Robert Ettema, Candidate for Continuing Two Years as an
IAHR Vice-President (Americas Region)

I am glad to apply to continue for a second 2-year term as a candidate for the position of IAHR Vice-President (VP) for the Americas Region, which includes Latin America, Canada, the Caribbean, and the USA. This second term would enable me to complete an overall, four-year stint as an IAHR VP.

The current two-year term is going by fast and yet there remains much for me to complete during a further two years as an IAHR VP (Americas Region). So far, my activities as a VP have engaged me in the following activities, which are on-going:

- Represent the Americas region of IAHR’s members.
- Review of IAHR publications. The review is poised to be brought to IAHR’s Council for discussion and decision-making.
- Develop IAHR’s new concept for monographs. This venture is newly underway and takes time to foster.
- Assist IAHR’s Granada World Congress. Presently I serve as Chair of the International Committee to assist the local and national organizing committees.
- Broaden IAHR’s fiscal base. IAHR, like many other volunteer professional organizations continually faces the challenge of raising sufficient funds to cover its costs of operation. In this regard, IAHR needs to develop new ways (including gifting) for obtaining its needed funds.
- Advise on various activities associated with IAHR’s operation. IAHR, as with many professional organizations, must continually evolve and remain attractive to members (new and existing) and to practitioners. Also, IAHR has to capitalize on its strategic strength of drawing many non-hydraulicians or hydrologists to its technical symposia. This effort, which IAHR has not yet addressed, indicates the inherent centrality of IAHR – the organization that investigates and shares knowledge about water flow in the many situations (and phases) where water occurs on our planet.

The world needs IAHR, an independent international organization linking engineers and scientists focused on enlightened water engineering and science. However, as with many independent international associations of professionals, IAHR is vulnerable. IAHR’s mission
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involves progressive efforts at promoting and conducting its activities and generating funds to enable its activities. These efforts require continual, vigilant tending by IAHR’s leadership.

My application (February 2019) to become a VP summarizes my connection with IAHR. My connection began about thirty-seven years ago, when I joined IAHR and participated in various IAHR specialty symposia (notably the ice symposia) and an IAHR Congress. I’ve been closely involved in organizing IAHR technical symposia and world congresses. Also, for what it is worth, I have been a personal friend of two prior IAHR Presidents (Jack Kennedy and Forrest Holly) and a professional friend of other presidents (e.g., Torkild Carstens and Peter Goodwin).

I am a professor in the Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Colorado State University, Colorado, USA. Prior to this appointment, I served six years as engineering dean at the University of Wyoming; and, earlier I was a faculty member based for 25 years in the University of Iowa’s well-known unit, IIHR-Hydroscience & Engineering. My professional goals are to advance water engineering through needs-motivated research and demonstrably effective education. Research activities involve me in various aspects of water-related infrastructure and cold-regions engineering and have gained me several awards from the American Society of Civil Engineering: Rouse, Einstein, Hilgard, and Peyton. This breadth of experience has enabled me to gain a useful sense of issues in water engineering, science and education. This experience, moreover, I would be glad to share in the continuous development of IAHR.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert Ettema, PE, F. ASCE, F. ENZ
Colorado State University, Colorado, USA.