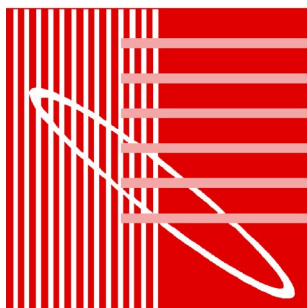


President's message



The International Building Performance Simulation Association exists to advance and promote the science of building performance simulation in order to improve the design, construction, operation and maintenance of new and existing buildings worldwide.

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Dear IBPSA Colleagues and Friends,

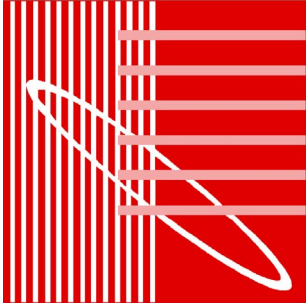
I would like to take this opportunity to thank IBPSA Italy, the IBPSA Conference Committee and all of those who were responsible for the delivery of Building Simulation 2019 in Rome – the conference was a great success. I hope that those of you who were able to attend appreciated the experience as much as I did; I'm sure that you will agree that the backdrop of Rome and the venue itself were nothing short of spectacular. For those who did not manage to attend, once you have read the reports elsewhere in this edition of *ibpsaNEWS*, perhaps you will be enthused to make a point of attending the next IBPSA conference.

This conference marked a number of 'firsts' for IBPSA: we had over 1000 attendees from 45 countries, 10 parallel sessions and a packed programme with five keynote speeches and more than 100 technical sessions with a record number of papers – including short papers introducing posters as well as the more traditional longer papers – and a number of parallel activities such as committee and project meetings, workshops, panel sessions, awards presentations, competition results, sponsor and vendor exhibits, receptions, a concert and conference banquet. Everything ran smoothly, assisted by the communication of last minute changes and opportunistic activities communicated by the conference APP – a feature first introduced in San Francisco in 2017. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those organisations who sponsored the conference or supported in other ways.

It could be argued that we are at risk of becoming victims of our own success, as it is becoming difficult for us to grow further without impacting on the quality of the conference experience. The Board recognises this and we have discussed the risks and possible solutions to over-stretching ourselves. We have loads of ideas to take forward following the post conference Board Meeting but it's also important to keep up the momentum we have begun to generate over the last few years, especially around the nature of IBPSA going forward and consolidating our membership structure in order to simplify our lines of communication and grow our income stream. Please don't forget to consider becoming a Supporting Member!

We think of IBPSA as a unique community with shared goals and ideas embedded in improving lives through better buildings and places, and the event last week was a perfect example of what IBPSA is all about, with a large part of the conference dedicated to simulation of the Urban Environment. Every IBPSA Conference is different, from the range of content to the idiosyncrasies of the venues and we would not have it any other way. Like all of the preceding IBPSA Conferences, BS2019 provided a great opportunity to learn new things, visit new places, meet old friends and make new friends. I came away feeling enriched in many ways.

President's message



Building on work started at BS2017, we continue our discussions on membership development and inclusivity – and we are actively focused on changing what we do to appeal more to younger people rather than trying to get them involved in our traditional activities. Our discussions about bringing new people into the field, equality issues, mentoring, and expanding international collaboration have led to thoughts around extending our Education and Futures activities to an IBPSA Summer School Programme, happening at different times of the year in different places as a way of sharing knowledge and new ideas. So please watch this space if you would like to get involved or contribute in other ways.

As ever in our 'non-conference year', 2020 will be a year of regional conferences, including eSim, SimBuild, BauSIM, BSO, USim and ASim. Please take advantage of *ibpsaNEWS* to advertise local activities and support your regional affiliate by taking part in local events. As usual, the papers from regional conferences will be available through www.ibpsa.org, so your work will benefit from worldwide visibility.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Lori Busechay". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.