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**MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017 to  
ALL OF YOU!**



## Foreword

Dear Readers,

The 2017 Scientific Assembly of IASPEI will be the highlight of next year's IASPEI activities. This Assembly will be held together with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) in Kobe, Japan and we start the newsletter with information about it. Then, we have several IASPEI related announcements: as reminder the call for proposals for the IASPEI Medal 2017; information regarding the Scientific Assembly 2021; and news from the IUGG as e.g., about the new Association logos. IASPEI has started to use the new Association logo with this issue of the Newsletter (see above) and will adopt it step by step in all other documents and on the web-site.

With deep sorrow, I have to add to this Newsletter two obituaries for colleagues, who recently passed away.

Please don't forget to inform me about international conferences and workshops with IASPEI related topics. Then, I can add these events to the Meetings Calendar of future Newsletters.

**Johannes Schweitzer**  
Secretary General

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## Joint Scientific Assembly of IAG and IASPEI 2017



The joint Scientific Assembly of IAG (International Association of Geodesy) and IASPEI will be held at the Kobe International Conference Center, Japan, from July 30 through August 4, 2017.

The city of Kobe experienced a disastrous earthquake in 1995 with about 6,000 casualties, but has completely recovered. The surface rupture appeared on the Nojima fault on Awaji Island and is today preserved in the Hokudan earthquake memorial park. Half-day field trips to this park are planned during the conference.

The proposed scientific program consists of in total 43 symposia (7 IAG, 27 IASPEI and 9 Joint symposia).

Please visit the conference website: <http://www.iag-iaspei-2017.jp/>, which has more detailed information about the scientific program, abstract submission, travel support, registration, accommodation and travel information. Also applications to exhibit booths are accepted at the conference website.

The abstract submission and application for travel support will be closed on February 8, 2017.

Early Bird registrations are possible until May 10, 2017.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Kobe!

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## Call for IASPEI Medal 2017 nominations

The award of an IASPEI medal has been decided during the 2011 General Assembly in Melbourne.

The IASPEI medal is awarded for merits in seismology: for sustaining IASPEI goals and activities and for scientific merits in the field of seismology and physics of the Earth's interior. The IASPEI Bureau is in charge of taking the decision about who, among the candidates nominated at large, will be the medal recipient.

Until now, the IASPEI Medal has been awarded to Robin Adams (2013) and Willie H.K. Lee (2015).

Nominations of candidates for the IASPEI Medal 2017 are due until January 31, 2017.

Please send nominations with attached a CV of the candidate and a letter of motivation for the nomination to:

Johannes Schweitzer, IASPEI Secretary-General ([iaspei@norsar.no](mailto:iaspei@norsar.no))

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## Call for bids for the 2021 Scientific Assembly

The Bureaus of the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) and IASPEI decided to plan their 2021 Scientific Assemblies as a joint conference. In June 2016, all National Representatives of IAGA and IASPEI were informed about this decision and were asked to consider hosting this event.

In the case that you would like to invite the IAGA – IASPEI community to your country, please contact your National Representatives of IAGA and IASPEI and discuss your idea with them.

Then, the National Representatives have to formally submit their official bids until the end of May 2017. IAGA and IASPEI will decide between all received bids for the 2021 venue during their next Scientific Assemblies in Cape Town and Kobe, respectively.



IUGG



International Association of Geodesy



IUGG



International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy



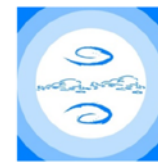
IUGG



International Association of Hydrological Sciences



IUGG



International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences

## News from the IUGG

### New Logos

This summer the IUGG ExeCom discussed how IUGG can become more visible as mother organization of the Associations. It was decided that the Association logos should be combined with the IUGG logo. After discussing different versions, the following new logos for all IUGG Associations have been endorsed:



IUGG



International Association of Cryospheric Sciences



IUGG



International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans



IUGG



International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior



IUGG



International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior

## IUGG Electronic Journal

The IUGG would like to distribute their monthly electronic newsletter, the **IUGG Electronic Journal** (<http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>) to a wider community and asked IASPEI for the list of IASPEI email addresses.

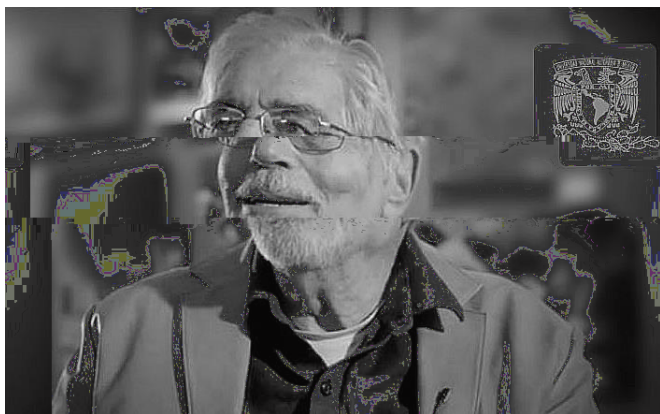
Please inform the IASPEI Secretary General ([iaspei@norsar.no](mailto:iaspei@norsar.no)) if you have any objections that your email address is copied to IUGG or if you are not interested to receive the **IUGG Electronic Journal**.

## Updates to the IUGG Yearbook

Corrections and updates to the information contained in the IUGG Yearbook (<http://www.iugg.org/publications/yearbooks/yearbook2016.pdf>) are now being finalized in preparation for the Yearbook 2017. Please contact the IUGG Secretariat ([secretariat@iugg.org](mailto:secretariat@iugg.org)) urgently in the case of any additions and corrections.

(from the IUGG Electronic Journal, December 2016)

## OBITUARIES



### Cinna Lomnitz (1925 – 2016)

On July 7, 2016, Cinna Lomnitz died at the age of 91, in Mexico City. He was an

internationally famous seismologist having a German-Chilean-Mexican multi-nationality. A Geosciences era ends with him. His life was unusually plenty of experiences, and its complete narration is impossible. He always felt connected to Germany, his birth country, keeping a very close contact with geoscientists from Institutes in Karlsruhe, Jena, Kiel and Potsdam, to name only a few of them. Over the last 10 to 15 years I have been Cinna's closest contact in Germany, so I feel committed to write this obituary.

Cinna Lomnitz was born in Cologne, and spent his childhood and youth in Belgium and Chile. He obtained his engineer degree in 1948 at the "Facultad de Física y Matemáticas" from Chile's University. Later, he studied at Harvard University with Karl von Terzaghi, where he obtained a Master degree in Soil Mechanics. Another important moment of his life was his stay at CalTech, in Berkeley, where he was fortunate to make his PhD thesis entitled: "Creep measurements in igneous rocks with some applications to aftershock theory", under the leadership of the famous scientists Hugo Benioff and Beno Gutenberg. In Berkeley, he attended Anderson's courses, Nobel Prize winner and discoverer of Positrons, and also Feynman's. In 1955, Cinna was the first Latin American to obtain a PhD in Geophysics. In his thesis he observed a logarithmic time dependence of the igneous rock deformation, reformulated in 1958 by Sir Harold Jeffreys and known in the literature as Lomnitz law.

Being a student of Benioff, Cinna was invited to Israel to set up short-period seismic sensors while training Ari Ben-Menahem, who became a leading seismologist in his country. Cinna worked as Charles Richter's assistant before returning to Chile's University, where he was the director of a Geophysics Institute created for him. In 1959, during the International Geophysical Year, he participated in a research expedition of the Earth's crust along the coast of Chile on the research vessel Yema, led by Maurice Ewing. In 1964 he took the leadership of the seismic network of the University of California (Berkeley). At this time the theory of tectonic



plates emerges: Cinna accepted, incorporated and applied the theory in his lessons and lectures (he was one of the first geophysicists to do so). Later in his scientific career he climbed positions at the Universities of California (Berkeley), Kyoto, Kiel and Bahia (Brazil) and worked from 1968 up to the end of his life at the Geophysics Institute of the University of Mexico (UNAM).

Cinna Lomnitz founded and led several national and local seismic networks while working at UNAM. As an expert in soil mechanics he was aware of seismic hazards in the Valley of Mexico, such as the catastrophic effects of 19 September, 1985, earthquake. Since then, he concentrated his research on the possible causes of this disaster. He contributed with building regulations and investigated, theoretically and practically, the wave movements on soft soils, contacting foreign specialists and researchers from the Instituto de Física (UNAM). His work was distinguished for unconventional and innovative ideas. In recent years, he worked on a new theory on the formation of tsunamis, that he applied, after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, to analyse the nuclear disaster in Fukushima. Cinna produced more than 100 scientific articles and 4 books, including one on plate tectonics. He was also a member of several national and international scientific organizations, and during a certain time a member of the DGG.

He was Editor in Chief of *Geofísica Internacional* and scientific editor of *Nexos*. He was recognized with the National Award for Arts and Science in 1995, and with the National University Award in 1997. In 2002, he was appointed as a Special Professor Emeritus, a special honour in Mexico, not granted automatically with the retirement. More recently, in 2015, due to his efforts for the safety from earthquakes in Mexico, he received from the local government the "Angel of the City" title.

Finally, some personal words. During our 17 years of friendship, Cinna Lomnitz always stood by me in difficult personal situations with advice and parental support. Those who

were lucky enough to know him will never forget his essentially warm character, which will be surely missed in the future. His extraordinary and broad culture was always present in many aspects which he was able to transmit convincingly. I remember him with gratitude and respect. Rest in peace.

Peter Malischewsky  
Friedrich-Schiller University Jena, Germany



### **Marco Mucciarelli (1960 – 2016)**

*"It is with great sadness that I inform you that on November 7th, 2016, our esteemed and beloved colleague, Marco Mucciarelli, passed away" – writes the President of the National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics OGS (Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale), Prof. Maria Cristina Pedicchio – "The loss of Marco leaves an immeasurable gap as a man, a scientist and a friend; all the OGS staff is shocked by his departure and want to express its grief to the family, and close friends."*

Marco Mucciarelli graduated in Physics in 1983 at the University of Bologna. He worked as postgraduate, contract researcher and non-tenured professor at the Universities of Bologna and Siena; from 1987 to 1998 at ISMES S.p.A., as Head of the Seismology group. Since 1998 he was Associate professor of Geophysics at the Basilicata University; then since July 2012 he operated

as Head of OGS Seismological Department CRS – Centro di Ricerche Sismologiche. His main research interests were: Statistical analysis of seismicity data; Estimate of seismic hazard for sites, areas and lifelines; RIS (Reservoir Induced Seismicity); Seismotectonic modelling; Site amplification and microzonation; building monitoring. He participated to E.U. funded projects: as Researcher SCENARIO (ENVIRONMENT), Novovoronezh NPP Seismic Hazard Estimate (TACIS), SEISMOCARE (ENVIRONMENT); Scientific Responsible of Chernobyl NPP Seismic Hazard Estimate (TACIS); Coordinator of FAUST (ENVIRONMENT).

In other main international projects Marco was Director of NATO Science for Peace project 980857, Assessment of seismic site amplification and building vulnerability in former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Croatia and Slovenia. In Italy, from 2000 and 2007 he coordinated: microzonation studied in more than 50 municipalities in Marche and Basilicata regions; the project "Scenari di scuotimento e di danno atteso in aree di interesse prioritario e/o strategico" in the framework of "Progetti Sismologici e Vulcanologici di interesse per il Dipartimento della Protezione Civile"; the PRIN Project "Tecniche semplificate per lo studio della risposta sismica di sito". From 2009 he participated to the microzonation studies for the recovery after the L'Aquila earthquake.

Beside his scientific interests, Marco was popular for the efforts spent in Teaching and Science Communication. He developed, with colleagues of ANPAS, DPC, INGV and RELUIS the National Campaign "I do not take the risk", the 6<sup>th</sup> last edition involved hundreds of municipalities in Italy with about 7,000 volunteers in the squares for warnings to the citizens. Marco's blog was and will remain one of the few clear and loud voices for understanding earthquakes and raising the awareness of population.

(From the ESC Web-site)

## Meetings Calendar

We report below titles, dates, places and websites of the forthcoming meetings relevant to the interests of IASPEI scientists. If you are aware of events not listed below, please inform the Secretary General.

### 2017

#### **16<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (WCEE)**

January 9 – 13, 2017, Santiago, Chile

URL: <http://www.16wcee.com/>

#### **10<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Statistical Seismology (StatSei10)**

February 20 – 24, 2017, Wellington, New Zealand

URL: <http://www.gns.cri.nz/statsei10>

#### **Annual Meeting of the Seismological Society of America**

April 18 – 20, 2017, Denver, Colorado, USA

URL: <http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/>

#### **EGU General Assembly 2017**

April 23 – 28, 2017, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2017.eu/>

#### **48<sup>th</sup> Nordic Seismology Seminar & 2<sup>nd</sup> Nordic EPOS Meeting**

June 12 – 15, 2017, Helsinki, Finland

URL: <http://www.seismo.helsinki.fi/nordics2017>

#### **CTBTO, Science and Technology (Snt)**

June, 26 – 30, 2017, Vienna, Austria

URL: <https://www.ctbto.org/specials/snt2017/>

#### **IAG – IASPEI: Joint Scientific Assembly**

July 30 – August 4, 2017, Kobe, Japan

URL: <http://www.iag-iaspei-2017.jp/>

#### **AGU Fall Meeting**

December 11 – 15, 2017, New Orleans, USA

URL: <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2016/2017-fall-meeting-new-orleans/>

## 2018

### **EGU General Assembly 2018**

April 8 – 13, 2018, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2018.eu/>

### **Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) and Seismological Society of America (SSA) joint meeting**

April 24 – 26, 2018, San Juan, Puerto Rico

### **16<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Earthquake Engineering**

June 18 – 21, 2018, Thessaloniki, Greece

URL: <http://www.16ecee.org/>

### **36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission (ESC)**

End of August / Beginning of September, 2018, Valletta, Malta

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

December 10 – 14, 2018, Washington D.C., USA

## 2019

### **EGU General Assembly 2019**

April 7 – 12, 2019, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2019.eu/>

### **27<sup>th</sup> IUGG General Assembly**

July 8 – 17, 2019, Montreal, Canada

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

December 9 – 13, 2019, San Francisco, USA

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## **General Information about IASPEI**

The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior is one of the eight Associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics [\[IUGG\]](#).

The other IUGG Associations are:

Int'l Association of Cryospheric Sciences [\[IACS\]](#)

Int'l Association of Geodesy [\[IAG\]](#)

Int'l Association of Hydrological Sciences [\[IAHS\]](#)

Int'l Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences [\[IAMAS\]](#)

Int'l Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans [\[IAPSO\]](#)

Int'l Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy [\[IAGA\]](#)

Int'l Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior [\[IAVCEI\]](#)

### Scientific Assemblies

IASPEI holds an Ordinary General Assembly every four years in conjunction with each Ordinary General Assembly of IUGG. Between the General Assemblies, IASPEI holds a Scientific Assembly, sometimes meeting with one of the other Associations of IUGG.

### Participation in IASPEI Activities

Since July 2015, all scientists participating in IASPEI activities are counted as **members** of IASPEI (see <http://www.iaspei.org/statutes.html>). IASPEI welcomes all scientists throughout the world to join in seismological research.

IASPEI is subdivided into a number of Commissions, many of which have working groups for the study of particular subjects in their general areas of interest. On occasion, these internal IASPEI groups issue their own newsletters or circulars and many maintain their own web sites. At the IASPEI Assemblies, the groups organize specialist symposia, invite scholarly reviews and receive contributed papers that present up-to-the-minute results of current research. The IASPEI web site gives, or provides links to, information on the range of IASPEI activities.

### The IASPEI Web site

IASPEI can be found on the web at:

<http://www.iaspei.org/>

### Contacting IASPEI

The Secretary-General is the main point of contact for all matters concerning IASPEI.

#### ***Dr. Johannes Schweitzer / IASPEI***

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