

## IUGS E-BULLETIN (NO. 69, DECEMBER 2011)

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### **34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC) 5-10 AUGUST 2012, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

The Third Circular can be downloaded from the IGC website front page at <http://www.34igc.org/> or download the pdf direct from [http://www.34igc.org/FileLibrary/34igc\\_third\\_circular\\_v5.pdf](http://www.34igc.org/FileLibrary/34igc_third_circular_v5.pdf). The Third Circular includes important information that delegates will need to plan and arrange their participation at the 34th IGC in Brisbane. The Fourth Circular will be released shortly.

Please take the time to review the Third Circular and take advantage of the "Early Bird Registration offer" and register for this large, prestigious and highly relevant event (Note the termination date of the Early Bird offer is 30 April 2012). You can register directly by visiting the "Register now" link, or via the website at <http://www.34igc.org/>. The IGC website, together with the Third Circular, has everything you need to know about the IGC, from international visas, to latest news, etc.

Should you require assistance at anytime with your attendance at, or involvement in, the 34th International Geological Congress, please contact: [info@34igc.org](mailto:info@34igc.org)

### **NOMINATIONS FOR THE IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE 2012-2016 TERM**

A reminder that the IUGS Nominating Committee invited all the IUGS Adhering and Affiliate Organizations and Commissions to submit proposals for candidates for each office within the IUGS Executive Committee for its next term 2012-2016. Elections of nominated candidates will take place during the IUGS meeting at the 34th International Geological Congress in Brisbane, Australia, in August 2012. Candidates may also be nominated by the Nominating Committee. If you wish to propose a candidate to be nominated by the Nominating Committee please contact the IUGS Secretariat (email: [iugs@usgs.gov](mailto:iugs@usgs.gov)) and request a copy of the nomination form, and information regarding the rules for nominations for the election of officers. The deadline for submission of nominations to the IUGS Secretariat has been extended to 31 January, 2012. The Nominating Committee in particular encourages parts of the world that have not been represented in the Executive Committee for a long time to try to identify good candidates from their region.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)**

The next meeting of the IUGS EC will be held in San Sebastian, Spain on February 14–17, 2012, thanks to the kind support of the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME), the city of San Sebastian and the Guipuskoa Diputation. On February 13 the ceremony for insertion of the Lutetian GSSP will be held at Gorrondatxe, near Bilbao, Spain.

### **THE IUGS RATIFY THE BASE OF THE CALABRIAN STAGE**

On 6th December 2011 the IUGS Executive Committee ratified the proposal of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) that the Global Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) at Vrica, Calabria, Italy defines the base of the Calabrian Stage (Pleistocene Series, Quaternary System). More information on the ICS website at:

<http://www.quaternary.stratigraphy.org.uk/definitions/CalabrianGSSP.pdf>

### **ICSU'S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN PUBLISHED**

Approved by the International Council for Science (ICSU) 30th General Assembly in Rome on November 23, 2011, the full text of the ICSU Strategic Plan II, 2012-2017 is now available via their Insight newsletter of November 2011. Like its predecessor, this Second Strategic Plan lays out how ICSU intends to build on the strengths of its global network of international disciplinary Unions, National Member organizations, and strategic partners, to address key issues for science and society over the coming medium term. This Second Strategic Plan builds on the successes and lessons learned from the past, and seeks to anticipate and address some of the major challenges for the future. It defines the operating space for ICSU during the next six-year period while at the same time leaving

room for new ideas and areas to be nurtured and developed. It includes a summary of achievements – including the completion and launching of new global initiatives – during the period 2006-2011. The 51-page Plan is the result of an extensive consultation and planning process among the ICSU membership, headed by the ICSU Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR). See: <http://www.icsu.org/publications/reports-and-reviews/icsu-strategic-plan-2012-2017>

#### **NEW DATE FOR CCOP MEETINGS**

The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) wishes to inform all its Member Countries, Cooperating Countries, Cooperating Organizations as well as its Honorary Advisers that the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR), Bangkok, Thailand, has announced a new date for the 48th CCOP Annual Session and the 58th CCOP Steering Committee Meetings which are now rescheduled to 12-17 and 18-19 February 2012 respectively in the DMR. More details: <http://www.ccop.or.th/news.asp>

#### **IRDR CONFERENCE ON DISASTER RISK REPORT IN LATEST IUGG E-JOURNAL**

An overview of the ICSU program of The Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) inaugural conference held in Beijing, China, (October 31 to November 2, 2011) has been posted in the IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 11 No. 12 (1 December 2011). The IRDR is a new ICSU ten-year program (<http://www.icsu.org/what-we-do/interdisciplinary-bodies/irdr>). The first IRDR Conference was conceived to respond to two fundamental questions: (i) why, despite advances in the natural and social science of hazards and disasters, do losses continue to increase?; and (ii) to what extent is the world-wide growth in disaster losses a symptom and indicator of unsustainable development? In addition to these questions the Conference focused on the most important problems related to the reduction of disaster risk and examined the characterization of hazards, vulnerability, and risk; and understanding decision-making in complex and changing risk contexts. The IUGG E-Journals (pdf) can be downloaded from: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>

#### **ONEGEOLOGY LAUNCHES A NEW YOUNG SCIENTIST COMPETITION**

OneGeology (<http://www.onegeology.org>) has just launched a new competition, "The OneGeology Best Application Competition". The main aim of the competition is to demonstrate the wide range of potential applied uses, and applications, that the OneGeology Portal, and the geological data/services that it provides, can offer for easy discoverability, access, and use. This competition is open to young (under the age of 35) geoscientists. The prize is a free registration for the 34th IGC in Brisbane, Australia, and the opportunity to present the new innovative application during the Geoinformation Symposium/OneGeology Session at that congress. Entry is open until May 2012. For further information on the competition, and about OneGeology, go to the "OneGeology at the 34th International Geological Congress (IGC)" section of the OneGeology web site at: <http://www.onegeology.org/igc34/home.html>

#### **ICSU 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY DRAFT DECISIONS**

Participants at the 30th General Assembly of The International Council for Science (ICSU) held in Rome at the end of September have been requested by ICSU to send any comments on the Draft Decisions to ICSU (email: [tish@icsu.org](mailto:tish@icsu.org)) by 16 January 2012 at the latest. The Draft Decisions (with Annexes) are available on the General Assembly website at: <http://www.icsu.org/general-assembly/programme/general-assembly/draft-decisions-30th-general-assembly/>

#### **IGCP 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

UNESCO and IUGS invite you to join them on 22 February 2012 for a festive celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris with talks, debates, round tables, and cultural events about the relevance and future of Earth Science for Society. The program of events is as follows:

09:00. Reception of participants  
09:30. Opening ceremony  
11:00–12:30. Panel discussion on “The Geoscience Challenges for the Planet”  
14:00–15:50. Talks on “Relevance of IGCP”  
16:15–17:15. Panel discussion on “IGCP and other Earth Science global programmes”  
17:15–17:45. Synthesis and conclusions “A prospective vision for the future of IGCP”  
18:00. Reception and geological wine tasting.

More information on the celebration can be downloaded at: <http://www.unesco.org/new/igcp40>. If you plan to attend please RSVP by e-mail to: [igcp40@unesco.org](mailto:igcp40@unesco.org) and indicate Family Name, First Name, Position, Institution and e-mail address.

### **EARTHLEARNINGIDEA (ELI) GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH**

An update on this global educational project from the Earthlearningidea team Chris KING, Peter KENNETT, and Elizabeth DEVON. 2011 has been a big year for Earthlearningidea. In March we published our 100th activity, and in October we recorded over half a million activity downloads. So successful is the project, that we are currently planning ideas for 2013! We continue to publish at the rate of one a fortnight. ELI activities are being translated into Chinese (Mandarin), German, Italian, Norwegian, Portuguese, Spanish, and Tamil. The activities are free to download in pdf format; with an average of about 20,000 downloads per month over the past year. Find out how to teach interactive Earth science on the ELI website at: <http://www.earthlearningidea.com>.

### **SGA-SEG-UNESCO-IUGS SHORT COURSES ON AFRICAN METALLOGENY.**

The aim of the newly founded Short Courses on African Metallogeny program is to train young African geoscientists in the specific field of metallogeny, i.e. practical aspects of the genesis of ore deposits that can be applied in the formulation of future exploration strategies. These short courses are planned to be conducted on an annual basis in different parts of the African continent and are being organized by the Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA), in collaboration with the The Institute of Development Research (IRD), and Teng Tuuma Geoservices, and supported by UNESCO, IUGS, the Society of Economic Geologists (SEG) and the Geological Society of Africa (GSA). Due to a particularly strong interest in exploration of the West African Craton, as evidenced for example by the West African Exploration Initiative (WAXI), The 1st SGA-SEG-UNESCO-IUGS Short Course on African Metallogeny will be held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, from 12 to 18 March 2012 with the theme “Precious and Not-so-precious Metals in Old Cratons”. For more information download the Short Course pdf at: [https://www.e-sga.org/fileadmin/sga/SGA\\_Docs/Proposal\\_Ouaga\\_March2012.pdf](https://www.e-sga.org/fileadmin/sga/SGA_Docs/Proposal_Ouaga_March2012.pdf)

### **BEST WISHES TO ALL READERS**

As we approach the end of 2011 with its work holidays, and the Christmas celebrations, the IUGS takes this opportunity to wish all readers safe and enjoyable activities and a happy New Year.

### **NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?**

See the website of the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm> Maintained by the Geological Survey of Japan. For additions, corrections, or updates email: [intl@gsj.jp](mailto:intl@gsj.jp)

### **RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS**

CCOP E-News -The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) produces the CCOP E-News that can be downloaded from their website (<http://www.ccop.or.th/>). To download go to the webpage or: [http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP\\_e-news\\_vol1no1.pdf](http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP_e-news_vol1no1.pdf)

CPCEMR -The Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources website is at:  
<http://www.circumpacificcouncil.org>

EFG -The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) newsletter GeoNews can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=175> To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, please register at: <http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters-subscription.html>

EGS -EuroGeoSurveys a consortium of 32 European Geological Surveys which aims to address European geoscience for society. See their EuroGeoSurveys Newsletters at:  
<http://eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters.html>. To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, you can register online at: <http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletterssubscription.html>

GEOETHICS -The latest copies of the "Geoethics News" newsletter can be downloading from the Geoethics website at: [http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics\\_Planetary\\_Protection/](http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/)

GSAf -The Geological Society of Africa (GSAf) Newsletters can be downloaded from the Home page of the Society at: <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org>

GS - The Geochemical Society (<http://www.geochemsoc.org/>) has partnered with MultiView Inc. to launch an official email news resource, "Geochemical News". See:  
<http://multibriefs.com/briefs/g/sample.htm>.

GWP -For the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Monthly Newsletter "NewsFlow" go to:  
<http://gwpforum.us1.listmanage.com/subscribe?u=2e4d7bb2bd4f7590eb7d7929e&id=8e059efa29>

IAG -The International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) publishes its newsletter at 3 month intervals. The Newsletters can be downloaded at: <http://www.geomorph.org/pb/pbnew.html>

IAH -The International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) publishes Groundwater eNews every 2 months. See their website at: [http://www.iah.org/news\\_enews.asp](http://www.iah.org/news_enews.asp). Current issue at:  
[http://www.iah.org/news\\_enews\\_popup.asp?id=43](http://www.iah.org/news_enews_popup.asp?id=43) ICSU -the International Council for Science (ICSU) newsletter "ICSU Insight" will keep you up to date with ICSU global and regional activities, latest publications, and events. View the newsletter at:  
<http://www.icsu.org/newscentre/insight/newsletters-2011/insight-april-2011>. Visit the ICSU website at: <http://www.icsu.org/>

IFA -The International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA) has produced a Fertilizer Glossary that is now available on-line in five languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Chinese. There are more than 150 terms and expressions related to fertilizer use, soil science, fertilizer manufacture and analysis, and application machinery and methods. See it at:  
<http://www.fertilizer.org/ifa/HomePage/LIBRARY/Glossary-of-fertilizer-terms>

IGBP -The International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) website is at:  
<http://www.igbp.kva.se/> and their News archive is at: [http://www.igbp.kva.se/?view=news\\_archive](http://www.igbp.kva.se/?view=news_archive)

IMGA -The International Medical Geology Association (IMGA) newsletter can be downloaded from their website at: [http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/public/publications/page\\_Publications.htm](http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/public/publications/page_Publications.htm)

IUGG -The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) latest electronic E-Journal is on their website at: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/> NOTE the 18 July edition lists the IUGG Bureau members and Association Presidents and Secretaries General for 2011-2015

IUGS -To download back issues of the IUGS Episodes magazine see:  
<http://www.episodes.co.in/www/backissues.htm>. Also E-Bulletins of the IUGS issued since October 2002 can be found at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=e-bulletins>

IUSS -The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) Bulletin can be downloaded in high and low resolution PDF from <http://www.iuss.org> The monthly IUSS Alert newsletter can be accessed via the same page

ProGEO News -the newsletter of the European Association for the Conservation of the Geological Heritage can be downloaded from: <http://www.progeo.se/>

SCAR -The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a committee of the International Council for Science (ICSU) charged with the initiation, promotion, and co-ordination, of scientific research in Antarctica. SCAR also provides international, independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty system and other bodies. To download the recent issues of the SCAR Newsletters go to: <http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2011/>. Their recently released "Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World: SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016" can be downloaded from: <http://www.scar.org/strategicplan2011/>

SGA -Newsletters of The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA). See: <http://www.e-sga.org>

YES -The Young Earth-Scientists YES Network Newsletters at: <http://www.networkyes.org/index.php/news/>

## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

NOTE the listings of forthcoming meetings shown below will normally be included in an IUGS E-Bulletin only once and then they will appear on the IUGS website. The IUGS website ([www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org)) lists more "geo" related events than any other website devoted to such information. Analysis of the IUGS 2010 website statistics indicates that the "IUGS Calendar" section is the most frequently visited element of our website with regular hits from over 160 countries. The IUGS is pleased to continue this service to help promote all "geo" related events. Please send your meeting posting requests directly to the IUGS Secretary General at [pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca) . To see the IUGS listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences, and workshops, go to the Calendar section of the IUGS website at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=calendar&phpMyAdmin=2c9f06db78f0953a55b10dcfdc5907f6>

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January 17-20, 2012. 10th Anniversary Meeting of The International Consortium on Landslides (ICL). Kyoto, Japan. The ICL meeting will address Symposia on landslides and floods, and the Working Group Meeting will examine the draft of the ICL strategic plan for 2012-2021.

January 18-20, 2012. The USA National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE) presents the 12th National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment. Theme: "Environment and Security". Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, Washington, DC., USA. Details at: <http://www.environmentandsecurity.org/>

January 24-27, 2012, Mine Water Tracer Test Symposium (January 24) and a Tracer Test Course (January 25-27). Cape Breton University (CBU), Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada. Organised by the International Mine Water Association, the Verschuren Centre for Sustainability in Energy & the Environment, the Nova Scotia Community College, and Unama-ki Economic Benefits Office. See PDF flyer: [www.minewater.ca/tracer.pdf](http://www.minewater.ca/tracer.pdf) Website: [www.minewater.ca/tracer](http://www.minewater.ca/tracer)

February 12-19, 2012. 48th CCOP Annual Session and the 58th CCOP Steering Committee Meetings to be held in the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR), Bangkok, Thailand. See: <http://www.ccop.or.th/news.asp>

March 12-18, 2012 The 1st SGA-SEG-UNESCO-IUGS Short Course on African Metallogeny. Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. Theme "Precious and Not-so-precious Metals in Old Cratons". For more information download the Short Course pdf: [https://www.e-sga.org/fileadmin/sga/SGA\\_Docs/Proposal\\_Ouaga\\_March2012.pdf](https://www.e-sga.org/fileadmin/sga/SGA_Docs/Proposal_Ouaga_March2012.pdf)

April 22-27, 2012. 2012 European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly. Vienna, Austria. The General Assembly is open to the scientists of all nations. Details at the website: [http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2012/information/general\\_information.html](http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2012/information/general_information.html)

May 20-25, 2012. 14th Meeting of the Japan Geoscience Union (JpGU). Makuhari Messe International Conference Hall, Japan. See the website at: [http://www.jpгу.org/meeting\\_e/index.htm](http://www.jpгу.org/meeting_e/index.htm). The call for Exhibitors for JpGU 2012 has been released see: [http://www.jpгу.org/meeting\\_e/exhibition/index.htm](http://www.jpгу.org/meeting_e/exhibition/index.htm).

June 13-14, 2012. The Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) International Uranium Conference 2012. Adelaide, Australia. The Conference will include a two day technical program, public forum, workshops, technical tours to South Australian sites and much more. The Call for Papers has been issued – deadline 6 February 2012. Please submit Abstracts (not exceeding 300 words in English) via the Conference "Papers" - "Speakers' Portal" tabs on the website at: <http://www.ausimm.com.au/uranium2012>

June 24-29, 2012. Goldschmidt 2012. Palais des Congrès, Montréal, Canada. Theme "Earth in Evolution." The 22nd V.M. Goldschmidt Conference. The Scientific Committee has identified 23 themes ranging from the Evolution of the Solar System to Geomicrobiology, and from Earth Resources to Geoengineering and Remediation totalling 163 sessions. Abstract submissions close February 1st, 2012. Details at: <http://www.vmgoldschmidt.org/2012/index.htm>

July 15-18, 2012. ANZ 2012 - The Australia New Zealand Conference on Geomechanics. Melbourne, Australia. Theme: "Ground Engineering in a Changing World." Registration is now open and Early Bird prices are available Website at: <http://www.ANZ2012.com.au>

October 29-November 3, 2012. Workshop on Geophysical Data Analysis & Assimilation. Trieste, Italy. Organised by The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) in cooperation with the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Karlsruhe, Germany), University of Trieste (Italy), and the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow, Russia). The Workshop is endorsed by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG). Details at: <http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/askArchive.php?base=agenda&categ=a11194&id=a11194/announcement>. Only on-line application is available at: [http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full\\_display.php?smr=0&ida=a11194](http://cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?smr=0&ida=a11194)

August 5-10, 2012. 34th International Geological Congress (IGC) in Brisbane, Australia. The primary IUGS conference that is held every 4 years. See the information above, and visit the Congress website at: <http://www.34igc.org/>

November 1-3, 2012. The 5th International Conference of the European Society of History of Science. Athens, Greece. Theme: "Scientific cosmopolitanism and local cultures: religions, ideologies, societies." Organised by the Institute of Neohellenic Research of the National Hellenic Research Foundation (Dr. E. Nicolaidis) and the Faculty of Education of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (Prof. C. Skordoulis). See: <http://5eshs.hpdst.gr/>

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January 8-14, 2013. The 24th Colloquium of African Geology (CAG24) - The 14 Congress of the Geological Society of Africa (GSAf 14), and the 40th Anniversary of the Geological Society of Africa (1973-2013). Theme "40 Years of GSAf (1973-2013), Earth Science Solutions to African

Development Challenges". The CAG24 will be conducted at the United Nations Economic Commission Conference Center (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Geosciences and Mineral Engineering Association (EGMEA) will organize this joint conference and will distribute the first circular shortly. Details will be posted on the websites at: <http://www.cag24.org.et>; <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org/> and <http://www.egmea.org.et/> .

Note that a Report on the previous AG23 Conference can now be downloaded at: <http://www.cag23.co.za/> and at <http://www.uj.ac.za/EN/Faculties/science/newsandevents/News/Pages/home.aspx>

April 1-5th, 2013. V Cuban Earth Science Convention and Exhibit of New Products, Technologies and Services for Geosciences. To be held in the Convention Palace, Havana, Cuba. See: <http://www.cubacienciasdelatierra.com>

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With best regards, Colin SIMPSON IUGS Councillor  
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