



**INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS
UNION GEODESIQUE ET GEOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE**

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This monthly newsletter is intended to keep IUGG Members and individual scientists informed about the activities of the Union, its Associations and interdisciplinary bodies, and the actions of the IUGG Secretariat, Bureau, and Executive Committee. Past issues are posted on the IUGG [website](#). E-Journals may be forwarded to those who will benefit from the information. Your comments are welcome.

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1. IUGG – The People at the Forefront (IX)

Corina Risso, Chair of the Finance Committee 2019-2023

I was born in Buenos Aires City. My parents had a little farm on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, every weekend I used to enjoy horseback riding and countryside activities such as climbing trees. I enjoyed camping and was interested in nature, animals and all its wonders. I decided that rocks were better than cruel animal experiments so did not study Biology. I received my Bachelor's Degree in Geology from Buenos Aires University (UBA) in 1977, with an original study of a new-born volcano in the Lanin National Park.



October 2019, looking for pyroclastic sequences in Carapacho volcano, Payenia Volcanic Province.

I accepted a position at the National Institute of Hydric Sciences, in the Thermal Water office, which involved a lot of field work to study thermal waters. This experience made me fall in love with volcanoes, which is still my work topic. From 1977 to 2019, I rose through all teaching levels in the UBA, from the lowest assistant to Associate Professor. As full time Professor, I was principal investigator of several research projects.

I was three times Head of the Department of Geology (Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales-UBA). I like teaching young people, and I had great experiences taking the students to the field as well as teaching them in the classroom.

In 1981 and 1983 my children were born. I did field work for my PhD when I was six months pregnant, studying Cretaceous Volcanism in the north of Argentina where I discovered the interactions in volcanism between water and magma (phreatomagmatism) and I continued to study it subsequently. In 1990, I finally obtained my PhD, also from UBA. That year I was in Lanzarote and Tenerife (Canary Islands) with a post-doctoral scholarship on Volcanology and Seismology.

In 1988, I started to work under an agreement between the UBA and the Argentine Antarctic Institute in Deception Island, in the South Shetland Islands, Antarctica.



Left: Taking volcanic gas samples in Deception Island, Antarctica. Right: At the Almirante Irizar icebreaker, in Weddell Sea, on route to Deception Island.

Antarctica and Deception Island was a dream job. I was there from 1988 to 1998. Deception is a horseshoe-shaped volcanic island, where the last eruptions were in 1967, 1969 and 1970. The Argentine base is at the SW of Port Foster, an 8-10 km wide caldera, full of water. When I first arrived in 1988, the base had been partially destroyed by the most recent eruptions. We did not have water, we did not have heat, but we had a roof, and it was my home during four months of field work through the Antarctic summer. My job was to study the geology and the geological precursors for a future eruption.

Deception Island is one of the most frequently visited locations in Antarctica, because it has a large colony of chinstrap penguins and fumaroles under water that allow bathing next to the ice, highly appreciated by tourists. Due to the risks arising from boats full of tourists in Port Foster, we created with Ramón Ortiz (MNCN-CSIC, Spain) the Deception Volcanic Observatory which is a member of WOVO (World Organization of Volcanic Observatories, IUGG). I was Director of the Observatory from 1993 to 1998 and the first Argentinean woman to lead a Scientific Antarctic station.

The Observatory function was to monitor the volcanic activity, and to minimise risk from eruptions. As part of our work at the Observatory, we deployed seismic stations, magnetic survey, gravity survey, GPS stations, electronic clinometer, and we worked with thermometry, gas geochemistry, and ground deformation.

When I finished my work in Antarctica, I found a huge monogenetic volcanic field at the south of Mendoza province in Argentina, the “Payenia Volcanic Province” with more than 954 pyroclastic

cones, most of them tuff cones, tuff rings and maars that had not previously been studied. My first paper about these volcanoes included only 4 tuff ring and tuff cones, and I am still working on that volcanic area.

In 2009 as President of the Local Organising Committee, I organised the “3^o International Maar Conference”, sponsored by IAVCEI in Malargüe, Mendoza, Argentina, assisting Prof. Setsuya Nakada who was IAVCEI President (2007-2011).

I started my work with IUGG in 1994 as President of the IAVCEI Argentine National Committee, and I continue today, sometimes as Secretary, sometimes as President. In 1997 I was elected Vice President of the Argentine National Committee of IUGG, a role I continue today.

My first major meeting was IUGG in Vienna, Austria in 1991 and then, Canberra, Boulder, Perugia, Melbourne, Prague, and Montreal.

I have been elected since 2007 as a member of the Capacity Building and Education Committee, Alternate member of the IUGG Nomination Committee and Member of the Finance Committee (2015-2019 and 2019-2023).

I was pleased to be elected Chair of the Finance Committee at the IUGG General Assembly in Montreal in August 2019, and I look forward to serving the Union for the next years.

2. IUGG Annual Report 2019

The [IUGG Annual Report 2019](#) provides a summary of the activities of the Union including its Associations, Union Commissions and Programs. IUGG thanks everyone who contributed to the report. We invite you to download this impressive summary of last year’s activities.

3. IUGG's endorsement of the Declaration of the Significance of Geoscience Expertise to Meet Global Societal Challenges

In solidarity with the European Geosciences Union (EGU), the American Geophysical Union (AGU), the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society (AOGS), and other partners, IUGG is pleased to sign the following [Declaration of the Significance of Geoscience Expertise to Meet Global Societal Challenges](#):

Preamble

Humanity today faces many societal challenges whose escalating scope, interconnection and urgency could jeopardize achieving the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. Our ability to anticipate and meet both current challenges and future issues depends in large part upon facilitating innovative science and technology as the most effective means to comprehend the origins of these challenges and to establish successful strategies for mitigating and addressing them.

The international geoscience community possesses much of the specialised knowledge, skills and expertise necessary to provide the essential resources and healthy environments that humanity needs to thrive. The world’s geoscience expertise helps to ensure reliable supplies of mineral, energy and ecological resources; satisfy human and environmental requirements for clean water, clean air and

fertile soils; manage wastes to protect the environment; bolster public health; and build societal resilience to the short- and long-term effects of a range of natural and anthropogenic hazards.

Proclamation

In recognition of the significance of international cooperation in science, technology and innovation, and particularly within the Earth, planetary and space science community, the European Geosciences Union, the American Geophysical Union, the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society, the Geological Society of America, the Japan Geoscience Union and The Geological Society of London declare our commitment to work together to support and promote all forms of geoscience research.

As signatory societies, we recognise our shared responsibility to:

1. Devise strategies to protect and sustainably develop vital resources for present and future generations;
2. Utilise scientific research results to increase societal resilience to single, multiple and potentially interrelated threats, support global wellbeing, and help humanity prevent, better prepare for, and recover from local, regional and global crises;
3. Impartially analyse risks associated with natural and anthropogenic hazards, including individual and cascading perils, and support comprehensive, forward-thinking solutions that directly address these issues;
4. Promote widespread access to scientific methods, research and associated outputs;
5. Encourage ethical conduct by adopting high standards, fostering ethically responsible attitudes and supporting equitable, diverse, inclusive and transparent funding mechanisms;
6. Advocate for scientific freedom and develop best practices for promoting scientific integrity;
7. Diversify science and recognise the voices and perspectives of researchers from underrepresented groups, including the global south and early career researchers;
8. Recognise and develop the professional and educational skills required to engage various audiences with geoscience concepts, both in public and political spheres;
9. Effectively communicate scientific methods and research results to improve public trust in science, engage policymakers, and effect policies that implement and advance the science that supports global wellbeing; and
10. Promote the multi-disciplinary dimensions of geoscience, knowing its impact is strengthened by the intersections between subdisciplines and plays an active role in addressing key societal issues.

4. IUGG2023 – Appointment of the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee

The IUGG Executive Committee unanimously endorsed the appointment of [Prof. Jürgen Müller](#) to the position of the Chair of the Scientific Program Committee (SPC) for the IUGG General Assembly 2023 (IUGG2023) to be held in Berlin. Jürgen has been President of the German National Committee since 2012 and IAG National Correspondent for Germany since 2005.

The SPC consists of the Chair, nine Members (Secretaries General of the eight Union Associations plus the IUGG Secretary General) and the IUGG President (ex-officio).

The SPC for IUGG2023 will include the following members:

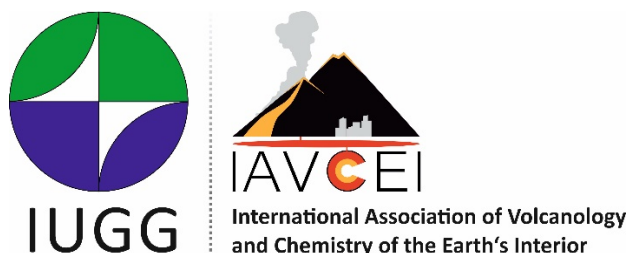
- Chair: **Jürgen Müller** (Leibniz University Hannover, Germany)
- IACS Secretary General: **Richard Essery** (The University of Edinburgh, UK)



Prof. Jürgen Müller, Chair of the SPC for IUGG2023.

- IAG Secretary General: **Markku Poutanen** (National Land Survey of Finland)
- IAGA Secretary General: **Monika Korte** (GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences)
- IAHS Secretary General: **Christophe Cudennec** (Agrocampus Ouest, France)
- IAMAS Secretary General: **Steve Ackerman** (University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA)
- IAPSO Secretary General: **Stefania Sparnocchia** (CNR-ISMAR Institute of Marine Sciences, Italy)
- IASPEI Secretary General: **Johannes Schweitzer** (NORSAR, Norway)
- IAVCEI Secretary General: **Roberto Sulpizio** (University of Bari, Italy)
- IUGG Secretary General: **Alexander Rudloff** (GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences)
- IUGG President: **Kathy Whaler** (The University of Edinburgh, UK)

5. Postponement of IAVCEI Scientific Assembly to January 2022



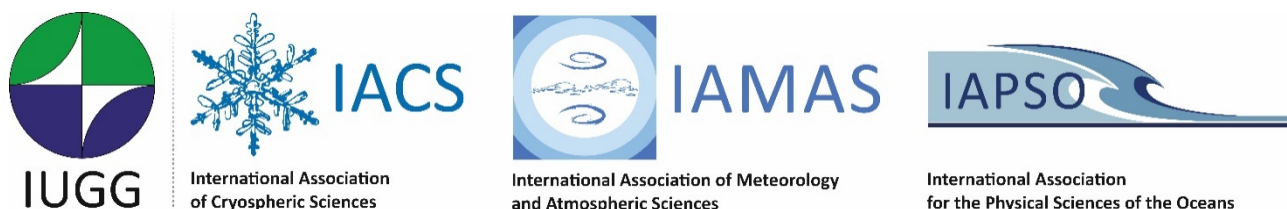
The IAVCEI Executive Committee, in agreement with New Zealand Local Organising Committee (LOC), announces that the [IAVCEI Scientific Assembly](#), Rotorua, New Zealand, originally scheduled for 15 to 19 February 2021, has been postponed to 20 to 24 January 2022. The impact of COVID-19 and the associated uncertainty of

international travel restrictions to New Zealand in the near future has made it impractical and unfeasible to plan for and hold the assembly on the original dates. The LOC regrets having to reschedule the assembly, but are delighted to welcome the international volcanological community to New Zealand in early 2022. We will build upon the progress we had already made on the scientific and general programme and anticipate that this assembly may be unique in being the first, hopefully, in a post-COVID world.

Adrian Pittari and Graham Leonard (LOC Coordinators)
 Patrick Allard (IAVCEI President)
 Roberto Sulpizio (IAVCEI Secretary General)

6. Changes of IACS-IAMAS-IAPSO Joint Scientific Assembly 2021

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic it has been decided that there will be no [IAMAS-IACS-IAPSO Joint Assembly 2021](#) in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 18-23 July 2021. Options to hold a virtual meeting are being investigated.



7. Awards and Honours

The IAHS-UNESCO-WMO International Hydrology Prize is awarded annually to two people who have made outstanding contributions to hydrological science. The Dooge medal is aimed at

fundamental contributions to the science of hydrology, whereas the Volker medal is aimed at outstanding applications of hydrological science for the benefit of society at large. The recipients of the 2020 International Hydrological Prize are *Hubert Savenije* (Dooge medal) from the Technical University Delft, Netherlands, and *Bruno Merz* (Volker medal) from the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences, Potsdam, Germany.

Congratulations to both!

8. Meetings affected by COVID-19

AGU

The [AGU Fall Meeting 2020](#) planned to be held in San Francisco CA, USA, from 7 to 11 December 2020, will be organised mostly online at the same dates.

CCTF

The [22nd meeting of the Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency](#) planned to be held in Sevres, France, from 26 to 30 October 2020, will be organised online at the same dates.

IAG

The IAG sponsored [IGS Workshop IGS 2020: Science from Earth to Space](#) planned to be held in Boulder CO, USA, from 10 to 14 August 2020, will be postponed to 2021.

The IAG sponsored [International DORIS Service Workshop](#) planned to be held in Venice, Italy, from 19 to 21 October 2020, is planned to be organised online around the same dates.

The IAG sponsored Reference Frames in Practice Seminar planned to be held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, in November 2020, has been postponed to November 2021 to be held in Lima, Peru.

IAGA

The IAGA sponsored [XIXth IAGA Workshop on Geomagnetic Observatory Instruments, Data Acquisition and Processing](#) planned to be held in Kazan, Russia, from 5 to 11 October 2020, will be postponed to (most likely) May-July 2021.

The IAGA sponsored [9th VERSIM Workshop – VLF/ELF Remote Sensing of Ionospheres & Magnetospheres](#) planned to be held in Kyoto, Japan, from 21 to 25 November 2020, will be held online from 16 to 20 November 2020.

IASPEI

The IASPEI sponsored [3rd International School on Earthquakes: Nucleation, Triggering, and Relationship With Aseismic Processes](#) planned to be held in Cargèse (Corsica), France, from 5 to 9 October 2020, has been postponed to September 2021 to be held at the same place.

ICTP/IUGG

The IUGG sponsored [Coastal Ocean Environment Summer School in Ghana 2020](#) planned to be held in Legon, Ghana, from 3 to 8 August 2020, has been cancelled.

The IUGG sponsored [Biosphere - Climate interactions in Earth System Models at Global and Regional Scales](#) planned to be held in Trieste, Italy, from 28 September to 2 October 2020, has been cancelled.

The IUGG sponsored [Seismic Tomography and Earth Structure](#) planned to be held in Trieste, Italy, from 5 to 16 October 2020, has been cancelled.

SCOR

The [2020 SCOR Annual Meeting](#) planned to be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, from 19 to 23 October 2020, will be organised online at the same dates.

9. Meeting calendar

Meetings are subject to change due to COVID-19 pandemic.

2020

July

- 12-16, AGU, JpGU, Online, [JpGU – AGU Joint Meeting 2020. For a Borderless World of Geoscience](#)

August

- 30-4 September, IAHS, Birmingham, UK, [11th Annual Catchment Science Summer School](#)

September

- 25-30, IAVCEI, Heraklion, Greece, [Cities on Volcanoes 11](#) (still under evaluation)

October

- 5-16, ICTP, IUGG, Rabat, Morocco, [African Workshop on GNSS and Space Weather](#)
- 7-9, IACS, Concepción, Chile, [Third Annual Meeting of the Chilean Cryosphere Society \(SOChiCri\)](#)
- 11-17, AGI, [Earth Science Week](#)
- 19-21, IAG, Shanghai, China, [International Workshop on GNSS Ionosphere \(IWGI2020\)](#)
- 19-21, IAG, Online, [International DORIS Service Workshop](#)
- 19-23, SCOR, Online, [2020 SCOR Annual Meeting](#)
- 22-24, CODATA, Paris, France, [International FAIR Convergence Symposium and CODATA General Assembly](#)
- 26-30, IAHS, Bydgoszcz, Poland, [IAHS/ICCE International Symposium River sediment quality and quantity: environmental, geochemical and ecological perspectives](#)
- 26-30, CCTF, Online, [22nd meeting of the Consultative Committee for Time and Frequency](#)
- 26-6 November, ICTP, Addis Ababa, [Integrating climate data, predictions and projections into health planning](#)

November

- 2-6, IAG, Kunming, China, [22nd International Workshop on Laser Ranging](#)
- 9-13, ICTP, IUGG, Trieste, Italy, [Impact and Risk Relevant Climate Information from Global Scale Projections to Local Scale Climate Hazards](#)
- 17-19, ICTP, IUGG, Buenos Aires, Argentina, [Conference on Regional Climate Modeling and Extreme Events over South America: results from the CORDEX-Flagship Pilot Study](#)
- 21-25, IAGA, URSI, Kyoto, Japan, [9th VERSIM Workshop – VLF/ELF Remote Sensing of Ionospheres & Magnetospheres](#)
- 24-28, IAHS, Cotonou, Benin, [Hydrology of the Major African Basins](#)
- IAMAS, IUGG, Venice, Italy, Understanding the climatic response to strong volcanic eruptions - First VolMIP meeting

December

- 13-19, IASPEI, IUGG, Kasane, Botswana, [3rd General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission](#)
- 7-11, AGU, San Francisco CA, USA, and Online, [AGU Fall Meeting 2020](#)

Association Scientific Assemblies 2021-2022

- 28 June – 2 July 2021, Montpellier, France, IAHS Scientific Assembly
- 28 June – 5 July 2021, Beijing, China, IAG Scientific Assembly
- 18-23 July 2021, Possibly Online, [IACS-IAMAS-IAPSO Joint Scientific Assembly](#)
- 22-27 August 2021, Hyderabad, India, [IAGA-IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly](#)
- 20-24 January 2022, Rotorua, New Zealand, [IAVCEI Scientific Assembly](#)

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