



International Association of Geomorphologists

Association Internationale des
Géomorphologues

IAG/AIG Newsletter No. 23 (2/2007)

A note from the editor...

The newsletter is undergoing a makeover! As noted in section 6 of the minutes from the IAG Executive Committee meeting in June, we will continue to publish the newsletter 4 times per year in the usual places (i.e., the journals and website), but these will be in abbreviated form (this volume is the first of such an abbreviated newsletter). A second newsletter, called *World Geomorphology*, will be published bi-annually and distributed to members in pdf format. This will be an expanded, full-colour version covering news and events from around the world. As always, the success of such endeavours depends upon contributions from you, our membership, so please send us anything of note – from great field experiences to opinions and teaching tips.

Best wishes for a productive 2008!

Mike

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**Summary of the Minutes
of the
3^d Meeting
of the
IAG Executive Committee 2005 – 2009
Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu, Tanjung Aru Resort
Sunday, June 24th 2007**

The 3^d Meeting of the IAG Executive Committee 2005 – 2009 was held on the eve of the Regional Conference on Geomorphology which was organised in Malaysia, Kota Kinabalu, Tanjung Aru Resort.

Present was the almost full EC: Franck AUDEMARD (Vice-President, Venezuela), Michael CROZIER (Vice-President, New Zealand), Morgan DE DAPPER (Secretary, Belgium), David HIGGITT (Public Relations Officer, Singapore), Monique FORT (Vice-President, France), Andrew GOUDIE (President, UK), Francisco GUTIERREZ (Treasurer, Spain), Michael SLATTERY (Publications Officer, USA), Mauro SOLDATI

(Training Officer, Italy), Mohammed UMER (Co-opted Member, Ethiopia), Ying WANG (Co-opted Member, China), Zbigniew ZWOLINSKI (Webmaster, Poland) Dan BALTEANU (Co-opted Member, Romania) could not attend the meeting and send his apologies.

Treasury

A rise of 20% of the national membership fees is proposed. This matter has to be treated by the IAG Council at the 7th International Conference in Melbourne in 2009.

An amount of 6,000 euro per year is foreseen as *support for young geomorphologists*. However for 2009, the year of the International Conference, the sum will be raised to 10,000 euro.

A 'Legacy Programme' is launched (for full details see the online version of the expanded minutes)

In order to join efforts, individual countries can combine in a regional consortium. However, each individual country will have to pay the national membership fee or present an activity report. Mohammed UMER, co-opted EC-member responsible for Africa, will try to organise a consortium for East Africa.

Working Groups

The establishment of two new Working Groups – WG on Planetary Geomorphology and WG on Applied Geomorphological Mapping – was proposed during the 2006 EC-Meeting in Oxford. After electronic consultation of the National Scientific Members by the Secretary, unanimous approval was received. However, this matter will be presented to the IAG Council at the 7th International Conference in Melbourne for formal approval.

Ten new Working Groups have been established at or since the 2005-Zaragoza meeting. These are all eligible for support of Euro 500 per year and on receipt of a satisfactory annual report each February are entitled to the same level of support in the following years. As of this date 6 groups have requested funding in their first year of activity. Seven groups have furnished satisfactory annual reports and are eligible for support in 2007. Most of the new groups are showing a satisfactory level of activity with specific outputs and plans.

The EC resolved to roll over four working groups for a further four year period. These have all produced annual reports and have been active. However two groups have written expressing the difficulties of operating without any IAG funding

Training of Young Geomorphologists

It is confirmed or decided to sponsor with IAG grants the following training activities for 2007-2008:

1) International Workshop on Environmental Changes and Sustainable Development in Arid and Semi-arid Regions (Inner Mongolia, China, 10-17 September 2007)

Support from IAG: 2 grants of 500 euros each for young geomorphologists from China, Mongolia and Central Asia.

2) Vth Postgraduate field course on the Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology of Tierra del Fuego (Tierra del Fuego, Argentina, November 2007)

Support from IAG: 1 grant of 500 euros for a young geomorphologist from Latin America.

3) BSG Postgraduate Training Course (Windsor, UK, December 2007)

Support from IAG: 2 grants of 500 euros each for PhD students in Geomorphology from Eastern Europe.

4) International Symposium on “The role of Geomorphology in Environmental Management” (Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 25-29 August 2008)

Support from IAG: 2 grants of 750 euros each for young geomorphologists from Western Pacific countries (excluding Indonesia).

5) IAG Regional Conference on Geomorphology “Landslides, Floods and Global Environmental Change in Mountain Regions” (Brasov, Romania, 15-25 September 2008)

Support from IAG: 3 grants of 500 euros each for young geomorphologists world-wide (with a special interest for the themes of the conference to be proved by CV).

6) IAG Training Workshop on Rocky Coast Geomorphology: Techniques and Training (Hong Kong, July-December 2008 – period to be defined)

Support from IAG: 2 grants of 500 euros each for young geomorphologists from Oceania.

Tricart Award

In order to honour the achievements and spirit of the late Jean Tricart, an award of around 2000 euro will be attributed every four years, at the occasion of the International Conference on Geomorphology, to a young promising geomorphologist belonging to a so-called "emerging" country (J. Tricart's extensive research was mainly devoted to South America, Africa and Asia and he trained many scholars from these countries).

Newsletter

The newsletter is going to be re-vamped. There will be an abbreviated newsletter 4 times a year covering predominantly IAG business (e.g., minutes, meetings etc); it will be published as before in major geomorphological journals and put on the website. Twice a year a new, full-colour newsletter called "World Geomorphology" will be published; it will be distributed in pdf-format and put on the website.

“What is Geomorphology?”

A full-colour leaflet explaining the nature of Geomorphology to a large public will be prepared.

IAG-Website

It would be useful to produce a Glossary of geomorphological terms (initially in English and French) for posting on the web and also for possible publication as a book. The President agrees to approach a potential editor.

The initiative to produce a 'Directory of Geomorphologists' and 'Biographies of past Geomorphologists' is progressing slowly.

IUCN World Heritage Sites

Recommendations have been made to IUCN of names of geomorphologists able to review proposals for World Heritage Sites both for 2006/7 and 2007/8. A list of important sites that should be designated is prepared.

Google Earth

The Google Earth initiative will be fully launched by October 2007. This will be an international call for ground-based, high resolution images of the world's landforms and geomorphic processes that will be embedded into Google Earth with content.

Publications

In preparation

- WG on Global Change, edited by Olav SLAYMAKER & Tom SPENCER
- WG on Hazards, edited by Irasema ALCANTARA-AYALA
- A book on 'Major World Landform Sites', edited by Piotr MIGON
- Proceedings of the 2004 Calcutta Regional Conference, edited by Sunil Kumar DE
- Handbook on 'Geomorphology', edited by Basil GOMEZ, Vic BAKER, Andrew GOUDIE & André ROY
- Handbook on 'Applied Geomorphological Mapping', edited by Paolo PARON, Mike SMITH & Tim GRIFFITS
- Handbook on 'Geomorphosites', edited by Emmanuel REYNARD
- 'Rock Breakdown Atlas', edited by Heather VILES & Mary BOURKE

Special issues arising from the IAG-International Conference - 2005 - Zaragoza

Papers from the following sessions will be published:

S1: Glacial and Periglacial Geomorphology

S2: Geomorphology of Arid Regions + WG 5: Interaction between Fluvial, Eolian and Lacustrine Processes

S5: Fluvial Geomorphology and Palaeohydrology
S6: Hillslope Processes + S7: Soil Erosion and Desertification
S8: Karst Geomorphology
S9: Coastal Geomorphology
S10: Structural Geomorphology and Neotectonics
S13: Natural Disasters
S14: Theories and Methods in Geomorphology
S15: GIS and SDA applications in Geomorphology
SS2: Antarctic Geomorphology
SS3: Evaporite Karst
WG3: Geoarcheology
WG5: Interaction between Fluvial, Eolian and Lacustrine Processes

Scientific Meetings

IAG Regional Conferences

- **Romania, Braşov, 15 – 25 September, 2008: Landslides, Floods and Global Environmental Change in Mountain Regions;** co-operation with Carpatho-Balkan-Dinaric Regional WG and Romanian Association of Geomorphologists; organised by Dan BALTEANU.

IAG-WG Meetings

- **Greece, Porto Heli, 18 – 21 June 2008:** WG on Geoarchaeology: Landscape Evolution and Geoarchaeology; organised by Kosmas PAVLOPOULOS, Harokopio University of Athens.

Other Meetings

- **Austria, Vienna, 13 – 18 April, 2008:** General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union: Geomorphology session
- **Norway, Oslo, 5 – 14 August, 2008: 33rd International Geological Congress.**

Requests for patronage

- **Indonesia – Yogyakarta, 25 – 29 August 2008:** International Symposium ‘The Role of Geomorphology in Environmental Management’, organised by the Association of Indonesian Geographers (IGI).
- **Italy - Puglia and Greece - Ionian, September 2008:** 2nd International Tsunami Field Symposium; Project IGCP 495 Quaternary Land-Ocean Interactions: Driving Mechanisms and Coastal Responses; organised by Giuseppe Mastronuzzi, University of Bari.

2009-Melbourne-IAG-International Conference

Planning is well in hand for the International Geomorphology Conference to be held in Melbourne 7 - 12 July 2009. Conference organisers have been contracted and are making good progress. A draft of the first circular is complete and will be published shortly. A number of field trips have been planned, including in New Zealand. Also a training course for young geomorphologists is being arranged. WG's are reminded they have to organize workshops.

Forthcoming EC-Meeting

An EC Meeting will be convened in **September 2008** at the occasion of the Regional Conference in Romania **Romania, Braşov**.

A.O.B.

It is confirmed that the 'Groupe Français de Géomorphologie' (GFG) is a candidate to organise the 2013-IAG- International Conference in Paris, France

The President,

Andrew GOUDIE

The Secretary,

Morgan DE DAPPER

Editor's Note

The success of the IAG/AIG Newsletter depends upon the contributions that we receive. Please assist by sending commentaries, reviews of regional or national meetings and field trips, summaries of issues pertinent to geomorphology, and announcements of future meetings and workshops. Your contributions should be forwarded to the IAG/AIG Publications Officer:

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