

## **2012 - THE YEAR OF THE 34th IGC, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

### **34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC) 5-10 AUGUST 2012, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA**

Only 6 months to go - the latest news about the IGC

The Fourth Circular with current information on the IGC has been released. It contains details of field trips, and Professional Development Workshops/Short Courses and lots more. The Fourth Circular can be downloaded from the IGC website at <http://www.34igc.org/>.

Abstract submissions have now closed with over 5000 Abstracts submitted - an excellent result. The abstracts are being reviewed and authors will be advised of acceptance within the next few weeks. The "Early Bird Registration" offer enables delegates to register for the 34th IGC at a reduced rate and is available until 30 April 2012. You can register directly by visiting the "Register now" link, or via the website at <http://www.34igc.org/>. Also check the Fourth Circular for details on Field Trips - note that Field Trip bookings close 31 March 2012. Discounted accommodation rates have been negotiated for IGC delegates and bookings can be done via the IGC website. Note that Accommodation bookings close on 5 June 2012.

Continually check the 34th International Geological Congress website at <http://www.34igc.org/> for current information on the IGC activities. Should you require assistance at any time with information for your attendance at, or involvement in, the 34th International Geological Congress, please email: [info@34igc.org](mailto:info@34igc.org).

Note that Symposium 1.1 Geoheritage, Geoparks and Geotourism has initiated its own Congress newsletter which can be accessed at: <http://web.earthsci.unimelb.edu.au/Joyce/heritage/IGCGeoheritageSymposia2012.html> or at <http://tinyurl.com/77fohvr>.

### **THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE PROGRAMME (IGCP)**

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the IUGS - UNESCO's International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) a conference was held on 22 February 2012, at UNESCO's Headquarters in Paris, France.

Launched in 1972, the International Geoscience Programme supports international cooperation in geology. It serves as a network for thousands of scientists worldwide, notably in developing countries and focuses on projects relating to present concerns such as georisks, hydrology and climate change and modelization projects based on geological data. Over 335 projects in about 150 countries with contributions of thousands of Earth scientists attest to the scientific and applied quality of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) since its inception in 1972.

The 40th IGCP anniversary conference was opened by UNESCO's Director-General, Irina Bokova, and by the President of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), Alberto Riccardi. The opening was followed by two presentations on the "Main results of IGCP's 40 years", by V. Vajda, IGCP Chair, Lund University, Sweden, and the "Importance of Geosciences for Society", by I. Stewart, Plymouth University, UK. The forum brought together numerous experts from different parts of the world and its purpose was to take stock of the achievements and challenges of the International Programme and map the road ahead.

There were a series of talks on the "Relevance of IGCP", with J-P Cadet (UNESCO, France) as Moderator, beginning with a "History of IGCP" by E. Derbyshire (former IGCP Chair, UK), followed by presentations on key results and vision of the different IGCP themes, i.e. "Earth Resources: Sustaining our Society", by R. Seltmann, Natural History Museum, London, UK; "Global Change and Evolution of Life: Evidence from the geological record", by P. Vickers-Rich, Monash University, Australia; "Geohazards: Mitigating the risks", by M. Sintubin, Leuven University, Belgium; "Geoscience of the water cycle", by C. Zhang, International Research Centre on Karst, China; "Deep Earth: How it controls our environment", by Y. Dilek, Miami University, USA. There were also two panel discussions, one on "The Geoscience Challenges for the Planet" with the participation of H. Campbell (New Zealand IGCP NC, Moderator), T. Casadevall (U.S. IUGS & IGCP NC, US Geological Survey, USA), S. Dong (Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, China), S. Leroy (IGCP Project Leader, Brunel University, UK), G. McBean (President-Elect, ICSU), X. Le Pichon (French Academy of Sciences, France). The second panel discussion was focused on "IGCP and other Earth Science global programmes" and had the participation of J. Ludden (British Geological Survey, UK, Moderator), G. Kalonji (Assistant Director General for Natural Sciences, UNESCO), A. Riccardi (President IUGS, Argentina), S. Cloetingh (Chair,

International Lithosphere Programme, ILP, The Netherlands), F. Gaetani (Secretariat, Global Earth Observation, GEO, Switzerland), J. Venus (President, Young Earth Scientists Network).

A final “Synthesis and conclusions: A prospective vision for the future of IGCP” was presented by I. Stewart, Plymouth University, UK.

### **TALES SET IN STONE: 40 YEARS OF THE INTERNATIONAL GEOSCIENCE PROGRAMME (IGCP)**

As part of the celebration of the 40th years of the IGCP an anniversary book entitled “Tales Set in Stone, 40 Years of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP)” was published in English, French and Spanish. The book, profusely illustrated in colour, includes a brief history of the IGCP and in 6 main sections and 15 chapters, with selected examples of IGCP projects, it traces the main achievements of this programme of international scientific cooperation to service of society. The pdf can be downloaded from <http://www.unesco.org/new/igcp40>

### **THE JAMES HARRISON OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD - CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

The James Harrison Outstanding Achievement Award was established in 2004 to express the gratitude of the IUGS to those persons who have devoted an extraordinary amount of personal time and effort addressing the mission and the activities of the Union. Nominees for this Award should have made an outstanding contribution to the Union over a sustained period of time and must still be alive and thus able to accept the award in person on the occasion of the next International Geological Congress. Active officers of the IUGS Executive Committee, IUGS Committees, as well as IUGS Commissions, Task Groups, and Initiatives, are not eligible for nomination for this Award.

Nominations comprising a short covering letter, letters of support, and a copy of the candidate's short CV stressing the contributions made to the IUGS can be submitted by anyone in the IUGS family. Nomination packages should be submitted to the IUGS Secretary-General ([pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca)) with a copy to the IUGS Secretariat ([iugs@usgs.gov](mailto:iugs@usgs.gov)) before the deadline for receipt of nominations which close on 16 April 2012.

The IUGS Executive Committee will evaluate the nominations and the successful candidate will be officially recognized on the occasion of the 34th IGC in Brisbane, Australia in August 2012.

### **63RD IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

On 14-17 February 2012 the 63rd IUGS Executive Committee (EC) Meeting was held at the Palace of the Deputation of Donostia, in San Sebastian, Spain. This was the first EC meeting held in Spain and was kindly hosted by the Geological and Mining Institute of Spain (IGME) and the Deputation of Donostia-San Sebastian. During the meeting activities for 2011 and 2012 of Adhering and Affiliated members, and IUGS bodies, were discussed, as well as the budget for the same years. The following items, among others, were also considered: proposed changes to the IUGS Statutes and Bye-Laws, a draft of a new Strategic Plan, joint initiatives with UNESCO, ICSU and other GeoUnions, IUGS new awards, and activities related to the International Geological Congress. On 18 February a visit to Zumaia, arranged by the local authorities and hosted by the Mayor of Zumaia and the Deputy for Innovation, Rural development and Tourism of the Gipuzkoa deputation, was attended by the IUGS President, the Chair of the International Commission on Stratigraphy, and some members of the EC, and of other IUGS bodies. The visit along the Zumaia coast saw the Upper Cretaceous-Lower Tertiary continuous section where two GSSPs have been established defining the Danian/Selandian and Selandian/Thanetian boundaries. The Cretaceous/Tertiary boundary is also well exposed.

### **DEDICATION CEREMONY OF THE LUTETIAN GSSP**

On 13 February 2012 the Golden Spike defining the base of the Lutetian Stage (early/middle Eocene boundary) was placed at 167.85 in the Gorronatxe sea-cliff section (NW of Bilbao city, Basque Country, northern Spain; 43°22'46.47" N, 3° 00' 51.61" W). Present at the ceremony were the Mayor of Getxo, Imanolo Landa, the Chair of the International Commission on Stratigraphy, Stan Finney, the Chair of the Subcommission on Paleogene, Eustoquio Molina, the leader of the Gorronatxe research team, Xabier Orue-Etxebarria, and other members of the local and international scientific community. The ceremony was also attended by the President of the IUGS and members of the IUGS Executive Committee and other IUGS bodies.

### **EARTH SCIENCE EDUCATION INITIATIVE IN AFRICA**

On 23 February 2012, and as an aftermath of the celebration of the IGCP 40th anniversary, a Workshop on “Earth Science Educations events” and “Earth Science education initiative in Africa” was held at UNESCO’s Headquarters, in Paris, France. The meeting provided an update on the work underway on Earth science education in Africa, as an important element for sustainable development, opening opportunities for Africans for the careful management and prosperous use of their natural wealth. The meeting also provided an opportunity to discuss concrete ways to expand, through strategic partnerships, the relationship between education and research, a critical question during the 40th anniversary of the IGCP which was focused on the importance of scientific

cooperation for the future of earth science and its relevance to society. The Chair of the IUGS Commission on Geoscience Education (COGE) also made a presentation on IUGS activities related to this. The meeting was attended by the IUGS President, and members of the EC.

#### **NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF ICSU APPOINTED**

ICSU has announced that Dr. Steven Wilson has been appointed as the new Executive Director and will provide important leadership as ICSU seeks to implement its newly approved second Strategic Plan 2012-2017. Dr. Wilson will take up his duties on 1 April 2012. After working for the UK Meteorological Office, Dr. Wilson joined the UK National Environment Research Council (NERC) in 1998. He held a number of senior posts, including that of the NERC Director of Earth Observation. In this period he led the British National Space Centre's Earth Observation activities, represented the UK environmental science community at the European Space Agency (ESA) Council, and chaired the ESA Earth Observation Programme Board. More information: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/press-releases/press-releases-2012/icsu2019s-new-executive-director-appointed/press-release>

#### **ICSU WORLD DATA SYSTEM NAMES ITS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Dr. Mustapha Mokrane has been appointed as Executive Director of ICSU's World Data System (WDS). Dr. Mokrane, currently Science and Information Technology Officer at ICSU's Secretariat in Paris, will take up his appointment in March 2012. As Executive Director, Mokrane will head the newly established WDS International Programme Office, which is hosted by the Japanese National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) in Tokyo. Details at: <http://www.icsu-wds.org/organization/events/51-wds-executive-director>

#### **NEW ICSU INITIATIVE - "FUTURE EARTH"**

"Future Earth – research for global sustainability" will be the name of the new ten-year initiative on Earth system research for global sustainability being established through the partnership of ICSU, ISSC, the Belmont Forum, UNESCO, UNEP and UNU, with WMO as observer. At its second meeting, just concluded in San Francisco, the Transition Team overseeing the design phase for the initiative agreed on the name and worked towards defining the conceptual framework, research strategy, and institutional design for Future Earth. A meeting report will be available soon. See: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/news/top-news/201cfuture-earth201d-is-born>

#### **NEW DIRECTOR OF THE GROUP ON EARTH OBSERVATIONS (GEO) SECRETARIAT**

The GEO Co-Chairs, on behalf of the GEO Executive Committee, have formally announced the selection of Ms Barbara Ryan to succeed Professor Jose Achache as the Director of the GEO Secretariat. Ms Ryan, currently the Director of the World Meteorological Organization's Space Programme, has long experience in Earth observations and their application to a broad range of societal needs and is a widely respected member of the GEO community. The Co-Chairs have also announced their sincere thanks to Professor Achache for his enormous contributions to the formation of GEO and the establishment of the Global Earth Observation System of System (GEOSS) over the last six years. Website at: <http://www.earthobservations.org/index.shtml>

#### **IUGS FORENSIC GEOLOGY INITIATIVE NEW WEBSITE.**

The IUGS Initiative on Forensic Geology has its own website at: <http://www.forensicgeologyinternational.com/>  
The Initiative will be hosting a session at the IGC, Brisbane, in Theme 1: Geoscience and Society, Symposium 4: Forensic geoscience.

#### **NEW REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE IN THE U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY (USGS)**

The National Research Council (NRC) of the US National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has just released a report on the potential future international role of the USGS. The report "International Science in the National Interest at the U.S. Geological Survey" was produced by an expert committee of the National Academies. The report found that in the next 5-10 years opportunities abound for the USGS to strategically pursue international science on growing worldwide problems having a direct impact on the United States. In the international arena each of the seven USGS mission areas (climate and land-use change; core science systems; ecosystems; energy and minerals; environmental health; natural hazards; and water) has a significant role to play. The review found that USGS' international role extends to all mission areas (earth sciences, biological sciences, hydrology, geography and remote sensing); the USGS activities in the international arena bolster its domestic programs; the USGS should be more proactive, systematic and interdisciplinary in the international arena; the USGS needs to be more open about publicizing its international efforts; and the USGS needs to devote more resources to its international efforts. See the National Academies website at: <http://dels.nas.edu/Report/international-science/13302>

## **NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?**

See the website of the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World at: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm>  
The Directory is produced by the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) and the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). The directory is published as both paper-based and digitized versions. For additions, corrections, or updates email: [intl@gsj.jp](mailto:intl@gsj.jp)

## **RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS**

AGI Outreach & News - See The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) web at:  
<http://www.agiweb.org/outreach/index.html>

CCOP E-News -The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) produces the CCOP E-News See their website at: [http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP\\_e-news](http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP_e-news)

CPCEMR -The Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources website is at:  
<http://www.circumpacificcouncil.org>

EFG -The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) magazine "European Geologist" can be downloaded from:  
<http://www.eurogeologists.eu/>.

EGS -EuroGeoSurveys a consortium of 32 European Geological Surveys which aims to address European geoscience for society. See their EuroGeoSurveys Newsletters at: <http://eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters.html>. To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, you can register online at:  
<http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletterssubscription.html>

GEO - The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is coordinating efforts to build a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS). For details and newsletters see: <http://www.earthobservations.org/index.shtml>

GEOETHICS -The latest copies of the "Geoethics News" newsletter can be downloading from the Geoethics website at: [http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics\\_Planetary\\_Protection/](http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/)

GIS - Maps of the World see: <http://gis.mapsofworld.com/government/government-agencies/>

GSAf -The Geological Society of Africa (GSAf) Newsletters can be downloaded from the Home page of the Society at: <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org>

GS - The Geochemical Society (<http://www.geochemsoc.org/>) has partnered with MultiView Inc. to launch an official email news resource, "Geochemical News". See: <http://multibriefs.com/briefs/gs/sample.htm>.

GWP -For the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Monthly Newsletter "NewsFlow" go to:  
<http://www.gwp.org/en/Get-involved/Subscribe-to-NewsFlow/>

IAG -The International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) publishes its newsletter at 3 month intervals. The Newsletters can be downloaded at: <http://www.geomorph.org/pb/pbnew.html>

IAH -The International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH) publishes "Groundwater eNews" every 2 months. See their website at: [http://www.iah.org/news\\_enews.asp](http://www.iah.org/news_enews.asp).

ICSU -the International Council for Science (ICSU) newsletter "ICSU Insight" will keep you up to date with ICSU global and regional activities, latest publications, and events. View the newsletters at:  
<http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/insight>. Visit the ICSU website at: <http://www.icsu.org/>

IFA -The International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA) has produced a Fertilizer Glossary that is now available on-line in five languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Chinese. There are more than 150 terms and expressions related to fertilizer use, soil science, fertilizer manufacture and analysis, and application machinery and methods. See it at: <http://www.fertilizer.org/ifa/HomePage/LIBRARY/Glossary-of-fertilizer-terms>

IGBP -The International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) website is at: <http://www.igbp.net> and their News archive is at: <http://www.igbp.net/4.d8b4c3c12bf3be638a8000369.html>

IMGA -The International Medical Geology Association (IMGA) newsletter can be downloaded from their website at: [http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/public/publications/page\\_Publications.htm](http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/public/publications/page_Publications.htm)

IUGG -The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) latest electronic E-Journal is on their website at: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/> NOTE the 18 July edition lists the IUGG Bureau members and Association Presidents and Secretaries General for 2011-2015

IUGS -To download back issues of the IUGS "Episodes" magazine see: <http://www.episodes.co.in/www/backissues.htm>. Also E-Bulletins of the IUGS issued since October 2002 can be found at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=e-bulletins>

IUSS -The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) Bulletin can be downloaded in high and low resolution PDF from <http://www.iuss.org> . The monthly IUSS Alert newsletter can be accessed via the same page

OneGeology - an international initiative of the geological surveys of the world with a target of creating dynamic geological map data of the world, available to everyone via the web see: <http://www.onegeology.org/>

ProGEO News -the newsletter of the European Association for the Conservation of the Geological Heritage can be downloaded from: <http://www.progeo.se/>

RCMNS -Bulletin of the Regional Committee on Mediterranean Neogene Stratigraphy downloadable from: <http://www.geomare.na.cnr.it/>

SCAR -The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a committee of the International Council for Science (ICSU) charged with the initiation, promotion, and co-ordination, of scientific research in Antarctica. SCAR also provides international, independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty system and other bodies. To download the recent issues of the SCAR Newsletters go to: <http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2011/>. For their recently released "Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World: SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016" see: <http://www.scar.org/strategicplan2011/>

SGA -Newsletters of The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA). See: <http://www.e-sga.org>

YES -The Young Earth-Scientists YES Network Newsletters at: <http://www.networkyes.org/index.php/news/>

## **FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

NOTE the listings of forthcoming meetings shown below will normally be included in an IUGS E-Bulletin only once but will appear on the IUGS website until the event. The IUGS website ([www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org)) lists more "geo" related events than any other website devoted to such information. Analysis of the IUGS 2010 website statistics indicates that the "IUGS Calendar" section is the most frequently visited element of our website with regular hits from over 160 countries. The IUGS is pleased to continue this service to help promote all "geo" related events. Please send your meeting posting requests directly to the IUGS Secretary General at [pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca) . To see the IUGS listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences, and workshops, go to the Calendar section of the IUGS website at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=calendar&phpMyAdmin=2c9f06db78f0953a55b10dcfdc5907f6>

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March 11-17, 2012. NGWA National Groundwater Awareness Week. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/awareness/Pages/default.aspx>

March 26-28, 2012. NGWA - Geohazards and the Role of Groundwater and Surface Water. Columbus, Ohio, USA.. NGWA short course reviewing surface water and groundwater movement, its impact on landslides of various kinds, and its reaction in soils under conditions of seismic shaking. Case studies will be a main part of the presentations. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/178/Pages/178mar12.aspx>.

April 2-4, 2012. The 5th GEOSS Asia-Pacific Symposium. Tokyo, Japan. The Symposium is being organized by the GEO Secretariat and GEO Japan, with the support of Japan's Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and

Technology (MEXT). It will address the theme of "GEO Initiatives towards Green Growth in the Asia-Pacific Region", promote societal benefits from the Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), and discuss how GEOSS can contribute to the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). Website: <http://www.geoss-ap-symposium.org/index.html>

April 16-20, 2012. 1st World Meeting of the International Geophysical Research Union (IGRU) "Physics and Earth Science" Meeting 2012, Fiumicino, Italy. The main topics of the 1st World Meeting are: Geophysics, Seismology, Volcanology, and Earthquake Precursors. For further information see <http://www.igru.org/> or contact the helpdesk at: [helpdesk@igru.org](mailto:helpdesk@igru.org)

May 1-4, 2012. GeoHab (Marine Geological and Biological Habitat Mapping). Rosario Resort, Orcas Island, Washington State, USA. Theme "Habitat Characterization and Mapping in Coastal and Inland Seas". Hosted by the SeaDoc Society/Tombolo, and the Geological Survey of Canada. The Second Circular has been released. See the GeoHab 2012 website at: <http://www.seadocsociety.org/geohab2012>

May 6-10, 2012. The National Groundwater Association 2012 Ground Water Summit. Garden Grove, California, USA. Theme "Innovate and Integrate". The focus of this theme will be - Succeeding as a Groundwater Professional in a Water-Short World. Details at: <http://groundwatersummit.org/>. Note also the NGWA Conference on Public Water Issues: May 9, 2012. A Conference for Communities, Contractors, and Consulting Professionals. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5012/Pages/5012may12.aspx>.

May 12-15, 2012. 5th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks (GEOPARKS 2012). Unzen Volcanic Area Global Geopark, Japan. Hosted by The Council for Promotion of Unzen Volcano Area Global Geopark and the Global Geoparks Network (GGN), Co-hosted by the Asia-Pacific Geoparks Network (APGN), the Japanese Geoparks Network (JGN), the Japan Geopark Committee (JGC). See: <http://www.geoparks2012.com/index.html>

May 27-29, 2012. 3rd International Conference – Geosciences and Environment. Belgrade, Serbia. Hosted by the Association of Geophysicists and Environmentalists of Serbia (AGES). See: <http://www.agserbia.com/>

June 4-6, 2012. NGWA Hydrogeology Field Methods Course: "What You Didn't Learn in School". Andover, Minnesota, USA. Three-day short course designed for new and soon-to-be groundwater professionals wishing to bridge the gap between scientific theory/academia and critical real-world field experience and daily operations. Among other items, attendees will learn about RQDs, field classification of soils, and borehole geophysics. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/399jun12/Pages/399jun12.aspx>.

June 13-14, 2012. The Australian Minerals Institute (AusIMM) International Uranium Conference 2012. Adelaide, Australia. As the demand for uranium and new sources of clean and greenhouse friendly energy increases, the next International Uranium Conference will build upon The AusIMM's hugely successful series that has been held over the past six years. Submission of Abstracts due by 12 March 2012. Details at: <http://www.ausimm.com.au/uranium2012/>

June 17-23, 2012. 12th International Multidisciplinary Scientific Geoconference & Expo. (Surveying Geology & mining Ecology Management - (SGEM2012). Albena, Bulgaria. Deadline for abstract submission 10 March 2012. See <http://www.sgem.org/>

June 27, 2012. Hydraulic Fracturing: Scientific and Technical Approaches to Protect Groundwater. Crowne Plaza Hotel Columbus-Downtown, Columbus, Ohio, USA. Organised by the National Groundwater Association. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5035/Pages/5035jun12.aspx>

June 26-27, 2012. NGWA Focus Conference on Midwestern Groundwater Issues. Columbus, Ohio, USA. Addressing groundwater issues commonly associated with the Midwest USA (such as agricultural chemicals, increased nutrient loads from CAFOs, and road salt) and other topics include increasing seasonal flooding events, impacts from oil and shale gas production, and increased water use for irrigation, biofuels development and other energy alternatives. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5085/Pages/5085jun12.aspx>.

July 1-5, 2012. 16th Joint Geomorphological Meeting. Rome, Italy. Theme "Morphoevolution of Tectonically Active Belts". Under the auspices of IAG. Full details at: <http://www.16jgm-rome2012.org/>

July 14-22, 2012. 39th Scientific Assembly of the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR). Mysore, India. Note the deadline for submitting abstracts is 10 February 2012. All information concerning the scientific program and abstract submission may be found at: <http://www.cospar-assembly.org/>

August 5-10, 2012. 34th International Geological Congress (IGC) in Brisbane, Australia. The primary IUGS conference that is held every 4 years. See the information above, and visit the Congress website at: <http://www.34igc.org/>

September 11, 2012. NGWA Protect Your Groundwater Day. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/groundwater-day/Pages/default.aspx>.

September 16-23, 2012. 5th International Workshop on Ice Caves. Valsassina Grigna, Italy. Organized under the auspices of the International Union of Speleology's Glacier, Firn, and Ice Caves Commission, and the Italian Glaciological Committee. Abstract submission deadline March 10, 2012, Rregistration form to be submitted as soon as possible. Details at: <http://users.unimi.it/icecaves/IWIC-V/>

October 16-17, 2012. NGWA Focus Conference on Gulf Coast Groundwater Issues. Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA. Designed to increase understanding of the effects on this region's groundwater issues from the past decade's extreme weather events and manmade disasters. This conference will discuss topics such as petroleum release products and remediation; alternative water supplies including desalination and ASR; and geospatial technologies, LIDAR, and subsidence. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/conferences/5010/Pages/5010oct12.aspx>.

October 22-24, 2012. NGWA Borehole Geophysical Logging for Water Resources/Water Supply Applications. Denver, Colorado, USA. This course demonstrates important applications of borehole geophysics such as identifying water producing zones in well boreholes; evaluating the thickness, distribution, and transmissive quality of granular, fractured, and karst aquifers; identifying fractures; evaluating relative water yield and water quality; planning well systems; and planning and evaluating well work over/rehabilitation and abandonment. See: <http://www.ngwa.org/Events-Education/shortcourses/514/Pages/514oct12.aspx>.

October 29-November 3, 2012. Workshop on Geophysical Data Analysis & Assimilation. Trieste, Italy. Organised by the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, in cooperation with the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (Germany), University of Trieste (Italy), and the Russian Academy of Sciences (Russia). The Workshop is endorsed by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG). Details at: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page11399.html>. Online applications only at: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?2373>. The closing date for applications is 30 May 2012.

November 20-21, 2012. International Mine Management 2012. Melbourne, Australia. This is the second conference in a developing series of conferences on this theme that commenced in 2006. The broad objectives are to bring together mining professionals and to provide a forum for the discussion of the key management issues facing the industry today, and with sharing experiences and lessons learnt. Call for papers - authors can submit an abstract not exceeding 300 words in English via the International Mine Management 2012 Speakers' Portal: <http://ausimm.com.au/imm2012/papers.asp>. Deadline for abstract submission 20 February 2012.

November 28-30, 2012. 27th Himalaya-Karakoram-Tibet Workshop, 2012. Kathmandu, Nepal. Organised by the Nepal Geological Society. Full details at: <http://ngs.org.np/web/hkt-2012>

December 11-14, 2012. The First IUGG GRC Conference on "Extreme Natural Hazards and Their Impacts". Chapman University campus, Orange, California, USA. Organised by the IUGG Commission on Geophysical Risk and Sustainability (GRC) and co-sponsored by the Natural Hazards Focused Group of the American Geophysical Union. Oral and poster papers call open at: <http://www1.chapman.edu/~rsingh/GeoRisk2012>.

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January 8-14, 2013. The 24th Colloquium of African Geology (CAG24) - The 14 Congress of the Geological Society of Africa (GSAf 14), and the 40th Anniversary of the Geological Society of Africa (1973-2013). Theme "40 Years of GSAf (1973-2013), Earth Science Solutions to African Development Challenges". The CAG24 will be conducted at the United Nations Economic Commission Conference Center (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Geosciences and Mineral Engineering Association (EGMEA) will organize this joint

conference and will distribute the first circular shortly. Details will be posted on the websites at:

<http://www.cag24.org.et>; <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org/> and <http://www.egmea.org.et/>.

Note that a Report on the previous AG23 Conference can now be downloaded at: <http://www.cag23.co.za/> and at <http://www.uj.ac.za/EN/Faculties/science/newsandevents/News/Pages/home.aspx>

April 1-5th, 2013. V Cuban Earth Science Convention and Exhibit of New Products, Technologies and Services for Geosciences. Convention Palace, Havana, Cuba. See: <http://www.cubacienciasdelatierra.com>

August 27-31, 2013. The 8th International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) International Conference on Geomorphology and Sustainability. Paris, France. The first circular has been released and the pdf can be downloaded at [http://www.geomorph.org/mt/ICG\\_Paris2013\\_circ1.pdf](http://www.geomorph.org/mt/ICG_Paris2013_circ1.pdf) or via the IAG/AIG website at: <http://www.geomorph.org>, or see: <http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/en>. Submissions opened 15 February 2012 and close 15 October 2012.

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With best regards, Colin SIMPSON IUGS Councillor  
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