



Editorial

Symposium on “Advances in Cement and Concrete,” The Engineering Foundation, July 5–10, 1998

This issue of *Cement and Concrete Research* contains refereed papers that were presented at the Engineering Foundation Conference in Banff, Alberta, Canada, July 5–10, 1998. The conference was the latest in a series of Engineering Foundation “retreat” conferences on cement and concrete which have been held every 3 or 4 years.

The symposium co-chairs were R. Douglas Hooton and Michael Thomas, University of Toronto and Surendra Shah, Northwestern University. The organizers thank the Engineering Foundation (especially Arlene Conway and Dick Fein) and Della Roy for their cooperation in making possible publication of the submitted conference papers in this special issue.

The co-chairs acknowledge the financial support of Blue Circle Cement Ltd., Boral Materials Technologies Inc., Elkem Materials Inc., Engineering Foundation, Holnam Inc., Lafarge Canada Inc., Master Builders Technologies Ltd., Portland Cement Association, and W.R. Grace & Co. Peter Leesti of the University of Toronto provided organizational support and a large part of the success of this conference was due to his efforts.

The purpose of this conference was to deal with issues related to the manufacture and use of Portland cement concrete and to bring together a balance of industry, government, and academic experts from many countries to promote discussion in a casual setting.

The conference consisted of approximately 40 papers and 20 poster presentations arranged in morning and evening sessions with themes on: hydration (Chair, Paul W. Brown), microstructure (Chair, Sid Diamond), fracture and

fiber reinforced concrete (Chair, David Darwin), high performance concrete (Chair, Jim J. Beaudoin), transport processes (Chair, Carmen Andrade), service life modelling (Chair, Jacques Marchand), alkali-silica penetration (Chair, Michael D.A. Thomas), external/internal sulfate attack (Chair, Karen Scrivener), and an eclectic poster session (Chair, Surendra P. Shah). An interesting introductory keynote address on cement industry issues and future directions was given by Gary Sauer of Holnam, Inc. Also, significant periods of time were allotted to discussions of the presentations.

The conference was held at an excellent facility surrounded by the Rocky Mountains and wildlife. It's not often a conference program gives a warning about getting too close to roaming elk! The afternoons were free for ad hoc meetings and taking advantage of the beautiful weather and surroundings. Numerous social hours and good food also helped in stimulating discussion among the 65 participants (from 15 countries).

The format and atmosphere, along with the balance of technical presentations, discussion, and social activities, left a lasting impression on those who attended.

The editors thank all the session chairs, speakers, and participants and in particular, the authors and reviewers of papers in this issue.

R. D. Hooton
Guest Editor

Michael Thomas and Surendra Shah
Guest Co-Editors