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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. Annual Report 2015

The IUGG Annual Report provides a summary of the activities of the Union and its Associations as well as of the Union and Inter-Unions Commissions. Thanks to the input from the Union Associations, the Union Commissions, and the International Lithosphere Program. The Annual Report 2015 is posted on the website: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/reports/report2015.pdf>. We invite you to download this impressive summary of last year’s activities. The report will be printed together with the IUGG Yearbook 2016 and will be mailed to the Adhering Organizations, National Committees, International partners, and major libraries in June 2016.

2. G7 concerns on marine sustainability and response of international scientific community

International experts submit report on Future of the Ocean and its Seas to G7 Science and Technology Ministers meeting in Japan

A special report for policymakers on the ocean and its seas has been submitted to the G7 Science and Technology Ministers ahead of their meeting in Tsukuba City, Japan, 15-17 May 2016 (<http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/news/pdf/Report%20to%20G7%20Smins%20on%20FOSs.pdf>). The report was prepared by a non-governmental international expert group coordinated by IUGG via the International Association of Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) and the Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) of the International Council for Science (ICSU), and focuses on seven critical marine research issues including (i) plastic pollution of the marine

environment, (ii) deep-sea mining, (iii) ocean acidification, (iv) ocean warming, (v) de-oxygenation, (vi) biodiversity loss, and (vii) marine ecosystem degradation.



The report came in response to concern expressed by the G7 Science Ministers on these issues at their meeting in Berlin, Germany, last year. There was a direct call to the international scientific community “to understand the ocean as a whole through international scientific cooperation”. Although the report was not tabled formally at the Ministerial Meeting because of some procedural requirements, the Communique (<http://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/english/others/20160517communique.pdf>) highlights the importance of global observations and research on oceans and seas to support taking actions, which agrees with the recommendations proposed by the international expert group.

The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of further scientific work to “better understand the extent and impacts of marine litter, which contributes to the implementation of the priority measures identified by the G7 Toyama Environment Ministers’ Meeting”. Also the Ministers recognized “the importance of strengthening the resilience of societies to hazards and disasters”, and acknowledged that “Open Science can change the way research and development (R&D) is undertaken, with emerging findings leading to far greater global collaboration and encouraging a much broader range of participants and stakeholders.”

3. News from the International Council for Science (ICSU)

ICSU President highlights importance of science in Agenda 2030 at UN conference

ICSU President Gordon McBean stressed the critical role of science in the implementation of the post 2015 UN frameworks at a major UN conference in Geneva on science and technology. Speaking at the 19th session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in May 2016, McBean stressed the importance of enabling an effective science/policy interface within the context of Agenda 2030 and beyond. He said: “We need to build on science to see the future and through collective actions have the future we want.” The CSTD is a body of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) which provides the UN General Assembly and ECOSOC with advice on science and technology issues. The session was focused on the themes of smart cities and infrastructure and foresight for digital development. McBean noted that the scientific community is responsible for contributing to post-2015 frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, Agenda 2030, and the Paris Agreement on climate change. He added that the policy community also has a responsibility to ensure the inclusion of scientists in the process.

The ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (ROLAC) moves to El Salvador

The ICSU Executive Director Heide Hackmann signed an agreement with the government of El Salvador which will host the ICSU ROLAC in that country for the next five years, starting August 2016. Present at the ceremony were Hugo Roger Martinez Bonilla, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Erlinda Handal Vega, Vice-Minister of Science and Technology, and Carlos Canjura, Minister of Education. ICSU’s Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean is currently located in Mexico City, hosted at the Mexican Academy of Science. The Executive Director, Manuel Limonta, will continue in his current function from August in the new El Salvador office. Limonta,

along with ICSU Operations Director Charles Erkelens, ICSU Secretary-General David Black and ICSU Executive Board member Manuel de Leon, were also present at the ceremony.

Source: ICSU website

4. Report on the Symposium “Influence of Short- and Long-term Solar Variability on Climate”

The 4th IAGA Symposium on “*Influence of Short- and Long-term Solar Variability on Climate*” was held in Hurgada, Egypt, from 20 to 24 March 2016. The symposium was attended by about 70 scientists from nine countries: Cameroon, Egypt, France, Germany, Mali, Morocco, Russia, The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and the United Kingdom. The scientific program of the symposium was divided into six scientific sessions:

- (1) Solar and space missions for space weather and solar variability observations
- (2) Solar activity/variability effects on the lower, middle and upper atmosphere
- (3) Modelling climate consequences of solar activity and suggested mechanisms
- (4) Modelling and predicting large flares, super flares, CMEs and other extreme events
- (5) Solar energetic particles and solar wind influence on the Earth's inner magnetosphere and atmosphere, and
- (6) Societal impact of solar variability.

Peer-reviewed contributions based on the presentations will be published as a special issue of the Cairo University Journal of Advanced Research (an Elsevier publication). More information on the symposium can be found at: <http://iaga.cu.edu.eg>.



Group photo of the Symposium's participants

5. Awards and Honors

Ian Allison (Australia), IACS Vice-President, was elected to the Australian Academy of Science as a Fellow for his contributions to “understanding of the role of Antarctica and sea ice in climate variations”.

Harsh Gupta (India), IUGG Immediate Past President, was awarded the 2016 Axford Medal of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS) in recognition of his achievements and outstanding contributions to both AOGS and the geosciences community.

Kuniochi Takeuchi (Japan), IAHS Past President, and the Immediate Past Chair of the IUGG GeoRisk Committee, was bestowed a certificate of appreciation by the Jakarta Office of the UNESCO International Hydrological Program in recognition of his long-term support and contributions to UNESCO Natural Science programs in Asia and the Pacific region, especially in the area of water management.

Lev Vinnik (Russia), former Member of the IUGG-SEDI Advisory Committee, was awarded the 2016 Harry Fielding Reid Medal, the highest honour of the Seismological Society of America, for “his careful and meticulous data analyses and for developing some of the fundamental tools that seismologists around the globe use to study the interior of the Earth.”

Congratulations to Harsh, Ian, Kuni, and Lev!

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



The Cambridge University Press has announced that IUGG scientists can purchase selected books at a 20% discount. For this, please link to www.cambridge.org/iugg16.

To order and buy, add the chosen book(s) to the basket, then enter the code **IUGG16** at the checkout to get the discount.

7. 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

- 5-9, AGU, Cuenca, Ecuador, Chapman Conference on Emerging Issues in Tropical Ecohydrology. Web: <http://chapman.agu.org/ecohydrology/>
- 5-9, IAG, Trieste, Italy, 18th International Symposium on Geodynamics and Earth Tides (G-ET 2016). Web: <http://g-et2016.units.it>

- 6-10, CMG, IUGG, Paris, France, 31st IUGG Conference on Mathematical Geophysics: From Mathematics to Experiments (CMG2016). Web: <http://cmg2016.sciencesconf.org/>
- 6-10, IAG, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, International Service for the Geoid (ISG) Geoid School. Web: <http://www.isgeoid.polimi.it/>
- 7-17, IACS, IUGG, McCarthy, AK, USA, International Summer School in Glaciology. Web: <http://glaciers.gi.alaska.edu/courses/summerschool>
- 13-17, IAMAS, Helsinki, Finland, 6th International HEPPA-SOLARIS Workshop. Web: <http://heppa-solaris-2016.fmi.fi/>
- 13-17, IASPEI, IUGG, Apatity, Kola Peninsula, Russia, X International Workshop “Physics and Forecasting of Rock Destruction” and VI Russian-China Scientific Forum “Challenges of non-linear geomechanics at large depths”. Web: <http://www.xmsc.ru/#!home-general/zvq2f>
- 15, IAHS, Paris, France, 12th Kovacs Colloquium “Water-related SDGs implementation: Knowledge, data, indicators, tools & innovations”. Web: <https://en.unesco.org/feedback/12th-kovacs-colloquium-call-posters>
- 20-22, IASPEI, IUGG, San Jose, Costa Rica, II Regional Assembly Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC-2016). Web: http://www.iaspei.org/news_items/LACSC.php
- 27-28, CODATA, Berlin, Germany, RIMMA 2016. Interdisciplinary International Workshop on RISK Information Management, Risk Models and Applications. Web: <http://rimma2016.net/>
- June 27 - July 7, ICTP, IUGG, Trieste, Italy, Summer School on Aerosol-Cloud Interactions and International CFMIP Conference on Clouds, Circulation and Climate Sensitivity. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7614/>

July

- 3-10, IAVCEI, IUGG, Mt. Etna, Aeolian Islands, Italy, 3rd International Workshop on Volcano Geology. Web: <http://www.iavcei.org/news/2015-news/41-news-from-commissions/52-3rd-workshop-on-volcano-geology-july-3-10-sicily-italy.html>
- 4-8, IAHS, Vienna, Austria, Summer School - Runoff Predictions in Ungauged Basins (PUB). Web: http://www.waterresources.at/fileadmin/user_uploads/News_items/Summer_School_PUB_2016.pdf
- 4-8, EAS, IAGA, Athens, Greece, European Week of Astronomy and Space Science. Special session SS2 "Solar-Terrestrial Coupling and Space Weather: State-of-the-Art and Future Prospects". Web: <http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2016/session.jsp?id=SS2>
- 4-17, CODATA, Beijing, China, CODATA International Training Workshop in Big Data for Science. Web: <http://www.codata.org/news/105/62/CODATA-International-Training-Workshop-in-Big-Data-for-Science-Beijing-4-17-July>
- 10-16, IACS / WGMS, La Paz, Bolivia, Training Course on Mass Balance Measurements and Analysis 2016. Web: <http://wgms.ch/mb-training-course-2016/>
- 11-15, IAHS, Okehampton, UK, 2016 ICCE Symposium. Web: <http://www.icce.altervista.org/icce-events.html>
- 12-19, ISPRS, Prague, Czech Republic, 12th Congress. Web: <http://www.isprs2016-prague.com/>
- 18-21, IUGG, IAGA, CODATA, Sochi, Russia, International Conference "Data Intensive System Analysis for Geohazard Studies". Web: <http://sochi2016.gcras.ru/>
- 18-23, IAU, IAG, IERS, Wuhan, China. Geodesy, Astronomy and Geophysics in Earth Rotation (GAGER2016) - A Joint IAU / IAG / IERS Symposium. Web: <http://gager2016.sgg.whu.edu.cn/>

- 18-29, ICTP, IUGG, Pune, India, Advanced School on Earth System Modelling & Workshop on Climate Change and Regional Impacts over South Asia. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7619/>
- 22-25, IAG, Tianjin, China, International Symposium on Geodesy and Geodynamics (ISGG2016). Web: <http://isgg2016.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/1>
- 24-28, IAHS, Shenzhen, China. 9th International Association of Hydrological Sciences (IAHS) Groundwater Quality Conference (GQ16). Web: <http://www.gq16.org/>
- 24-29, SEDI, Nantes, France. SEDI 2016 – 15th International Symposium on the Study of the Earth's Interior. Web: <http://www.sedi2016.org/>
- 25-29, IAMAS, IUGG, Manchester, UK. 17th International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation. Web: <https://www.meeting.co.uk/confercare/iccp2016/index.html>
- 27-29, IAHS, Liege, Belgium, 4th IAHR Europe Congress. Web: <http://www.iahr2016.ulg.ac.be/>
- 27-30, IAG, Shanghai, China. 1st International Conference on GNSS+ (ICG+2016). Web: <http://202.127.29.4/meetings/icg2016/>
- July 30 - August 7, COSPAR, Istanbul, Turkey, 41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly. Web: <https://www.cospar-assembly.org/>
- July 31 - August 5, AOGS, Beijing, China. 13th Annual Meeting Asia Oceania Geosciences Society. Web: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2016/public.asp?page=home.htm>

August

- 1-12, ICSU-CODATA, RDA, TWAS, Trieste, Italy, The CODATA-RDA Research Data Science Summer School. Web: <http://indico.ictp.it/event/7658/>
- 14-20, IAGA, IUGG, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 23rd International Workshop on Electromagnetic Induction in the Earth. Web: <http://emiw2016.org/>
- 15-17, IASPEI, Taipei, Taiwan, IASPEI/IAEE International Symposium “Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG5)”. Web: <http://esg5.ncree.org.tw>
- 20-30, SCAR, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, XXXIV SCAR Meetings and Open Sciences Conference. Web: <http://scar2016.com/>
- 21-25, IGU, Beijing, China, 33rd International Geographical Congress. Web: <http://www.igc2016.org/dct/page/1>
- 21-26, IAHS, Incheon, Republic of Korea, HIC 2016 12th International Conference on Hydroinformatics. Web: <http://www.hic2016.org/html/index.php>
- 21-27, IAGA, Dinant, Belgium, 15th Castle Meeting - New Trends on Paleo, Rock and Environmental Magnetism. Web: <http://www.meteo.be/meteo/view/en/20068474-Castle+meeting+2016.html>
- 23-25, EMSEV, CSES, Beijing, China, 2nd International Workshop on China Seismo-Electromagnetic Satellite Mission. Web: www.aconf.org/en-us/conf_73066.html
- 25-29, EMSEV, IUGG, Lanzhou, China, International 2016 EMSEV Workshop. Web: <http://www.emsev2016.com/>
- August 27 - September 4, IUGS, Cape Town South Africa, 35th International Geological Congress. Web: <http://www.35igc.org/>

End of IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 16 Number 6 (1 June 2016)

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