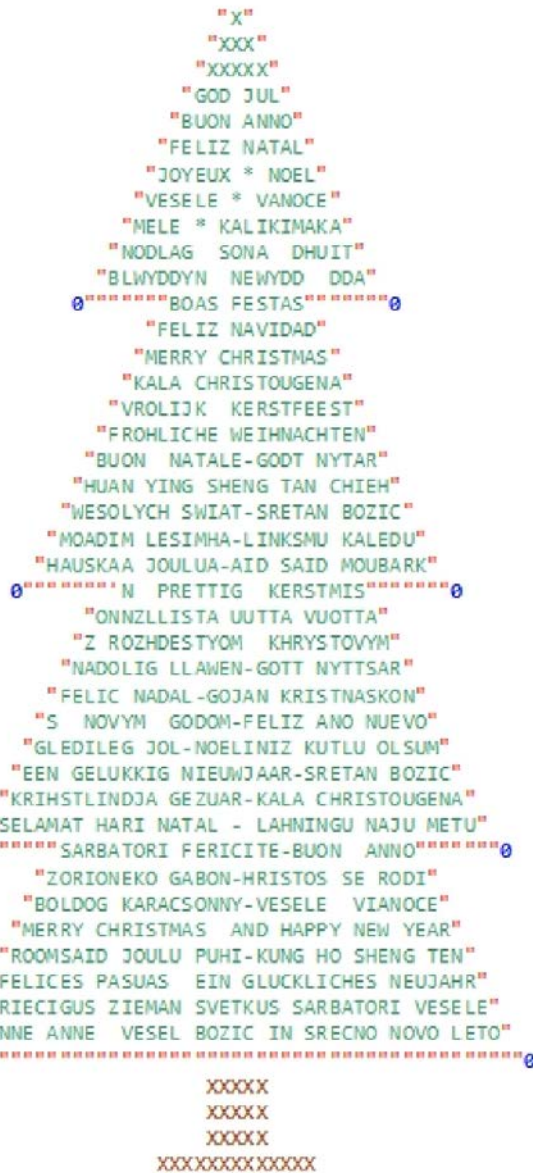


# IASPEI Newsletter

December 2017



Foreword ..... 1

2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC)..... 2

3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC)..... 3

12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) together with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Continental Earthquakes (ICCE) and the International Conference for the Decade Memory of the Wenchuan Earthquake ..... 3

36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission (ESC) ..... 4

Seismology in the oceans ..... 5

2<sup>nd</sup> BestPSHANI workshop on “Issues and challenges towards full Seismic Risk Analysis” ..... 6

Meetings Calendar..... 6

General Information about IASPEI ..... 7



## Foreword

Dear Readers,

In 2018, all our Regional Commissions will have their biannual General Assemblies. The main part of this Newsletter contains announcements for these meetings. The Regional Assemblies are an essential part of the IASPEI activities with the goal to promote the urgently needed continent-wide cooperation in seismology. Please consider

**MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON and  
HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 to  
ALL OF YOU!**

participating in one or more of these Assemblies and be aware of the different deadlines for abstract submission and registration.

Then follows the report about the foundation of the Earthscope Oceans (ESO) Steering Committee during a workshop in China in June 2017 and the announcement for a Seismic Hazard Assessment Workshop in France.

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

seismotectonics and seismic hazard to education and outreach. In this workshop, we aim to gather experts in seismology and earthquake engineering, from practitioners to earthquake scientists to discuss the key issues identified during the first General Assembly.

The African Seismological Commission General Assembly will be held at the Faculty of Sciences and Techniques of Al Hoceima. As facilities, we have a large Amphitheater for the plenary session and a large conference room for regular sessions. Contributions are welcome on all aspects of Seismological studies in Africa, and we hereby invite you to take an active part in organizing the scientific program of the Assembly. Researchers are invited to submit their abstracts or complete papers in English. Papers will be presented in different oral and poster sessions.

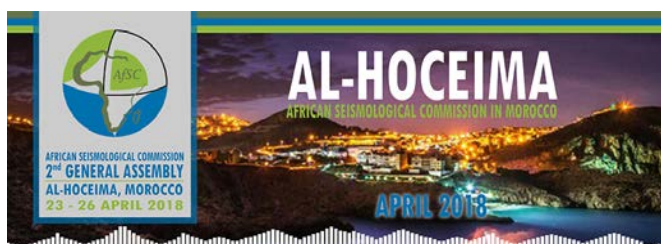
- Abstract submission deadline:  
**December 31, 2017**
- Young seismologist support application deadline: **January 19, 2018**
- Notification of acceptance:  
**February 22, 2018**
- For more details on registration, abstract and paper submission processes, visit the (2AfSC2018) website at <https://afsc2018.sciencesconf.org/>

See you in Al Hoceima !!

Taufik Mourabit, FSTH, Morocco

---

## 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC)



The University Mohammed the First, the Faculty of Sciences and Techniques of Al Hoceima, Morocco, organizes the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly for the African Seismological Commission (2AfSC2018) that will be held from 23 to 26 April 2018 in Al Hoceima, Morocco.

This General Assembly is an interdisciplinary platform for researchers interested in seismological studies within Africa to promote multi-sectoral and collaborative scientific sessions ranging from seismic monitoring,

---

## 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC)



### Hurricane Maria moves the “2018 Seismology of the Americas Meeting” to Miami

The regional assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC), originally planned to be held in Puerto Rico jointly with the Seismological Society of America (SSA), was moved to Miami because of the devastating impacts of hurricanes Irma and Maria. It was a difficult decision made jointly by LACSC, SSA and the Puerto Rico members of the Program Committee. Early expectations for a great meeting were high, after the first two successful LACSC assemblies in 2014 (Colombia) and 2016 (Costa Rica). After the hurricanes, however, there was too much uncertainty regarding conditions in April 2018 to be confident of a successful meeting in Puerto Rico.

The joint LACSC-SSA “Seismology of the Americas Meeting” will now be held on 14 – 18 May 2018, at the Hyatt Hotel in Miami, Florida.

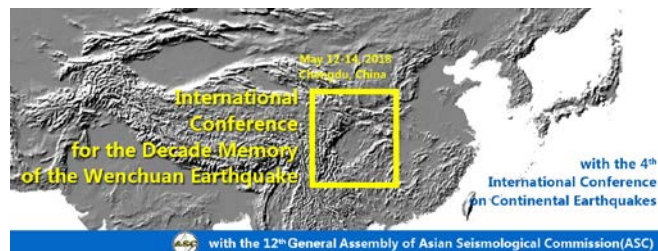
A great meeting is expected. Seismology of the Americas is more than one of our usual meetings. Bringing together the two organizations presents an opportunity to build collaborations throughout the hemisphere, as we work to mitigate earthquake hazards, increase resilience to natural disasters and advance seismology. The scientific program

has 53 special sessions covering all branches of Seismology. Abstract deadline is January 24<sup>th</sup>. IASPEI and SSA are providing partial support for students and early career professionals. An on-going fund-raising campaign will increase support for LACSC and Puerto Rican students (Please consider contributing to this special travel fund). More information can be viewed at: [www.seismology2018.org](http://www.seismology2018.org).

See you in Miami!

---

## 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) together with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Continental Earthquakes (ICCE) and the International Conference for the Decade Memory of the Wenchuan Earthquake



The 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission ([www.asc-iaspei.org](http://www.asc-iaspei.org)) will be held during 12 – 14<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at Chengdu, China. This will be a joint conference with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Continental Earthquakes ([www.4thicce.com](http://www.4thicce.com)).

The ASC GA provides a platform to the Asian seismological communities, including scientists, engineers, disaster managers and social activists, to meet, report activities, exchange ideas and plan for future course of action. The ASC works with Asian

government and non-government agencies, facilitating interaction, and encourages cooperative activities/programs for optimum utilization of capacity and expertise to develop earthquake resilient society in Asian countries.

The 12<sup>th</sup> ASC GA will have three scientific sessions devoted to induced seismicity, great earthquakes, and seismo-geodesy. We are soliciting papers for these sessions, and also proposals for new sessions.

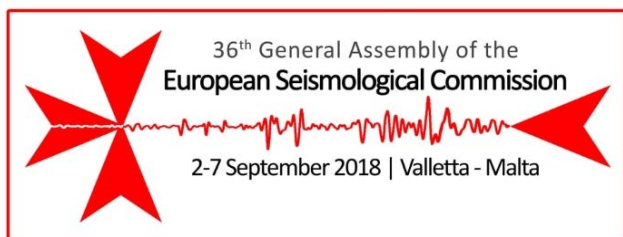
The 12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly will also host a special open session for creation of an institutional infrastructure which can provide a common platform to the Asian governments for mutual sharing of seismological and geodetic data, technical and scientific expertise, and earthquake disaster related services. Senior level policy makers and government officials from major Asian countries will participate in a special brainstorming meeting discussing new Asia-wide data and expertise sharing policies.

Please contact Paramesh Banerjee, President of the ASC (pbanerjee@ntu.edu.sg) or Li Li, Secretary General of the ASC (lilygrace@cea-igp.ac.cn) for your comments and suggestions.

Looking forward to welcoming you at Chengdu!

---

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



The Department of Geosciences - University of Malta is pleased to invite seismologists, geologists and engineers to the 36<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission (GA ESC) that will be held from 2 to 7 September 2018 in Valletta, Malta.

The General Assembly is primarily a meeting ground for academics and researchers working in the field of seismology and related applications, including applied and social aspects of seismology, such as earthquake hazard and risk, earthquake engineering, education and awareness, and risk prevention.

The European Seismological Commission General Assembly will be held at the Mediterranean Conference Centre (MCC). The building was built as a hospital in the 16<sup>th</sup> century by the Order of St. John. It was one of the leading hospitals in Europe until the 18<sup>th</sup> century, and it remained in use until 1920. In 1978 a full restoration started and on 11 November 1979, the current centre was inaugurated. The MCC has since housed many conferences, meetings, summits and other events such as exhibitions, international conventions and theatrical shows. Recently, major events like the Valletta Summit on Migration and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2015 were held at the MCC.

As in previous years, the conference will be preceded by a one-week long Young Seismologist Training Course (YSTC). For this conference, we have chosen the theme of Array Seismology in its many aspects.

Early 2018 call for abstracts will be opened through an online submission system.

More info at [www.escmalta2018.eu](http://www.escmalta2018.eu)

---



---

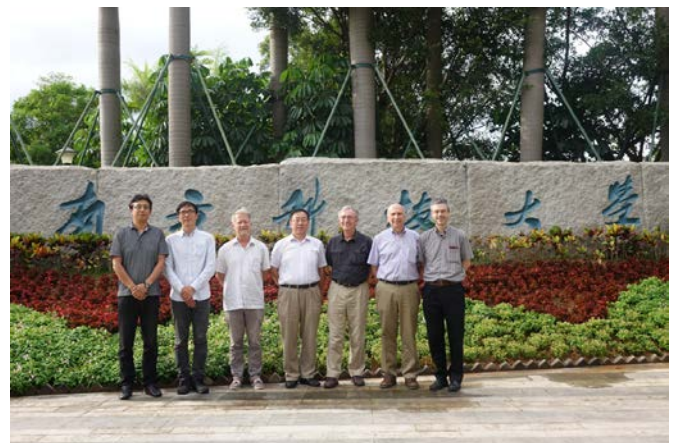
## Seismology in the oceans

The lack of sufficient coverage by ocean bottom seismometers has since long bothered seismic tomographers. This may soon change, however, since recording teleseismic waves in the oceans was shown to be possible by hydrophones floating below the water surface in the Mediterranean and the Indian Ocean. [A. Sukhovich et al., Seismic monitoring in the oceans by autonomous floats, *Nature Comm.*, 6:8027, 2015.] Since these sensors, named Mermaids, float passively with the abyssal currents, they avoid the redundancy that is typical of (fixed) land-based networks, and even a few hundred such instruments can fill the gap in data coverage that hampers seismic tomographers. At present the Mermaid is fully functional for seismology, and already offers the option to combine seismological and oceanographic research by adding a salinity/temperature sensor (CTD).

The latest version of the Mermaid can do even more than that, since it has the capacity to host up to eight different sensors. Currently, a software library is being developed that allows individual scientists to write their own code and tell the Mermaid what to measure and what to transmit. Once that is finished (expected in 2019), the Mermaid will be a truly multidisciplinary instrument. The perspective of developing a global monitoring system for the oceanic environment that serves not only seismologists, but biologists, meteorologists, geochemists and oceanographers led a group of geophysicists to start thinking about EarthScope-Oceans or ESO. After two informal get-togethers during AGU Meetings, the formal ESO Steering Committee, headed by Frederik Simons of Princeton University and Yongshun (John) Chen of SUSTech, was established during an intensive two-day workshop on June 8 and 9 at SUSTech's campus in Shenzhen (China).

Data from experiments with prototypes are already publicly available and those from a

recent tomographic experiment with nine Mermaids near the Galapagos islands will soon be released. Future data management will be done in close cooperation with IRIS and the FDSN. Plans to launch one hundred Mermaids in the Indian Ocean and up to thirty in the South Pacific by 2018 are well under way. SUSTech is leading the effort, with important contributions from Jamstec and Kobe in Japan and the universities of Strasbourg and Nice in France. Princeton is planning a deployment of ten instruments in the western Atlantic.



Earthscope – Oceans (ESO) Steering committee members from left to right: Masayuki Obayashi, Geunyoung Kim, Yann Hello, Yongshun (John) Chen, Guust Nolet, Tim Ahern, Frederik Simons. Virtual Attendees: Mathieu Belbeoch, Alessia Maggi, Karin Sigloch.

ESO is expected to go multidisciplinary when the fully programmable version of the Mermaid is ready. Being able to share costs among different sciences will greatly facilitate the financing of a global network. 'We are spending \$600M to put one seismometer on Mars, whereas a global network of 1000 Mermaids, operating for five years costs only 10% of that', said Guust Nolet. 'And it can be realized within three or four years, against fifteen or more for a typical space-based program. For the European Union and for countries such as China it provides a unique opportunity to assume an important leadership role'.

For more information, visit the ESO website at [www.earthscopeoceans.org](http://www.earthscopeoceans.org). The data that

were obtained while testing early Mermaid prototypes can be accessed from there.

Guust Nolet, GEOAZUR, France

---

## **2<sup>nd</sup> BestPSHANI workshop on “Issues and challenges towards full Seismic Risk Analysis”**

Following up the first Best Practice in Physics-based Fault Rupture Models for Seismic Hazard Assessment of Nuclear Installations (BestPSHANI) workshop organized in 2015, on behalf of swissnuclear, The Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives (CEA), the Japan Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA), the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), we would like to draw your attention of the 2<sup>nd</sup> BestPSHANI workshop on “Best Practice in Physics-based Fault Rupture Models for Seismic Hazard Assessment of Nuclear Installations: issues and challenges towards full Seismic Risk Analysis” to take place at the CEA Cadarache Château, southern France, on 14 – 16 May 2018 with optional field & nuclear facilities visits on 17<sup>th</sup> May.

In this workshop we aim to gather experts in seismology and earthquake engineering, from practitioners to earthquake scientists to discuss the key issues identified during the first workshop that have been encouraged to the international nuclear safety community to catch up the state-of-the-art practices, to assess procedures for verification and validation of numerical ground motion models, to discuss crosscutting issues with empirical schemes such as Ground Motion Prediction Equations, to assess the implications (from nuclear safety point of view) on the use of synthetic ground motion on engineering structures and to challenge the use of these models toward seismic risk analyses of nuclear installations.

- Abstract submission deadline:  
**30 December 2017**
- Full paper submission deadline:  
**28 February 2018**
- Registration deadline: **30 April 2018**

More details on registration, abstract and paper submission processes you can see in the WS webpage: <http://www.institut-seism.fr/en/2nd-workshop-best-psha-ni-may-2018-cadarache-chateau-france/>

J. Schweitzer, shortened from the received Workshop announcement.

---

## **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.

### **2018**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC)**

April 23 – 27, 2018, Al Hoceima, Morocco

URL: <https://afsc2018.sciencesconf.org/>

#### **EGU General Assembly 2018**

April 8 – 13, 2018, Vienna, Austria

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

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) and Seismological Society of America (SSA) joint meeting**

April 23 – 26, 2018, Miami, USA

URL: <http://seismology2018.org/>

#### **12<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) together with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Continental Earthquakes (ICCE)**

May 12 – 14, 2018, Chengdu, China

URL: <http://www.4thicce.com/>

## **2<sup>nd</sup> BestPSHANI workshop “Issues and challenges towards full Seismic Risk Analysis”**

May 14 – 17, 2018, Cadarache Chateau, France

URL: <http://www.institut-seism.fr/en/2nd-workshop-best-psha-ni-may-2018-cadarache-chateau-france/>

## **AOGS2018 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

June 3 – 8, 2018, Hawaii, USA

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2018>

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

June 18 – 21, 2018, Thessaloniki, Greece

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

## **SEDI 2018**

June 26 – 30, 2018, Edmonton, Canada

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

September 1 – 7, 2018, Valletta, Malta

URL: [www.escmalta2018.eu](http://www.escmalta2018.eu)

## **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

### **AOGS2019 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

July 28 – August 2, 2019, Singapore

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

December 9 – 13, 2019, San Francisco, USA

## **2020**

### **AOGS2020 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

June 28 – July 4, 2020, South Korea

## **2021**

### **AOGS2021 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

August 1 – 6, 2021, Singapore

---

## **General Information about IASPEI**

The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior [IASPEI] 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 several 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  
c/o NORSAR  
Gunnar Randers vei 15  
PO Box 53, N-2007 Kjeller  
Norway

Mobile: +47 41 61 49 46

Phone: +47 63 80 59 00

E-mail: [iaspei@norsar.no](mailto:iaspei@norsar.no)