

Volume 3 No. 2 (February 1, 2003)

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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The IUGG General Assembly Local Organizing Committee has today extended the deadline to accept abstracts for the scientific sessions until 7 February. They have also announced that more than 6500 abstracts have been received from more than 4800 persons. We are looking forward to an excellent General Assembly in Sapporo (30 June - 11 July, 2003). For more information about the General Assembly or to submit an abstract, please access the web page: <http://www.jamstec.go.jp/jamstec-e/iugg.index.php>

1. IUGG Adhering Organization Credentials due by end of the Month

In a formal letter sent on 4 November 2002 to all IUGG Adhering Bodies, a request was made for the name of the delegate to the IUGG Council meetings in Sapporo. This person must be accredited by means of a signed letter (fax and e-mail are not acceptable) from the IUGG Adhering Organisation. This person will be admitted to the Council meeting and may participate in Council business.

The Adhering Organizations are asked to send these letters so that they arrive at the IUGG Office by 28 February. In order to expedite the Council meetings, documents regarding items of business will be sent to the delegates for consideration in advance of the General Assembly.

2. Invoices mailed for IUGG Dues Payments

The IUGG Treasurer, Dr. Aksel Hansen, mailed the invoices for the annual dues payments for 2003 to IUGG Member Adhering Organizations in late December. The dues payment for each Member is determined from their category of membership. There are 12 categories, and each higher category pays a multiple number of units. For example, Category I members pay one unit and Category 10 members pay 30 units. The subscription price for one unit of membership in 2003 is \$1455 (USD). This value is calculated for a given year using the inflation rate index for the previous year for the USA. Members who are in arrears (that is, they have not yet paid the previous year's dues, become Observer Members and as such, they are not permitted to vote on matters of IUGG business (especially important this year, when the Council will meet during the Sapporo General Assembly). If a Country has been in Observer

Status for 2 or more years, scientists from that country may not hold elected office in IUGG or the Associations. Countries who have been in Observer status for 4 years are no longer considered to be IUGG members on January 1 of the next (5th) year unless they apply for Associate Member status. Associate members continue to receive information about IUGG scientific activities, but they may not participate in IUGG business.

3. Annual Reports for 2002 are due

Each of the Associations and inter-Associations bodies has been sent the annual request for an annual report, to be received by mid-month. These will be combined with a summary of general IUGG activities in order to produce an IUGG Annual Report for 2002. This report will be submitted to the International Council for Science (ICSU) and posted on the IUGG Web site by March 1. We hope that the IUGG National Committees will find this report useful in their quest for continuing support for IUGG activities.

4. Bids received for the 2007 IUGG General Assembly

As of the deadline of December 31, 2002, two invitations were received to host the XXIV IUGG General Assembly to be held in 2007. Each proposer will make a presentation to the IUGG Council in Sapporo, Japan, during the upcoming General Assembly. The Council will make the final decision. The first invitation received was from the National Research Council of Italy through the Research Institute for Hydrogeological Protection; the venue proposed is the premises of the University of Perugia, Italy. The second invitation received was from the Australian Academy of Sciences; the venue proposed is the Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre. Both invitations are well-supported, and IUGG is grateful to the proposers for their time and effort to prepare professional and attractive bids for the IUGG 2007 General Assembly.

5. Notification of an ICSU/CODATA on-line discussion forum on Science and the Information Society

In order to consult its members and associated bodies/organizations, as well as the wider international scientific and technological community, ICSU in association with CODATA (COMmittee on DATA for Science and Technology) will be hosting an on-line forum to develop its main input to the UN World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which takes place in Geneva in December. This forum will be launched on 10th February on the ICSU web-site (www.icsu.org) and continue until 28th February. Brief introductory papers on four themes are being prepared and will be posted on the web-site. Participation in the forum will be open to anyone, following a simple registration procedure.

6. Vacancy announcement for Science Officer at the ICSU Secretariat

The ICSU Secretariat in Paris, France, has posted a vacancy announcement for Science Officer on the following two websites, as well as on the ICSU homepage

- <http://www.SciDev.net>
- <http://www.sciencecareers.org>

The newly updated ICSU website is located at www.icsu.org

7. IUGG-related meetings occurring during February - April 2003

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

- February 9 - 13 AMS, Long Beach, California, 83rd AMS Annual Meeting including the 12th Symposium on Meteorological Observations and Instrumentation
- February 20 - 21 IAGA, Adelaide, Australia, 3rd International Symposium on 3-Dimensional Electro-magnetics
- March 6 - 8 IUGG, Tokyo, Japan, 23rd General Assembly Scientific Programme Committee meeting
- March 16 - 23 World Water Council, Kyoto, Japan, 3rd World Water Forum
- March 17 - 21 WCRP, Univ. Reading, U.K., 24th Session of the Joint Scientific Committee
- Mar 30 - Apr 4 SEDI, Les Houches, France, Winter School: Planetary Dynamos
- April 1 - 4 IAHS, Montpellier, France, International Conference on Hydrology of the Mediterranean and Semi-Arid Regions
- April 2 - 6 SEDI. Fréjus, Cote d'Azur, France, Interdisciplinary workshop on Mantle Composition, Structure and Phase Transitions
- April 6 - 11 EGS/AGU/EUG, Nice, France, Joint Assembly
- April 28 - 28 ICSU/FAGS, Paris, France, Council Meeting, Federation of Astronomical and Geophysical Data Analysis Services (FAGS)

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