

## **Bulletin of the International Union of Geological Sciences (No. 35. November 5, 2008)**

### **ICSU GRANTS PROGRAMME 2009**

Applications are invited for the 2009 ICSU Grants Programme. The deadline for receipt of applications is 1 December 2008. The ICSU Grants Programme is reserved for ICSU Scientific Unions and Interdisciplinary Bodies. Only applications led by ICSU Scientific Unions, Interdisciplinary Bodies, or Joint Initiatives and supported by other ICSU Unions and partners will be accepted. The ICSU Grants is a competitive, peer-reviewed programme for ICSU Scientific Unions, Interdisciplinary Bodies, and Joint Initiatives in collaboration with other ICSU bodies including Regional Offices. Proposals for 2009 grants must focus on the themes of the ICSU Strategic Plan 2006-2011 and should be international and multi-disciplinary. Projects should involve scientists across disciplines and national borders, and projects that promote the involvement of young scientists, women, and scientists from developing countries are encouraged. Proposals that address the strategic priorities of the ICSU Regional Offices will be particularly welcome. The Grants Programme Statement and Schedule, the ICSU ROA Global Environmental Change Science Plan (pdf format) as well as the Application Form are available from the IUGS Secretariat ([IUGS.Secretariat@ngu.no](mailto:IUGS.Secretariat@ngu.no)). Proposals from IUGS members must go to the IUGS Executive Committee to be evaluated for presentation to ICSU and all such proposals should be directed via email to the IUGS Secretariat.

### **ROYAL SOCIETY NOTICE**

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical & Engineering Sciences/ is particularly interested in receiving unsolicited Theme Proposals in the geological sciences. For further information, visit <http://publishing.royalsociety.org/philtransa/quest-editor>

### **EARTHLEARNING IDEA**

There have been many Earthlearningidea developments since our first update in August. Please refer to the website, <[www.earthlearningidea.com](http://www.earthlearningidea.com)> . By early November, the project has had over 8500 visits to our site from 115 countries and has decided to continue the project into 2009.

### **INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PLANET EARTH 2007-2009 (Earth Sciences for Society)**

<<http://yearofplanetearth.org>>

The IYPE now has registered 74 countries with an IYPE National Committee to assist with promotion of activities. The main activities of the IYPE operate within its Science and Outreach programmes. Funding for projects in both programmes is sought from industry, Foundations and governments worldwide. The Science Programme consists of 10 broad, societally relevant and multidisciplinary themes: health, climate, groundwater, ocean, soils, deep Earth, megacities, hazards, resources, and life. Brochures on each of these themes are available in hard copy, and can be downloaded from the Year's website. Keep up to date on International events at the IYPE website

### **THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR <<http://www.ipy.org/>>**

The International Polar Year (IPY) is a large scientific programme focused on the Arctic and the Antarctic. It is organized through the International Council for Science (ICSU) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), and is actually the fourth polar year, following those in 1882-3, 1932-3, and 1957-8. In order to have full and equal coverage of both the Arctic and the Antarctic, IPY 2007-8 covers two full annual cycles from March 2007 to March 2009 and will involve over 200 projects, with thousands of scientists from over 60 nations examining a wide range of physical, biological and social research topics. It is also an unprecedented opportunity to demonstrate, follow, and get involved with, cutting edge science in real-time. Interested readers can also view and study the polar regions via a special program available from Google Earth at <http://www.ipy.org/index.php>

## **VALE: NATALIA PATYK-KARA**

We have received the sad news that Professor Natalia Patyk-Kara the Project Leader of IGCP 514 died very recently. We extend our sympathy to her family, friends and colleagues.

## **NEW PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS**

--Episodes: the Journal of International Geoscience. Current Issue Vol. 31, No.3, September 2008. For contents see: <http://www.episodes.org/>

--For publications on Mineralogy and Geology from China visit: <http://www.hceis.com> New publications include the Atlas of Noble Rare and Rare-earth Metal Resources of China <http://www.hceis.com/book.asp?id=6258>

--The Geological Society Publishing House London has announced a new publication SP301 - History of Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology. Edited by R. H. Grapes, D. R. Oldroyd and A. Grigelis. For details go to Publications under <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk>

--The Summer edition of "Geomorphorum" the newsletter of the Geomorphology Specialty Group (GSG) of the Association of American Geographers is available at <http://www.aag-gsg.org> .

--The latest edition of The IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 8 No. 11 (1 November 2008)is available at <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>

--The Earth Portal <http://www.earthportal.org> provides a comprehensive resource for timely, objective, science-based information about the environment. The Earth Portal has three components: The Encyclopedia of Earth, The Earth Forum, and The Earth News (a weekly newsletter that you can receive free of charge).

## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

For a listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences, and workshops of interest check the Calendar section of the IUGS website.

<http://www.iugs.org/Calendar.html>

10-15 January 2009: IUGS Executive Committee meeting to be held in Sydney, Australia. Observers welcome (at their own expense). For more information contact the IUGS Secretary General Peter Bobrowsky ([pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca)).

2-4 February 2009: Sixteenth Convention of Indian Geological Congress National Seminar. To be held at the National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, India. Theme" Climate Change and the role of Geoscientific Community to Counter its Impacts. Enquiries to: [igcroorkee@gmail.com](mailto:igcroorkee@gmail.com) or [opvarmaigcruki@yahoo.com](mailto:opvarmaigcruki@yahoo.com).

9-11 February 2009: International Workshop of Experts on Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation) in sub-Saharan Africa. Pretoria, South Africa. The ICSU Regional Office for Africa (ICSU ROA), in collaboration with the National Research Foundation (NRF) and its partners is organizing this international workshop of experts. View the call for your participation in the workshop at [http://www.icsu-africa.org/docs/iwegec\\_call.pdf](http://www.icsu-africa.org/docs/iwegec_call.pdf) and the ICSU ROA Science plan on Global Environmental Change (including Climate Change and Adaptation) in sub-Saharan Africa at [http://www.icsu-africa.org/docs/sp\\_gec.pdf](http://www.icsu-africa.org/docs/sp_gec.pdf) More information at <http://www.icsu-africa.org/>

10-12 March 2009: The UN Conference on Climate Change (COP15), "Climate Change: Global Risks, Challenges and Decisions", will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. See: <http://climatecongress.ku.dk/>

16-20 March 2009: Workshop on GeoInfoRmation in AFrica (GIRAF) - at the Geological Survey of Namibia/Ministry of Mines and Energy, Windhoek, Namibia. Spatial information on geology, hydrogeology/water, soil, natural hazards and energy resources is an important asset for Africa - it is essential for groundwater protection and extraction, for mineral exploration, for the assessment of soil quality and thus for growing crops, for mitigating the threat of natural hazards and desertification. It provides invaluable information for construction, landuse planning and waste disposal, and can, in addition, be used to develop and protect the natural landscape and heritage and encourage tourism. In cooperation with the Geological Survey of Namibia (GSN), the Federal Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources (BGR), together with the IUGS Commission for the Management and Application of Geoscience Information (CGI) is organizing this GIRAF workshop. The workshop is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Please register and state your interest as soon as possible on the web at: <http://www.GIRAF2009.org> <<http://www.giraf2009.org/>> . Contact: [GIRAF2009@bgr.de](mailto:GIRAF2009@bgr.de) or [Kristine.Asch@bgr.de](mailto:Kristine.Asch@bgr.de)

6-11 July 2009: 7th IAG International Conference on Geomorphology (ANZIAG), Melbourne Convention and exhibition Centre, Australia. Theme "Ancient Landscapes - Modern Perspectives". The International Association of Geomorphologists and the Australian and New Zealand Geomorphology Group invite all geomorphologists and others interested in geomorphology to participate in the conference. Call for papers now open. <http://www.geomorphology2009.com/default.asp>

9-13 July 2009: MAEGS 16 - Meeting of Association of European Geological Societies, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Theme "Geology for society: education and cultural heritage" Full details at: <http://bioge.ubbcluj.ro/maegs16/>

26-31 October 2009: Geoscience for Global Development(GeoDev), Dhaka, Bangladesh. Organized jointly by the Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID), Bangladesh Geological Society (BGS), Geological Survey of Bangladesh (GSB), International Geoscience Education Organization (IGEO). Downlaod first Circular at: [http://www.sociedadgeologica.org.mx/files/First\\_Announcement.doc](http://www.sociedadgeologica.org.mx/files/First_Announcement.doc)

12th - 16th April 2010: 4th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks 2010 "Geoheritage Education for Sustainability". This event will be held in Southeast Asia's very first global geopark, Langkawi Geopark, MALAYSIA. Langkawi is one of the rare island geoparks in the world comprising 99 islands, possesses the region's oldest rocks and the most complete Palaeozoic geological history. More information at: <http://www.geoparks2010.com/>

Sincerely,  
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