

**Minutes from the telephone meeting of the Executive Committee of NoACM
March 30, 2007**

Present:	Juha Paavola	Finland
	Trond Kvamsdal	Norway
	Erik Lund	Denmark
	Anders Eriksson, Chairman	Sweden
	Gunnar Tibert, Secretary	Sweden
Absent:	Jouni Freund	Denmark
	Göran Sandberg	Sweden
	Kjell Magne Mathisen	Norway

1. Committee vacancies

- At present, there are still two vacancies in the committee and no effort has been spent to fill them since the meeting in Lund. The major problem with the Baltic countries has been that they always have been very inactive in the committee and several of the professors are getting close to retirement and are maybe therefore reluctant to go to the seminars. Anders will contact Jaan Lellep to see if there are any new younger person who might be interested in joining the committee. The expansion of the NoACM by inviting people from St. Petersburg may not be possible as the Russian presumably have their own organisation. If no active candidate can be found in the Baltic countries, it was agreed that having a vacancy was not a major problem. *However, the vacancy for Denmark must be filled and the task of finding a new representative remains with Lars Damkilde, cf. minutes from last meeting.*

2. NSCM-20

- Anders has been in contact with Kenneth Runesson at Chalmers, who accepts to host NSCM-20 on 23–24 November 2007, a month later than usual due to other conferences at Chalmers in October.
- Since it is the 20th anniversary seminar (19 years since the start), the form should be different. Some ideas were discussed:
 - Make Nils-Erik Wiberg honorary chairman and invite one international big shot, e.g. Eugenio Oñate (president of IACM) or Bernhard Schrefler.
 - Each of the four countries will be responsible for setting up thematic sessions with keynote speakers. The session hours will be used for national sessions, leading to somewhat reduced parallel sessions.
 - The plenary speakers will be replaced by four historical lectures by, for example, Nils-Erik Wiberg, Pål Bergan, Steen Krenk and Martti Mikkola.
 - We discussed whether the 20-minute slots should be earmarked for researchers and more experienced PhD students and offer poster presentations for younger

students. However, such an approach would be against the spirit of the NSCM: a forum for young PhD students to present their work in.

— Looking at the future formats of NSCM-20, we should invite people from NAFEMS to NSCM-20, since a merging of the NAFEMS and NSCM seminars might be required for the survival of the NSCM. NAFEMS has different target groups and agenda for their seminars, but a collaboration between the organisations might provide a fresh restart for NSCM.

— The future of NSCM should be raised at the end of the sessions on Friday during a panel discussion with questions sent out beforehand.

- The committee agreed to accept the invitation from Chalmers about arranging NSCM-20 on November 23–24. The plenary speakers should preferably be contacted before May 1st and the website and flyers should be sent out as soon as the list of invited speakers is ready. Kenneth Runesson has to come up with a budget for the seminar to see how much it will cost to invite the plenary speakers.

3. ECCOMAS PhD Award 2006

- A list of three candidates from a first selection by Anders and Gunnar was sent out to the committee before the meeting.
- None of the present committee members had been involved in the work by the candidates, so no more information could be obtained.
- Trond had come across the published work by Heintz and found it to be at a high level. Hence, it was decided that Per Heintz from Chalmers will be the candidate nominated from NoACM. Per's thesis is at a high theoretical level and includes adaptivity, non-linearity, fracture analysis of crack growth including contact; methodology and software development; limited analytical verification and no experimental verification; five published articles in well-known and strong journals.

Anders Eriksson
Chairman

Gunnar Tibert
Secretary

April 4, 2007