

Volume 6 No. 4 (April 2, 2006)

This short, 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 Web site. Please forward this message to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. IUGG 2005 Annual Report

Thanks to the individual reports from the IUGG Associations and Union Commissions, a summary document of 2005 IUGG activities is complete and ready to post on the website. A printed copy of the report will be sent to all Adhering Bodies within the month. Highlights include the IUGG response to the December, 2004, South East Asia Tsunami, reports of 6 Association Scientific Assemblies, the meetings of the IUGG Finance Committee, the Bureau, the Executive Committee, and a meeting of the 2007 IUGG General Assembly Scientific Programme Committee. The General Assembly Second Circular (Call for Papers) is posted on the General Assembly website (www.iugg2007perugia.it/) and printed copies will be available in early April.

2005 Annual Report from the Secretary General [[PDF](#)]

2. Union Commission Symposium on Studies of Earth's Deep Interior

Studies of Earth's Deep Interior (SEDI), an IUGG Union Commission, will hold their 10th Symposium on 9-14 July 2006, in Prague, Czech Republic. The scientific focus of SEDI is an enhanced understanding of the past evolution and current thermal, dynamical and chemical state of the Earth's deep interior and the effect that the interior has on the structures and processes observed at the surface of the Earth. Information regarding the Symposium can be found on the website: www.ig.cas.cz/SEDI2006/ which can also be accessed from the SEDI website: www.sedigroup.org.

3. Report of the Electronic Geophysical Year (eGY) Planning Meeting

The annual planning meeting of the Electronic Geophysical Year initiative (eGY), held in Boulder, Colorado, March 13-14, succeeded in setting out clear directions and a program for the future. The program is diversifying as eGY activities and national committees are becoming established in a rapidly growing number of countries - Australia, Canada, China, India, Japan, Russia, UK, and the USA.

eGY will be launched officially on 1 July 2007 in Perugia, Italy, and will run until December 2008. Publications and practical demonstrations of modern capability and best practice are to be the major thrust during 2006 for conveying the eGY principles set out in the "Declaration for a Geoscience

Information Commons" (see www.egy.org). We agreed on a series of meetings, workshops, publications, and a program of developing demonstration projects. One of the most important of these is a general-use case demonstration - a 'proof of concept' showcase of the power of virtual observatories and modern information systems to meet present and future information needs of people who are non-specialist scientists (decision-makers, public, and so on) or scientists who come from other specialist backgrounds.

Submitted by C. Barton

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4. ICSU March 2006 Newsletter is posted

The March 2006 ICSU Newsletter has been posted on the website: www.ICSU.org. Items of specific interest to IUGG include the following.

- A dedicated International Polar Year (IPY) Data Policy and Management Subcommittee has been established.
 - A new Planning Group on Natural and Human-Induced Environmental Hazards will be chaired by Professor Gordon McBean. The members of the group are yet to be announced.
 - ICSU is considering co-sponsoring THORPEX, a WMO weather research programme.
 - The GEO Committee on Science and Technology will meet at UNESCO 19-20 April to discuss the implementation of the 2006 Workplan and decide on the process by which the scientific and technological community can provide input to the 2007-2008 Workplan. ICSU has distributed the list of tasks assigned to the Committee and has invited interest in getting involved with task implementation.
 - The ICSU Regional Office for Africa has established scoping groups to consider 4 priority issues: global change; natural and human-induced hazards; human health; and sustainable energy.
 - The ICSU Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific will be located at the Academy of Sciences, Malaysia. The inauguration will take place on 18-19 September in conjunction with a regional symposium on "Natural and Human-induced Hazards and Disasters."
 - The ICSU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean is under consideration for Rio de Janeiro.
 - The Priority Area Assessment on Capacity Building is available on the ICSU website.
 - ICSU will establish an ad hoc scoping group on Human Health, and a Review Panel on the ICSU Grants Programme.
 - The 75th Anniversary of ICSU will take place on 11 July 2006, and several special events will recognize the occasion.
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5. "Padma Shri" Award for Harsh Gupta

Dr. Harsh Gupta, IUGG Bureau Member, was given the prestigious 'Padma Shri' Award by Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam, President of Republic of India on March 20, 2006. Padma Awards are the highest civilian awards in India and were instituted some 40 years ago. These are given for outstanding performance in any field. Dr. Gupta is the third Geo-Scientist to get this award.

6. IUGG-Related Meetings Occurring during April - June 2006

A [calendar of meetings](#) of interest to IUGG disciplines (especially those organized or sponsored by IUGG Associations) is posted on the IUGG Web Site [www.iugg.org]. Specific information about these meetings, including web links, can be found there. Individual Associations also list more meetings on their web sites appropriate to their disciplines.

April 2 - 7, 2006

EGU; Vienna, Austria; EGU 2006 General Assembly

April 18 - 21, 2006

IASPEI; San Francisco, California USA; 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference Commemorating the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake

April 22- 26, 2006

UNOOSA/STDM; Damascus, Syria; United Nation/Syria Regional Workshop on the Use of Space Technology for Disaster Management in Western Asia and Northern Africa

May 14 - May 18, 2006

IAVCEI; Guangzhou, China; Continental Basalt Volcanism

May 15 - May 19, 2006

IASPEI; Trieste, Italy; Workshop on the Conduct of Seismic Hazard Analyses for Critical Facilities

May 21 - May 24, 2006

IASPEI; Golden, Colorado, USA; MODFLOW and More 2006: Managing Ground-Water Systems

May 22 - May 24, 2006

IAG; Baden, Austria; 3rd IAG Symposium on Geodesy for Geotechnical and Structural Engineering

May 23 - May 26, 2006

AGU; Baltimore, Maryland, USA; Spring Joint Assembly

May 23 - May 26, 2006

IAHS; Ohrid, Macedonia; BALWOIS Conference on Water Observation and Information Systems for Decision Support

May 29 - June 2, 2006

IAG; Wuhan University, China; VI Hotine-Marussi Symposium of Theoretical and Computational Geodesy: Challenge and Role of Modern Geodesy

May 30 - June 3, 2006

IAHS; Dijon, France; Anniversary Conference on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of the Foundation of IAH and the 150th Anniversary of Darcy's Law

June 1 - June 2, 2006

Potsdam, Germany; OECD Global Science Forum: Workshop on Earthquake Science and its Contribution to Society

June 4 - June 8, 2006

IUGG/CMG; Sea of Galilee, Israel; Coupling in Earth Systems: Solids, Fluids, Life

June 6 - June 8, 2006

IAG; Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia; International Workshop on Height Systems, Geoid and Gravity of the Asia-Pacific

June 8 - June 10, 2006

IASPEI; Tucson, Arizona, USA; 2006 IRIS Workshop

June 8 - June 10, 2006

IAHS; Guangzhou, China; Hydrological Sciences for Managing Water Resources in the Asian Developing World

June 14 - June 16, 2006

EMSEV; Toulouse, France; Дѣмѣтер International Workshop

June 16, 2006

IAGA; Tihany, Hungary; 50th Jubilee of the Tihany Geophysical Observatory

June 17 - June 21, 2006

IASPEI; Castle of Trest, Czech Republic; Seismic Anisotropy and Geodynamics of the Lithosphere-Asthenosphere System

June 19 - June 23, 2006

IAG; Copenhagen, Denmark; IGeS Geoid School 2006; The Determination and Use of the Geoid

June 19 - June 24, 2006

IAGA; Belsk, Poland; XII IAGA Workshop

June 30 - July 1, 2006

IAHS; Paris, France; 8th IAHS-UNESCO KOVACS Colloquium

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