

Paul Marinos - Obituary

In Memory of Paul Marinos, January 1st, 1944–October 10th, 2021

Paul Marinos, the past president of IAEG for the term 1994 to 1998, passed away on Sunday, October 10th, 2021, aged 77. Deep tributes and condolences to his family as well as his friends and colleagues of IAEG. Prof. Paul Marinos has given extraordinary and long-term contributions to the development of IAEG all through his life, he was awarded as the Honorary President of IAEG on October 8th, 2021, during the 3rd European Regional Conference.



For more than 40 years Prof. Paul Marinos acted as independent consulting engineer in Engineering Geology and Geotechnics for important engineering structures and infrastructure works around the world. Paul's first acquaintance with IAEG was an issue of a new magazine entitled "Bulletin of Geological Engineering" in 1972 and first contact with IAEG was at the 3rd congress in Madrid (Spain) in 1978. Since 1984 he has participated in all the international and official meetings of the IAEG. He organized one in Greece in 1988 on a very particular theme: the protection of monuments and historical sites. Paul acted as the vice president for Europe for the term 1990-1994 and he was elected as the President of IAEG for term 1994-1998 at the congress in Lisbon in 1994. During his presidency in 1997, he decided to change the name of the Association into "International Association for Engineering Geology and the Environment" which have highlighted till today the need for a contribution from engineering geologists in environmental field. He also considered very important emphasis on maintaining the Association's original goals as a society educated in the geotechnical domain, engineering design, construction and development. Consequently, he was the motor to begin a new period for the IAEG journal "Bulletin of Engineering Geology and Environment, from 1998 the magazine appeared quarterly rather than biennial and was published by Springer. He led to long discussions with the publisher to ensure a high-level magazine and benefits for members to be obtained. Paul made great efforts to keep overall membership of IAEG intact and even slightly increase in the number of members under the hit of economic constraints in 1990s. Ten new national groups were accepted, and two old groups have returned. He has done frequent visits to the USA to persuade AEG to become the USA national group of IAEG.

During his tenure he traveled extensively around the world giving important conferences, and visited a large number of countries to identify key people and encourage them to act in the countries where there was no IAEG activity. Paul Marinos gave excellent lectures on many tours - the Jahns distinguished lecture (for AEG across USA), the CGS cross Canada lecture tour, and many tours in Europe, Australia, New Zealand and Asia, in addition to the prestigious Glossop medal lecture in UK. He was a great Ambassador of IAEG in the world in his personal way of weaving relationships in every part of the globe, effectively contributing to IAEG's growth and spread events in most remote countries.

Paul have developed and strengthened special relationships and interactions with the sister societies ISRM, ISSMGE, ITA and IAH for many years, breaking down traditional barriers. All issues of common interest were addressed with open spirit and collaboration led to co-sponsorship of events and wider mutual communications, in this way the foundations were laid for the future FedIGS Federation.

Prof. Paul Marinos has shown deep and continuous commitment to the IAEG and has often helped the IAEG Council members make decisions in line with the IAEG Statute of which he is a profound connoisseur. Together with the past presidents Ricardo Oliveira and Carlos Delgado, he contributed to the drafting of the 50th Anniversary of the history of IAEG which was published at

the congress in Turin in 2014, carrying out activity connection from past to present.

In 2000 Prof. Paul Marinos received the Hans Cloos Medal of IAEG for his excellent contribution to the development of engineering geology. For his extraordinary and long-term merits and for the prosperity and development of IAEG, Prof. Paul Marinos was awarded as the Honorary President on October 8th, 2021, at the 3rd European Regional Conference held in Athens, unfortunately just two days later, he left us. He left with great happiness and satisfaction after being informed about the successful ending of the 3rd European Regional Conference, IAEG is one of his great loves in life. His extraordinary contribution to engineering geology in the world will last forever, his commitment to IAEG will be remained in the heart of all IAEG members, his expectations of maintaining IAEG's original goals will be promoted from generations to generations.

On behalf of the IAEG Executive Committee, we pay immense tributes to Prof. Paul Marinos and express our great sympathy to the Marinos family. All his contributions and devotions to IAEG will be cherished forever with full respects. May his soul rest in peace, may his spirit bless IAEG. We will miss him forever.

Faquan Wu
Secretary General of IAEG
On behalf of the IAEG Executive Committee