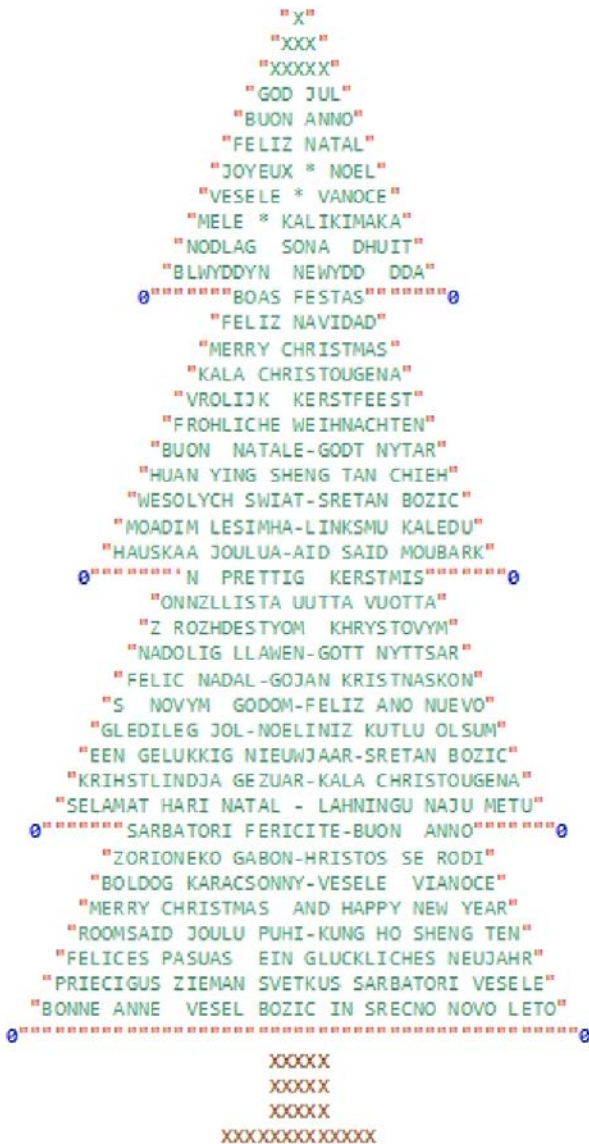


# IASPEI Newsletter

December 2019



**MERRY HOLIDAY SEASON and**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020 to**

**ALL OF YOU!**

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## Foreword

Dear Readers,

This is the last Newsletter for 2019, which was for IASPEI dominated by the General Assembly in Montréal. In the coming year, the main IASPEI activities will be the series of General Assemblies of our Regional Commissions. I received invitations to all four Assemblies, which are building the main part of this Newsletter. Special training courses are planned in connection to these Assemblies, which will be all sponsored by IUGG. One observation during the last Regional Assemblies was that the participation became more and more intercontinental, while the still moderate size of these events allows for intense and interesting discussions. So, please consider your participation.

Then, I must inform you with great sadness that another two of our colleagues passed away in 2019. We remember them in the obituaries.

Please do not forget to inform me about international conferences and workshops with IASPEI related topics. This list can only be complete when I receive information about such event and can add them to the Meetings Calendar of future Newsletters.

Johannes Schweitzer  
Secretary General

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## **13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, 1 – 3 June 2020 “Earthquake Hazards No Border”**

The 13<sup>th</sup> ASC General Assembly will be organized in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, on the Sinai Peninsula with the title “Earthquake Hazards No Border”. The most actual conference information can be found on the web-page <https://www.asc2020.org/> of the conference. The venue will be determined until the end of February 2020. The opening ceremony is planned for 1 June at 10:00 and the closing ceremony for 3 June at 15:00.

Scientific sessions can be proposed until 28 February 2020. The assembly will in particular focus on the following scientific topics:

- Himalaya Earthquake Dynamics
- Arabian shield and Red Sea rift
- Earthquake Early Warning Systems
- Rotational Seismology and Optical Fiber Seismographs
- Machine Learning and new Methods
- Test field for Earthquake Science
- Education and outreach of seismology in developing countries

- Dialogue between seismology and earthquake engineering for seismic disaster resilience
- Human factors in seismology: manmade seismic events, triggered and induced earthquakes
- Open session: Asian Earthquake Observation Network

The deadline for abstract submissions is 31 March 2020 and to register 31 May 2020. The LOC at NIAG in Helwan, Egypt, can be reached via email ([info@asc2020.org](mailto:info@asc2020.org)) or via the ASC secretariat: [lilygrace@cea-igp.ac.cn](mailto:lilygrace@cea-igp.ac.cn).

A 3-day training course “Technique for high-precision earthquake location” will precede the conference from 29 to 31 May 2020. The course will contain lessons about “Basic algorithm for earthquake location and focal mechanism” and “Practical exercises”.

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## **3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly African Seismological Commission (AfSC) Kasane, Botswana, 28 June – 04 July 2020**

The third General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC 2020) will be held in Kasane, Botswana, from 28 June - 04 July 2020. This meeting promises to be as successful as the first two general assemblies in Egypt and Morocco.

The local organizing committee is chaired by:

James Molosankwe, LOC Chairman  
Botswana Geoscience Institute  
P/Bag 0014  
Lobatse, Botswana  
Tel: +267 5330327  
Cell: +267 72807533

The meeting website has yet to be launched, but the meeting is advertised on the AfSC

website: <https://www.afsc-web.org.za> . The scientific program promotes the following topics:

- Seismic hazard assessment
- Active tectonics and Paleoseismology
- Mining-induced seismicity
- Meteorite impact detection and risk mitigation
- Seismic source
- Earth structures in Africa
- Geodynamics, GPS, InSAR and remotes sensing
- Reservoir-induced seismicity
- The East African Rift System
- Special session on the 2017 Botswana earthquake
- Ground motion and site effects
- GIS and risk scenario
- Education, outreach and communications

Michelle Grobbelaar – AfSC Secretary General - ([michelle@geoscience.org.za](mailto:michelle@geoscience.org.za)), or

Mustapha Meghraoui - AfSC President – ([m.meghraoui@unistra.fr](mailto:m.meghraoui@unistra.fr))

## 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) Quito, Ecuador, 3 – 5 August 2020

Quito, Ecuador, will host the 2020 LACSC Regional Assembly, August 3 to 5 (<http://www.lacsc2020.com> ).

In this special setting of the Andean mountains, we encourage papers studying active subduction, seismic monitoring, geodesy, early warning, paleoseismology, seismic hazard, volcano monitoring, Earth's structure, and all branches of Seismology and Tectonics.

The conference will be held at the Hilton-Colon Hotel, downtown Quito. Pre-conference Training Courses are planned. Post conference Field Trips will take you to some of the spectacular volcanoes of Ecuador and the famous Galapagos Islands.

Session proposals can be accepted until end of January. Abstract deadline will be in March 2020.

Partial funding for Student and Early Career Researchers will be offered.

For more information see at <http://www.lacsc2020.com>

**3RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**Botswana Geoscience Institute**  
Excellence in Geoscience

**African Seismological Commission**

**FIRST CIRCULAR CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT**

**KASANE, BOTSWANA | 28 JUNE – 4 JULY 2020**

Deadline of Submission of Abstracts - February 21, 2020

**PREAMBLE**

Botswana Geoscience Institute (BGI) in collaboration with African Seismological Commission will organise the 3rd General Assembly (GA) for the African Seismological Commission (AFSC2020). This General Assembly is an interdisciplinary platform for researchers interested in seismological studies within the continent of Africa to promote a multi-sectoral and collaborative scientific sessions that include seismic monitoring, seismic hazard, mining-induced seismicity, seismotectonics, among others, for education and outreach. Researchers and educators are invited to submit their abstracts or complete papers in English. Papers will be presented in different oral and poster sessions.

**AFRICAN SEISMOLOGICAL COMMISSION MISSION**

The AFSC mission is to promote the science of Seismology within the scientific community of the African countries, by promoting research studies, to extend and enhance scientific co-operation and to train young scientists.

**WHY BOTSWANA**

This is the 3rd General Assembly of the Commission to be held in Southern Africa following the first two held in Luxor-Awara, Egypt in April 2016, and the second AFSC GA organised in Al Hoceima, Morocco on 25-27 April 2018. Botswana is known worldwide for its tropical and deserts. Botswana experienced an earthquake of magnitude 4.5, April 3, 2017 in the heart of the Kalahari desert in the Central Kgatelopele Game Reserve (KGR) previously regarded as seismically quiet. The 2017 Botswana earthquake demonstrated that in desert no place on earth is immune to earthquakes, prompting BGI, US and other partners to embrace the opportunity of hosting the AFSCGA in order to promote detailed research and academic discussion of the M4.5 event and its implications for seismic-related disaster risk disposition of Botswana and Southern Africa.

**SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME**

Contributions are welcome on all aspects of Seismological studies in Africa and other tectonic geological settings around the world, and we hereby invite everyone to play an active role in organising the scientific programme of the General Assembly. Please feel free to suggest new speakers with co-speakers, including descriptions and modifications, study the sessions that already exist and send us your proposal.

**LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

James S. Molsonkwe - Chairperson/ Convenor  
Koketso G. Bolepe - Chairperson (Technical)  
M.T.O. Kwadza - Member  
Onkgopotse Ntshinyane - Secretary  
Akie Mungodi - Member  
K. Lebelang - Member  
Dr. J.G. King - Member  
Dr. R.E. Simons - Member  
Dr. G. Sphaso - Member  
M.D. Moidisi - Member  
T.A. Selepe - Member  
Lebogang Mpelele - Member  
Tembu Ncube - Member  
Caroline Selphema - Member

**CONTACT DETAILS:** The Chairperson, Local Organising Committee, 3rd African Seismological Commission General Assembly, Private Bag 9014, Gaborone, Botswana. Tel: +267 30379199; Fax: +267 3030701; Email: [AFSCGA2020@bgi.org.bw](mailto:AFSCGA2020@bgi.org.bw)

Abstract submission deadline: 21 February 2020.

For any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact:

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# 37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly European Seismological Commission (ESC) Corfu, Greece, 6 – 11 September 2020



The University of Athens is pleased to invite seismologists, geologists and engineers to the 37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission (GA ESC) that will be held from 6 to 11 September 2020 in Corfu, Greece.

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 in Corfu, a place with long history since the antiquity and rich tradition, as well as one of the most cosmopolitan islands of Greece. The venue of the GA is the “Corfu Holiday Palace”, located in Kanoni, one of the most famous touristic sights of the island.

As in previous years, the conference will be preceded by a one-week long (from 31 August to 4 September 2020) Young Seismologist Training Course (YSTC). For this conference, we have chosen the theme of “Historical Earthquake data in Seismology Practice”.

Early 2020 call for abstracts will be opened through an online submission system. More info at <https://www.erasmus.gr/microsites/1193/welcome-message>

Contact email: [info@escgreece2020.eu](mailto:info@escgreece2020.eu)

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## Obituaries

### Sergey A. Fedotov (1931 – 2019)



On 20 August 2019, we lost a renowned Russian geophysicist, seismologist and volcanologist, Doctor of Physical and Mathematical sciences, Professor of Geophysics Academician Sergey Alexandrovich Fedotov.

Sergey Fedotov was born 19 March 1931 in Leningrad, USSR. After graduating from the Department of Geology at the Lomonosov Moscow State University in 1953, Sergey Fedotov was accepted to the graduate program at the Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth (IPE) of the Russian Academy of Sciences, and since then his scientific career

and research were closely tied to Russian geophysics.

Field work in the Kuril Islands defined the professional trajectory of Sergey Fedotov – his entire life was dedicated to studying the volcanic activity and seismicity of the Kuril-Kamchatka trench. He went from a graduate student at IPE to leading the IPE Pacific seismic team in 1959 – 1970, to head of laboratory of Pacific belt seismicity at IPE in 1969 – 1993, to director of the Institute of Volcanology and Seismology of the Far East branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (IVS FEB RAS) in 1971 – 2004. The outstanding results of research in seismic hazards of the Kamchatka region and the study of mechanisms of volcanic activity gave Sergey Fedotov acclaim in national and global scientific communities. In 1992 he was elected a full member of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS). In 1979 – 1983 he served as president of the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior. He was a member of the presidium of the Russian Academy of Sciences, head of the scientific council of volcanology and seismology RAS and held the office of the head of the Earthquake prediction council at IVS FEB RAS and the Kamchatka branch of the RAS Geophysical Survey. In 1978 Sergey Fedotov founded the *Volcanology and Seismology* journal and remained its editor-in-chief for many years.

Research in Kamchatka seismicity allowed Fedotov to create a proprietary technique for long-term seismic hazard prediction which is being actively developed in the works of his like-minded colleagues and mentees. Sergey Fedotov introduced the concept of seismic cycle in seismology. It was due to his pronounced expert opinion and citizen activism that a nuclear power plant was not built in the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatsky region.

Fedotov was the author of about 400 scientific papers, patents, and monographs.

His professional enthusiasm and enormous advocacy efforts that Fedotov made

to ensure seismic safety of the population and human made structures of Kamchatka through scientific justification of emergency measures to increase safety of residential and industrial buildings in the most seismically hazardous region of Russia are well known in the academic community and at the highest levels of political authority. Successful resolution of these problems is directly connected to the economic development of Kamchatka and national security. Fedotov's contributions to public safety on the federal level were granted multiple national awards.

The memory of Sergey A. Fedotov will remain a highlight page in the history of global and national geophysics.

Alexey Zavyalov, RAS, Moscow

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## Alexey V. Nikolaev (1934 – 2019)



On 20 November 2019 a grave disease claimed the life of deputy editor-in-chief of the *Volcanology and Seismology* journal, corresponding member of the Russian Academy of Sciences Alexey Vsevolodovich Nikolaev - a prominent member of the national and global geophysical community who made a significant contribution to research in

seismology, earthquake prediction, geodynamics, and other areas of theoretical and applied geophysics.

An internationally acclaimed scientist, Alexey V. Nikolaev developed original geophysical methods and techniques for studying the structure and the dynamics of the Earth and received with their help a series of outstanding results in fundamental geophysics. He held a rightful place in the top echelons of Russian and global geophysics.

Alexey Nikolaev was born 29 October 1934 in Moscow, USSR. In 1957, he graduated from the department of geology at the Lomonosov Moscow State University and was assigned to the Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, with which he was affiliated throughout his entire life and where he rose from a lab technician to head of department of Physical Basics of Exploration Geophysics and, later on, director of the Specialized Institute for Experimental Geophysics. Nikolaev's research interests were broad and encompassed seismicity of random media, geophysical monitoring, nonlinear geophysics, earthquake prediction, seismic tomography, vibroseismic research, induced seismicity, vibration influence on oil deposits, geophysical metrology, and other areas of contemporary geophysics. Alexey Nikolaev was a participant in the Chernobyl accident clean-up effort. Days after the 26 April 1986 disaster, he traveled to the contaminated area of the Chernobyl power plant to conduct the necessary research under high-risk radiation exposure levels. His scientific achievements were honored by his election to the Academy of Sciences of the USSR as a corresponding member in 1990.

Alexey Nikolaev made a significant contribution to training the next generation of scientists. He was a talented teacher, a brilliant lecturer, a friendly and responsive person. Aleksey Vsevolodovich was an opponent of dozens of dissertations, both doctoral and candidate works. And the number of reviews of dissertations and reviews of various kinds cannot be calculated. His numerous grateful PhD students and followers work fruitfully in

many scientific organizations of Russia and the former Soviet Union countries.

Alongside research, Alexey Nikolaev conducted multifaceted scientific administrative work. For many years he led the Russian expert council of earthquake prediction and seismic risk and hazard assessment with the Ministry for Civil Defense, Emergency Management, and Disaster Response and the Russian Academy of Sciences. He maintained close ties with researchers from many countries globally and was elected to serve on governing bodies of several international scientific structures. In 1983 – 1991 he served as vice-president and in 1991 – 1995 as president of the International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior – IASPEI.

Alexey Nikolaev authored over 400 scientific papers and innovations. In 1998 he was awarded the title of Laureate of the Prize of the Government of the Russian Federation in the field of science and technology.

We knew Alexey Nikolaev not only as a gifted scholar, but as a wonderful, friendly, compassionate person with incredible integrity and sense of humor that helped him to preserve optimism and stamina even during the final days of his illness.

Alexey Nikolaev's scientific research will remain a bright spot in global and national geophysics and the memory of this outstanding scientist and exceptional person will always be in our hearts.

Alexey Zavyalov, RAS, Moscow

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# 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.

## 2020

### **Seismological Society of America (SSA)**

April 27 – 30, 2020, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

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

### **EGU General Assembly 2020**

May 3 – 8, 2020, Vienna, Austria

URL: <https://www.egu2020.eu/>

### **ASC General Assembly 2020**

June 1 – 3, 2020, Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt

URL: <https://www.asc2020.org/>

### **19<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Seismic Anisotropy & 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Active and Passive Seismics in Laterally Inhomogeneous Media**

June 15 – 20, 2020, Želiv Premonstratensian Monastery, Czech Republic

URL: [http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa\\_2020.htm](http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa_2020.htm)

### **AfSC 3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly**

June 28 – July 4, 2020, Kasane, Botswana

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

June 28 – July 4, 2020, Gangwon, South Korea

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2020>

### **SEDI 2020**

July 6 – 10, 2020, Taipei, Taiwan

URL: <https://sedi2020.sciencesconf.org/>

### **LACSC 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

August 3 – 5, 2020, Quito, Ecuador

URL: <http://lacsc2020.com/>

### **ESC 37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

September 6 – 11, 2020, Corfu, Greece

URL: <https://www.erasmus.gr/microsites/1193>

### **17<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Earthquake Engineering**

September 13 – 18, 2020, Japan

URL: <http://www.17wcee.jp/>

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

December 7 – 11, 2020, San Francisco, USA

## 2021

### **EGU General Assembly 2021**

April 25 – 30, 2021, Vienna, Austria

### **Seismological Society of America (SSA)**

April 27 – 30, 2021, Anchorage, Alaska, USA

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

August 1 – 6, 2021, Singapore

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly**

August 22 – 27, 2021 Hyderabad, India

URL: <http://www.iaga-iaspei-india2021.in/>

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2021, New Orleans, USA

## 2022

### **EGU General Assembly 2022**

April 3 – 8, 2022, Vienna, Austria

### **3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology**

June 19 – 24, 2022, Bucharest, Rumania

URL: <https://3eceeds.ro/>

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2022, Chicago, USA

## 2023

### **EGU General Assembly 2023**

April 23 – 28, 2023, Vienna, Austria

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2023, San Francisco, USA

## 2024

### **EGU General Assembly 2024**

April 14 – 19, 2024, Vienna, Austria

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2024, Washington, USA

## 2025

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2025, New Orleans, USA

## 2026

### **AGU Fall Meeting**

2025, San Francisco, USA

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## **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

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