

# The IUGG Electronic Journal

Volume 5 No. 4 (April 1, 2005)

This short, 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. Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

## Contents

1. [IUGG Annual Report for 2004](#)
  2. [IUGS Executive Committee meeting](#)
  3. [IGY+50 Developments](#)
  4. [Honors and Awards](#)
  5. [Summer School on Gravimetric Methods](#)
  6. [News from ICSU](#)
  7. [IUGG-related meetings occurring during April - June 2005](#)
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### 1. IUGG Annual Report for 2004

The IUGG [2004 Annual Report](#) is now posted on the IUGG web site under Publications/Reports. Printed copies will be mailed to all Adhering Bodies, and can be sent on request to the Secretariat.

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### 2. IUGS Executive Committee meeting

The Executive Committee of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) met in Vilnius, Lithuania, on March 18-21. In the tradition of collaboration among the Geounions, Uri Shamir was invited to attend the first two days of the meeting during which matters of common interest to the two Unions were discussed. Among them were the various components of the 50th anniversary of the International Geophysical Year, especially the International Year of Planet Earth, the proposed ICSU strategic plan, and the agenda items to be considered at the upcoming ICSU General Assembly.

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### 3. IGY+50 Developments

#### *International Year of Planet Earth*

The United Republic of Tanzania recently presented a draft Resolution on the International Year of Planet Earth to be included as item 57 on the Agenda of the 171st meeting of UNESCO's Executive Board, to be held in April in Paris. This constitutes a major step towards realization of the proclamation of the International Year by the General Assembly of the United Nations, later this year. Dr. Felix Totue (Cameroon), who chairs the Geological Society of Africa, has joined the Management Team. The number of nations supporting the International Year at the highest political level has grown to 16. Moreover, several more

letters of support from Earth Science communities around the world have been received, including a supportive joint position paper by the UK and USA National Committees.

All Key Text Teams have now presented their draft texts for the scientific brochures. The Ocean brochure will be printed soon, followed by brochures on the 'Soils' and 'Megacities' themes. The downloadable status of brochures may be checked by visiting the website at [www.esfs.org](http://www.esfs.org). The Management Team agreed to reprint the Resources brochure to provide a better balance between coverage of fossil fuels and mineral resources. Generous support has been received from several European geological surveys to make possible printing of the brochures.

A business plan and prospectus for the International Year has recently been printed and can be found on home page named above.

### **eGY (Electronic Geophysical Year)**

eGY ([www.egy.org](http://www.egy.org)) and the International Year of Planet Earth ([www.esfs.org](http://www.esfs.org)) have formed a strategic alliance to facilitate collaborative scientific research and development and other programs of the highest international standing.

The eGY Task Force and a number of enthusiasts met at LASP (Boulder, Colorado) on February 14-15, 2005. This was the last meeting of the Task Force, which was disbanded (with great thanks for the hard work for eGY), and the group identified the new management structure of the eGY initiative. The eGY International Committee will lead the initiative through 2005-2008, with the working Secretariat at LASP. The eGY will also include National Representatives as identified. The full text of Minutes is available at [www.egy.org](http://www.egy.org).

#### eGY International Committee:

Charlie Barton, Chair  
Dan Baker, Co-Chair  
Ferris Webster, WDC Panel liaison  
Herb Kroehl, CODATA liaison  
Bob Chen, CODATA  
Liu Chuang, CODATA  
Alan Rodger, IPY liaison  
Barbara Thompson, IHY liaison  
Ed de Mulder, IYPE liaison

#### Working Group Leaders:

Paul Berkman, Data Integration/Knowledge Discovery  
Volodya Papitashvili, Virtual Observatories Census  
Herb Kroehl, Best Practices and Standards  
Emily CoBabe-Ammann, Education and Public Outreach

#### eGY Secretariat:

Dan Baker, Executive Director  
Bill Peterson, Secretary  
Marissa Rusinek, eGY Communications Manager  
Emily CoBabe-Ammann, Media and PR

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#### **4. Honors and Awards**

Yoram Rubin, Professor of Civil Environmental Engineering at the University of California and President of the IAHS International Commission on Groundwater, received the Hydrology Section Award at the December 2004 American Geophysical Union meeting in San Francisco, California.

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#### **5. Summer School on Gravimetric Methods**

The international Gravimetric Bureau (BGI, France), the International Center for Earth Tides (ICET, Belgium) and the Institute of Astronomy and Geodesy (IAG, Spain) are organizing a Summer School about "microgravimetry methods: static and dynamics aspects" in Lanzarote, October 23-28, 2005. The Web link is <http://bgi.cnes.fr>, and the request for information email is [bernard.langellier@cnes.fr](mailto:bernard.langellier@cnes.fr). Please note that the registration is strictly limited to 24 students. JP Barriot, Director of BGI

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#### **6. News from ICSU**

The following items were taken from the ICSU web site: <http://www.icsu.org>. Please visit this website for more items of interest.

The World Climate Research Programme is looking for a Director. This opportunity is with the World Meteorological Organization (Vacancy Notice No. 1601) and details about the application, due by 10 May, can be found on the ICSU web site and at [www.wmo.int/web/hrm](http://www.wmo.int/web/hrm). The position will begin on 1 November. It is a 2-year appointment with the possibility of renewal. Also listed on [www.wmo.int/web/hrm](http://www.wmo.int/web/hrm) is Director, Group on Earth Observations, for which the primary responsibility is the overall coordination of the development and implementation of the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) work plan. This is Vacancy Notice 1602 and the closing date is 15 April. The position will begin on 1 July and is also a 2-year appointment with the possibility of renewal.

The International Arctic Science Committee (IASC) has been admitted as an ICSU International Scientific Associate. IUGG endorsed their application and we are pleased to welcome them into the ICSU family.

The draft report of the Priority Area Assessment (PAA) on Capacity Building in Science has been distributed to the ICSU Members for comment.

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#### **7. IUGG-Related Meetings Occurring during April - June 2005**

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized or sponsored by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG Web Site [ [www.iugg.org](http://www.iugg.org) ]. Specific information about these meetings, including web links, can be found there. Individual Associations also list more meetings on their web sites appropriate to their disciplines. IAVCEI; Sal Island, Cape Verde; Workshop on Ocean Island Volcanism

***April 4 - April 9, 2005***

IAHS; Foz de Iguassu, Brazil; Scientific Assembly

***April 11 - April 15, 2005***

WCRP/CliC; Beijing, China; 1st CliC International Science Conference: Cryosphere, the Frozen Frontier of Climate Science

***April 24 - April 29, 2005***

EGU; Vienna, Austria; EGU General Assembly

***May 3 - May 5, 2005***

URSI; Alexandria, VA - USA; 11th International Ionospheric Effects Symposium

***May 9 - May 14, 2005***

SCOSTEP; Taipei, Taiwan - China; 11th International Symposium on Equatorial Aeronomy

***May 16 - May 19, 2005***

Egyptian Geophysical Society; Cairo, Egypt; Imaging the Future: Cairo 2005 2nd International Petroleum Conference

***May 16 - May 20, 2005***

EGU/CIIFEN; Guayaquil, Ecuador; 1st Alexander von Humboldt International Conference on the El Niño phenomenon and its global impact

***May 18 - May 20, 2005***

NMIJ/BIPM; Tsukuba, Japan; NMIJ-BIPM Workshop on the Impact of Information Technology on Metrology

***May 22 - May 26, 2005***

UN/Algeria/ESA; Algiers, Algeria; International Seminar on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management: Prevention and Management of Natural Disasters

***May 23 - May 27, 2005***

AGU/SEG/NABS/AAS; New Orleans, LA - USA; Joint Meeting

***May 25 - May 28, 2005***

IAHS; Nijmegen, The Netherlands; 3rd International Symposium on flood Defense: Floods, from Defense to Management

***June 6 - June 9, 2005***

IAHS; The Hague, Netherlands; ModelCARE2005: 5th International Conference on Calibration and Reliability in Groundwater Modeling - From Uncertainty to Decision Making

***June 6 - June 10, 2005***

UNESCO/IOC; Paris, France; International Ocean Research Conference

***June 13 - June 18, 2005***

IAGA/IASPEI/IAVCEI; Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Geodynamics and Environmental Problems of High-Mountain Regions in the XXI Century

***June 20 - June 23, 2005***

IAHS; Bergen, Norway; HeadWater2005: 6th International Conference on Hydrology, Ecology, and Water Resources in Headwaters

***June 20 - June 24, 2005***

AOGS; Singapore, Singapore; AOGS 2005, the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society's 2nd Annual Meeting

***June 20 - June 24, 2005***

WCRP/GEWEX; Orange County, California, USA; 5th International Scientific Conference on the Global Energy and Water Cycle

***June 27 - June 29, 2005***

ITC; Chania City, Crete Island, Greece; 22nd IUGG International Tsunami Symposium

***June 27 - July 1, 2005***

CAWSES; Monte Porzio Catone, Rome, Italy; Solar Variability and Earth Climate

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End of IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 5 Number 4 (April 1, 2005)

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