



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS
UNION GEODESIQUE ET GEOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE

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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 Web site (<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 Bureau met in Cairo

The IUGG Bureau met from 30 October – 2 November in Cairo, a beautiful and ancient city of Egypt, upon the invitation of the Egyptian Academy of Scientific Research and Technology. Items of discussion included reports from the President, the Vice-President, and the Secretary General; the current state of arrangements for the XXV IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne; the modus operandi of IUGG; a review of the Union Associate Membership; reviews of the Union Commissions; reports from Union Committees; the future of Scientific Assemblies of the Union; reports from IUGG liaisons and representatives to international and intergovernmental organizations; the International Lithosphere Programme; ICSU matters including the Regional Offices, the new research programme on Integrated Research on Disaster Risk, and the ICSU initiative on data and information; IUGG Membership; reports of the IUGG Treasurer and the Chair of the IUGG Finance Committee; the 2012-2015 draft budget of the Union; the visibility of the Union; and reaching out to young scientists and developing countries. On 1 November a Round-table Discussion on Natural Hazards was held in the Academy where IUGG scientists discussed state-of-the-art research on natural hazards, extreme events and disaster risks. On 2 November the Bureau was invited by the Academy and the Egyptian Ministry of Tourism to visit the Giza Pyramids. The IUGG Bureau very much appreciates the hospitality of the Academy and our Cairo Ambassador Ali Tealeb.



The IUGG Bureau members with the representatives of the Egyptian National Committee for IUGG

2. IUGG Nominating Committee names the candidates for the IUGG Bureau and Finance Committee

On 27 October 2010 the IUGG Nominating Committee selected the candidates named in the list for consideration for the election of the IUGG officers at the XXV IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne, Australia.

President

Harsh Gupta (India, IASPEI)

Vice-President

David Jackson (USA, IASPEI)
Michael Sideris (Canada, IAG)
Guoxiong Wu (China, IAMAS)

Treasurer

Aksel W. Hansen (Denmark, IAMAS)

Bureau Members (*Positions #1, #2, and #3*)

Isabelle Jane Ansorge (South Africa, IAPSO)
Jaime Urrutia Fucugauchi (Mexico, IAGA)
Pierre Hubert (France, IAHS)
Kenji Satake (Japan, IAPSO/IASPEI)

Finance Committee

Position #1:

Zoltan Hajnal (Canada, IASPEI)

Position #2:

David Rhoades (New Zealand, IASPEI)

Positions #3 and #4:

David Collins (United Kingdom, IACS/IAHS)
Jan Krynski (Poland, IAG)
Juan Vilas (Argentina, IAGA)

The Committee was fortunate that many excellent candidates were nominated, so in developing the list the Committee paid great attention to attaining a good disciplinary and geographical balance. The Report of the Nomination Committee together with the Curriculum Vitae of the candidates is posted on the IUGG web site (http://www.iugg.org/nominations/NominCommRep_CVs.pdf).

The officers of the Union and Associations, and the National Committees for IUGG may make further nominations and/or recommendations to the Nominating Committee. If new nominations for a given position are supported by at least three Presidents or equivalent officers of National Committees of Member Countries, and if they are accompanied by the written acceptance of possible nomination and resumé outlining the position, research interests and Union related activities of the candidates, they shall be added to the list above. The deadline for adding nominations is **27 March 2011**. The resulting final list of nominations will be completed and distributed by 27 April 2011. Any questions concerning the nomination procedure should be sent to Prof. Masaru Kono (masarukono@gmail.com).

3. Last Call for Invitations to Host the 2015 IUGG General Assembly

Invitations to host the 2015 General Assembly are being accepted and must be received by 27 December 2010 (six month before the next General Assembly, consistent with IUGG By-Law 6). The Guidelines for proposals are posted on the IUGG web site (<http://www.iugg.org/assemblies/>) or can be received directly from the IUGG Secretariat [secretariat@iugg.org]. The IUGG Site Evaluation Committee appointed for that purpose will evaluate all invitations, and a report will be given to the IUGG Council before their final vote. The IUGG Council will make the final selection from the invitations that are received.

4. Scientific meetings selected for IUGG support in 2011

IUGG co-sponsors symposia and workshops appropriate to our disciplines of study and supports the participation of young scientists and scientists from developing countries. The IUGG budget for research meeting supports during the year of an IUGG General Assembly is very limited, and therefore, only a few meetings can be supported. For 2011, IUGG will support the following meetings (the name of the IUGG Associations that endorsed the meetings are indicated in brackets):

- Colloquium of African Geology, Johannesburg, South Africa, 8-14 January (IUGG)
- Symposium “The 2001 Bhuj Earthquake and Advances in Earthquake Science”, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, 22-27 January (IASPEI)
- Vertical Coupling in the Atmosphere-Ionosphere System, Prague, Czech Republic, 14-18 February (IAGA)
- 3rd IAGA Symposium “Heliospheric physics during and after a deep solar minimum”, Luxor, Egypt, 19-23 March (IAGA)
- Towards an Observing System for the Greater Agulhas System: Building links and capacity for East African participation, Port Louis, Mauritius, 21-25 March (IAPSO)

5. Preparations for the XXV IUGG General Assembly

The XXV IUGG General Assembly will be held in Melbourne, Australia, from 27 June to 8 July 2011, with scientific sessions running from 28 June to 7 July. The Newsletter of the General Assembly is now available: http://www.iugg2011.com/newsletter/IUGGNewsletter_Oct10.pdf. The Scientific Program of the Assembly can be found here: <http://www.iugg2011.com/program.asp>. The Scientific Program Committee of the General Assembly invites the submission of abstracts on original work to be considered for oral or poster presentation at the Assembly. The deadline for the submission of abstracts for those applying for travel grants is Monday, 17 January 2011. The early registration fee will be accepted until 11 April so that the Melbourne Local Organizing Committee can better plan for the expected attendance. After that, the fees will increase.

6. Delegate certifications needed for the IUGG Council Meeting

Official notification of the XXV IUGG General Assembly was sent to IUGG Adhering Bodies and National Committees on 15 July 2010. The letter asked that the Adhering Bodies to send to the IUGG Secretariat by **1 February 2011** the name of their Delegate to the IUGG Council. This deadline ensures that the Council Delegates will receive the Council Meeting Agenda papers and other important information such as the venue of the meetings. In addition, all Adhering Bodies should issue credentials for their Delegates to the Association business meetings.

7. News from the International Council for Science (ICSU)

New Director at ICSU Africa Regional Office

Dr. Edith Madela-Mntla has been appointed as the Director of the International Council of Science's (ICSU) Regional Office for Africa. She is currently an Executive Director at the Medical Research Council and will join the Regional Office for Africa in January 2011.

The Grand Challenges featured in a Policy Forum article in Science magazine

In an article in the 12 November issue of Science, the Visioning team discusses the Grand Challenges in Earth system science for global sustainability. The authors also call for an unprecedented global initiative to deliver the knowledge society needs to simultaneously reduce global environmental risks while also meeting economic development goals. The five 'grand challenges' proposed encompass: (i) Forecasting: improve the usefulness of forecasts of future environmental conditions and their consequences for people; (ii) Observing: develop, enhance and integrate the observation systems needed to manage global and regional environmental change; (iii) Confining: determine how to anticipate, avoid and manage disruptive global environmental change (iv) Responding: determine what institutional, economic and behavioral changes can enable effective steps toward global sustainability; and (v) Innovating: encourage innovation (coupled with sound mechanisms for evaluation) in developing technological, policy, and social responses to achieve global sustainability.

8. IUGG-related meetings occurring during December 2010 – February 2011

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG web site (<http://www.IUGG.org/calendar>). Specific information about these meetings can be found there. Individual Associations also list more meetings on their web sites according to their disciplines.

December 2010

- 13-17, AGU, San Francisco, California, USA, AGU Fall Meeting.

January 2011

- 8-14, Geological Society of Africa, IUGG, Johannesburg, South Africa, 23rd Colloquium of African Geology.
- 17-20, IUGG, Pretoria, South Africa, International Workshop “Extreme Natural Hazards and Disaster Risk in Africa”.
- 22-27, IUGG, Raisan, Gujarat, India, International Symposium “The 2001 Bhuj Earthquake and Advances in Earthquake Science”.
- 26-28, IUGG, IAGA, Uglich, Yaroslavl region, Russia, International Workshop “Artificial Intelligence in the Earth’s Magnetic Field Study”.

February 2011

- 14-18, IUGG, IAGA, Prague, Czech Republic, Symposium “Vertical Coupling in the Atmosphere-Ionosphere System”.
- 24 - 27, AGU, Oxnard, California, USA, Chapman Conference on Source to Sink Systems Around the World and Through Time.
- 28 February - 4 March, AGU, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, Chapman Conference on Atmospheric Gravity Waves and Their Effects on General Circulation and Climate.

End of IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 10 Number 12 (1 December 2010)

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Note: Contributions to IUGG E-Journal are welcome from members of the IUGG family. Please send your contributions to Alik Ismail-Zadeh by e-mail (insert in Subject line: *contribution to E-Journal*). The contributions will be reviewed and may be shortened by the Editor.