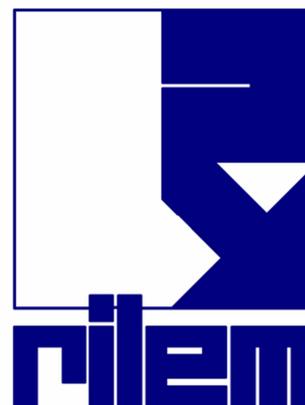


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**Word from Mark Alexander, RILEM President**

Dear RILEM Members,



RILEM Week 2012 in Cape Town has come and gone, over the period 3-5 September. We had an excellent event on the campus of the University of Cape Town, where not only the standing committees and General Council of RILEM met, but also 11 TCs conducted their meetings. This was a wonderful turnout of TCs. Altogether about 90 RILEM delegates attended the event, which was held in conjunction with the International Conference ICCRRR 2012. The conference attracted about 350 delegates from all over the world. This was an outstanding opportunity to showcase RILEM and its work to the conference delegates, and we trust that further interest in our organisation will result.

It was an honour for me to be elected President of RILEM for 2012-2015. I am very fortunate in having a first-class team to work with: the Director of Development Geert De Schutter, the Immediate Past President Peter Richner, the new Vice-President Johan Vyncke, and the General Secretary Pascale Ducornet. Also, we have highly competent Chairs of the TAC, MAC, EAC, and BoE, who ensure the business of these important committees is well run. The main challenges in the years ahead will be to further expand our international footprint, to consolidate on the gains we have already made in this area, to ensure the organisational health of RILEM going into the future, to maintain the strength of our publishing including our Journal Materials and Structures, and of course most importantly to strengthen and expand the work of our TCs.

In closing, I quote from an editorial for M&S that I wrote earlier in 2012:

*“These last few years have been exciting for RILEM. We have been in the process of substantial change, both organisationally and in terms of our focus. In 2009, we appointed a Director of Development, who has taken the lead in growing the association’s membership and impact. We have constituted a new Standing Committee - the Educational Activities Committee - and also formally welcomed LatRILEM as a fully fledged regional group based in South America. We have formal partnership agreements now with ACI and Ibracon, and growing links in the East with India and China. We are active in Eastern Europe and exploring opportunities in the Middle East. The state of our Technical Committees is very healthy. Activities by way of conferences, courses, workshops, and publications are all on the increase. We have substantially democratised the association so that every member is now a voting member of the General Council. The election of the new Vice President is also a more democratic process. So we can say that RILEM is a progressive organisation which looks confidently to the future.”*

Wishing you all the best for the next year in RILEM!

Mark Alexander  
President of RILEM

### **RILEM Annual Week in Cape Town**

The 66<sup>th</sup> RILEM Annual Week was organized in Cape Town, 3-5 September 2012, in conjunction with the International Conference ICCRRR 2012. The combined events attracted over 400 participants to the marvellous campus of UCT. In spite of the beautiful city and the appealing nature of Table Mountain and the Cape, lecture and meeting rooms were always nicely filled with an interested international audience attending the high-level presentations. Eleven RILEM Technical Committees had a meeting in Cape Town, in combination with several administrative meetings of RILEM Standing Committees. The technical work of RILEM has been clearly showcased during the RILEM Technical Day. A one year free RILEM membership will be given to all non-members attending the Annual Week in Cape Town.



**Full Lecture hall during the RILEM Annual Week in Cape Town**

The RILEM Annual Week in Cape Town was a great success, both on a professional and a social level. The marvellous campus of UCT was just the perfect place to organize the many technical and administrative meetings. Enjoyable tea and lunch breaks offered great opportunities to extend personal and professional networks, while visiting the exhibition area of the sponsors or while sitting on the sunny hill side. RILEM is very grateful to Prof. Mark Alexander and his team for the high level organization of this year’s Annual Week.

### General Council: voting right for all RILEM members



General Council, Cape Town, September 2012

This year's RILEM General Council can be named very special. On the one hand, due to lucky timing, this year's Honorary President and organizer of the local event has been elected RILEM President for the coming three years (see further). On the other hand, it was the first General Council ever giving voting right to all RILEM members present. In this way, the democratic nature of RILEM has been substantially strengthened once again, after the input of all RILEM members while selecting the new Vice-President last year (see further).

### New RILEM President: Mark Alexander



RILEM General Council named Prof. Mark Alexander the RILEM President for the next three years. Mark is professor at the University of Cape Town, and has longstanding experience within RILEM Technical Committees and Standing Committees. After three years as Vice-President, Mark now takes the lead of our organization, guiding us to further grow worldwide. Mark takes over the presidential chair of Peter Richner, who excellently served RILEM as a very committed and dedicated president during the last three years. RILEM is very grateful to Peter for his encompassing leadership during many years. We surely will further count on his guidance and advice, as Peter now is immediate past-President for the next three years.

RILEM President Mark Alexander

### New RILEM Vice-President: Johan Vyncke

The process of selecting a new Vice-President has been initiated about one year ago. With the active input of all RILEM members, including formal voting through the RILEM website, a selection committee was defined by end of 2011. Out of a long list of potential candidates, the selection committee defined a shortlist of four outstanding candidates to the RILEM Bureau. During the Spring meetings in Paris, March 2012, RILEM Bureau selected one candidate who was then proposed as new Vice-President to the General Council. During its Cape Town meeting, RILEM General Council named Johan Vyncke the RILEM Vice-President for the coming three years. Johan is the Research Director of the Belgian Building Research Institute. He has a long experience within RILEM, not the least as former chair of the Management Advisory Committee MAC.



RILEM Vice-President  
Johan Vyncke

### New Technical Committees

2 new technical committees have been created during the RILEM Annual Week in Cape Town:

- TC CSM (cluster E): Composites for sustainable strengthening of Masonry, chaired by Prof. Gianmarco de Felice.
- TC EEC (cluster C): Environmental evaluation of concrete structures towards sustainable construction, chaired by Prof. Amnon Katz.

All RILEM members interested to actively contribute to the work of these newly created committees are requested to contact the RILEM secretariat. A complete list of all active RILEM technical committees can be found on the RILEM website: [www.rilem.net](http://www.rilem.net)

### Dimitrios Aggelis, Robert L'Hermite Medallist 2012

This year, RILEM received the application of about eleven excellent candidates for the Robert L'Hermite Medal. After duly considering all applications, the jury was impressed by the very high



quality of many of the applications. The RILEM L'Hermite Medal for 2012 was conferred on Dr. Dimitrios G. Aggelis of the Departments of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Ioannina, Greece, *'in recognition of his outstanding contribution to research on wave propagation through engineering materials, and the assessment and monitoring of structures through nondestructive techniques.'*

**Dimitrios Aggelis showing the RILEM Robert L'Hermite Medal, handed over by Ravindra Gettu, TAC Chair.**

Dimitrios G. Aggelis is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Materials Science and Engineering, University of Ioannina, Greece, since 2008. He obtained a PhD degree from the Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautics Department of the University of Patras (Greece) in 2004. He has also worked at Tobishima Corporation (Japan) as a Research Fellow from 2006 to 2008. His expertise ranges from the characterization of materials such as concrete and CFRP through the analysis of wave propagation, the development of nondestructive techniques for damage detection, to the monitoring and maintenance of highway bridges, tunnels and other structures. During the RILEM Annual Week in Cape Town, Dimitrios Aggelis gave a very clear and interesting presentation about his research activities. Prof. Ravindra Gettu, chairman of RILEM Technical Activities Committee TAC, handed over the medal to Dr. Aggelis.

## RILEM Fellows

Three outstanding colleagues have been named RILEM Fellows. During the RILEM Banquet, Prof. Lars Olof Nilsson was named RILEM Fellow. Two other Fellows were named during the General Council: Prof. Raoul François and Dr. Nicolas Roussel. The three Fellows were named in recognition of their exceptional scientific and organizational contribution to RILEM's work. The fellowship diplomas were handed out by Peter Richner, RILEM President at the time of the meetings.



New RILEM Fellowships handed out by Peter Richner (left to right): Raoul François, Nicolas Roussel, and Lars Olof Nilsson

## Upcoming RILEM Weeks

A high-level RILEM Annual Week takes a lot of effort and time to organize. Several teams worldwide are already now working on successful organisation of RILEM Weeks in the coming years. The following list of Annual Weeks has been confirmed:

- 67<sup>th</sup> RILEM Annual Week, **2013, PARIS, France**, 1-4 September, in conjunction with the 1<sup>st</sup> International RILEM Conference on Rheology and Processing of Construction Materials and the 7<sup>th</sup> International RILEM Symposium on Self-Compacting Concrete.
- 68<sup>th</sup> RILEM Annual Week, **2014, SAO PAULO, Brazil**, 31 August-5 September, in conjunction with the 13<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Durability of Building Materials and Components, DBMC13.
- 69<sup>th</sup> RILEM Annual Week, **2015, MELBOURNE, Australia**, first week of September (exact date to be defined), in conjunction with the Biannual Conference of the Concrete Institute Australia.
- 70<sup>th</sup> RILEM Annual Week, **2016, LYNGBY (COPENHAGEN), Denmark**, 15-24 August, in conjunction with numerous doctoral courses and conferences related to Materials, Systems and Structures in Civil Engineering.

This list of upcoming RILEM Annual Weeks illustrates the growing impact of RILEM on a truly international scale, worldwide. Mark your calendars, in order not to miss these exciting RILEM events!

## Call for proposals RILEM Week 2017

During the last months, RILEM received several informal proposals to host RILEM Annual Weeks in the coming years. As mentioned in the previous paragraph of this Newsletter, the RILEM Week venues have already been defined now up to 2016. RILEM is very happy to see that many organizers

are willing to combine their international conference with the RILEM Annual Week meetings, making it a truly global event. On the other hand, RILEM is well aware of the fact that some organizers had to be disappointed, as their proposals for the coming years could not be accepted. In line with the democratic nature of RILEM, and in order to give all interested organizers a fair chance, **RILEM is now asking for formal proposals to host the 71<sup>st</sup> RILEM Annual Week in 2017**. This event should preferably be organized in the first week of September, in conjunction with a truly international conference related to materials, systems and structures in civil engineering. **Formal proposals should be sent to our Secretary-General, Mrs. Pascale Ducornet, at the RILEM Secretariat in Bagneux, at the latest by 31 January 2013**. During the RILEM Spring Meetings in Paris, RILEM Bureau will make a first selection, and will invite shortlisted organizers to further present and defend their proposal in more detail during a Bureau Meeting in Paris, September 2013. Potential organizers requesting further information on this call for proposals are requested to contact the RILEM Secretary-General ([pducornet@rilem.org](mailto:pducornet@rilem.org)) or the RILEM Director of Development ([Geert.DeSchutter@ugent.be](mailto:Geert.DeSchutter@ugent.be)).

### **Call for candidates Robert L’Hermite Medal 2013**

It is a RILEM objective to gather together the most eminent specialists throughout the world in the fields of building materials and structures. Aiming for excellence in all its activities, RILEM awards this recognized distinction annually. Each year, the Robert L’Hermite Medal is awarded to an author of less than 40 years age - not necessarily a member of the Association – who has performed high level scientific research in the field of ‘Building Materials and Structures’. The research results have to be published in at least one original scientific article in an international scientific journal, preferably (but not exclusively) the RILEM journal Materials & Structures, in one of the official languages of RILEM (English or French). **Candidates should submit their file at the latest by 31 December 2012**. For more information on the required format and documents, please contact the RILEM Secretariat. If you are not a candidate yourself, but you know of excellent candidates in your team or research community, please inform them about this call!

### **Joint activities RILEM-IBRACON**

IBRACON, the Brazilian Concrete Institute, is one of the international partners of RILEM. During the upcoming IBRACON Congress, Maceio, 8-11 October 2012, IBRACON and RILEM will combine efforts in organizing a course on self-compacting concrete. Some RILEM members will also give scientific and technical presentations during the IBRACON Congress. RILEM will be represented by President Mark Alexander, and Director of Development Geert De Schutter. More details can be found on the IBRACON website <http://www.ibracon.org.br/ingles/>.

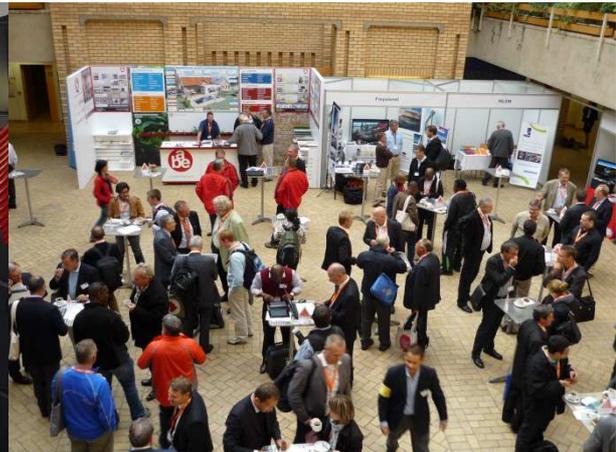
### **Paying RILEM dues online**

RILEM members can renew their membership by paying the annual RILEM dues (membership fees) online through the RILEM website. To do so, please login on the RILEM website, and go to your private area. There, within the area “My access”, you will find the option “Pay my dues”. If you need more information on this option, please contact the RILEM Secretariat. They will be happy to help you.

Some images from the RILEM Week in Cape Town



Opening Function



Exhibition and coffee area

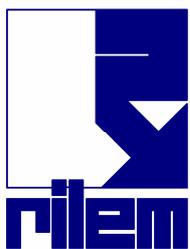


Networking on UCT Campus



RILEM Banquet

For all questions concerning RILEM publications and activities, please contact:



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