

GENERAL MEETING IN NICE

IBPSA's International Dimension

by Edward F. Sowell, IBPSA President

As you have read in the Preliminary Program for our Building Simulation '91 Conference, there will be a General Meeting in Nice on Thursday, 22 August 1991. The main agenda item at this meeting will be discussion of how IBPSA can be structured to meet its responsibilities as an international association to an ever more widely dispersed membership. I'd like all members (and potential members) to give thought to this important question in advance of this meeting so we can have all the ideas on the table, and hopefully reach some conclusions. Although I remain uncommitted to any particular course at this time, some of my thoughts are expressed below. Perhaps they will stimulate you!

First, we should look hard at the present situation. That is, how close are we to being "international" at the moment? Arguing the positive side, we have:

- (a) crafted our constitution and bylaws to provide for an international Board,
- (b) become incorporated outside of the USA,
- (c) sponsored our first two conferences in different, non-USA countries, and
- (d) have managed to enroll at least some non-North American members.

But on the negative side we have yet to have a Board or a General meeting outside of North America, and as a result we have failed to get full participation from the transatlantic members that we do have. To this extent, IBPSA is not yet international, in spite of its aspirations.

(See *International Dimension*, Page 2)

NEXT IBPSA MEETING: INDIANAPOLIS

The next meeting of IBPSA will be held on **Saturday, June 22, 1991**, in conjunction with the ASHRAE Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana, USA. The Board of Directors will meet at 6:30 p.m., and the general membership will meet at 8:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the House Room of the Westin Hotel at 50 South Capitol Avenue in Indianapolis.

This meeting is open to anyone interested in building simulation; only paid IBPSA members may vote. (For membership information, see the end of this newsletter.)

The agendas for the meeting appear on Page 3 of this newsletter. If you will not be able to attend the meeting and have input regarding one of the agenda items, please forward your comments to:

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INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION

(Continued from Page 1)

Also, it must be observed that IBPSA is not the only organization in the building analysis/simulation niche. Our affiliate, BEPAC, is alive and well in the UK, and there is wide spread feeling that there is need for similar organizations on the continent. These groups appear to be doing well because they are fulfilling the need for a forum and information exchange function within geographic areas of reasonable size. Aside from our (very successful) conference program, this is about all IBPSA is now doing -- providing a forum for North American members. That we have gravitated to this mode suggests that these are two fundamental needs of the building analysis/simulation community: i.e., international conferences and local meetings.

With these observations, the obvious structure for IBPSA, suggested many times on both sides of the Atlantic, is that of an international umbrella over regional associations. The regional groups, perhaps modeled after the BEPAC, would serve geographic areas small enough to allow frequent meetings, and would provide forums for discussion of matters of special local interest. IBPSA itself would deal only with matters not easily handled by local groups, such as international meetings and major publications. It could also provide start-up resources for new local groups, and perhaps member service functions.

The logic of this structure is compelling. The only problem is how to get there from where we are now. One way is to declare it to be so. After all, IBPSA does exist and has an international scope built into its articles. The next step would then be to fill in the structure, i.e., create the local groups. It is obvious that the two initial "fill ins" should be BEPAC and a North American group (NAEPAC?, NABPSA?), and the next should be a (yet-to-be formed) group on the European continent. However, it is with this step that we may expect difficulties. First, BEPAC is doing quite well on its own, and although there is an affiliation agreement between IBPSA and BEPAC, there is no obvious ground swell of enthusiasm for full integration. On the North American side, it may not be easy to convert the group of people now functioning as IBPSA

into a local group; it may appear as "yet another organization to join," with officer slots to fill and committees to populate, and with no "new faces around the table." On the Continent, there is the problem of forging the many small groups, such as the BAG and TRNSYS user groups, into one. And within the spirit of the European Community, shouldn't the British be somehow together with the other Europeans? If so, the result would have many parallels with IBPSA itself. But then, what about the North American "alliance?" Is it not the same thing? An obvious risk here is the path towards separate international groups competing for a share of the (all too small) pie.

I'm not sure what the solution is, but I am sure that the most important thing at the present is to strengthen IBPSA. Once it is strong and has improved its international dimension, it will be more able to foster development of new local groups, and there will be more reason for existing ones to come on board. Perhaps the best way to strengthen IBPSA along the international dimension is to be sure the Board is international, both in composition and in terms of faces around the table at its meetings. With focus created by the meeting in Nice, and the Board elections coming up the following January, it should be easy to deal with the composition problem. The "faces around the table" will be more difficult because ultimately it means travel expense. But this may be the best use of our resources, because in the words of a famous American Vice President, "If we do not succeed we will fail." But perhaps there are more imaginative ways of dealing with this than transporting half of the Board across the Atlantic twice a year. For example, we could put in place the Executive Council referred to in our Constitution, composed of the officers plus one extra international balance. This smaller group could meet more economically. The Board itself would then meet less often and with less concern for international balance. Another suggestion has been to create "regional committees" within the Board that would meet locally and report to the full Board meeting. With either of these ideas we would have to discuss scope of responsibility and authority of the subunits.

There is also the problem of the Secretariat. Clearly, we have been lacking in execution of fundamental tasks, such as membership drives, mailing lists, and financial reporting. At its

meeting last January, the Board charged the Treasurer with the responsibility of providing such services, with expenses charged to IBPSA. However, this is not a permanent solution; ultimately, IBPSA must have a "headquarters" of some sort, with the fundamental tasks carried out routinely and efficiently by persons dedicated to handling such matters. Where shall it physically be located, what agency will provide the services, and how much will it cost? One suggestion has been to contract with the Society for Computer Simulation. They have offices in San Diego and Ghent, and perform these

services for their own members. Preliminary discussions have taken place with the San Diego office but without conclusion. Perhaps we should approach the SCS again, through the office in Ghent, which is currently organizing our Building Simulation '91 conference.

So let me again encourage you to come to Nice with your best thoughts formulated and prepared for serious discussion. With this second successful conference we are well established as the best hope for an international association of building analysis/simulation professionals. Let's build on that base!

INDIANAPOLIS MEETING AGENDAS

IBPSA Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, June 22, 1991

6:30-8:00 p.m.

House Room, Westin Hotel

Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

IBPSA General Meeting

Saturday, June 22, 1991

8:00-9:30 p.m.

House Room, Westin Hotel

Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

AGENDA

- 1. Call to order..... Seth
- 2. Roll call Seth
- 3. Accept agenda Seth
- 4. Approval of New York minutes Seth
- 5. Announcements..... Seth
- 6. Old Business
- 6.1 Elect a new IBPSA Secretary..... Seth
- 6.2 BS '91 steering committee report
.....Gardner/Mitchell
- 6.3 RP-90-1/Amistadi contract..... Lawrie
- 6.4 Awards guidelines..... Ayres/Pedersen
- 6.5 Financial report Alereza
- 6.6 Membership driveSeth/Alereza
- 6.7 Executive Secretary matters Seth
- 7. New Business
- 7.1 Nominations for
Board of Directors..... Seth

AGENDA

- 1. Call to order..... Seth
- 2. Roll call of IBPSA members
.....New Secretary
- 3. Accept agenda Seth
- 4. Approval of New York minutes
.....New Secretary
- 5. Announcements..... Seth
- 6. Committee Reports
- 6.1 Membership..... Alereza
- 6.2 Finance Alereza
- 6.3 Program (BS '91)..... Mitchell
- 6.4 Newsletter & Publications
.....Amistadi/Witte
- 6.5 ResearchHaberl/Lawrie
- IBPSA research agenda
.....Haberl/Lawrie
- RP-90-1 Amistadi
- 7. Old Business
- 7.1 Executive Secretary matters..... Seth
- 8. New Business
- 8.1 Meetings Seth
- Agenda, timing, venues

REGISTER NOW FOR BUILDING SIMULATION '91!

See Page 4 for more information.

SURVEY OF ENGINEERING TOOLS AND INTEGRATED BUILDING SOFTWARE ACTIVITIES

Status Report on IBPSA RP-90-1

by Henry Amistadi

IBPSA has funded research project RP-90-1 to prepare a newsletter feature article dealing with the subject of engineering software tools and integrated building software.

Information has been gathered from those who are conducting relevant research. Many thanks to Fred Winkelmann and John Mitchell for assisting in this effort.

The text of the feature article is written. Abstracts of relevant articles and reports have been requested from the researchers. After attending the Symposium on Building Systems

Automation-Integration in early June, I will finalize the feature article.

As this feature developed, I realized that the activities towards integrating building software were too numerous to cover in one feature. This feature focuses on improving the research and design process with new tools and investigates efforts underway to exchange information between these tools.

I suggest that the next feature concentrate on projects that are integrating artificial intelligence techniques into the building design and operation process to assist architects, engineers and operators in decision making.

A final draft of the feature article will be available for review at the IBPSA meeting in Indianapolis. The article will then be published in the next issue of *ibpsaNEWS*.

BUILDING SIMULATION '91 Register Now!

2nd World Congress on Technology Improving
the Energy Use, Comfort, and Economics of
Buildings Worldwide

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FRANCE
AUGUST 20-22, 1991**

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Mines de Paris ENSMP
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Conference Themes

1. Models for building performance analysis
2. Computer implementations
3. Programs and software
4. User-interfaces
5. Design integration
6. Technology transfer

Conference Information

The second world congress on Technology Improving the Energy Use, Comfort and Economics of Buildings Worldwide, called **BUILDING SIMULATION '91**, is hosted by the AFME (the French Energy Agency), and will run from **August 20** (9 a.m.) until **August 22** (7:30 p.m.) **1991**, at the **Nice/Sophia-Antipolis** site, on the **French Riviera**. The Nice international airport is within easy reach.

For further information contact:

IBPSA-BS '91 Conference Secretariat
SCSI
c/o Philippe GERIL
Coupure Links 653
B-9000 Ghent
BELGIUM

Telephone and fax: 32 91 23.49.41
E-mail: SCSI@BGERUG51.BITNET

RENEW YOUR IBPSA MEMBERSHIP NOW!

Have you paid your 1991 IBPSA dues? If not, do so today! If you did not receive a renewal notice, please contact:

IBPSA
c/o ADM Associates, Inc.
Mr. Taghi Alereza
3299 Ramos Circle
Sacramento, CA 95827
USA

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Product Data International

Report on IGES, PDES, STEP, and related activities for Computer Integrated Manufacturing and Construction.

For subscription information, contact:

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Cardiff-by-the-Sea, California 92007
USA

Building Simulation '89 Proceedings

Proceedings from Building Simulation '89 are available from IBPSA at US\$75.00 per copy.

Shipping charges are as follows:

First class, U.S. & Canada US\$3.00 each
Air mail, Canada & Mexico . US\$5.00 each
Overseas, surface mail US\$3.00 each
Overseas, air mail US\$15.00 each

Send orders to:

IBPSA
c/o Edward F. Sowell
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California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 62634

MEMBER NEWS

Please submit information regarding promotions, moves, or other personal news of interest to the IBPSA membership. Please send to the address listed at the end of this newsletter; indicate clearly if any information should not be published.

IBPSA FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 1990

by Taghi Alereza, IBPSA Treasurer

IBPSA

Summary of Financial Status
as of December 19, 1990

Starting Balance

As of January 19, 1990..... US\$27,655.02

Income

Membership Dues 4,688.00
BS '89 2,000.00
BS '91 Sponsors..... 10,000.00
Sale of Proceedings 1,500.00
Interest..... 1,912.55

Total Income US\$20,100.55

Expenses

BS '91 10,000.00
ibpsaNEWS..... 379.28
RP-90-1, 1st installment..... 1,000.00
Miscellaneous Expenses..... 270.66

Total Expenses US\$11,649.94

Final Balance

As of December 19, 1990..... US\$36,105.63

FORUM

Dialogue of interest to the IBPSA membership may be submitted for publication in this section of *ibpsaNEWS*. Letters which are addressed to a specific individual will be forwarded for reply prior to publication. The editors reserve the right to edit all submissions.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

IBPSA General Meeting

June 22, 1991

Board of Directors 6:30-8:00 p.m.

General Membership 8:00-9:30 p.m.

House Room, Westin Hotel

Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

For more information, contact:

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7449 North Natchez Avenue
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USA

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FAX: 708-647-8678
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ASHRAE Annual Meeting

June 22-26, 1991

Westin Hotel, Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, and

Holiday Inn Union Station

Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

For more information, contact:

ASHRAE
1791 Tullie Circle, NE
Atlanta, GA 30329-2305
USA

Phone: 404-636-8499
FAX: 404-321-5478

The 3rd International Symposium on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics (InterSymp '91)

August 12-18, 1991

Baden-Baden, West Germany

Sponsored by The International Institute for
Advanced Studies in Systems Research and
Cybernetics and Society for Applied systems
Research.

This meeting will include a Special Focus
Symposium on "Computer-User
Partnerships in Design," with particular
reference to:

- Computer tasks vs. designer tasks
- Human factors aspects of computer-user interactions
- Computer-based design assistance tools
- Integrated computer-based design environments
- Computer-based design education
- The design workstation of the future

(Abstracts were due March 9, 1991; full papers were due May 12, 1991.)

For more information, contact:

Jens G. Pohl
InterSymp '91
CAD Research Unit, SAED
Cal Poly
San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
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Building Simulation '91

August 20-22, 1991

Nice/Sophia-Antipolis, France

Sponsored by IBPSA

For more information, contact:

IBPSA-BS '91 Conference Secretariat
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E-mail: SCSI@BGERUG51.BITNET

IBPSA General Meeting

August 22, 1991

6:30-7:30 p.m.

Nice/Sophia-Antipolis, France

In conjunction with Building Simulation '91, there will be a general meeting of the IBPSA membership. The primary topic of discussion will be the international dimension and future directions of IBPSA.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Place your advertisement in front of the key people in the building performance simulation field. Advertising rates per issue are: \$10 per column-inch, \$75 for a half page, and \$125 for a full page. (A full page is 16 column-inches).

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BUILD THE IBPSA MEMBERSHIP

Recruiting a new member for IBPSA is one of the best ways to support the society. Members give IBPSA the power to promote and advance the art of building simulation. While the majority of IBPSA members are in the energy performance simulation area, remember that the mission of IBPSA is to serve all areas of building simulation. Annual dues are US\$75.00 for Members, US\$500.00 for Sustaining Members, and US\$25.00 for Student Members. For more information, please contact:

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