



50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
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INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

# INFORMATION

March 2004

## CIB Student Chapters

### New CIB Endorsed Student Chapter from The Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture (DECivil) - Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal

by

Assoc. Prof. Jorge M. C. L. de Brito

#### 1. Background

The Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture (DECivil) is a department at IST - Technical University of Lisbon, the biggest engineering university in Portugal. Its main activities are teaching, research and postgraduate training on civil engineering and architecture, including such fields as mechanics, structures, geology, construction, hydraulics, transports and architectural design.

The researchers at DECivil are responsible for undergraduate educational programmes, masters' and PhD courses and several other post-graduate courses and professional training education initiatives. The divisions are to a large extent multidisciplinary.

The scientific research and postgraduate training, as well as external consultancy, are carried out in a research unit of IST - Technical University of Lisbon, named ICIST.

ICIST is well inserted in scientific and technological European networks and is involved in a large number of national and European projects. ICIST is also involved in applied research projects and provides support to the technical community through service rendering and also by participating in the national and European organisations which work in the production of codes and rules. Within ICIST, the contacts with CIB are

made through the Studies in Construction group, which initially sponsors the present CIB Student Chapter.

More about ICIST at: [www.civil.ist.utl](http://www.civil.ist.utl)

#### 2. Justification

The proposed CIB Student Chapter will initially focus in areas which would help to advance research activities at the DECivil whilst giving exposure to students on international research developments and introducing them to CIB research activities and their global communities. Areas covered are building management expert systems, performance-based design, inspection and maintenance of buildings, service life prediction, durability, building pathology, deconstruction, recycling and sustainability.

The Chapter will benefit from relevant industrial experience and graduate research and activities developed at DECivil and ICIST - construction research group (Studies in Construction, comprising Physics and Building Technology, Construction Management, Materials and Construction Technology and Fire Safety).

The Chapter is well poised to serve the interest of members, in congruence with CIB's objectives. It will adopt a multi-faceted approach to elevating a broad interest in research and innovation in building and construction among members and to the outside community.

### 3. Membership

The DECivil at IST- Technical University of Lisbon is an Associate Member of CIB.

CIB Student Chapter will be open to postgraduate and research students as well as undergraduate students (undertaking a research-based activity) of the DECivil and ICIST. Members are expected to:

- have a strong interest in research and innovation in construction, physics and technology of buildings, recycling and/or sustainability;
- develop research work within these domains;
- actively participate in the functions and events organised by the CIB Student Chapter.

The proposed CIB Student Chapter will have its own established membership rules that comply with CIB's Mission Statement as set out in the CIB Constitution.

#### List of Members (as of January 2004)

Prof. Jorge M. C. L. de Brito, Member, Contact (President), [jb@civil.ist.utl.pt](mailto:jb@civil.ist.utl.pt)  
 Inês Flores Colen, Member, Contact (Secretary), [ines@civil.ist.utl.pt](mailto:ines@civil.ist.utl.pt)  
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Student membership will be free, at least for the first year of its existence. The CIB Student Chapter will review the situation by the end of this year to see whether it is necessary to charge in order to maintain fund for its activities.

### 4. Scope and Objectives of CIB Student Chapter at IST

Within the research interests of DECivil / ICIST, IST Student Chapter will conduct its activities with the following aims:

- to encourage the development of research interests among its member, to create awareness of research significance in buildings' construction;
- to provide a forum for dissemination of knowledge and exchange of research skills with CIB Students Chapters and the global research community;
- to improve the contact and benefits with other CIB Student Chapters, developing and maintaining the CIB IST Student Chapter website (to publish information about the chapter activities, a link with PhD students at IST, an abstract of the current research projects, any relevant events, new information on PhD conferences and workshops members);
- to improve the contact and benefits with CIB's task groups and commissions;

- to link our members with the business and non-profit community in our region.

### 5. Proposed Working Programme

- extend Student Chapter membership, promoting internal meetings and activities to enhance in students the sense of community within Student Chapter at IST;
- organise a forum for discussion and internal exchanging of research findings among the members, building a student chapter website with a database of activities carried out by the Chapter;
- organise workshops and seminars to disseminate and share research experience and findings by invited experts from industry, IST, other universities and institutions involved in construction and building studies;
- establish contacts with other CIB Student Chapters around the world by internet, attending and submitting papers at workshops, symposiums and proposing joint projects;
- establish contacts with CIB's task groups, commissions and CIB member institutes;
- develop and produce a newsletter for the Student Chapter on regular basis (once a year), reporting on activities, new research findings and experiences within the research area of the Student Chapter.

The Student Chapter is integrated in the DECivil to ensure smooth running of activities and for students' convenience. The administration of the Student Chapter will be left to the students themselves under the supervision of the president - Assoc. Prof. Jorge M. C. L. de Brito.

### 6. Planned Output

During the next two years, the working programme of the Student Chapter at the IST - Technical University of Lisbon will include:

- joint research activities with sister Student Chapters or other Student Chapters, establishing contacts with at least 4 other CIB Students Chapters;
- publication of a newsletter once a year;
- presentation of a proposal of a workshop or a meeting to be held at the IST, related with the subject areas of the Student Chapter;
- creation of a Student Chapter website, which will contain, among other items, an event calendar and activities' descriptions.

### 7. Sources of Financial Support

The Student Chapter will have limited start-up financial support initially provided by ICIST that is inserted in a

network of research units partially funded by the Science and Technology Foundation of the Ministry of Science and Technology through its multiannual-financing program.

However, the Student Chapter is expected to organize its events on a self-financed basis in the long run. To that effect, members of the Student Chapter will co-organize and participate in research projects both at national and international level.

## **8. Structural Organisation of the Student Chapter at IST**

The Student Chapter at the IST - Technical University of Lisbon is led by the President, backed by the Secretary, who will be responsible for disseminating CIB information to his members and distributing information from Student Chapter at IST to other CIB Student Chapters or to CIB in general.

## **9. Contact Details**

CIB designated contact - Student Chapter President

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### **Student Chapter Secretary**

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