

WELCOME TO 2012 - THE YEAR OF THE 34th IGC, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

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

The latest news about the IGC:

The Fourth Circular will be released at the end of January. This Circular will contain details of field trips, and Professional Development Workshops/Short Courses etc. The Fourth Circular, along with all IGC current information, can be viewed on the IGC website at <http://www.34igc.org/>.

The response to the call for abstracts to date has been excellent. The IGC organisers would like to ensure that they have the highest quality of content available to all delegates at the 34th IGC. There is still time to submit an abstract as the closing date for abstract submission is 17 February 2012. This date can not be extended. Please ensure that your submission fully complies with format specifications as non-compliant papers cannot be considered. For detailed information about the call for abstracts and to submit your abstract(s) go to <http://www.34igc.org/submit-abstracts.php>.

Take advantage of the "Early Bird Registration offer" which is now open. Early bird registration fees, together with accommodation options and social events, have now been released. This offer enables delegates to register for the 34th IGC at a reduced rate (Note the termination date of the Early Bird offer on the website). You can register directly by visiting the "Register now" link, or via the website at <http://www.34igc.org/>.

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>.

Should you require assistance at anytime with your attendance at, or involvement in, the 34th International Geological Congress, please email: info@34igc.org

NOMINATIONS FOR THE IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE 2012-2016 TERM

A final reminder that the IUGS Nominating Committee invited all the IUGS Adhering and Affiliate Organizations and Commissions to submit proposals for candidates for each office within the IUGS Executive Committee for its next term 2012-2016. Elections of nominated candidates will take place during the IUGS meeting at the 34th International Geological Congress in Brisbane, Australia, in August 2012. Candidates may also be nominated by the Nominating Committee. If you wish to propose a candidate to be nominated by the Nominating Committee please contact the IUGS Secretariat (email: iugs@usgs.gov) and request a copy of the nomination form, and information regarding the rules for nominations for the election of officers. The deadline for submission of nominations to the IUGS Secretariat has been extended to 31 January, 2012. The Nominating Committee in particular encourages parts of the world that have not been represented in the Executive Committee for a long time to identify exceptional candidates from their region.

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 CV can be submitted by anyone in the IUGS family. Nomination packages should be submitted to the IUGS Secretary-General (pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca) with a copy to the IUGS Secretariat (iugs@usgs.gov) before the deadline. 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. Deadline for receipt of nominations is 16 April 2012.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

The next meeting of the IUGS EC will take place in San Sebastian, Spain on February 14–17, 2012, thanks to the kind support of the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME), the city of San Sebastian and the Guipuskoa Diputation. On February 13 the ceremony for insertion of the Lutetian GSSP will be held at Gorrondatxe, near Bilbao, Spain.

IGCP 40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION 22 FEBRUARY 2012

UNESCO and IUGS invite you to join representatives from both organizations on 22 February 2012 for a festive celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) at UNESCO Headquarters – Room IV, 7 Place de Fontenoy, Paris with talks, debates, round tables, and cultural events regarding the relevance and future of Earth Science for Society. All interested parties planning to attend the IGCP40 conference are asked to register as soon as possible. RSVP by email to igcp40@unesco.org to confirm your registration, and indicate your Family Name, First Name, Position, Institution, and e-mail address. The Celebrations will follow the IGCP Scientific Board Meeting 20-21 February (closed and open sessions). For more information on the celebration see: <http://www.unesco.org/new/igcp40>.

NOTE - NEW DATES FOR CCOP MEETINGS

The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) wishes to inform all of their Member Countries, Cooperating Countries, Cooperating Organizations as well as its Honorary Advisers that because Thailand is still recovering from the devastating flood, and to give due consideration to this situation, and after consultation with all the CCOP Member Countries, CCOP has come to a decision to re-postpone the 48th Annual Session to October/November 2012. The host country will be discussed at the CCOP 58th Steering Committee Meeting now re-scheduled for March 2012. Further details regarding the venue will be announced after the 58th Steering Committee Meeting. For all news go to: <http://www.ccop.or.th/news.asp>.

THE IGBP NEW WEBSITE

The International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) has launched a new website <http://www.igbp.net> which contains more multimedia content, news, features, opinions, and more content on issues like the Anthropocene and the Great Acceleration. The site aims to have a better platform to engage a broader audience. IGBP is now also on Facebook and they plan to engage more with other social networking tools. As part of IGBP's communication refocus they will now distribute fewer copies of the IGBP magazine "Global Change". Instead, they will be sending monthly digital updates to their entire network.

THE AGI HAS CHANGED ITS NAME

The American Geological Institute (AGI), founded in 1948, has now changed its name to the American Geosciences Institute (AGI). This has arisen because over the years the AGI science has become more integrated, incorporating many disciplines such as chemistry, physics, computer sciences, and biology to achieve a greater understanding of our planet. As the discipline has evolved, so too has AGI's membership. Today AGI's 50 Member Societies make up a diverse set of organizations that truly exemplify the rich and multifaceted nature of the Earth sciences. Therefore, to better reflect the broad range of scientists the AGI represents it has changed its name to the American Geosciences Institute. This is not a material change of what AGI does, nor is it a change to the focus of their programs. It is simply a public recognition that understanding our planet has become a wide-ranging endeavour, and that AGI can and will evolve to meet the challenges of the coming years. See <http://www.agiweb.org/>

REPORT ON U.S. AND INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES ON GLOBAL SCIENCE POLICY AND SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

A report of the workshop that took place in late February 2011 entitled "U.S. and International Perspectives on Global Science Policy and Science Diplomacy." has now been released. This report is the result of a U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS) workshop, requested by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP). The report can be read online, free of charge, at http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13300

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

See the website of the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm> Maintained by the Geological Survey of Japan. For additions, corrections, or updates email: 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 that can be downloaded from their website (<http://www.ccop.or.th/>). To download go to the webpage or: http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP_e-news_vol1no1.pdf

CPCEMR -The Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources website is at:

<http://www.circumpacificcouncil.org>

EFG -The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) newsletter GeoNews can be downloaded from:

<http://www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=175> To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, please register at: <http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters-subscription.html>

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/

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/gf/sample.htm>.

GWP -For the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Monthly Newsletter "NewsFlow" go to:

<http://gwpforum.us1.listmanage.com/subscribe?u=2e4d7bb2bd4f7590eb7d7929e&id=8e059efa29>

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. Current issue at:

http://www.iah.org/news_enews_popup.asp?id=43 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 newsletter at: <http://www.icsu.org/newscentre/insight/newsletters-2011/insight-april-2011>. 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

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/>

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/>. Their recently released "Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World: SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016" can be downloaded from: <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) 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 . 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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February 3-5, 2012. 3rd International Conference on Legal Medicine, Medical Negligence and Litigation in Medical Practice & 3rd International Conference on Current Trends in Forensic Sciences, Forensic Medicine & Toxicology will be held on Jaipur, Rajasthan, India. See: <http://www.iamleconf.in/home>

March 2012. Date change for the 58th CCOP Steering Committee Meeting. See: <http://www.ccop.or.th/news.asp>

March 11-14, 2012. The Deep-Sea and Sub-Seafloor Frontiers Conference. Sitges, Barcelona, Spain. The Deep-Sea and Sub-Seafloor Frontiers project (DS3F) is a EU-funded Coordination Action, which is developing sub-seafloor sampling and observing strategies for enhanced understanding of deep-sea and sub-seafloor processes by connecting marine research in life and geosciences, climate and environmental change with socio-economic issues and policy building. Conference website: <http://www.ds3f2012.org>

March 26-29, 2012. Planet Under Pressure 2012. London, UK. Theme "New Knowledge Towards Solutions." An international conference organised by the global-change programmes of the International Council for Science (ICSU) to provide scientific leadership towards the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development - Rio+20

(<http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/>) in Rio, Brazil, 20-22 June 2012. See: <http://www.planetunderpressure2012.net>

April 22-27, 2012. 2012 European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly. Vienna, Austria . Details at the EGU website: <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2012/home.html>

April 23-24, 2012. ISG-7. The Seventh International Symposium on Geophysics. Tanta University, Egypt. The theme will focus on the contribution of geophysics to the management of the earth's environment. Abstract and registration form submission due 1 February 2012. Websites at: <http://alaamasoud.tripod.com/id16.html> and http://www.tanta.edu.eg/ar/Conf/isg_7/index.html

April 25-28, 2012. Sandstone Landscapes III conference. Kudowa-Zdrój, Poland. Organised by the IAG/AIG Danxia Geomorphology Working Group. This conference is intended to provide a forum to communicate results of research on various aspects of the geomorphology of sandstone landscapes from many different parts of the world. Details at: <http://www.geogr.uni.wroc.pl/sandstone>.

May 12-15, 2012. 5th International UNESCO Conference on Geoparks (GEOPARKS 2012). Unzen Volcanic Area Global Geopark, Shimabara Peninsula, Japan. For more information and to download the latest circular go to: <http://asiapacificgeoparks.org/?p=236>

May 21-25, 2012. First International Congress on Management and Awareness in Protected Volcanic Landscapes (VOLCANDPARK). Olot, Catalonia. The final date for registering and presenting abstracts for the Congress will close on January 30. Abstracts for submission should be sent to secretary@volcandpark1.com. Participants can register on-line at <http://www.volcandpark1.com> and that the period of reduced registration fees ends on March 20.

June 11-14, 2012. The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) International Conference Soil Classification 2012: Towards a Universal Soil Classification System. Lincoln, Nebraska, USA. The 4th International Conference continues the discussion on soil classification issues started in Godolo, Hungary (2001), Petrozavodsk, Russia (2004) and Santiago, Chile (2008). Specific attention will be paid to the harmonization of criteria for diagnostic horizons and features of soils in agricultural and urban areas and discussion on development of the concepts of a newly proposed Universal Soil Classification System. For information and to register and submit abstracts see: http://clic.cses.vt.edu/IUSS1.4/Conf_Soil_Classification_2012/index.htm.

June 17-23, 2012. SGEM 2012. The 12th International Multidisciplinary Scientific GeoConference & EXPO – SGEM (Surveying Geology & mining Ecology Management) will be held in Flamingo Grand Hotel, Albena, Bulgaria. Full details at: <http://www.sgem.org>

July 1-5, 2012. 16th Joint Geomorphological Meeting. Rome, Italy. Theme "Morphoevolution of tectonically active belts." Jointly organised by Associazione Italiana di Geografia fisica e Geomorfologia, Asociata Geomorfologilor din Romania, Belgian Association of Geomorphologists, Groupe Français de Géomorphologie, and Hellenic Committee for Geomorphology and Environment, under the auspices of the IAG/AIG. Download the first circular at: http://www.geomorph.org/sp/arch/16_JGM_Circ1.pdf

July 15-22, 2012. 9th ISEG - International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry. Aveiro, Portugal. The deadline for early registration fees is 30 April 2012. Details on the web at: <http://9iseg.web.ua.pt/web/index.php>

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/>

August 20-24, 2012. International conference on Geomorphic Processes and Geoarchaeology. Moscow-Smolensk, Russia. Theme "From Landscape Archaeology to Archaeotourism." Hosted by Smolensk University of Humanities, co-organized by Russian Association of Geomorphologists (RuAG), the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) WG on Geoarchaeology, and supported by the IAG WG on Geomorphosites, together with the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA) Terrestrial Process Commission, the Global Continental Palaeohydrology Group, and several Russian scientific and educational organizations. Deadlines for Registration March 15 and Abstract submission April 30, 2012. See the conference website: <http://Geoarch2012.narod2.ru>

September 10-17, 2012. 7th Workshop of the International Association of Geomorphologists (I.A.G./A.I.G). Working Group SEDIBUD (Sediment Budgets in Cold Environments). Trondheim (Geological Survey of Norway, NGU) and Loen / Nordfjord (Sande-Camping Loen), Norway. Theme "Towards an integrated analysis of environmental drivers and rates of contemporary solute and sedimentary fluxes in changing cold climate environments from coordinated field data generation to integration and modelling". The 7th SEDIBUD Workshop will be combined with a SEDIBUD Summer School for Doctoral Students and all doctoral students and other young scientists are invited to participate in this event on "Quantitative analysis of geomorphologic processes" Trondheim (September 10 – 13, 2012) and Loen / Nordfjord (September 13 – 17, 2012). For details download the pdf at: http://www.geomorph.org/wg/sb/SEDIBUD_WSS2012.pdf

September 19-21, 2012. geoENV2012. The IX Conference on Geostatistics for Environmental Applications. Valencia, Spain. The geoENV series of conferences have been held biyearly since 1996, and it has established itself as an obligatory meeting point for all scientists and practitioners of geostatistics with applications in the environment. Abstract submissions close 31 January 2012. See the web at: <http://geoenv2012.upv.es>.

October/November 2012. Date change of 48th CCOP Annual Session. See: <http://www.ccop.or.th/news.asp>

October 15-19, 2012. The International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) International Workshop on "Objective Geomorphological Representation Models: Breaking through a New Geomorphological Mapping Frontier". Salerno University Campus, Salerno, Italy. Organised by the IAG/AIG Working Group on Applied Geomorphological Mapping, the Italian Association of Physical Geography and Geomorphology (AIGEO), the University of Salerno, and the support of the National Park Cilento and Vallo di Diano. Download the 1st circular from: http://www.geomorph.org/wg/arch/Salerno2012_1circ.pdf or <http://www.geomorph.org/main.html>

November 12-15, 2012. The XIIIth ALAGO Congress. Santa Marta, Colombia. Organised by the Latin American Association of Organic Geochemistry (ALAGO) The call for Abstracts has been released. Abstracts must be in Microsoft Word format only, in electronic form, and submitted through the Congress homepage no later than 9 April 2012. See the website at: <http://www.xiiialagocongress.com/indexus.html>

December 3 - 4, 2012. Annual International Conference on Geological and Earth Sciences (GEOS 2012). Hotel Fort Canning, Singapore. Full Paper Submissions are due 25 May 2012, and Early Bird Registration is due by 13 September 2012. Detailed descriptions of all topics and submission information are on the conference web pages at: <http://geoearth.org/CallforPapers.html> and on the website at: <http://www.geoearth.org>

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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. To be held in the 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 or via the IAG/AIG website at: <http://www.geomorph.org>, or see: <http://www.geomorphology-iag-paris2013.com/en>. Submissions will open 15 February 2012 and close 15 October 2012.

With best regards, Colin SIMPSON IUGS Councillor

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