

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

<http://www.IAMAS.org>

The key activities in 2007 constituted the planning and the conduct of the various IAMAS-contributions to the IUGG General Assembly in Perugia, 2-13 July, 2007. These mainly consisted of 29 IAMAS-led Joint Symposia, along with 20 IAMAS-only symposia covering a very wide range of atmospheric science topics. Elections during the Assembly brought a number of new faces to the IAMAS Bureau; the most noticeable change being the end of the 'Roland-List-era'. Over a full dozen of years (1995-2007) as Secretary General of IAMAS, Professor List left a lasting mark of leadership within the Association and beyond. During the closing ceremony in Perugia Roland List was presented with a marvellous globe where coloured stones mark the different countries – several characteristics of this present give valid tribute for List's dedication towards IAMAS: in steady rotation, hard as stone, a true global player!

In the following sections a number of IAMAS activities during 2007 are briefly touched upon while more detailed accounts can be found at the specified web-sites (mostly entries of the IAMAS site).

### A few highlights from the Perugia assembly, 2-13 July 2007:

Besides the symposia mentioned above, IAMAS organized two Union Symposia with Richard Peltier (Toronto, Canada) and Guy Brasseur (Boulder, USA) being responsible for the programme. Two special evening events featured atmospheric topics of general geophysical interest; one with three talks on the previously published and widely recognized IPCC report on "Climate change 2007" and another with the presentation of a 470 pp. WMO-assessment-report about "The Effects of Aerosol Pollution on Precipitation".

The tradition of lunchtime lectures of topical interest was continued with "Mona Lisa Code Lectures" into some mysteries of the atmosphere. They covered four special topics: (i) "The particle zoo around 0°C" by Ron Stewart (Canada); (ii) "The Aerosols of the World" by Ulrike Lohmann (Switzerland), (iii) "The Global Precipitation Climatology" by Tobias Fuchs (Germany), and (iv) "WCRP: Better observe, understand and predict climate" by Anne Henderson-Sellers (WMO).

Some 600 of the 4000 Perugia participants identified themselves as linked with IAMAS, over 150 of them were students. More than 250 grants of variable size were given to participants from so-called developing countries. Some 1100 oral presentations were given within the IAMAS-led symposia together with over 500 short oral & poster presentations.

*(For more details see entries under <http://www.iamas.org/Perugia.html> )*

### New Bureau for 2007-2011:

In accord with the IAMAS-Statutes the president Michael MacCracken (USA) stepped down from his position after a 4-year-term and the secretary general Roland List (Canada) after his 12-year-term (re-elected once). Former vice-president Guoxiong Wu (China) was elected as president, the deputy secretary general (DSP) John Turner (UK) continues in his capacity, Hans Volkert (Germany) was elected as secretary general. Two vice-presidents from the Americas, Maria A. Faus Silva Dias (Brazil) and Anne Thompson (USA), give the new IAMAS Bureau a truly global appearance and a good gender balance. Several German institutions (DFG, DLR, DMG) meanwhile signalled that they are willing to provide partial financial support for activities related with the IAMAS secretariat.

*(For more details about IAMAS officers see entries under <http://www.iamas.org/Officers.html> )*

#### Newsletters issues 5 and 6:

DSP John Turner and his colleague Gareth Marshall continued to maintain the IAMAS web-site and they edited and distributed two issues of the IAMAS-newsletter, one before and one after the assembly in Perugia. In an attractive layout these contain short contributions, e.g. personal opinions of past and current Bureau members regarding the function of IAMAS, reports about selected commissions of the association, a congratulation to the IPCC for the receipt of half a Nobel Peace Prize, tributes to IAMAS by past presidents, as well as faces put to some names.

*(For more details see entries under <http://www.iamas.org/Newsletters.html> )*

#### IAMAS resolutions within IUGG:

Two resolutions were finally adopted by IUGG in Perugia. One was initiated by the past president Michael MacCracken and deals with “The urgency of addressing climate change”. The other was put forward by past secretary general Roland List and concerns the “Intensified study of aerosol pollution effects on precipitation”. It is accompanied by a thorough assessment report, which was distributed on CD to the national representatives and will appear in print as WMO document in 2008.

*(For more details see '2007 IUGG resolutions' under <http://www.iamas.org/Perugia.html> )*

#### Presidential perspective on Asian monsoon:

As the first Asian president in the IAMAS history, the new president Guoxiong Wu feels that additional scientific perspectives from this region can be beneficial for IAMAS as a truly global player. Asian scientists are becoming more and more aware of the need concerning coordination among neighbouring countries. An example of high scientific and societal importance is the endeavour to understand and predict the Asian monsoon more effectively. Initiated by the scientists from China, United States, Japan, Indian and other Asian countries, the 'Asian Monsoon Years (AMY 2007-2012)' programme was launched in 2007. The AMY is also a cross-cutting initiative as part of the International Monsoon Study (IMS), a coordinated observation and modelling effort under the leadership of WCRP. As one of the programme initiators and SSC members, Guoxiong Wu is confident that with the support and joint efforts from the IAMAS community the understanding of Asian monsoon variability and predictability will improve, not the least for societal benefits.

*(For more details see [http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/wcrp/documents/ASIAN\\_MONSOON\\_YEARS.pdf](http://www.wmo.ch/pages/prog/wcrp/documents/ASIAN_MONSOON_YEARS.pdf) )*

#### History of International Radiation Commission within IAMAS:

Hans-Jürgen Bolle, past president of IAMAS (1983-1987) and honorary member of its International Radiation Commission, compiled a detailed report on “International Radiation Commissions: 135 years of research 1873-2008”. It is based on detailed notes and minutes of meetings formerly collected by Fritz Möller and Julius London and much extended by material from the author’s archive including photographs of many radiation researches from the 1950ies to the present time. On some 140 pages it also contains a shorter, similar account by Fritz Möller, which appeared as typescript in 1980. The compilation chronicles in a well balanced fashion the gradual development of atmospheric radiation research from individual calibration experiments (mostly for solar radiation) to global networks using a fleet of instruments on various airborne and satellite platforms. Long-lasting, personal cooperation in an often informal, yet dedicated attitude becomes transparent. It is planned to distribute a printed version to the participants of the International Radiation Symposium (IRS) scheduled for 3-8 August 2008 (<http://www.irs2008.org.br/>). Possibly other commissions become motivated to assemble similar reviews of their development over time.

Preparation for IAMAS-IAPSO-IACS Assembly 2009 (MOCA-09) in Montreal:

Preparations for the next large conference, jointly organized with the partner associations for the oceans (IAPSO) and for ice (newly founded IACS) and scheduled for 20-29 July 2009 in Montreal (Canada), is under way. The National Research Council of Canada acts as hosting organization, Jacques Derome (McGill university) as experienced and inspiring scientific programme coordinator.

A common visit of the secretaries general of the three associations to the venue in conjunction with a regular meeting of the local organization committee helped to set solid foundations for the traditional patchwork of joint-association symposia as well as for single-association sessions. The total number of symposia is expected to exceed 50.

*(For more details see <http://iamas-iapso-iacs-2009-montreal.ca> )*

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As in the past, during 2007 the bulk of scientific work of IAMAS was carried out within its 10 International Commissions. Besides the IUGG assembly they contributed to and organized workshop and seminars. Additional such events are scheduled for 2008, notably the 15<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation (ICCP; Cancun, Mexico; July 7-11 2008; <http://convention-center.net/iccp2008/> ) and IRS-2008 (see above).

Hans Volkert, IAMAS secretary general