



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR STRUCTURAL HEALTH MONITORING OF INTELLIGENT INFRASTRUCTURE

July 2011 ISHMII Membership Notes



Dear Members of ISHMII,

This month, we launched an electronic version of *The Monitor*, which is ISHMII's newsletter. I hope that you received and enjoyed it. We welcome your contributions to *The Monitor* and the ISHMII Knowledge & Education Center at ISHMII.org, where case studies and other knowledge-based information about SHM are posted.

One of the case studies that we reported on in *The Monitor* discusses the advancements in SHM in Mainland China. That complete case study was posted to our Web site only two days before the collapse of the Wuyishan Gongguan Bridge in Fujian Province, China. The failure of any structure provides us with a point for conversation and observation about SHM. We invite your comments and contributions.



Collapse of the Wuyishan Gongguan Bridge Fujian Province, China

Photographs of the collapse of the Wuyishan Gongguan Bridge in Fujian Province, China, on July 14, 2011 show the monumental nature of that structural failure. The Wuyishan Gongguan Bridge is a large span steel arch bridge that measures 301m long and 18m wide. Relatively new, it was constructed between 1996 and 1999, before SHM was regularly installed in new structures in Mainland China. That began in 2005.



If you are a member of the ASCE or read the *Journal of Composites in Construction*, you know that our colleague Professor Urs Meier has received a remarkable honor. The March/April issue of the *Journal of Composites in Construction*, focused on fiber-reinforced polymers (FRPs) in construction, is dedicated to him. We invite you to read more about Professor Meier and his accomplishments in FRPs.

With best regards,

Farhad Ansari

President
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Sharing Information on SHM

The *International Society for Structural Health Monitoring of Intelligent Infrastructure* is a professional society comprised of practitioners, infrastructure owners and managers, government agencies, associations, academics, and students. Members seek to enhance the long-term stability and reliability of public works structures and prolong their service through monitoring processes.

Find us at ISHMII.org.

Our Web site contains information that advances and shares our knowledge of structural health monitoring.

We publish the *Journal of Civil Structural Health Monitoring*. Papers can be submitted to the [JCSHM Editorial Manager](#).

The [ISHMII Knowledge & Education Center](#) contains



While it will be some time before Chinese engineers identify and report on the cause, we invite our colleagues to discuss this issue and related problems. We do not know if the Wuyishan Gongguan Bridge had been retrofitted with SHM devices. ISHMII hopes that in the future, SHM systems can be retrofitted to existing structures, such as long span or older bridges that pre-date the regular use of SHM, everywhere. SHM may then provide engineers with data that can give advance warning of or help to diagnose problems, or allow forensic experts to determine the cause of failures so failures can be prevented on similar structures.

Photos courtesy of www.news.cn, www.chinanews.com and www.weibo.com.

**ISHMII Leader Urs Meier Honored by ASCE
*Journal of Composites for Construction***

pages of interest including Thesis' & Dissertations, Case Studies, Proceedings & Literature, and Education & References.

Click here to read the July 2011 e-Newsletter, [The Monitor](#).

Contributions for *The Monitor* or the ISHMII Website should be sent to Nancy Cohen at NancyC@ishmii.org.

Visit our Web site for information about upcoming [conferences and workshops](#).



The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the International Institute for FRP in Construction (IIFC) have published a joint occasional special issue of the *Journal of Composites for Construction* in honor of Professor Urs Meier. Edited by Lawrence C. Bank and Kenneth W. Neale, this issue recognizes Professor Meier's pioneering contributions to the field of fiber-reinforced polymers (FRPs) in construction. Eleven authors from Canada, Greece, Japan, Poland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the USA contributed papers that represent the strong connection between them and Professor Meier or topics that relate to his long history of research and influence in the field of FRP.

Professor Meier has an illustrious career in the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Testing and Research (Empa). Empa is a founding organization of ISHMII and he serves on the ISHMII Council and Executive Committee as well as in many noted international organizations.

The leaders and members of ISHMII are pleased to recognize our colleague Urs Meier for his life-long achievements and extend our congratulations. We also note that this is only the second time that this prominent Journal has so celebrated a person.

The *Journal of Composites for Construction*, March/April 2011, Volume 15, Issue 2, pp. 125-247 can be accessed at <http://ascelibrary.org/cco/resource/1/jccof2/v15/i2>.

The [full article honoring Professor Meier](#) may be read on-line or downloaded without cost.

Please extend your good wishes to Professor Urs Meier at urs.meier@empa.ch.