

2012 - THE YEAR OF THE 34th IGC, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

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

Only 6 months to go - the latest news about the IGC

The Fourth Circular with current information on the IGC has been released. It contains details of field trips, and Professional Development Workshops/Short Courses and lots more. The Fourth Circular can be downloaded from the IGC website at <http://www.34igc.org/>.

Abstract submissions have now closed with over 5000 Abstracts submitted - an excellent result. The "Early Bird Registration" offer enables delegates to register for the 34th IGC at a reduced rate and is available until 30 April 2012. You can register directly by visiting the "Register now" link, or via the website at <http://www.34igc.org/>. Also check the Fourth Circular for details on Field Trips - note that Field Trip bookings close 31 March 2012. Discounted accommodation rates have been negotiated for IGC delegates and bookings can be done via the IGC website. Note that Accommodation bookings close on 5 June 2012.

Symposium 1.1 Geoheritage, Geoparks and Geotourism has initiated its own Congress newsletter which can be accessed at: <http://web.earthsci.unimelb.edu.au/Joyce/heritage/IGCGeoheritageSymposia2012.html> or at <http://tinyurl.com/77fohvr>.

Should you require assistance at anytime with your attendance at, or involvement in, the 34th International Geological Congress, please email: info@34igc.org

THE JAMES HARRISON OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The James Harrison Outstanding Achievement Award was established in 2004 to express the gratitude of the IUGS to those persons who have devoted an extraordinary amount of personal time and effort addressing the mission and the activities of the Union. Nominees for this Award should have made an outstanding contribution to the Union over a sustained period of time and must still be alive and thus able to accept the award in person on the occasion of the next International Geological Congress. Active officers of the IUGS Executive Committee, IUGS Committees, as well as IUGS Commissions, Task Groups, and Initiatives, are not eligible for nomination for this Award.

Nominations comprising a short covering letter, letters of support, and a copy of the candidate's short CV stressing the contributions made to the IUGS can be submitted by anyone in the IUGS family. Nomination packages should be submitted to the IUGS Secretary-General (pbobrows@nrca.gc.ca) with a copy to the IUGS Secretariat (iugs@usgs.gov) before the deadline for receipt of nominations which close on 16 April 2012. The IUGS Executive Committee will evaluate the nominations and the successful candidate will be officially recognized on the occasion of the 34th IGC in Brisbane, Australia in August 2012.

IUGS FORENSIC GEOLOGY INITIATIVE NEW WEBSITE.

The IUGS Initiative on Forensic Geology has its own website at: <http://www.forensicgeologyinternational.com/>
The Initiative will be hosting a session at the IGC, Brisbane, in Theme 1: Geoscience and Society, Symposium 4: Forensic geoscience.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ICSU APPOINTED

ICSU has announced that Dr. Steven Wilson has been appointed as the new Executive Director and will provide important leadership as ICSU seeks to implement its newly approved second Strategic Plan 2012-2017. Dr. Wilson will take up his duties on 1 April 2012. After working for the UK Meteorological Office, Dr. Wilson joined the UK National Environment Research Council (NERC) in 1998. He held a number of senior posts, including that of the NERC Director of Earth Observation. In this period he led the British National Space Centre's Earth Observation activities, represented the UK environmental science community at the European Space Agency (ESA) Council, and chaired the ESA Earth Observation Programme Board. More information: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/press-releases/press-releases-2012/icsu2019s-new-executive-director-appointed/press-release>

NEW DIRECTOR OF THE GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS (GEO) SECRETARIAT

The GEO Co-Chairs, on behalf of the GEO Executive Committee, have formally announced the selection of Ms Barbara Ryan to succeed Professor Jose Achache as the Director of the GEO Secretariat. Ms Ryan, currently the

Director of the World Meteorological Organization's Space Programme, has long experience in Earth observations and their application to a broad range of societal needs and is a widely respected member of the GEO community. The Co-Chairs have also announced their sincere thanks to Professor Achache for his enormous contributions to the formation of GEO and the establishment of the Global Earth Observation System of System (GEOSS) over the last six years. Website at: <http://www.earthobservations.org/index.shtml>

ICSU WORLD DATA SYSTEM NAMES ITS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Mustapha Mokrane has been appointed as Executive Director of ICSU's World Data System (WDS). Dr. Mokrane, currently Science and Information Technology Officer at ICSU's Secretariat in Paris, will take up his appointment in March 2012. As Executive Director, Mokrane will head the newly established WDS International Programme Office, which is hosted by the Japanese National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) in Tokyo. Details at: <http://www.icsu-wds.org/organization/events/51-wds-executive-director>

IUGG PRESIDENT APPOINTED TO NDMA

The Prime Minister of India Dr. M. Singh has appointed Harsh Gupta (IUGG President) as a Member of the Indian National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), which is chaired by the Prime Minister. More details at: <http://ndma.gov.in/ndma/index.htm>

SPONSORS SOUGHT FOR THE 3IGSC STUDENT CONFERENCE

The 3rd International Geosciences Student Conference (3IGSC) will be held 29-31 May 2012 in Belgrade, Serbia. This conference is sponsored by noted international professional organizations SEG, AAPG and EAGE and organized by two SEG/EAGE/AAPG Student Sections from Serbia (Society of Geoscientists and Environmental Engineers – SGEE – Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences, Union-Nikola Tesla University, Belgrade and Students Society from Faculty of Mining and Geology, University of Belgrade). Companies are invited to support this event through sponsorship. Details at: <http://www.3igsc.com/sponsorship-opportunities>

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR SESSIONS FOR THE IMA 2014 SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The International Mineralogical Association (IMA) (<http://www.ima-mineralogy.org>) holds its General Meeting every four years, with the next one taking place in South Africa in 2014. The meeting aims to have a scientific programme of the highest standard, catering for the diverse array of interests in the field of mineralogy. The IMA 2014 Programme Committee seeks input to design a scientific programme. Individuals would also be welcome to participate. Please note that the deadline for submissions is Friday, 28 September 2012. This call for session proposals is a first round and the IMA is looking for broad proposals to assist with the programme planning. See: http://www.ima2014.co.za/call_for_papers.php and submit your proposals there. General IMA 2014 information is available at <http://www.ima2014.co.za/>

INTERNATIONAL MEDICAL GEOLOGY ASSOCIATION SEEKING HOSTS FOR 2015 IMGA

In 2011 the IMGA held a very successful IMGA conference in Bari, Italy. The next conference will be in the autumn of 2013 in Washington DC. It is now time to request proposals for the 2015 conference. The IMGA welcomes all who wish to host the 2015 IMGA conference to apply. The IMGA Code of Practice for Symposia is published on the IMGA website at <http://www.medicalgeology.org/index.htm>. The deadline for application is April 1, 2012. If you require more information, or if you wish to host the 2015 IMGA, email your proposal to: secretary@medicalgeology.org. The proposals will then be forwarded to the conference Committee and a decision will be taken by the Council not later than June 1, 2012.

NEW REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE IN THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS)

The National Research Council (NRC) of the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has just released a report on the potential future international role of the USGS. The report "International Science in the National Interest at the U.S. Geological Survey" was produced by an expert committee of the National Academies. The report found that in the next 5-10 years opportunities abound for the USGS to strategically pursue international science on growing worldwide problems having a direct impact on the United States. In the international arena each of the seven USGS mission areas (climate and land-use change; core science systems; ecosystems; energy and minerals; environmental health; natural hazards; and water) has a significant role to play. The review found that USGS' international role extends to all mission areas (earth sciences, biological sciences, hydrology, geography and remote sensing); the USGS activities in the international arena bolster its domestic programs; the USGS should be more proactive, systematic and interdisciplinary in the international arena; the USGS needs to be more open about publicizing its international efforts; and the USGS needs to devote more resources to its international efforts. See the National Academies website at: <http://dels.nas.edu/Report/international-science/13302>

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

See the website of the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World at: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm>
The Directory is produced by the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). The directory is published as both paper-based and digitized versions. For additions, corrections, or updates email: intl@gsj.jp

RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

AGI Outreach & News - See The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) web at:
<http://www.agiweb.org/outreach/index.html>

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

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/>. 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>

GEO - The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is coordinating efforts to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). For details and newsletters see: <http://www.earthobservations.org/index.shtml>

GEOETHICS -The latest copies of the "Geoethics News" newsletter can be downloading from the Geoethics website at: http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/

GIS - Maps of the World see: <http://gis.mapsofworld.com/government/government-agencies/>

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. Current issue at:
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.net> and their News archive is at: <http://www.igbp.net/4.d8b4c3c12bf3be638a8000369.html>

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

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

OneGeology - an international initiative of the geological surveys of the world with a target of creating dynamic geological map data of the world, available to everyone via the web see: <http://www.onegeology.org/>

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

RCMNS -Bulletin of the Regional Committee on Mediterranean Neogene Stratigraphy downloadable from: <http://www.geomare.na.cnr.it/>

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 but will appear on the IUGS website until the event. The IUGS website (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 . 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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March 11-17, 2012. NGWA National Groundwater Awareness Week. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/awareness/Pages/default.aspx>

March 26-28, 2012. NGWA - Geohazards and the Role of Groundwater and Surface Water. Columbus, Ohio, USA.. NGWA short course reviewing surface water and groundwater movement, its impact on landslides of

various kinds, and its reaction in soils under conditions of seismic shaking. Case studies will be a main part of the presentations. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/178/Pages/178mar12.aspx>.

April 2-4, 2012. The 5th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium. Tokyo, Japan. The Symposium is being organized by the GEO Secretariat and GEO Japan, with the support of Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Technology (MEXT). It will address the theme of "GEO Initiatives towards Green Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region", promote societal benefits from the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), and discuss how GEOSS can contribute to the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). Website: <http://www.geoss-ap-symposium.org/index.html>

May 1-4, 2012. GeoHab (Marine Geological and Biological Habitat Mapping). Rosario Resort, Orcas Island, Washington State, USA. Theme "Habitat Characterization and Mapping in Coastal and Inland Seas". Hosted by the SeaDoc Society/Tombolo, and the Geological Survey of Canada. The Second Circular has been released. See the GeoHab 2012 website at: <http://www.seadocsociety.org/geohab2012>

May 6-10, 2012. The National Groundwater Association 2012 Ground Water Summit. Garden Grove, California, USA. Theme "Innovate and Integrate". The focus of this theme will be - Succeeding as a Groundwater Professional in a Water-Short World. Details at: <http://groundwatersummit.org/>. Note also the NGWA Conference on Public Water Issues: May 9, 2012. A Conference for Communities, Contractors, and Consulting Professionals. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5012/Pages/5012may12.aspx>.

May 27-29, 2012. 3rd International Conference – Geosciences and Environment. Belgrade, Serbia. Hosted by the Association of Geophysicists and Environmentalists of Serbia (AGES). See: <http://www.agserbia.com/>

June 4-6, 2012. NGWA Hydrogeology Field Methods Course: "What You Didn't Learn in School". Andover, Minnesota, USA. Three-day short course designed for new and soon-to-be groundwater professionals wishing to bridge the gap between scientific theory/academia and critical real-world field experience and daily operations. Among other items, attendees will learn about RQDs, field classification of soils, and borehole geophysics. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/399jun12/Pages/399jun12.aspx>.

June 13-14, 2012. The Australian Minerals Institute (AusIMM) International Uranium Conference 2012. Adelaide, Australia. As the demand for uranium and new sources of clean and greenhouse friendly energy increases, the next International Uranium Conference will build upon The AusIMM's hugely successful series that has been held over the past six years. Submission of Abstracts due by 12 March 2012. Details at: <http://www.ausimm.com.au/uranium2012/>

June 17-23, 2012. 12th International Multidisciplinary Scientific Geoconference & Expo. (Surveying Geology & mining Ecology Management - (SGEM2012). Albena, Bulgaria. Deadline for abstract submission 10 March 2012. See <http://www.sgem.org/>

June 27, 2012. Hydraulic Fracturing: Scientific and Technical Approaches to Protect Groundwater. Crowne Plaza Hotel Columbus-Downtown, Columbus, Ohio, USA. Organised by the National Groundwater Association. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5035/Pages/5035jun12.aspx>

June 26-27, 2012. NGWA Focus Conference on Midwestern Groundwater Issues. Columbus, Ohio, USA. Addressing groundwater issues commonly associated with the Midwest USA (such as agricultural chemicals, increased nutrient loads from CAFOs, and road salt) and other topics include increasing seasonal flooding events, impacts from oil and shale gas production, and increased water use for irrigation, biofuels development and other energy alternatives. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5085/Pages/5085jun12.aspx>.

July 14-22, 2012. 39th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR). Mysore, India. Note the deadline for submitting abstracts is 10 February 2012. All information concerning the scientific program and abstract submission may be found at: <http://www.cospar-assembly.org/>

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/>

September 11, 2012. NGWA Protect Your Groundwater Day. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx>.

October 16-17, 2012. NGWA Focus Conference on Gulf Coast Groundwater Issues. Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA. Designed to increase understanding of the effects on this region's groundwater issues from the past decade's extreme weather events and manmade disasters. This conference will discuss topics such as petroleum release products and remediation; alternative water supplies including desalination and ASR; and geospatial technologies, LIDAR, and subsidence. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5010/Pages/5010oct12.aspx>.

October 22-24, 2012. NGWA Borehole Geophysical Logging for Water Resources/Water Supply Applications. Denver, Colorado, USA. This course demonstrates important applications of borehole geophysics such as identifying water producing zones in well boreholes; evaluating the thickness, distribution, and transmissive quality of granular, fractured, and karst aquifers; identifying fractures; evaluating relative water yield and water quality; planning well systems; and planning and evaluating well work over/rehabilitation and abandonment. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/514/Pages/514oct12.aspx>.

October 29-November 3, 2012. Workshop on Geophysical Data Analysis & Assimilation. Trieste, Italy. Details at: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page11399.html>. Apply online application only at: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?2373>. The closing date for receipt of the applications is 30 May 2012.

November 20-21, 2012. International Mine Management 2012. Melbourne, Australia. This is the second conference in a developing series of conferences on this theme that commenced in 2006. The broad objectives are to bring together mining professionals and to provide a forum for the discussion of the key management issues facing the industry today, and with sharing experiences and lessons learnt. Call for papers - authors can submit an abstract not exceeding 300 words in English via the International Mine Management 2012 Speakers' Portal: <http://ausimm.com.au/imm2012/papers.asp>. Deadline for abstract submission 20 February 2012.

December 11-14, 2012. The First IUGG GRC Conference on "Extreme Natural Hazards and Their Impacts". Chapman University campus, Orange, California, USA. Organised by the IUGG Commission on Geophysical Risk and Sustainability (GRC) and co-sponsored by the Natural Hazards Focused Group of the American Geophysical Union. The call for oral and poster papers is now open. See: <http://www1.chapman.edu/~rsingh/GeoRisk2012>.

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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. Convention Palace, Havana, Cuba. See: <http://www.cubacienciasdelatierra.com>

August 27-31, 2013. The 8th International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) International Conference on Geomorphology and Sustainability. Paris, France. The first circular has been released and the pdf can be downloaded at http://www.geomorph.org/mt/ICG_Paris2013_circ1.pdf or via the IAG/AIG website at: <http://www.geomorph.org>, or see: <http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/en>. Submissions opened 15 February 2012 and close 15 October 2012.

With best regards, Colin SIMPSON IUGS Councillor
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