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This 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 website (<http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>). Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. Next IUGG business meetings

The IUGG President Michael Sideris announced the dates of the next IUGG business meetings to take place in Montreal, Canada, in 2017: the Bureau will meet on 19 September, the Executive Committee on 20-21 September, and the Scientific Program Committee for the XXVII General Assembly of IUGG (IUGG2019) on 22 September. The IUGG Bureau and Executive Committee will review the activity of the Union and its Associations since the last meeting in Paris, France, in 2016, and will discuss major issues of the Union's activity for the next two years before the 2019 General Assembly including a detailed plan for celebration of the Union's centennial, improving the visibility of the Union and the linkage to other international programs and activities, and other topics.

The Scientific Program Committee is comprised of the Chair and Secretaries General of the Union and its eight Associations. The IUGG Executive Committee appointed Spiros Pagiatakis (Professor at York University, Toronto, Canada) as Chair of the Science Program Committee. Fiona-Ann Darbyshire (Professor at Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada) was appointed the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee of the IUGG2019.

2. Sixth Session of the Partner Advisory Committee (PAC) for the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS)

The meeting was held on 6 and 7 March in Rome, Italy, and hosted by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The meeting was attended by some 16 individuals, three

of whom participated for part of the time by video links to the FAO office in Senegal, the EC in Brussels, and the Stockholm Environment Institute. Two additional organizations have recently joined the Committee: the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and UNESCO, bringing the total number of formal members to 18. The meeting was opened by the FAO Assistant Director General. It was first chaired by Martin Frick, Director of the FAO Climate, Energy and Tenure Division, and then by FAO Natural Resources Officer Selvaraju Ramasamy. As in the past, the whole meeting was held in a very amicable and constructive atmosphere with the members recognizing the importance of working together to achieve the aims of the GFCS – not just on paper but out in the field. At least half the time was devoted to the reviewing progress with projects being implemented in each of the PAC Focus Countries, namely: Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Dominica, Moldova, Papua New Guinea, and United Republic of Tanzania. Some have made good progress but one or two could report no progress at all on this occasion. It is always necessary to work with the local meteorological services, but many were seriously understaffed and in one case the service had had seven directors in six years. By invoking the Chatham House Rule, participants were encouraged to be very open and frank about the challenges they face, a rare situation which greatly facilitated the discussion of sensitive issues.

The GFCS was launched some five years ago to run, at least initially, for ten years. It has therefore been decided to undertake a mid-term review. For reasons that were not explained, this review will be undertaken by a team from the University of Arizona. It is very likely that they will contact IUGG as part of this study. It was agreed to support a proposal to extend the terms of reference of the PAC to include the promotion of co-ordination at international and national level. It was recognized that the PAC has no authority in this regard but is in a good position to promote greater integration and identify duplication. It was accepted that co-ordination at national level is ultimately the responsibility of the national governments concerned. While the documents submitted to PAC meetings include references to many projects and related activities, the Secretariat has never assembled these into a unified “work plan”. The Norwegian Refugee Council offered to compile such a plan over the next few months. There are plans to set up a “Help Desk” to facilitate access to the large amount of data and other information that can be exchanged world-wide in relation to climate services. There was strong support for the proposal, but some participants preferred to use terms such as “marketplace” or “clearing house”. The meeting was pleased to learn of the widespread interest in climate change and climate services but was concerned that this was leading to ever greater competition for scarce funds. For example, even the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) now wants to start a climate programme. Diogo De Gusmão-Sørensen of the European Commission’s Directorate on Research and Innovation spoke by video link at some length about the possibility of obtaining funding from the EC’s various research funds. The next meeting of the PAC is expected to be held on 13 May 2017 in Geneva, Switzerland, and the GFCS Management Committee is next expected to meet on 17 and 18 October 2017.

Arthur Askew, WMO and PAC/GFCS Liaison Officer

3. News from the International Council for Science

New report on SDG Interactions

ICSU released a report “A Guide to SDG Interactions: from Science to Implementation”, which examines the interactions between the various goals and targets, determining to what extent they reinforce or conflict with each other. It provides a blueprint to help countries implement and achieve

the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More information can be found at: <https://www.icsu.org/publications/a-guide-to-sdg-interactions-from-science-to-implementation>.

ICSU at the UN Ocean Conference

ICSU is convening two side events at the Ocean Conference in New York from 5 to 9 June. The two events are on: (i) Interconnections among the SDGs as a force multiplier for implementation of SDG14; and (ii) Hacking science for Ocean Literacy: What's needed to fully implement SDG14? More information on the events is available at: <https://www.icsu.org/current/news/icsu-at-the-u-n-ocean-conference>.

Annual Report 2016

ICSU released its Annual Report, highlighting key achievements in 2016: <https://www.icsu.org/publications/annual-report-2016>.

Source: ICSU website

4. Cambridge University Press offers discount on books for IUGG scientists



IUGG scientists can purchase selected books published by the Cambridge University Press at a 20% discount. For this, please link to www.cambridge.org/iugg-scientist.

To order and buy, add the chosen book(s) to the basket, then enter the code **IUGG17** (due to end March 2018) at the checkout to get the discount.

5. Awards and honors

Harsh Gupta, IUGG President (2011-2015), was awarded Honorary Membership of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS).

Gordon McBean, IUGG Fellow, was awarded the 62nd International Meteorological Organization (IMO) Prize. The IMO Prize, the most important award in meteorology, is named after WMO's predecessor organization the International Meteorological Organization and is awarded annually to scientists that have made outstanding contributions to meteorology, hydrology and geophysical sciences.

6. Meeting calendar

A calendar of meetings of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG website (<http://www.iugg.org/calendar.php>). Individual Associations also list more meetings on their websites according to their disciplines.

June

- 6-9, ISPRS, Hanover, Germany, ISPRS Hannover Workshop 2017.
Web: <https://www.ipi.uni-hannover.de/hrigi17.html>
- 11-17, IACS, SCAR, Fort Collins, CO, USA, 2017 Glacial Seismology Training School.
Web: http://polenet.org/?page_id=2769
- 12-23, ICTP, IUGG, Trieste, Italy, Fourth Workshop on Water Resources in Developing Countries: Hydroclimate Modeling and Analysis Tools.
Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7969/>
- 18-23, IAHS, UNESCO, Birmingham, UK, HydroEco 2017: The 6th International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology and Ecology.
Web: <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/hydroeco2017/index.aspx>
- 25-30, IAMAS, Helsinki, Finland, ICNAA2017 - 20th International Conference on Nucleation and Atmospheric Aerosols. Web: <http://www.icnaa2017.net/>
- 25 June – 1 July, IAGA, Valtice, Czech Republic. The 2nd Conference on Natural Dynamos.
Web: <http://valtice.ig.cas.cz/index.html>
- 26-30, CTBTO, Vienna, Austria, The CTBT: Science and Technology 2017 Conference (SnT2017). Web: <https://ctnw.ctbto.org/DMZ/snt2017.html>

July

- 2-7, ICA, Washington, DC, USA, ICC 2017 - 28th International Cartographic Conference.
Web: <http://icc2017.org/>
- 3-5, UCPS, Berlin, Germany, 1st IUGG Symposium on Planetary Science (IUGG-PS 2017) - Interdisciplinary observation and understanding of the Solar System.
Web: <http://www.dlr.de/iugg-ps2017>
- 3-7, IAG, Paris, France. 2017 IGS Workshop.
Web: <http://kb.igs.org/hc/en-us/articles/216574478-IGS-Workshop-2017>
- 3-15, NC BRAZIL, IAMAS, Sao Paulo, Brazil. São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Climate Change: Scientific Basis, Adaptation, Vulnerability and Mitigation.
Web: <http://www.incline.iag.usp.br/data/spsascc>
- 6-7, UNESCO-IGCP, Yaoundé, Cameroon, Training Course of the International Geosciences Programme (Project 646). Contact: igcp646sec@yahoo.fr
- 7-9, IUGG, IAMAS, Toulouse, France. Training Workshop on Processing of Cloud Particle Measurements.
Web: <http://www.halo.dlr.de/plans/documents/TrainingWorkshopPreliminaryAgenda.pdf>
- 10-12, IAG, Paris, France, Unified Analysis Workshop.
Web: <http://ggosdays.com/en/conferences/unified-analysis-workshop>
- 10-14, IAHS, Port Elizabeth, South Africa. IAHS Scientific Assembly 2017.
Web: <http://cwrr.ukzn.ac.za/iahs/call-for-papers/iahs-2017-in-south-africa---invitation>
- 10-14, WCRP, UNESCO-IOC, New York City, NY, USA. International WCRP/IOC Conference on Regional Sea Level Changes and Coastal Impacts.
Web: <http://www.sealevel2017.org>
- 16-29, CODATA, Beijing, China, CODATA International Training Workshop in Open data for Better Science, for Researchers from Lower and Middle Income Countries. Web: <http://www.codata.org/news/159/62/Apply-for-CODATA-International-Training-Workshop-in-Open-Data-for-Better-Science-Deadline-25-April-2017>
- 25-27, GRC, IAG, Sendai, Japan, 2017 GNSS Tsunami Early Warning System Workshop.
Web: <https://geodynamics.org/cig/events/calendar/gnss-workshop/>
- July 30 - August 4, IAG, IASPEI, Kobe, Japan. IAG-IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly 2017.
Web: <http://www.iag-iaspei-2017.jp/>

August

- 1-2, IACS, Lanzhou, China, International Workshop on Cryosphere Change and Sustainable Development. Web: <http://www.nieer.cas.cn/tzgg/ywtz/201612/P020161226414382929083.pdf>
- 6-11, AOGS, Singapore, Asia Oceania Geosciences Society Annual Meeting. Web: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2017/public.asp?page=home.htm>
- 14-18, IAVCEI, Portland, USA, IAVCEI Scientific Assembly 2017. Web: <http://iavcei2017.org/>
- 19-26, URSI, Montreal, Canada, 32nd URSI General Assembly & Scientific Symposium. Web: <http://www.ursi2017.org/>
- 27-30, YES, Tehran, Iran, 4th YES Congress. Web: <http://conf.yesnetwork.ir/index.php>
- August 27 - September 1, IAPSO, IAMAS, IAGA, Cape Town, South Africa, Joint Scientific Assembly 2017. Web: <http://www.iapso-iamas-iaga2017.com/>
- August 30 - September 1, CODATA, Berlin, Germany, DCH 2017 - Interdisciplinary Conference on Digital Cultural Heritage. Web: <http://dch2017.net/>

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