpower. While it is clear that Canada has natural resources that are outstanding in quantity and quality, our country faces major challenges with respect to accessing, distributing and utilizing these resources. The issue of upgrading our natural resources into high-value energy and other products is another great challenge. The increasing exportation of raw energy products, such as bitumen, is a case in point. Other major issues are our ageing electricity generation and transmission infrastructure and the lack of a comprehensive nation-wide electricity grid. The latter is a major impediment to harnessing renewable energies such as wind and solar energy, which are inherently variable and require transmission over long distances to balance supply and demand.

The future of Canada's energy system is central to our way of life and economic prosperity. The system must be developed and function in such a way that all Canadians are provided with reliable, affordable and sustainable energy. The latter is particularly important because of the growing global concerns about climate change. Given the importance of Canada's future energy

system, the Academy worked diligently over the past year to initiate a major future energy study. I am pleased to inform you that at noon today we will unveil the essential aspects of such a study, a study that will be carried out by several partners each one of which has different capabilities. Together, we will be able to provide industry, government and the public with tangible recommendations for creating an optimal energy system for Canada. The study will be comprehensive and inclusive. Particular attention will be paid to taking recommendations to action.

Over the past year, we have strengthened and extended our working relationships with our sister academies and organizations. I want to mention, in particular, our relationship with Engineers Canada, with which we have engaged in the Canadian Engineering Leadership Forum (CELF), and our sister academies in Canada: The Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) and the Royal Society of Canada (RSC). The CAE, CAHS and RSC are constituent members of the Council of Canadian Academies (CCA). The CCA has a mandate to conduct assessments on issues of major importance and several of our Fellows have and are currently participating in such assessments. The CCA is ably led by Dr. Elizabeth Dowdeswell, who is making special efforts to support the academies and ensuring that we work effectively together.

Finally, I wish to recognize the unstinting support that the CAE has received from the members of its Board of Directors, the many Fellows who have volunteered their services and, of course, the staff. Given the major projects that we have undertaken, the load on our Executive Director Michael A. Ball and our Office Manager Valérie Broadfoot has been heavy.

To serve our Academy as President was a singular distinction for me. If I have succeeded, it has been the result of the good, creative counsel provided by many and, of course, the willingness to lend a hand when it really mattered.

I want to thank our Past President, John Leggat, for his leadership and am delighted that he will continue to work for the good of our Academy by serving on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Council of Academies.

As a final point, let me express two wishes.

The first wish is that Fellows of the Academy, individually and collectively, share their experiences and wisdom more widely on a local and national level. We already saw the success of regional meetings at the recent Workshop in Sarnia. More of this can and should be done.

My second wish is that you provide our incoming President, Michael Charles, with the same support and cooperation that you have extended to me. Given his capabilities and your support, I am confident that he will take our Academy to new heights.

Respectfully submitted,

Axel Meisen

7. FINANCIAL

The Secretary-Treasurer, K. Sturgess, and the Executive Director, M. A. Ball, presented the financial reports to the membership.

• Financial Statements 2009

It was noted that these statements have been prepared by our auditors (Marcil Lavallée) for the year just past, and that they were contained in the Agenda folders. It was reported that the Auditors now use International Accounting Practices that includes changes to the previous standard. The net result for 2009 was reasonable given the economic downturn, with the CAETS 2009 Convocation contributing over \$20K for future use. A net gain of about \$11K was recorded for 2009. It was moved by K. Sturgess, seconded by M. McDill that the audited Financial Statements for 2009 be approved. CARRIED.

• Treasurer's Report / Budget 2010

The Secretary-Treasurer and the Executive Director also presented the Budget 2010 (Attach. 7b), which was previously approved by the Board of Directors. It is provided for the information of members, and projects essentially a break-even situation for 2010 operations.

• Appointment of Auditors 2010

It was noted that we continue to receive good service from our auditors/accountants, Marcil Lavallée, and the recommendation of the Board is that we reappoint them for the year 2010. It was moved by K. Sturgess, seconded by C. Hansson, that Marcil Lavallée be appointed as CAE auditors for 2010. CARRIED.

8. ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS – 2010/11

The President noted that the Nominating Committee had provided a recommended slate of proposals for 2010/11, and that these had been endorsed by the Board of Directors.

Relative to Officers/Directors-at-Large, the following names had been proposed:

For Officers:

| Michael Charles |
|-------------------|
| Kim Sturgess |
| Moyra McDill |
| Axel Meisen |
| |
| Michael Avedesian |
| Richard Marceau |
| Nancy Mathis |
| Robert Evans |
| Pierre Lortie |
| Marie Lemay |
| Bert Wasmund |
| |

There being no alternative nominations from the floor, it was moved by R. Ravindran, seconded by R. Crotogino, that this slate of officers/directors be approved. CARRIED.

Relative to membership of the Fellowship Committee the following proposal had been received:

For Fellowship Committee: Chair Michael Avedesian President President Elect Secretary/Treasurer Members-at-large Robert Evans Ian Jordaan Etienne P.D. Mansard

It was moved by N. Esmail, seconded by R. Walker, that this slate of members for the Fellowship Committee be approved. CARRIED.

9. TRANSFER OF POWERS TO INCOMING PRESIDENT

President Meisen invited incoming President M. Charles to address the members. M. Charles thanked the outgoing President A. Meisen and Past-President J. Leggat for the leadership during the past two years, and the previous Board Members for their service to the Academy. He said that it was truly an honour and privilege to serve as President of the Canadian Academy of Engineering, noting that he would do his best to move the Academy to new heights and to work diligently towards its objectives with the help of the new board, the Executive Director and the Office Manager. He noted that a year ago the Academy approved the Strategic Plan I^3 Inform, Inspire and Influence. He noted that we do a good job of informing and we create inspiration, but we need to work hard to influence, he expects to spend a good part of his time working towards that objective. He sees the future for the CAE working with other organizations, our sister academies, the RSC and the CAHS, and also the CCA. He sees an opportunity to work with other organizations that are not necessarily focused on technical issues, but organizations that bring other skill sets and experience to the table. He noted that a special announcement along these lines would be made at lunch time as being a good example of this. He concluded by stating that he will do his utmost to strengthen the role of the academy in Canadian and international contexts.

10. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ARRANGEMENTS – 2011

M. Charles indicated that the Board of Directors had recommended that the next Annual General Meeting be held June 2-3, 2011 in Vancouver, subject to confirmation. This will be organized under the leadership of President-Elect K. Sturgess.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chair invited any further items of business or comments from the floor. P. Frise asked if there was mechanism/criteria for Fellows to report on their activities related to their CAE relationship that could be catalogued and help increase the Academy's influence and profile more completely. It was noted that there is a feature on the CAE website and in the newsletter, "Fellows in the News" that highlights members' achievements and activities. The Executive Director suggested that Fellows could e-mail any relevant news of their activities/involvement to the CAE Office which could help bolster the academy's profile and influence.

There being no other items of business, President M. Charles then proposed a vote of thanks to retiring Officers: Past-President J. Leggat, Directors: N. Bantha, T. Bzustowski and A. Mufti, who each received a copy of the book *"The Essential Engineer: Why Science Alone will not Solve our Global Problems"* by Henry Petroski.President Charles then expressed his appreciation to the CAE Executive Director, M. A. Ball, and CAE Office Manager, V. Broadfoot, for their continuing dedicated efforts on behalf of the academy.

12. ADJOURNMENT

President M. Charles reminded all members that had registered for the Symposium that it would start at 9:30 AM in the Main Auditorium. There being no other items of business he declared a CONSENSUS for adjournment at 8:35 AM.

INDUCTION OF NEW FELLOWS 2010 (Added for the record)

The Induction of New Fellows did not take place during the actual Annual Business Meeting on June 4th but took place prior to dinner on June 3rd, 2010 in Stop 33 of The Sutton Place Hotel, Toronto. The President A. Meisen noted that 34 of the 48 newly-elected members were able to be present at the Induction Ceremony. He then called upon President-Elect M. Charles to read the citations (which were included in the Induction Ceremony Program at each table setting and were also shown on the projection screen) as each inductee came forward, received their framed certificate from the President and had a photograph taken, and then signed the "Academy Members' Register" and received a CAE pin. Those present were:

| Halim Omar Abd El Halim | Andrew Nick Hrymak | Phillip (Rocky) J.Simmons |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Stavros A. Argyropoulos | Jin Jiang | Vijay Kumar Sood |
| Yves Beauchamp | Raafat R. Mansour | Torstein Arnfinn Utigard |
| Gouri S. Bhuyan | Farid N. Najm | William J. Vangool |
| Jens Bornemann | Michel Perrier | Carlos Estuardo Ventura |
| Douglas Boyd | Dorina Corina Petriu | David Stirling Wilkinson |
| Zhizhang (David) Chen | Alan Plumtree | Michael James Worswick |
| Tom Robert Closson | Eugene Victor Polistuk | Safwat Zaky |
| Bruce Allen Francis | Gamal Refai-Ahmed | Shiping Zhu |
| Frank Frantisak | Partha (Sam) Sampath | Jean W. Zu |
| Andrew Goldenberg | David Sanborn Scott | |
| Ling Guan | Tarlochan Singh Sidhu | |

The President also reported that 14 other Fellows have been formally accepted for the year 2010, and will receive their certificates and members pin by mail. The additional Fellows are:

Azzedine Boukerche

Darrel John Danyluk

Nedjib (Ned) Djilali

Guy Albert Dumont Sheldon Green Eric Richard Hall Brenda Gail Kenny

José Ramón Martí Yonghao Ni Anoush Poursartip Peter Lewis Silveston Henry H. Wakabayashi Hugh Charles Wood David Walter Zingg