

IUGS E-BULLETIN (NO. 77, AUGUST 2012)

VERY SUCCESSFUL 34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC) BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

The Brisbane IGC was the culmination of over 8 years of planning and from all the complimentary responses received it was an outstanding success. The Congress attracted some 6,000 delegates from 137 countries. The IGC program had 3,232 presentations over the 5 days. There were 24 Professional Development Workshops, 283 GeoExpo Exhibitor spaces, as well as 29 Field trips throughout Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific region. The Plenary sessions had outstanding international speakers and provided an excellent and particularly relevant context to the current issues that require major geoscience input both in Australia and internationally. The IGC was also the venue for many major meetings of international organisations, including the successful 2nd World Young Earth Scientist (YES) Congress (see: <http://www.networkyes.org/>). Overall the IGC proved to be scientifically rewarding and socially enjoyable and was the largest geoscientific event ever held in the Southern Hemisphere. The city of Brisbane turned on its best weather for the week and the venue, the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, functioned excellently.

The IGC GeoHost Program was able to provide some Au \$1.6 million dollars to assist with travel for geoscientists from developing countries. A Special Issue of the IUGS magazine *Episodes* (Vol. 35, No 1, March 2012 - 306pp.) was produced for the IGC (see details and contents etc. via <http://www.episodes.co.in/>). Geoscience Australia launched a new book at the Congress entitled *Shaping a Nation: a Geology of Australia* (570pp) which is the most up-to-date publication about the evolution of Australia's geology, resources and landscapes that have helped to shape the nation (see: <http://www.ga.gov.au/products-services/publications/shaping-a-nation.html>).

2012-2016 IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, BRISBANE

As defined by the IUGS Statutes the terms of appointment of IUGS Executive Committee Members correlate with the 4-year periods between the IGC events. At the IUGS-IGC Council meeting on 9 August 2012, several Committee members came to the end of their appointment terms, and several new members were appointed.

Outgoing IUGS Executive Committee Members 2008-2012

PRESIDENT - Prof. Alberto RICCARDI (Argentina); SECRETARY GENERAL - Dr. Peter T. BOBROWSKY (Canada); TREASURER - Prof. William CAVAZZA (Italy); VICE PRESIDENTS: Prof. Jacques CHARVET (France); Prof. Ochir GEREL (Mongolia). COUNCILLORS 2006-2010: Prof. Mikhail A. FEDONKIN (Russia); Prof. Marta MANTOVANI (Brazil). COUNCILLORS 2008-2012: Prof. Ezzoura ERRAMI (Morocco); Colin J. SIMPSON (Australia). COUNCILLORS 2010-2014: Wesley HILL (USA); Prof. Sampat Kumar TANDON (India), PAST PRESIDENT Prof. Hongren ZHANG. The IUGS expresses their thanks to all Members for their devotion to the Executive Committee activities 2008-2012.

The new IUGS Executive Committee for 2012-2016 was approved at the IUGS-IGC Council meeting on 9 August 2012. The members of the new IUGS Executive Committee are:

PRESIDENT - Prof. Roland OBERHÄNSLI (Germany)
SECRETARY GENERAL - Dr. Ian LAMBERT (Australia)
TREASURER - Dr. Shuwen DONG (China)
VICE PRESIDENTS: Prof. Yildirim DILEK (USA); Prof. Marko KOMAC (Slovenia)
COUNCILLORS 2010-2014: Wesley HILL (USA); Prof. Sampat Kumar TANDON (India)
COUNCILLORS 2012-2016: Prof. Hassina MOURI (South Africa); Prof. Yujiro OGAWA (Japan)
COUNCILLORS 2014-2018: Dr. Amel BARICH (Morocco); Prof. Stephen JOHNSTON (Canada)
PAST PRESIDENT Prof. Alberto RICCARDI (Argentina)

DELHI, INDIA TO HOST THE 36TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS IN 2020

Canada and India presented their bid proposals at the 34th IGC on Thursday 9th August 2012 to host the 36th International Geological Congress in 2020. The selection decision was made by vote of the IUGS-IGC Council representatives who voted in favour of India. Information about India's proposals for the 36th IGC, which will be co-hosted with Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, can be viewed at: <http://igc2020delhi.com/>

THE 35TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS: CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA, 27 AUGUST TO 5 SEPTEMBER 2016

The 34th IGC came and went and what a superb meeting we had! Australia did the IGC proud and must be congratulated for a superb IGC!

At the closing ceremony on 10 August 2012, South Africa received the President's Cup and therewith the privilege to host the 2016 IGC; the 35th such event. This IGC will be only the third to be hosted on the African Continent; the other two being the 15th IGC, which was held in 1929 in Pretoria, South Africa and the 19th IGC, which was held in Algiers, Algeria in 1952.

The South African LOC is proud to introduce the Cape Town International Convention Centre (the CTICC) as the venue for the 35th IGC. This venue is imminently suited to the hosting of an event of the stature of the IGC and we are confident that the 35th IGC will live up to the high standard set by previous meetings. The 35th IGC is scheduled for the period 27 August to 4 September 2016 and preparations are already at an advanced stage. A large number of field trips in Southern Africa, as well as the rest of the African Continent are planned and promise to visit some of the most magnificent geology anywhere on the Globe. A very extensive GeoHost programme is also planned and we plan to host a large number of geoscientists from developing countries to attend the IGC.

In Brisbane, the 35th IGC was promoted from a rather splendid stand at the GeoExpo, for which many compliments were received. We ran a campaign to recruit contact information of possible delegates to IGC35 during the event and recorded over 700 contacts on our database. In conjunction with this effort a competition was run and a geologist from the Czech Republic's Geological Survey won a full registration to IGC35 and accommodation in the Westin Hotel, which is adjacent to the CTICC.

In closing, we hope to welcome many geoscientists from all over the Globe to Cape Town in 2016. I am sure the famous South African hospitality will win many followers over, while the fabulous location in Cape Town, one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world, will prove a worthy venue for the next IGC. The IGC website is up and operating. Keep up-to-date via <http://www.35igc.org>
Danie BARNADO. Secretary-General: 35th IGC. barnardo@geoscience.org.za

GEOETHICS AND GEOLOGICAL CULTURE

The recent edition of the Annals of Geophysics (Vol 55, No 3, 2012) has a special edition coverage on "Geoethics and geological culture. Reflections from the Geoitalia Conference 2011". For details see the Annals of Geophysics Table of Contents at: <http://www.annalsofgeophysics.eu/index.php/annals/issue/view/482>

NATIONAL GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION (NGWA) UPDATES

Recent information of national and international relevance from the USA based NGWA is shown below. Additional information is available on their website at <http://www.ngwa.org/Pages/default.aspx>

New GWA Director

A recent news release from the NGWA announced that Dr. William M. Alley has been named Director of Science and Technology for the National Ground Water Association. His NGWA responsibilities will include: Assuring the scientific and technical accuracy of information disseminated by NGWA; Being the scientific liaison between NGWA and government agencies, international organizations, and related nongovernmental organizations; and Assisting in the development of conferences and other professional development programs.

USA congressional briefing on the importance of monitoring groundwater

A US congressional briefing led by the U.S. Geological Survey on Friday, July 27, 2012 spotlighted the importance of monitoring the nation's groundwater quantity and quality. In the USA 78 percent of community water systems, nearly all America's private household wells, and 42 percent of agricultural irrigation water are supplied by groundwater. There is no systematic nationwide monitoring of the nation's groundwater levels or quality to assist in planning for and minimizing impacts from shortages or supply disruptions. This lack of systematic groundwater monitoring affects the country's ability to address food, energy, economic, and drinking water security issues. In 2009, Congress authorized a national groundwater monitoring program. In 2010, six states tested concepts for the National Ground Water Monitoring Network. An expansion of this effort would provide consistent, comparable nationwide groundwater level and quality data through a Web portal for federal, state, local government, and private-sector users.

Declaration of the Global Importance of Groundwater

The NGWA invites others to join with it in recognizing that, given groundwater's vast reserves and broad geographical distribution, its generally good quality, and its protection from seasonal fluctuations and contamination, groundwater holds the promise to ensure future world communities an affordable and safe water supply. By recognizing that both surface water and groundwater constitute essential resources, thoroughly integrated water resources management strategies will serve to enhance the security, reliability, and quality of the world's water supplies. Download the full document from: http://www.ngwa.org/Media-Center/briefs/Documents/GW_Importance_Declaration.pdf

Release of a Hydraulic fracturing brochure for water well owners

A water-testing brochure for household water well owners living near oil and gas development and completion activities, including hydraulic fracturing, has been produced by the National Ground Water Association and the Ground Water Protection Council. It can be downloaded from: <http://wellowner.org/water-quality/hydraulic-fracturing-brochure-for-water-well-owners/>

Major fund-raising campaign launched

The National Ground Water Research and Educational Foundation (NGWREF) has launched a major fund-raising campaign, the first in nearly 16 years, to underwrite national and international groundwater projects. NGWREF, founded in 1994 as an IRS-approved public charity, is operated by NGWA as a 501(c)(3) public foundation focused on conducting educational, research, and other charitable activities related to a broader public understanding of groundwater. Details at: <http://www.ngwa.org/Foundation/Pages/default.aspx>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE ICSU GRANTS PROGRAMME 2013

The call for applications for the ICSU Grants Programme 2013 has been released by the ICSU Committee on Scientific Planning and Review (CSPR). The Statement and Schedule as well as the Grant Application form are on the ICSU web site (under Member Zone) at: <http://www.icsu.org/member-zone/documents-for-members/grants-programme-2011/2013-grants-programme> The Grants Programme is strictly reserved for ICSU members and the information and application form should not be passed to individuals or institutions outside the ICSU family. Proposals should target the ICSU priority areas. ICSU Scientific Unions or Interdisciplinary Bodies must be the Lead Applicants and the ICSU National Members may be supporting applicants. Partnership with the ICSU Regional Offices is strongly encouraged, and the roles of respective partners in preparing and carrying out the proposed work must be made clear in the application. All applications, duly completed, must be sent to Ms Rohini RAO email (Rohini@icsu.org) by the 1 December 2012 deadline for receipt of applications.

WATCH THIS SPACE

With the new Executive Committee there will be a new Editor for the E-Bulletins. When the Editor has been selected their new email and other contact details for future E-Bulletin notices, items, etc. will be shown in future E-Bulletins.

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

The Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World produced by The Johannes Gutenberg University in Mainz, Germany, includes web links to Geological Surveys, University Geoscience Departments, Geoscience Journals, Societies, and Oil & Gas Companies. Go to: <http://www.uni-mainz.de/FB/Geo/Geologie/GeoSurv.html> If you have comments on additions, corrections, updates, or to add a link email denbrok@erdw.ethz.ch.

The Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World produced by the Geological Survey of Japan and containing information on national geological surveys as well as state and provincial geological surveys is available at: <http://www.gsj.jp/information/gsj-link/dir/index.html>.

The geology.com website with news and information about geology and earth science also lists geological organizations and agencies: <http://geology.com/groups.htm>.

RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

AGI - The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) Outreach & News. See: <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. See their website at: http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP_e-news

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

EFG - The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) magazine "European Geologist", and the EFG monthly newsletter "GeoNews" can both be downloaded from the website at: <http://www.eurogeologists.eu/>.

EGS - EuroGeoSurveys (EGS) 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>

Future Earth Initiative - news and activities at: <http://www.icsu.org/future-earth/>

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

GSL - The Geological Society of London (GSL) web home page, and online bookshop, has their latest geoscience publications information. See: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk>; and <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/bookshop>.

GWP - For the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Monthly Newsletter "NewsFlow" go to: <http://www.gwp.org/en/Get-involved/Subscribe-to-NewsFlow/>

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_eneews.asp.

ICSU - The International Council for Science (ICSU) newsletter "ICSU Insight" has updates on ICSU global and regional activities, latest publications, and events. View the newsletters at: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/insight>. 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) see their website at: <http://www.igbp.net> and their News archive 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

IUCr - The International Union of Crystallography. See the newsletter at: <http://www.iucr.org/news/newsletter>

IUGG - The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) latest electronic E-Journal is 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 - International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS). To download back issues of the IUGS "Episodes" magazine see: <http://www.episodes.co.in/www/backissues.htm>. Also IUGS E-Bulletins issued since October 2002 are 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 (RCMNS) 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 recent SCAR Newsletters go to: <http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2011/>. For their "Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World: SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016" see: <http://www.scar.org/strategicplan2011/>

SCOPE - The Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (SCOPE) quarterly transdisciplinary journal "Environmental development". See: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/22114645>

SEPM - The Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM) quarterly publication The Sedimentary Record. See: <http://www.sepm.org/pages.aspx?pageid=37>

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

UNESCO - The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization open access journal "A World of Science". See: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/resources/periodical/a-world-of-science/>

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

To find information on websites and newsletters of IUGS Commissions, Task Groups, Initiatives, and Joint Programs see the IUGS website at <http://iugs.org/> or <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=directory>

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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September 30 to October 5, 2012. 46th Brazilian Geological Congress (46º Congresso Brasileiro de Geologia – 46 CBG). Mendes Group Convention Center, Santos, São Paulo, Brazil. Theme: "Managing Natural Resources to Generate Social Resources". Details at: <http://www.46cbg.com.br>

September 8-12, 2012. Workshop on Dryland Geomorphology. Gobabeb Desert Research Station, Namibia. Hosted by the South African Association of Geomorphologists and supported by the Royal Geographical Society. See the IAG/AIG website at: <http://www.geomorph.org/main.html>.

December 4-7, 2012. National Ground Water Association (NGWA) Groundwater Expo and Annual Meeting. Las Vegas, California, USA. Theme: "Discover - Connect - Grow!" See: <http://groundwaterexpo.com/>

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January 8-14, 2013. The 24th Colloquium of African Geology (CAG24). The United Nations Conference Centre, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Theme: "40 years of GSAf (1973-2013), Earth Science Solutions to African Development Challenges". Online Registration open until 30 September 2012. See: <http://www.cag24.org.et>.

February 6-8, 2013. EAPCE'13. The 6th East African Petroleum Conference & Exhibition. Arusha, Tanzania. Theme "East Africa Region. "The emerging Destination for investment and Future Supply of Oil and Gas for Sustainable Development. See: <http://www.tpdcc-tz.com>

June 24-28, 2013. AOGS 3013. 10th Annual Meeting of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society. Brisbane, Australia. Session proposals close 12 November 2012. Abstract submission 29 January 2013. Details at: <http://www.asiaoceania.org>

August 25-29, 2013. MEDGEO 2013 - The 5th International Conference on Medical Geology. Hilton Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, Virginia, USA. Theme: "The Natural Environment & Health - Hidden Dangers, Unlimited Opportunities". The deadline for abstracts is January 31, 2013; the deadline for early registration is March 31, 2013. See the GSA website at: http://rock.geosociety.org/GeoHealth/MEDGEO_2013/INFO.html and the IMGA website at: <http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/members/activities/Conferences/flyer2.pdf> .

August 27-31, 2013. 8th IAG/AIG International Conference on Geomorphology. Paris. Theme: "Geomorphology and Sustainability". Abstract submission closes on 15 October 2012. The session outlines and field trips notices are available online. See details at: <http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/>

September 1-5, 2013. International Symposium on the Cretaceous System. Metu Congress Centre, Ankara, Turkey. See: <http://www.cretaceous2013.org>

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September 15-18, 2014. IAEG X11 Congress. Torino, Italy. Theme: "Engineering Geology for Society and Territory". See: See the website at: <http://www.iaeg2014.com/>

With best regards, Colin SIMPSON IUGS Councillor

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