



## **International Association of Meteorology & Atmospheric Sciences**

[www.IAMAS.org](http://www.IAMAS.org)

### **INTRODUCTION**

IAMAS is the specialized association of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) which deals with all aspects of the gaseous envelope around the Earth and other planets. The main research work is carried out, coordinated and communicated in IAMAS's ten International Commissions (IC), which are in alphabetical order the ICs on *Atmospheric Chemistry and Global Pollution* (ICACGP), on *Atmospheric Electricity* (ICAE), on *Climate* (ICCL), on *Clouds and Precipitation* (ICCP), on *Dynamical Meteorology* (ICDM), on the *Middle Atmosphere* (ICMA), the *International Ozone Commission* (IOC), the ICs on *Planetary Atmospheres and their Evolution* (ICPAE), on *Polar Meteorology* (ICPM), and the *International Radiation Commission* (IRC). The ICs are historically grown from mostly personal initiatives and focus on topics of global extent (ICPAE, ICACGP, ICCL), on combinations of important processes within the Earth's atmosphere (ICCP, ICDM, IOC, IRC, ICAE), or on certain regions within the atmosphere (ICMA, ICPM); for details see the links collected under [www.iamas.org/Commissions.html](http://www.iamas.org/Commissions.html).

The tradition of IAMAS goes back until 1919 as the Meteorology section of IUGG, one of the scientific Unions within the newly established International Research Council (later ICSU; cf. Shaw 1922 [[www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/115304386/PDFSTART](http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/115304386/PDFSTART)]). The extended names '*and Atmospheric Physics*' (1957-1995) as well as '*and Atmospheric Sciences*' (since 1995) reflect the explicit broadening of scope to physical and later also chemical techniques.

All ICs, and IAMAS as a whole, take a leading part within the global communication and discussion of latest research results in a wide range of scientific meetings that are open to all scientists. Personalities of many countries serve voluntarily as presidents and secretaries for all these bodies. This network on an often personal basis forms an important supplement and extension to research activities and applications overseen by the national meteorological services (NMS) under the umbrella of the *World Meteorological Organization* (WMO), a specialized agency of the *United Nations*.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

For IAMAS, officers and members at large were routinely elected at the IUGG Assembly in Perugia in July 2007. No changes occurred in 2009. All International Commissions were active in 2009 with no changes in their officers. During the joint IAMAS-IAPSO-IACS-Assembly

(MOCA-09) from 19-29 July in **Montréal, Canada**, the IAMAS Bureau and Executive Committee held three meetings in total and most of the Commissions had their regular business meetings as indicated below.

## ACTIVITIES

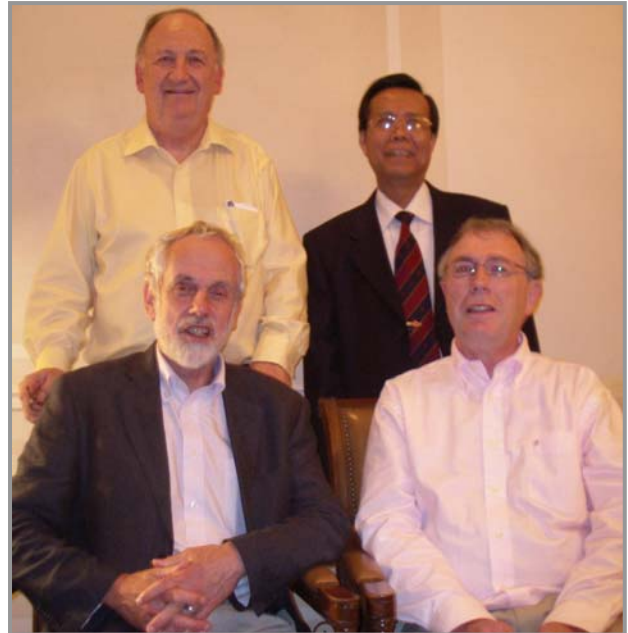
Here a brief selection of activities is reported; the full compilation of commission reports will be posted on [www.IAMAS.org/Reports.html](http://www.IAMAS.org/Reports.html).

## IAMAS

The highlight of the year was the very successful event termed MOCA-09. Some two thirds of the nearly 1400 registered participants came from IAMAS. They contributed to 20 (of 21) joint symposia and to 18 IAMAS-only symposia. The general opinion prevailed that the overall organisation by our Canadian hosts was excellent with a compact, but spacious venue and a carefully designed interlocking schedule comprising two well attended plenary sessions, up to 11 parallel sessions with IAMAS-contributions, and ample time for daily mid-afternoon discussion at posters. At the end of the opening ceremony Michèle BOURGEOIS-DOYLE (NRC), Pierre DUBREUIL (Env. Canada) and Jacques DEROME (McGill university) were presented with replicas of historic European seals as symbols of gratitude in the name of all three associations. A contract was the legal basis of our cooperation, but the personal dedication of the trio and their many Canadian colleagues were regarded as an essential backbone of the common success, in combination with the voluntary work of all convenors who planned the symposia (see [www.moca-09.org/e/documents/IAMAS2009Program15w.pdf](http://www.moca-09.org/e/documents/IAMAS2009Program15w.pdf) for the entire 220-pp-programme-book).

On the eve of the last of 10 conference days some 35 Executive Committee members and guests dined together in the presence of no less than four (former) presidents of the Association.

*On the photo from the left; seated: Brian HOSKINS [UK, 1991-95], Huw DAVIES [CH, 1999-2003]; standing: Michael MacCRACKEN [USA, 2003-07], Guoxiong WU [China, 2007-11].*



President and SG took part at the IUGG Executive Meeting in Melbourne at the beginning of October and the initial planning for the IUGG-Assembly there in June/July 2011. On his way back the SG paid a visit to LASG, the president's base in Beijing, where he gave a seminar, met with past-president MacCRACKEN and was overwhelmed by the Chinese hospitality combined with a broad range of scientific activities. The SG and his deputy had two business meetings (Jan. in Oberpfaffenhofen; Oct. in Cambridge), *inter alia* dealing with plans for a face-lift of the website.

The SG joined a combined initiative of honorary members of IOC and IRC to highlight the catalyzing role of IAMAS commissions for advancing over decades international science programmes (cf. OHRING et al. 2009; <http://ams.allenpress.com/archive/1520-0477/90/11/pdf/i1520-0477-90-11-1669.pdf>).

## **IAMAS-ICACGP**

ICACGP members were actively involved in several symposia at MOCA-09. As a coming large event the 12<sup>th</sup> ICACGP Symposium is jointly planned with the 11<sup>th</sup> Science Conference of the International Global Atmosphere Chemistry (IGAC) Project to take place in Halifax, Canada, July 11-16, 2010 (cf. [www.icacgp-igac-2010.ca](http://www.icacgp-igac-2010.ca)), also supported by an IUGG-grant.

## **IAMAS-ICAE**

At MOCA-09 two symposia were organized. Two editions of the detailed ICAE-newsletter appeared, which are available from the regularly updated web-site (cf. <http://icae.jp/>). The electronic mailing list was expanded to 650 entries.

## **IAMAS-ICCL**

The regular business meeting was held during MOCA-09. ICCL members were active in co-convening and participating a number of symposia at MOCA-09. The Tasmania-based secretary acts as local IAMAS representative during the planning of IUGG-2011. The president joined several UNFCCC meetings in the run-up to COP-15 in Copenhagen (December) and the World Climate Conference 3 hosted by the WMO (August).

## **IAMAS-ICCP**

The International Committee on Nucleation and Atmospheric Aerosols (ICNAA) within ICCP held its 18<sup>th</sup> international conference in Prague (Czech Republic; August; cf. [www.icnaa.cz](http://www.icnaa.cz) for general information, book of abstracts etc.). A book *Aerosol Pollution Impact on Precipitation: A Scientific Review* (386 pp., edited by Levin and Cotton) was published by Springer with numerous contributions from members of the cloud physics community. This scientific review which was sponsored by the IUGG, IAMAS and the WMO and received the Atmospheric Science Librarians International (ASLI) 2009 choice as *Honorable Mention* for an authoritative, well-organized, forum-based approach to the evaluation of the problem.

## **IAMAS-ICDM**

The regular business meeting took place during MOCA-09. Following the meeting, four new members were elected to the Commission: Craig BISHOP, Jianping LI, Olivia MARTIUS and David NOLAN. For MOCA-09 ICDM organized five symposia, co-convened two with other commissions and was involved in three joint symposia with the other associations. Similarly, it will focus on IUGG-2011 for larger international meetings. A dedicated workshop regarding activities with the WMO-THROPEX programme is considered for 2012 to take place in China.

## **IAMAS-ICMA**

Four symposia were sponsored during MOCA (M01 *Middle Atmosphere Science*; M02 *Climate Processes in the Upper Troposphere and Stratosphere*; M03 *The Impact of Solar Variability on Earth*; M05 *Stratosphere-Troposphere-Ocean Coupling in Climate - Top Down or Bottom Up?*) The 9<sup>th</sup> Workshop on *Layered Phenomena in the Mesopause Region* was co-sponsored in Stockholm (Sweden; mid July). During the COSPAR assembly in Bremen (Germany, July 2010) ICMA will co-sponsor the *Solar-Terrestrial Physics Symposium* (STP-12).

## **IAMAS-IOC**

Cooperative activities took place with WMO, including a *letter of agreement* for the establishment of an ad hoc expert team that will assess ozone absorption cross sections used in atmospheric observations, a *theme meeting* on ozone absorption cross-sections at WMO Headquarters in Geneva (Switzerland; May 2009). A book *Twenty years of ozone decline* (online under [www.springerlink.com/content/tmv484/](http://www.springerlink.com/content/tmv484/), 472 pp., edited by Zerefos, Skalkeas & Contopoulos) was published by Springer. It includes articles presented by leading scientists in ozone research at the Symposium for the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Montreal Protocol, co-organized by IOC, UNEP, the Academy of Athens and the Mariolopoulos-Kanaginis Foundation in Athens (Greece; September 2007).

## **IAMAS-ICPAE**

The regular business meeting took place during MOCA-09. Scientific break-throughs were identified in relation to data from recent space missions, to the planning and executions of which numerous commissions members contributed. ICPAE members actively participated in events related with the *Year of Astronomy*. (Co-)Sponsorship was given to a number of symposia, e.g. at EGU in Vienna (Austria; April), AOGS (Singapore; August); EPSC in Potsdam (Germany; September). Two symposia were convened at MOCA-09. The natural link to COSPAR will be tightened during the *cospar-10* Assembly in Bremen (Germany; July 2010). For IUGG-2011 two symposia are being organised.

## **IAMAS-ICPM**

Two joint-association symposia at MOCA-09 were led by commission members. Contributions to the ICSU committee SCAR culminated in broad survey *Antarctic climate change and the environment* (526 pp., ISBN 978-0-948277-22-1, edited by Turner, Bindshadler et al.). In 2010, a workshop on *Antarctic Clouds* is being organized including support by an IUGG-grant. Two symposia are being co-convened at IUGG2011.

## **IAMAS-IRC**

A workshop on *Clouds and Turbulence* was held in London (UK; May 2009), with support by an IUGG-grant. The regular business meeting of the commission took place during MOCA-09 including the election of two new members from China and Russia. The commission web-site was considerably updated ([www.irc-iamas.org/](http://www.irc-iamas.org/)). The commission co-convened four symposia at MOCA-09. This active participation extended to *cospar-10* in Bremen (Germany; July 2010; the next business meeting will be held there) and IUGG-2011.

## **FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

At MOCA-09, the Executive Committee accepted the bid from Switzerland to host the next large IAMAS event in 2013, to be jointly organised with IACS as a two-association assembly. Meanwhile the small Alpine town of Davos was selected as venue and 8-12 July 2013 as a compact 5-day-period for scientific presentations. Werner SCHMUTZ (vice-president of IAMAS-IRC) as well as Michael LEHNIG and Charles FIERZ (both IACS) all work at scientific institutes in Davos and will oversee the local organisation.

Hans Volkert, IAMAS Secretary General