



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS
UNION GEODESIQUE ET GEOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE

The IUGG Electronic Journal

Volume 17 No. 10 (1 October 2017)

This informal newsletter is intended to keep IUGG Member National Committees informed about the activities of the IUGG Associations, and actions of the IUGG Secretariat. Past issues are posted on the IUGG website (<http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>). Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. IUGG support for scientific meetings to be held in 2018

The program of IUGG support for scientific meetings (e.g. workshops, advanced schools, symposia) is one of the most important means by which the Union and its Associations pursue a goal of promoting geophysics and geodesy through international collaboration. A fraction of the IUGG's budget is devoted to the support of these scientific meetings. The IUGG Executive Committee places great emphasis on maintaining high scientific standards, coverage of a balanced spectrum of topics, and an appropriately broad and international flavor for the scientific program of the meetings. In that respect, the ICSU rules on non-discrimination in the access of qualified scientists from all parts of the world to any IUGG-sponsored meeting apply.

The number of co-sponsored meetings ranges from 10 to 15 (up to US\$2,000 each). Accordingly, not all meeting proposals worthy of support can be awarded IUGG sponsorship. The following guidelines for obtaining IUGG sponsorship should be observed by prospective proposers:

- IUGG-sponsored scientific meetings should have a well-defined and scientifically relevant theme, should be scheduled at a propitious time for significant progress in the field, and should be of interest to young researchers as well as senior experts.
- While the IUGG embraces all fields in geophysics and geodesy, a proposed program should maintain a balanced scope relevant to IUGG Associations. Each proposal will be judged on its own scientific merits.
- Given the international nature of the Union, meetings are by definition internationally oriented. This requires a well-balanced geographical distribution.

Normally, the initiative to propose a scientific meeting for IUGG sponsorship originates from a group of scientists in a certain field. Prospective meeting organizers should contact the respective Association Secretary General (ASG) well in advance of their intended proposal submission, by sending a request for IUGG support before **15 October 2017**.

The scientific merit of each scientific meeting's proposal will be evaluated by the respective ASG, taking into consideration comments and advice received from the Association Executive Committee. The ASGs should communicate their recommendation for selection to the IUGG Secretary-General before **31 October 2017**.

The allocations will be suggested by the IUGG Secretary-General and reviewed by the Members of the IUGG Bureau to assure impartiality. The Bureau will decide on the final selection of the meeting. The decision on IUGG support will be communicated to the ASGs by the IUGG General-Secretary in a letter of award as soon as possible but not later than **1 December 2017**. IUGG support should be acknowledged in all documents related to a sponsored meeting (e.g. in the scientific program, on the web-page, brochures, publications of proceedings etc.)

More information is available at: <http://www.iugg.org/meetings/guidelines.php>

2. Report on the IAHS Scientific Assembly 2017

The 10th Scientific Assembly of the International Association of Hydrological Scientists (IAHS) of IUGG was held in the Boardwalk Hotel Convention Center, Port Elizabeth, South Africa, from 10 to 14 July 2017. The assembly was organized by the South African National Committee of the IAHS (<http://cwrr.ukzn.ac.za/sanciahs>) together with Waternet (<http://www.waternetonline.org>), which is a southern Africa regional network of university departments and research and training institutes active in integrated water resources management.



Participants of the IAHS Scientific Assembly (photo: Denis Hughes and Graham Jewitt)

The overall theme of the meeting was “Water and Development: Scientific Challenges in Addressing Societal Issues”; this theme is particularly appropriate in the context of an IAHS scientific assembly being held for the first time in sub-Saharan Africa, and is well aligned with the IAHS Panta Rhei decadal initiative. Pierre Hubert, IUGG Bureau Member, represented IUGG at the assembly on behalf of the IUGG President.

The assembly garnered 223 participants from 42 countries including 40 participants from South Africa. 350 papers and posters were presented in the framework of two symposia (S1: Water security and the food-water-energy nexus: drivers, responses and feedbacks at local to global scales; and S2: Water quality and sediment transport issues in surface water) and 22 workshops. During the IAHS Plenary, Dan Rosbjerg (Denmark) and Zbyszek Kundzewicz (Poland) were respectively awarded the International Hydrological Prize Volker and the Dooge Medals (joint award by IAHS, UNESCO and WMO), and Mohammed Merheb (Lebanon) received the Tison Award (for the best young scientist publication). At the closing ceremony of the assembly, the President-Elect Günter Blöschl became President for the next four years, and Hubert Savenije became Immediate Past President. At the meeting of the new Bureau held on 15 July, Montpellier, France was chosen as the location of the next IAHS Scientific Assembly (28 June - 2 July 2021).

Pierre Hubert, IUGG Bureau Member

3. Report on the IUGG Symposium on Planetary Science 2017

Planetary science is an increasingly interdisciplinary field of research propelled forward by advances in space exploration and ground-based studies. Detailed characterization of planetary environments within and beyond our Solar System requires collaborative studies across the fields of geology, atmospheric science, geophysics, geodesy, seismology, aeronomy, planetary origins, chemistry and astrobiology.



Symposium's participants (photo: S. Jin)

The IUGG Union Commission on Planetary Sciences (UCPS) was established by decision of the IUGG Executive Committee in June 2015 to promote the advancement of scientific understanding of planetary science and exploration of the Solar System's origin, formation and evolution including the

search for life beyond Earth. The First IUGG Symposium on Planetary Science (IUGG-PS2017) “Interdisciplinary observation and understanding of the Solar System” organized and sponsored by UCPS, the International Association of Planetary Sciences (IAPS), and the German Aerospace Center (DLR) was successfully held from 3 to 5 July 2017 in Berlin, Germany. The IUGG-PS2017 brought together international experts, both scientists and engineers, who deal with interdisciplinary observations and Solar System analysis. The symposium had 11 sessions, and its topics included planetary geodesy, remote sensing, atmosphere, ionosphere/plasma physics, magnetic and gravity field, geomorphology, geophysics, geodynamics, geology, petrology, volcanology, geochemistry, interior physics, life & astrobiology. About 100 participants from 14 countries attended IUGG-PS2017 delivering 45 talks and presenting 25 posters. The IUGG-PS 2017 provided a very good platform for progress presentations and detailed discussion as well as communication. More information can be found at <http://www.dlr.de/iugg-ps2017>.

Shuanggen Jin, UCPS Chair, and Jörn Helbert, Symposium’s organizer

4. GeoUnions of ICSU meeting in Potsdam

The GeoUnions network was formed in Paris, France, in 2004 with the aim to promote Earth and space sciences worldwide, to communicate and coordinate scientific activities of its individual unions, to enhance their operations based on the knowledge about and experiences of other unions, and to speak on behalf of Geounions to ICSU, UN organizations, and other global stakeholders (<http://www.icsu-geounions.org>).



Meeting participants from left to right: Franz Kuglitsch (IUGG), Menno-Jan Kraak (ICA), Alik Ismail-Zadeh (IUGG), Michael Sideris (IUGG), Paul Cannon (URSI), William Cavazza (IUGS), Orhan Altan (ICSU), Lena Halounova (ISPRS), Allan Ashworth (INQUA), Reinhard Hüttel (GFZ Scientific Executive Director), and Rainer Horn (IUSS)

The Steering Committee of the nine International Geoscience Unions (GeoUnions) of the International Council for Science (ICSU) met on 1 September 2017 at the GFZ Potsdam, Germany. Chaired by the IUGG Secretary General, Alik Ismail-Zadeh, the officers of GeoUnions discussed important issues related to a possible merger of ICSU and the International Social Science Council (ISSC). The agenda included topics related to advancing science as a global public good and to the 32nd ICSU General Assembly and Joint Meeting of the ICSU and ISSC membership to be held in Taipei, ROC, in October 2017.

5. Awards and Honors

Christopher Bean (Member, Irish National Committee for IUGG),
Alexei Gvishiani (President, Russian National Committee for IUGG),
Alik Ismail-Zadeh (IUGG Secretary General), and
Zbigniew Kundzewicz (Member, Polish National Committee for IUGG)
were elected to the *Academia Europaea*.

Sierd Cloetingh (Immediate Past President of the International Lithosphere Program of IUGG and IUGS) was elected President of *Academia Europaea*.

Congratulations to all!

6. Meeting calendar

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG website (<http://www.iugg.org/calendar.php>). Individual Associations also list more meetings on their websites according to their disciplines.

October

- 1-4, ICTP, IUGG, Trieste, Italy, Workshop-Conference on Near-Fault Observations and Models for Earthquake Hazard Assessment. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/8294/>
- 2-5, IAG, Riga, Latvia, ILRS Technical Workshop 2017. Web: <http://www.ilrstw2017.lu.lv/>
- 2-6, IASPEI, Cargèse, Corsica, France, Earthquakes: nucleation, triggering, rupture and relationship with aseismic processes. Web: <https://earthquakes2.sciencesconf.org/>
- 8-13, CODATA, IUGG, Saint Petersburg, Russia, CODATA 2017 Conference – "Global Challenges and Data-Driven Science". Web: <http://codata2017.gcras.ru/>
- 10-11, IAG, Monaco, 9th ABLOS Conference. Web: <http://www.ablosconference.com/>
- 16-18, IAG, Strasbourg, France, International workshop on the inter-comparison of space and ground gravity and geometric spatial measurements.
Web: <https://geodesy.sciencesconf.org/>
- 18-22, NC VIETNAM, Hanoi, Vietnam, VIET-GEOPHYS-2017. The International Conference on Research Development and Cooperation in Geophysics.
Web: <http://www.igp-vast.vn/vgp17/>
- 23-26, ICSU, Taipei, ROC, 32nd General Assembly of the International Council for Science including a joint meeting with the International Social Science Council. . Web: <https://www.icsu.org/events/32nd-icsu-general-assembly>

- 23-29, IUGG, IAMAS, Camaguey, Cuba, Aerosol Training School as part of the Caribbean Aerosol-Health Network (CAHN). Web: <http://www.igacproject.org/working-groups/AmericasWG/2017School>

November

- 15-17 November, IUGG, IAPSO, Venice, Italy, THEMES 2017. Web: http://www.dais.unive.it/~themes/themes_2017/
- 20-22, IAHS, Gorgan, Iran, The Second IAHS Panta Rhei International Workshop on Water System Knowledge Innovation and its Practices in Developing Countries. Web: http://iahs.info/news/?news_id=215#.WUPGetxpzDB
- 22-24, IAG, Mendoza, Argentina, Workshop on Real-Time GNSS Positioning. Web: <http://ingenieria.uncuyo.edu.ar/sirgas2017/en/>
- 27-29, IAG, Mendoza, Argentina, SIRGAS 2017 Symposium. Web: <http://ingenieria.uncuyo.edu.ar/sirgas2017/en/>
- 30 November - 1 December, IAG, Mendoza, Argentina, Workshop on SLR in Latin America. Web: <http://ingenieria.uncuyo.edu.ar/sirgas2017/en/>

December

- 4-15, IAHS, WMO, Geneva, Switzerland, IAHS Measurements and Observations in the XXI Century (MOXXI) and WMO HydroHub joint meeting 2017. Web: <http://iahs.info/Commissions--W-Groups/Working-Groups/MOXXI/Information/MOXXI-2017.do>
- 4-15, CODATA, Sao Paulo, Brazil, CODATA-RDA School of Research Data Science. Web: http://www.ictp-saifr.org/?page_id=15270
- 11-15, AGU, New Orleans, LA, USA, 2017 American Geophysical Union - Fall Meeting. Web: <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2017/>
- 11-22 December, ICTP, IUGG, Hanoi, Vietnam, Workshop-Conference on Earthquake and Tsunami Hazards: Modeling and Observations. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/8176>

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Editors: Tom Beer, Alik Ismail-Zadeh (Editor-in-Chief), Franz Kuglitsch (Associate Editor), and Kathryn Whaler.

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