ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN CIVIL ENGINEERING FACULTIES
with the participation of civil engineering faculties from
non-European countries (AECEF)

9th AECEF International Symposium
The 25th anniversary of the AECEF foundation

REPORT

14th November 2017
Prague, Czech Republic

Faculty of Civil Engineering
Czech Technical University in Prague
(Bethlehem Chapel, Betlémské náměstí 255/4, Prague 1 – The Old Town)
Programme of the 9th AECEF Symposium:

8:00 – 9:30  Registration of participants (Betlémská kaple – Bethlehem Chapel)
9:30  Opening of the 9th AECEF Symposium (prof. J. Witzany, AECEF president)
9:45  Welcome Address (prof. P. Konvalinka, Rector of CTU in Prague)

10:00 – 10:30  Coffee Break

10:30  Speech by President of the AECEF (prof. J. Witzany)
11:00  Speech by AECEF Secretary – General (Assoc. prof. J. Váška)

11:45 – 13:00  Lunch in Bethlehem Chapel Lobby

13:00  Invited speeches by AECEF members (memories, AECEF future orientation)
  •  prof. Kuldeep S. Virdi (Citi University, London, UK)
  •  prof. György Farkas (Dean Emeritus of Faculty of Civil Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary)
  •  prof. Alfredo Soeiro (University of Porto, Portugal) and prof. Nikos Theodossiou (Aristotele University of Theassaloniki, Greece)

14:00  Discussion
14:45  Closing of the 9th AECEF Symposium (prof. J. Witzany, AECEF President)

15:00 – 15:30  Coffee Break

15:30 – 18:00  9th AECEF General Assembly

18:00  Guided Tour to the Bethlehem Chapel and its Lapidarium
19:00  Chamber Concert (Bethlehem Chapel, St. Wenceslaw Hall)
20:00  Reception (Bethlehem Chapel, Lapidarium)
Opening of the 9th AECEF Symposium

Professor Jiří Witzany
AECEF President

Dear members of the Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties,

Dear guests,

Dear ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to warmly welcome you at the Ninth AECEF Symposium held on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Association as a non-governmental and non-profit institution, which took place at the Faculty of Civil Engineering CTU in Prague in 1992. The foundation of the Association was supported by 19 universities and Civil Engineering faculties from 16 European countries, including a representative of North American universities.

During the last 25 years, the Association membership grew up to 47 universities and Faculties of Civil Engineering from 27 countries. The Association has contributed to mutual understanding and establishing contacts between universities and Civil engineering faculties from Central, Eastern and Western Europe, it had its share in the European unification process, in creating the European educational space and also in the implementation of the Bologna Declaration.

The last 25 years have also brought a lot of changes in Europe, as well as other parts of the world. Unlike the situation of the early 1990s, mutual cooperation of universities has significantly improved, teacher and student exchanges between faculties have become the norm, joint study programmes have been drawn up and other major changes have occurred. Further successful activity of the Association requires full respecting of this new situation.

I believe that today’s meeting will help to further direct future Association’s action in this way in the coming period.

After President Witzany had finished his speech he asked Professor Petr Konvalinka, rector of CTU Prague for his welcome address.

Welcome Address

prof. P. Konvalinka, CSs,
Rector of CTU in Prague

Professor Petr Konvalinka, rector of CTU Prague welcome participants of the 9th AECEF Symposium. He expressed his acknowledgment to the Association ant its management and appreciated contribution of the AECEF to the establishment of contacts and cooperation among European Civil engineering faculties. The Board of CTU and its Faculty of Civil Engineering supported effectively activities of the Association that much contributed to the international cooperation and significantly participated in harmonization of civil engineering education as a base for a free exchange of students and graduates. At the end of his welcome address, prof. Konvalinka wished the Association success in its future activities.
25th Anniversary of AECEF Foundation

Professor Jiří Witzany
AECEF President

The Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties with the participation of Civil Engineering faculties from non-European countries (AECEF) as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation was founded under the initiative of the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Czech Technical University in Prague in September 1992, following fundamental political changes that took place in Central and Eastern Europe in the 1990s.

The Foundation Charter was signed by 19 delegates and representatives of European or non-European Faculties of Civil Engineering. In a short time, the number of universities with FCE grew to 30, and, in the period from 1995 to 2010, the number of member universities was permanently between 40 to 49.

FOUNDATION CHARTER

The founding session of the Deans and Representatives of European Civil Engineering Faculties with the participation of several representatives of Civil Engineering Faculties from North America took place at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, CTU in Prague on 14th September 1992.

THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN CIVIL ENGINEERING FACULTIES WITH PARTICIPATION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING FACULTIES FROM NON EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

FOUNDATION CHARTER

Europe at the end of the 20th century is imbued with ideas of integration and pan Europeanism. European culture, with civil and architectural engineering as an integral element has an unbroken history reaching back thousands of years. European history can provide a solid cultural and spiritual foundation on which to build the future Europe. A precondition for a successful development is the removal of barriers which have arisen in recent times. It is also essential to create new expressions of European feeling and European life. The free flow of information should be facilitated, so should the broad exchange of cultural and scientific achievements among all the nations of Europe. An attempt must be made to create a set of values which will lead to political, cultural, and economic coexistence among nations.

To fulfil these ideas and to establish conditions for close cooperation and transfer of technologies among civil engineering faculties, their research workers, teachers and students, among civil engineering specialists and institutions from different countries, we have decided to found the Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties with the participation of civil engineering faculties from non-European countries.

The undersigned representatives of the listed Universities certify that they will become regular members of the Association and that they will abide by the terms of the statute.

Prague, 14th September 1992
The main mission and objective of the Association was to create a platform and a forum for wide mutual cooperation, for establishing new contacts and sharing experience among universities with Civil Engineering study programmes, situated mainly in Western, Central and Eastern Europe, to lay a cornerstone for free and democratic cooperation of European universities and Civil Engineering Faculties, primarily in the area of harmonization of Civil Engineering study programmes and recognition of engineering diplomas, teacher and student exchanges, cooperation in joint research projects, organization of internships, etc.

The main goals of the Association were

- to establish conditions for close co-operation among Civil Engineering faculties;
- to contribute to the dissemination and application of the latest civil engineering teaching;
- to work towards compatibility among the curricula of Civil Engineering Faculties as a starting point for the exchange of students and mutual acceptance of graduates in civil engineering practice in Europe.

The Association’s activities included meetings and discussions with representatives of universities and Faculties of Civil Engineering in many European countries, new contacts were established to assist in the developing cooperation among European universities and, in this way, efficiently contribute to the creation of the European university space. Significant means in this development were the AECEF Executive Board and international AECEF Symposia held at member universities.

An important part of AECEF Board meetings held on campuses of European universities and Civil Engineering Faculties were guided tours of laboratories and research workplaces of these
faculties. The issues raised in mutual discussions of AECEF Board members with Faculty representatives concerned the concept of study, study programmes with structured study based on the Bologna Declaration, with a focus on PhD. study and, last but not least, possibilities of student exchanges during their study and professional internships. These meetings served for establishing mutual contacts and sharing information and experience in the area of education of civil engineers. International AECEF Symposia were mostly oriented towards the issues of education, organisation and content of study, significance of practical training and others.

Opening session of the 5th Symposium, Espoo 2005 (President Jiri Witzany, A.Jutila, M. Pursula)

The above mentioned activities were of exceptional importance mainly in the 1990s when the common European educational and research space was starting to be gradually shaped, at the time of meeting new people and creating new contacts, above all between Civil Engineering faculties from Central and Eastern Europe and west European countries.

The Association was mostly founded on personal contacts between the Association management and representatives or executives of Civil Engineering faculties, mainly Deans, who could efficiently support the Association’s activity within their competences. Over the years, a lot of changes in the management of member faculties occurred, and the originally very strong personal contacts between the representatives of member faculties in the Association and, consequently, also the interest in the mission, activities and events organised by the Association, gradually grew weaker.

The years passing since the Association’s foundation have also been marked with a lot of changes in the university world. Now, universities work in cooperation within international educational and research projects, communication between universities and faculties is becoming simpler and more intensive, there are teacher and student exchanges, personal meetings have become a standard form of mutual contacts. The system of European accreditations significantly contributes to respecting common standards, which are projected into the study programmes at Faculties of Civil Engineering and contribute to the recognition of degrees and to a free movement
of graduates within the European Union. The Association cannot stay aside from many of these positive changes.

Analysing the current situation, the Association’s presumed development and mission, a number of facts that must be considered in formulating the strategy for the Association’s future orientation come to the foreground.

The future of the Association in new conditions requires of the Association as a non-governmental organisation to play and important role mainly in the educational sphere.

It is evident that one of potential ways of future development is the creation of a virtual centre within the Association - an international discussion forum where issues related to education of civil engineers would be discussed via modern means of communication, would be organized lectures by prominent internationally renowned experts, organized meetings of experts, would be discussed new modern forms and means of study, lifelong learning etc.

Offering these activities in adequate quality, however, requires adequate professionalization of the Association staff and background, which would necessarily require adequate funding.

Dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, I consider it my duty to use this occasion when we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Association foundation to express my deep and heard gratitude to former longtime members of AECEF Executive Board:


for their many-year significant support and activity for the Association without which the Association as a non-governmental and non-profit organisation would probably not celebrate such a notable anniversary.
The Association has fulfilled its mission by creating, mainly in the 1990s and at the start of the 21st century, a meeting space for the representatives and members of European Civil Engineering faculties and, in this way, it has greatly contributed to broad cooperation and mutual understanding among European Civil Engineering faculties.

At the end let me wish the Association for the next period many successes in the coming 25 years.
AECEF History and Statistics

Assoc. prof. Jiří Váška
AECEF Secretary-General

1. AECEF Foundation

The Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties with the participation of civil engineering faculties from non-European countries (AECEF) was founded on the 14th September 1992.

It was the idea and initiative of Professor Jiří Witzany, Dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Czech Technical University in Prague to create - in the new political situation in Europe - conditions and links for closer cooperation of mainly European universities with Civil engineering study programmes.

The main goals of the Association

- to establish conditions for close co-operation among Civil Engineering faculties, their research workers and teachers, among civil engineering specialists and institutions from different countries;
- to contribute to the dissemination and application of the latest civil engineering research and teaching, especially in the finding of improvements to the environment;
- to support the Europe-wide development and spread of new construction technologies;
- to work toward compatibility among the curricula of Civil Engineering faculties as a starting point for the exchange of students and the mutual acceptance of graduates in civil engineering practice in Europe;
- to work toward the implementation of study and lecture visits to foreign universities by teachers, research workers and students.

Founder-members of the AECEF

1. Faculty of Built Environment, South Bank University, London, United Kingdom
2. Technical University of Wroclaw, Poland
3. Technical University of Budapest, Hungary
4. School of Engineering, University of Wales Cardiff, Wales, United Kingdom
5. University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada
6. Slovak Technical University, Bratislava, Czechoslovakia
7. The Engineering College of Odense, Denmark
8. Chalmers University of Technology, School of Civil Engineering, Göteborg, Sweden
9. University of Zagreb, Croatia
10. Czech Technical University, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Prague, Czechoslovakia
11. Technical University Košice, Czechoslovakia
12. Kiev Civil Engineering Institute, Ukraine
13. Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussees, Paris, France
14. Civil Engineering Faculty, Lviv Polytechnical Institute, Ukraine
15. University of Southampton, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, United Kingdom
16. University of Transport and Communications, Žilina, Czechoslovakia
17. Vilnius Technikos Universitetas, Lithuania
18. City University, London, United Kingdom
19. Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium

AECEF Foundation

The Association was founded in September 1992.

Professor Jiří Witzany was elected the first President of the Association and was repeatedly reelected for this position in all elections that were hold on the AECEF General Assemblies.

For the position of AECEF Secretary-General was appointed Assoc. Prof. Jiří Váška from Faculty of Civil Engineering, CTU Prague.

AECEF working committees:

- **Committee I** on curricula comparison; directions in the development of Civil Engineering programs
- **Committee II** on information on exchange conditions for student mobility in Europe
- **Committee III** on dissemination of information regarding Civil Engineering and Environmental Sciences
- **Committee IV** on enhancing contacts with European organizations

2. Registration of AECEF

a) The Federal Ministry of Interior (Czechoslovakia) registered the AECEF as a non-govermental and non-profit making organization and approved its Statutes on March 3, 1993.

b) New registration of the AECEF

In respect to the new Czech Law on Assembling it was necessary to re-register the AECEF at the respective registration court – City court of Prague in 2016.

The Association has been registered at the City court of Prague in December 2016.
3. **AECEF office and administration**

- Headquarters of the AECEF was established at the Faculty of CE, CTU Prague
- The account of the AECEF was opened as a separate account (with a specific variable symbol) within the account of the Fac. of CE in the Komerční banka, Prague 6
  
  **AECEF Account number:**
  
  IBAN: CZ7601000000195504610227
  variable symbol 11357
  SWIFT Code: KOMBCZPPXXX

- The AECEF account was set and has been operated in Czech crowns (CZK)
- The finances of the AECEF have been managed by the President and Secretary-General
- Operation of the account has been technically provided by the Accounting Department of the Faculty of Civil Engineering, CTU Prague

- The AECEF membership fees (annual corporate membership fee and an individual membership fee) have been kept on the same amount since AECEF establishment:
  
  - corporate membership fee - 115 EURO
  - individual membership fee - 82 EURO

4. **AECEF Membership**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of member universities/individuals</th>
<th>Number of countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>22</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>23</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**September 30, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of member universities/individual members</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Belarus</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Canada</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(Individual membership)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5. AECEF Newsletter

Published from 1993 till 2011

AECEF NEWSLETTER 1/1993

THE ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN CIVIL ENGINEERING FACULTIES
with the participation of Civil Engineering faculties from non-European countries
AECEF

Dear colleagues and friends,

The Secretariat of the Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties with the participation of Civil Engineering faculties from non-European countries (AECEF) is publishing the first AECEF NEWSLETTER, an information bulletin. By means of this bulletin we would like to offer you information about the activities of the Board, the Secretariat and the Working Committees. We realize that in the beginning the AECEF NEWSLETTER will be published when possible, probably twice a year. This information bulletin can also be used by your university to tell other member universities important information. We believe you will be pleased with this exchange of information. We can together manage to build an information net which can be used by the whole family of European Civil Engineering faculties.

The Secretariat of AECEF
6. AECEF events

- AECEF Board meeting – 27 meetings
  (5 meetings were in Prague, 4 in Porto, 3 in Budapest, 2 in London, 2 in Italy)
- AECEF General Assembly – 9 GA
  (2 GA were held in Prague and Porto)
- AECEF Symposiums – 9 symposiums
  (2 symposiums were organized in Prague and Porto)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Porto</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki</td>
<td>Thessaloniki, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Technical University of Budapest</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Department of Civil Engineering, University of Torino</td>
<td>Torino, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th</td>
<td>Department of Civil Engineering, University of Porto</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th</td>
<td>Civil Engineering Department, The Engineering College of Odense</td>
<td>Odense, Denmark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Vilnius Gediminas University</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th</td>
<td>School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, City University London</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11th</td>
<td>Technical University of Madrid</td>
<td>Madrid, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12th</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
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<tr>
<td>13th</td>
<td>Helsinki University of Technology</td>
<td>Espoo, Finland</td>
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<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Location</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th</td>
<td>April 8, 2005</td>
<td>National Technical University of Athens, Athens, Greece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15th</td>
<td>November 3, 2006</td>
<td>University of Naples “Federico II”, Naples, Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16th</td>
<td>April 20, 2007</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest, Hungary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17th</td>
<td>April 18, 2008</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th</td>
<td>November 21, 2008</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th</td>
<td>April 24, 2009</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Budapest, Hungary</td>
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<tr>
<td>20th</td>
<td>May 21, 2010</td>
<td>Civil Engineering Faculty, Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21st</td>
<td>March 11, 2011</td>
<td>School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, City University London, London, United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22nd</td>
<td>November 18, 2011</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Zagreb, Zagreb, Croatia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23rd</td>
<td>July 13, 2012</td>
<td>School of Civil Engineering, University of Cantabria, Santander, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24th</td>
<td>September 20, 2013</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Vienna University of Technology, Vienna, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>September 25, 2014</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Tallinn University of Technology, Tallinn, Estonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26th</td>
<td>June 26, 2015</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague, Prague, Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th</td>
<td>April 6, 2017</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague, Prague, Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AECEF Board, President and Secretary-General**

1. **Prof. Jiří WITZANY**
   Faculty of Civil Engineering, CTU Prague, Czech Republic
   **AECEF President**

2. **Prof. Cedric D’MELO**
   School of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences, City University London, United Kingdom
   **Board member**

3. **Prof. Ralph M. FRANCIS**
   Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of New Brunswick, Fredericton, Canada
   **Board member**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Role</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Prof. Algirdas JUOZAPAITIS</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Prof. Aarne JUTILA</td>
<td>Extraplan Oy, Espoo, Finland</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Dr. Alan S. K. KWAN</td>
<td>Cardiff School of Engineering, Cardiff University, United Kingdom</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Prof. José Ferreira LEMOS</td>
<td>Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>Board member</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Prof. Roode LIIAS</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Prof. Alfredo SOEIRO</td>
<td>Dept. of Civil Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Prof. Valery I. TELICHENKO</td>
<td>National Research University, Moscow State University of Civil Engineering, Russia</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Nikos THEODOSSIOU</td>
<td>Faculty of Civil Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece</td>
<td>Board member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Assoc. Prof. Jiří VÁŠKA</td>
<td>CTU Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>Secretary-General</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### AECEF General Assemblies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Odense, Denmark</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Cardiff, United Kingdom</td>
<td>September 10, 1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>September 19, 2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Espoo, Finland</td>
<td>June 17, 2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
<td>May 30, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
<td>September 13, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>November 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; AECEF General Assembly</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>November 14, 2017</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
# AECEF Symposiums

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symposium</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Education for Civil and Environmental Engineering and Surveying</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Quality in Civil Engineering Education Assessment of Civil Engineering Education The Impact of Trainee Services on Qualifications of Civil Engineering Graduates.</td>
<td>Odense, Denmark</td>
<td>1997</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Civil Engineering Learning Technology</td>
<td>Cardiff, United Kingdom</td>
<td>1999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Environmental Aspects in Civil Engineering Education: Education (new European Trends), Technology, Research</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Civil Engineering in the Next Decade – Strategies for Education, Research, Innovation and Practice</td>
<td>Espoo, Finland</td>
<td>2005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Civil Engineering Education in a Changing Europe</td>
<td>Vilnius, Lithuania</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Global Issues in Enhancing Civil Engineering – Learning, Teaching, Research and Practice</td>
<td>London, United Kingdom</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td><strong>8th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>New Actions and Roles of Civil Engineers: Sustainability and Energy</td>
<td>Porto, Portugal</td>
<td>2015</td>
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<td><strong>9th AECEF Symposium</strong></td>
<td>Celebration of the 25th AECEF Anniversary</td>
<td>Prague, Czech Republic</td>
<td>2017</td>
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AECEF moments

3rd Symposium, Cardiff 1999 (Professor Ben Barr)

3rd AECEF Symposium, Cardiff 1999 - Panel discussion (Professor I. Manoliu and the panelists)

3rd AECEF Symposium, Cardiff 1999 - Astronauts Rick Husband and Julie Payette (space shuttle Columbia STS-96) in Cardiff

5th Symposium, Espoo 2005 (Professor Aarne Jutila)

5th AECEF Symposium, Espoo 2005 - Chamber concert during the Opening Session

5th AECEF Symposium, Espoo 2005 - Participants of the Symposium

12th AECEF Board Meeting, Prague 2013 (P. Latinopoulos, P. Vainiunas, K. Virdi, G. Farkas, I. Manoliu, R. Francis, M. Federau, J. Witzany, J. Váška, A. Náprstková)

Past – Present – Future

Professor Kuldeep S. Virdi
Emeritus Professor of Structural Engineering, City University of London, UK
(founder member of the AECEF)

FOUNDATION OF AECEF

Founded 1992

Signatories

Some are present here.

Founding Member Universities represented today are shown here.

Allowing for multiple representations, about 50% of the original member universities are still participating.
A LOOK BACK

INTENTIONS OF AECEF
Charter, key phrase:
“..free flow of information ... broad exchange of cultural and scientific achievements..”

ACHIEVEMENTS – FACTS
Consistent with the expectation of exchange of scientific achievements, AECEF has held Eight Symposia:

1965 Prague 2005 Espo
1967 Odense 2008 Vilnius
1999 Cardiff ** 2012 London
2002 Porto 2015 Porto

** Proceedings published in book form
2017 We are now participating in the 9th Symposium

FLOW OF INFORMATION
The Association has circulated Newsletters. These were initially frequent but none has been posted on the AECEF web pages after 2011.

The newsletters typically contained at least one article relevant to educational aspects of Civil Engineering.
The 2011 Newsletter, for example, had the provocative article by Professor Alfredo Soeiro on “Does the Civil Engineering Student Learning Style Influence Academic Performance?”

PRESENT

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Based on information from the AECEF home page, there are currently about 22 universities from 17 countries listed as members. Of those where the representation is from a sitting Head of Faculty (or equivalent), the number is somewhat smaller. This should be a matter of concern.

ELSEWHERE IN EUROPE

UK: ACED

EUROPE: EUCEET

EUROPE: European Engineering Deans Council (SEFI/EEDC)

The UK has a very active internal Association of Civil Engineering Departments (ACED). All the Civil Engineering Heads of Department are represented.

ACED has an annual conference. Very importantly, its Board members are invited to a joint meeting with the Joint Board of Moderators (the accreditation body) once a year where educational matters are discussed.

For instance, a few years ago, the question of ‘sustainability’ in Civil Engineering curricula was discussed.

Across Europe, EUCEET (European Civil Engineering Education and Training Association) has operated for a long time, almost as long as AECEF.

EUCEET operated a Thematic Network of the same name (1998-2010). It has consistently received support from EC under various schemes such as ERASMUS/SOCRATES. Since 2007 it has an incorporated office in Belgium.

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

There exist several organisations worldwide with similar aims.

EDC – Global Engineering Deans Council
IGIP: International Society of Engineering Pedagogy
++
FUTURE

IN 2002
At the Fourth General Assembly held at Porto in September 2002, it was agreed that the future direction and focus of activities of AECEF should be assessed.

An ad-hoc Working Group was established. The terms of reference included the following:
- Future development of AECEF
- Organisational structure, including personnel
- Recommendation for the amendment of statutes

REPORT 2003
The recommendations included:
- Increased cooperation with EUCEET
- Seeking funding from EC, topics distinct from EUCEET
- Restructuring of AECEF
- Creation of a new position of Vice President
- Succession at the end of the President's term
- Review of Financial aspects

2017
The future orientation of AECEF needs to make a self assessment.

Some points to reflect on:
(1) Slowing down of activities in AECEF in the last 6-7 years
(2) Existence of stronger parallel organisations within Europe
(3) Implementation of recommendations of 2003

CONCLUSION
The principal conclusion is that AECEF is at a critical crossroads.

It is suggested that some changes are needed. AECEF should redefine itself rather than continue as it is at present.

One option is to merge with one of the other cognate groups, so as to have a stronger voice and be able to influence educational policy.

The challenge is for AECEF to be coordinating and leading change in Civil Engineering education.
Participation of BME in AECEF

Professor György Farkas
(Dean Emeritus of Faculty of Civil Engineering, Budapest University of Technology and Economics, Hungary, founder University of the AECEF)

In 1992, when it was founded, the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics was a founding member of the Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties.

In that time our university was still called Technical University of Budapest, and it was represented by Professor Ákos Detrekői in the Board of the Association.

In 1997, when he was elected Rector of the University, Prof. Detrekői asked me, as the dean of the Faculty of Civil Engineering to represent the Faculty in the AECEF. Then between 1997 and 2008 I was board member of the Association.

Since 2008 Antal Lovas has followed me as dean of our Faculty and also as board member of AECEF.

Unfortunately, Professor Detrekői died four years ago so he could not attend these events on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding the Association.

Because Antal Lovas retired two years ago, prof. László Dunai actual dean asked me to represent our Faculty here.

During the last 25 years we have actively involved in the work of the Association.

We have participated almost in all International Symposium organized by AECEF to discuss very interesting subjects in field of civil engineering education and practice. The first one I participated in was organized in Odense, Denmark in 1997, with main topic “Quality in Civil Engineering Education and Surveying, and the last one I participated in was in Vilnius in 2008 with subject “Civil Engineering Education in Changing Europe”

We were active also in organizing board meetings, three of them were organized at Budapest University of Technology and Economics, in 1996, 2007 and 2009.

Participation in symposia, board meetings and general assemblies was a good opportunity to develop good relations with universities all around Europe, even with universities outside Europe, because the Association have members from non-European countries, and also to get to know and to make friends with professors from partner universities, like Professors Witzany, Vaska, Jutila, Lemos, Virdi ..

During my board membership in the Association the most important task of our University was to transform the education system from the traditional 5 years training program to the Bologna system. For us, it was a very hard and long work. We have developed the new program together with Antal Lovas. To finish this work we got a lots of help from the Association. It was very useful to know the experiences and the practice of the partner universities and to discuss with professors about it.
Finally we started in 2005 the new BSc with 4 years, theoretically 8 semester, 240 credits, and the new MSc in 2007 with 1.5 year, 3 semester, 90 credits. This new teaching program was presented in 2005 at the 5th AECEF Symposium in Espoo, Finland, which the topic was “Civil Engineering in the next decade, Strategies for Education, Research, Innovation and Practice” A small modification of this program mainly in the curriculum subjects was accepted this year.

Actually in Hungary, the biggest problem in the education of civil engineering is the continuous decrease of the new student. 4 years ago we had about 450 students in first semester, while this year we have only about 200. I suppose this problem is general all-around of Europe.

That is why I would like propose to AECEF to develop strategy in the next period to make attractive civil engineering for potential university students.

Unfortunately, after Antal Lovas retired, the activity of our Faculty decreased in the Association. Nevertheless I think that our participation in this organization would still be useful to maintain relations with old partners, and to develop our education.

That is why I will try convince Prof. László Dunai, our actual dean to keep the active participation of the Faculty of Civil Engineering of our University in the Association.

Finally, let me thank very much to Prof. Jiri Witzany, Jiri Vaska and all active member of AECEF to keep the Association as a recognized European organization, and I wish for the future leader’s a successful continuation.
CALOHEE - Civil Engineering

Professor Alfredo Soeiro (Faculty of Civil Engineering, University of Porto, Portugal) and professor Nicolaos Theodossiou (Department of Civil Engineering, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece) AECEF Board members

DESIGN AND DELIVERY OF DEGREE PROGRAMMES IN CIVIL ENGINEERING

• Comparing Assessment of Learning Outcomes in Higher Education in Europe
• First and Second cycles (Levels 6 and 7 of EQF)

Tables of general descriptors for first and second cycles

• Main Reference
  • EUR-ACE programme (learning) outcomes
• Comparison with the most influential LOs frameworks in the engineering field
• Tuning-AHELO, EUCEET, International Engineering Alliance - Washington Accord, ABET, Conceiving, Designing, Implementing, Operating (CDIO) Initiative, National Society of Professional Engineers, American Society of Civil Engineering (ASCE)

9 Dimensions

• Knowledge and understanding;
• Analysis and Problem Solving;
• Design;
• Investigations;
• Engineering Practice;
• Decision Making;
• Team-working;
• Communication;
• Lifelong Learning

Example – Dimension Design (Master LEVEL 7)

• EQF descriptor Knowledge
  • Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of design methods in the field of study, including new and original methods, and of their limitations.
  • Critical awareness of the need for sustainable development in the field of study.
• **EQF descriptor Skills**
  - Ability to conceive and design complex engineering products (devices, artefacts, etc.), processes and systems in the field of study that may be new or unfamiliar, involve considerations from outside the field of study, incompletely defined and/or competing specifications and non-technical – societal, health and safety, environmental, economic and industrial – constraints.
  - Ability to design using knowledge and understanding at the forefront of the engineering specialisation.

• **EQF descriptor Wider Competence**
  - Ability to identify the most appropriate and relevant design method in the field of study area from established or new and innovative methods.
  - Ability to conceive and design safe and sustainable engineering products, processes and systems in the field of study.

**Example – 2nd Cycle**

- Dimension - Analysis and problem solving
- Knowledge – Critical awareness of the need of solutions of civil engineering problems safe, sustainable and of low impact on society and environment.
- Assessment methods proposed - Multiple Choice Questions – Discuss, Essay – Discuss, Problem Solving - Diagnosis
- Example Teaching - Design-based classes, Work-based practice
- Example Learning - Design-based classes, Work-based practice

**Example – 1st Cycle**

- Dimension – Team-working
- Wider competencies – Ability to take responsibility for managing professional development of individuals and groups.
- Assessment methods proposed - Essay - Problem, Short Answer Questions - Formulate valid conclusions, Problem Solving - Generation
- Example Teaching - Individual supervision, Role play
- Example Learning - Work-based practice, Role play

**Action PLAN**

- Complete examples of Teaching and Learning L for each LO
- Discuss with stakeholders: professional engineering organizations, employers, engineers, quality and accreditation agencies
- Finalize framework with inclusion of examples
Photos from the session of the 9th AECEF Symposium

Registration of participants (President J. Witzany)

Registration of participants (P. Berkowski)
Registration of participants (C. D’Mello)

Opening speech by AECEF President (prof. J. Witzany)
Welcome address by CTU rector (prof. P. Konvalinka)

AECEF meeting
AECEF meeting (A. Jutila, José F. Lemos, A. Soeiro)

Handing off the Awards (prof. A. Jutila, prof. J. Witzany)
Handing off the Awards (prof. A. Jutila, Assoc. prof. J. Váška)

prof. J. Witzany and Assoc. prof. J. Váška
Chamber concert in St. Wenceslaw Hall, Bethlehem Chapel
Evening reception in Bethlehem Chapel

9th AECEF Symposium participants
## List of participants to the 9th AECEF Symposium

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University/Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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