

Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

Position: Vice President

Name: Maria Rose Petrizzo

Affiliation: University of Milan, Italy

Nominating Organizations:

IAPG International Association for
Promoting Geoethics
IUGS Nominating Committee



Biography:

I am Associate Professor at the Department of Earth Sciences, University of Milan, Italy. My degrees and PhD in Earth Sciences are from the University of Milan and I was a post-doctoral Research Fellow at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington DC.

My specialization is in micropaleontology and stratigraphy, focusing on planktonic foraminifera. Research projects include paleoceanography, extreme climatic events, global changes, paleoecology, paleobiogeography, Cretaceous Oceanic Anoxic Events (OAEs), Paleogene environmental perturbations, integrated bio-, chrono-, chemostratigraphy and definition of the Global Stratotype Sections and Points (GSSP). As micropaleontologist I also participated in International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) Expeditions in Pacific and Indian Oceans and in drilling projects in Tanzania.

I am Board Director of the Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research, Editor-in-Chief of Cretaceous Research, Editor of The Micropaleontology Society Special Publications and Associate Editor of six journals including IUGS Episodes Journal of International Earth Sciences.

I have been actively participating in the activities of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) of IUGS. In my role as Secretary of the International Subcommission on Stratigraphic Classification (ISSC) from 2002 to 2017, under the Chairs M.B. Cita, B. Pratt and W. Piller, I coordinated thematic issues on Magnetostratigraphy, Sequence Stratigraphy and Chemostratigraphy. Currently, I am leading a paper submitted to the thematic issue on Biostratigraphy.

I am Chair of the International Subcommission on Cretaceous Stratigraphy (ISCS) since 2016 and my mandate will end in 2024. As Chair I directed the work for the ratification of four GSSPs (Hauterivian, Barremian, Coniacian, Campanian), dissolved the Working Group for the base of the Berriasian/Cretaceous and appointed a new Working Group. The three remaining GSSPs (Berriasian, Valanginian, Aptian) are in progress and will be likely ratified by 2025. I also appointed a Working Group to reconsider the Maastrichtian GSSP ratified in 2001 because of the need to revise the boundary definition.

My dedication to these tasks allowed me to cope with multiple views and scientific issues and to work with people of various nationalities in a stimulating context.

In 2023 I served on an Ad Hoc Review Committee (ARC) of IUGS to evaluate the joint IUGS-UNESCO International Geoscience Program (IGCP).

Statement:

I do very much believe in the mission of IUGS and have served continuously for 22 years in executive positions in the IUGS Subcommissions, focused on producing authoritative geological standards. I am convinced that the IUGS objectives to increase the awareness of the importance of education in Earth Sciences and the access to geoscience information are crucial. These objectives need to be undertaken in collaboration with other international organizations to success in addressing human and societal needs and capacity building.

If I will have the opportunity to be part of the IUGS Executive as Vice President, I will work to harmonize and integrate deep-time Earth data, advance geoscience understanding and research, share global geoscience knowledge, all by encouraging diversity, inclusion and by promoting gender equality.

I strongly believe in the interplay between scientific advances and environmental responsibility. My goal is to foster understanding, raise awareness and train the next generation of scientists. I will also support the initiative addressing the long-term goal for ensuring a supply of mineral, energy and water resources for the global society for the next century.

I would be honoured to dedicate myself to these important global challenges.