

IUGS Publications Committee 2016-2020 Report

Convened in 2013, and renewed in 2018, the current PC consisted of:

- Prof. Lola Pereira (Spain, Chairperson)
- Prof. Stan Finney (USA, representing the IUGS Executive)
- Mr. Giuseppe di Capua (Italy, Webmaster)
- Dr. Gurmeet Kaur (India, responsible for Social Media)
- Prof. Jin-Yong Lee (South Korea, Editor of Episodes)

PC 2016-2020 Strategic Plan

Plan actions have been implemented for:

- comprehensive use of the IUGS logo.
- more books to be published at the GSL. The publishing house still receives only a few new IUGS proposals each year despite proactive efforts
- a stronger role for the website in public communication. but the webmaster is completely dependent on what is submitted
- Public outreach on the website
- Public outreach on the Social Media
- Public outreach on the eBulletin

IUGS publications. MOUs

Episodes

- MOU for 2017-2020 was negotiated with Geological Society of South Korea.
- Successfully produced high quality journal.
- At present a re-edition of MOU with GSK is being negotiated.

Geological Society of London.

Special Publications

- MOU with the Geological Society (London)
- Under the terms of the MOU proposals of sets of 15 or more associated papers should be FIRST offered to the GSL
- If rejected, they can be submitted to other publishers
- This procedure is not always followed by IUGS related editors, although continuous calls from the PC chair are done.

The journal Episodes

- In 2017, Episodes moved from India to South Korea (GSK)
- Many improvements have been achieved:
 - Diffusion of the importance to publish in Episodes
 - Permissions for reproduction (increasing diffusion!)
 - Online submission implemented
 - Friendlier web page
 - Continuous effort to keep or increase the IF

Episodes policies and guidance: 2016-2020

PC revised/produced new Guidance for:

- Authors;
- Members of the Editorial Board;
- Guest editors of thematic/special issues;
- A statement of publication policy and ethics

All documents available at the web site: www.episodes.org

Episodes modernization

- Annual cost to IUGS of producing Episodes = \$US 38k (Average annual cost for 2017-2019)
- Cost of printing and distribution = \$US 30.1k (73% of total, Average cost for 2017-2019)
- Number of printed issues per year: 4 issues (300 copies per 1 issue)
- online first publication has been implemented
- All published papers now have DOI numbers, bear the IUGS logo on the first page and have dates of receipt and acceptance (so IUGS is recognized if uploaded onto ResearchGate etc.)
- Recognition to reviewers (Names are listed in the last issue of the year, and Publons can also hold the information)

IGC issue in Episodes

- The special issue of Episodes linked to each IGC is a major and expensive undertaking.
- These take up one of the 4 issues of that year.
- Past experience shows that, while of value to the Congress, papers in these are rarely cited pulling down the Impact Factor for that year.
- IUGS might wish to consider whether future special IGC issues should be additional to the normal 4 issues or should be dealt with as books rather than issues of Episodes.

Geological Society Special Publications

- 5% royalty is paid to IUGS on older books
- submission of more titles should be encouraged

Outcomes during 2016-2020

- 11 books published
- Several books currently in various stages of publication process – 3 are expected to be published by the end of 2020 and online-first publication of 2 has commenced
- Hope for a good range of collections of 15 or more papers from sessions at 36th IGC
- Session convenors have already been contacted
- Important that the IUGS community should offer more high quality titles. Continuous call from the PC chair

The website

- The IUGS website has been well managed for many years. The present web master is Giuseppe di Capua.
- A new site has been constructed and it is fully working.

Social Media

Three platforms

- IUGS Facebook
- IUGS Twitter
- IUGS LinkedIn

Frequency:

On average 3-5 times every week on all the platforms with elaborate photographs

Approximately posted around 60 times from 1st September, 2019 up to 31st December 2019.

Total Facebook followers 7100 plus

Sources:

- Monthly IUGS E-bulletin
- IUGS web page
- Webpages of different IUGS commissions, subcommissions, TFs, etc...
- IUGS publications
 - Episodes
 - Geological Society of London

Special posts on IGC

- The IUGS social media has been continuously promoting preparations and activities of 36th IGC.
- 36th IGC circulars, newsletters, updates are posted on regular basis to connect the geological community attending 36th IGC from across the globe.

The eBulletin

The eBulletin represents the quickest instrument to disseminate news about IUGS initiatives, activities, achievements, events or publications. Since 2016 it has been regularly sent to more than 16,000 readers, with the aim to favour the circulation of information within the IUGS community and the possibility of interaction between its members. All IUGS Commissions, Task Groups, Initiatives, IGCP projects and Adhering Bodies are invited to provide a steady flow of material, consisting of concise texts accompanied by few illustrations (photographs, diagrams, etc). Science reports or papers are excluded.

Communications. Recommended steps

The role of Episodes is delivering high quality papers and reports e.g. of conferences and Ad Hoc Reviews etc. News and events calendar – better delivered through IUGS website, social media and eBulletin

Better public engagement still needed – best delivered through Website and social media

Instructions for contributors to website, eBulletin and social media are sent by email to IUGS activities leaders monthly.

The level of contribution of reports and papers from IUGS activity groups and IGCP

should improve. This is also an EC responsibility.

Thanks for their hard work are due to:

- Dr Heejung Kim, manager editor of Episodes.
 - Maggie Simmons, Bethan Phillips and the team at the Geological Society of London for excellent book production
 - And Silvia Peppoloni for her work on the eBulletin until September 2020.
- Also Brian Marker and Jennifer Mckinley for their help in the English revision of the eBulletin.