

## VIEW FROM THE CHAIR



The next National Committee meeting will be in Sydney (Coogee) on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2009. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting will be held prior to the National Committee meeting (see separate notice). Please contact your state National Committee representative, **Peter Robinson** (AGS Secretariat), **Graham Scholey** or myself if you would like any feedback or additional information in relation to the AGS National Committee meetings.

AGS membership currently stands at 1,281

We welcome our new Corporate member Bauer Foundations Australia Pty Ltd.

### EVENTS

The **IAEG Congress** (which is held every four years) is the biggest international event in the IAEG calendar and there is already a lot of international interest in the Auckland congress in September 2010. New Zealand is an exciting place to visit and work, there will be some great keynote speakers and the many field trips during and after the congress will be a particular highlight. Please check out the website ([www.iaeg2010.com](http://www.iaeg2010.com)) and take the opportunity to contribute to, and attend a major international congress in a very different geological environment close to home.

With respect to our distinguished speaker programme, **Clyde Baker** from the US will present the 2009 Terzhagi Lecture in Quarter 4 of 2009.

**Tim Sullivan** has offered to present the result of the Yallourn Mine Batter Inquiry to State Chapters of AGS in 2010.

### AGS WEB PAGE ([www.australiangeomechanics.org](http://www.australiangeomechanics.org))

Our redeveloped website was launched in March 2009. **Mark Jaks** continues in the role of AGS webmaster and so please contact Mark if you have any questions or comments in relation to functionality, content, use and maintenance of our web page.

There are constant updates for conference, seminars, Chapter events and award information. Photos from members would be welcomed and will be displayed on the web site. These can be sent to the secretariat.

### AGS AWARDS

A final call for nominations for the EH Davis Award for 2009 is made within this issue of AG.

### LANDSLIDE RISK MANAGEMENT

The AGS Landslide Risk Sub-Committee report that they have been successful with a submission to the National Disaster Mitigation Programme for funding to run workshops Australia wide on Landslide Risk Management.

### ISSMGE, ISRM AND IAEG NEWS

**Fred Baynes** continues to be active as international President of IAEG.

**Alan Moon** is our Australasian Vice President (VP) for IAEG. Additional IAEG details can be obtained from **Peter Robinson** or **Alan Moon** if required.

The **17<sup>th</sup> International Conference** of ISSMGE will be held in Alexandria Egypt from 5-9 October 2009. **Professor John Carter** our Australasian VP will attend the ISSMGE Council Meeting on 4 October, 2009. Agenda items include:

- Linking of membership, society activity and subscription fees
- Rationalization of voting procedures
- Election of President for 2009-2013 period
- Presentations by China and France to host XVIII ICSMGE

The News Bulletin for ISSMGE is available at <http://www.issmge.org/home/page.asp?sid=296&mid=2&Id=473>

John steps down from this role after the Alexandria Conference to be succeeded by Professor Mike Davies of Auckland University.

Our Australasian VP for ISRM is **Tony Meyers**. Details of ISRM activities are available from the web page [www.isrm.net](http://www.isrm.net). AGS members in ISRM are encouraged to obtain a password to gain full access to the information available from the members' zone of the web page.

Tony has continued to be active in representing AGS with ISRM and AusIMM activity.

#### **SECRETARIAT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES**

**Peter Robinson** continues his effective secretariat role and our accounting, auditing and reporting continue to be up to date and transparent. Our audited accounts will be available for the October National Committee meeting.

The AGS is currently in a healthy financial position which will benefit members by allowing us to fund new initiatives including Web Site development, Distinguished Speakers Program, updating the AGS collection of technical papers on CD to 2008 and the 11<sup>th</sup> ANZ Conference in 2011 or 2012.

Please make sure that you let Engineers Australia and the AGS Secretariat know if you change your address or contact details so that we can keep the membership database up to date.

We have advised Engineers Australia that there will be no increase in AGS membership fees for 2009/2010 financial year.

Peter has also made progress in relation to administration of individual AGS membership of the international societies. Please contact **Peter Robinson** if you have any questions or concerns in relation to the status of your membership of the international societies.

**Patrick MacGregor** and **Sara Lanesman** continue with their excellent work on the editorial, production and management of advertising with AG and deserve our collective congratulations and thanks for their efforts and the success and quality of Australian Geomechanics.

Please continue to actively engage with and support AGS as the success and growth of our society is closely connected to the success and growth of our profession.

Please feel free to contact me if there are any issues relating to AGS that you want to discuss with me.

**Neil D Benson** ([nbenson@golder.com.au](mailto:nbenson@golder.com.au))

AGS National Chair

September 2009