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It is with the delegated authority of the IUGS President and Secretary General and on behalf of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (ICS) that the vote by the ICS Subcommittee on Quaternary Stratigraphy (SQS) to reject the proposal for an Anthropocene Epoch as a formal unit of the Geologic Time Scale is approved. The voting members of SQS have extensive experience and wide expertise in Quaternary stratigraphy and chronology. Their vote was approved by the ICS executive, and that approval was overwhelmingly supported by the chairs of the ICS subcommissions. Despite its rejection as a formal unit of the Geologic Time Scale, Anthropocene will nevertheless continue to be used not only by Earth and environmental scientists, but also by social scientists, politicians and economists, as well as by the public at large. It will remain an invaluable descriptor of human impact on the Earth system.

President

Prof. John LUDDEN CBE
The Lyell Centre,
Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh
Edinburgh | EH14 4AP
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0) 7895 331 504
Email: J.Ludden@hw.ac.uk

Secretary General

Prof. Stanley C. FINNEY
Department of Geological Sciences
California State University - Long Beach
Long Beach, CA 90840
USA
Email: Stan.Finney@csulb.edu

Treasurer

Prof. Hiroshi KITAZATO
Department of Earth Sciences,
Faculty of Education and Integrated Arts and Sciences,
Waseda University
1-6-1 Nishiwaseda, Shinjyuku-ku
Tokyo 169-8050
JAPAN
e-mail: kitazatohiroshi2@gmail.com

Past President

Prof. Qiuming CHENG
Founding Director, State Key Lab of Geological
Processes and Mineral Resources,
China University of Geosciences
29 Xueyuan Rd, Beijing 100083
388 Lumo Rd, Wuhan 430074
CHINA
Tel: 86-10-82322133 (Beijing)
Tel: 86-27-67885096 (Wuhan)
Email: qiuming.cheng@iugs.org

Vice Presidents

Prof. Hassina MOURI (SOUTH AFRICA)
Prof. Daekyo CHEONG (REP. OF KOREA)

Councillors

Prof. Jennifer MCKINLEY (UK)
Dr. Ludwig STROINK (GERMANY)
Prof. Dolores PEREIRA GÓMEZ (SPAIN)
Prof. Yamirka ROJAS-AGROMONTE (CUBA)

Secretariat

IUGS Secretariat
c/o Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences
No. 26, Baiwanzhuang Road
Xicheng District, Beijing 100037
CHINA
Tel: +86-(10)-6899-9619
Fax: +86-(10)-6831-0894
Email: secretariat@iugs.org