

Candidate for IUGS Executive Committee

Position: Treasurer

Name: Hiroshi KITAZATO

Affiliation: Professor by special appointment of School of Marine Resources and Environment, and Tohoku Ecosystem-Associated Marine Sciences Project, Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology



Nominating Organization: National Committee for IUGS in Science Council of Japan

Biography:

Born in Tokyo, Japan, in 1948. B.S., Geology, Tohoku University (1971); M.Sc. Geology and Paleontology, Tohoku University (1973); D.Sc. Geology and Paleontology, Tohoku University (1976); Postdoc researcher at the University of Tokyo (1976-78); Research Associate, Lecturer, Associate Professor, and Professor at Graduate School of Science, Shizuoka University (1978-2002); Adjunct Professor at the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo (1999-2001); Program Director / Director of several geoscience institutions at Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology (2002-2016); Professor by special appointment of Tohoku Ecosystem-Associated Marine Sciences at Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (2016-present).

My research goals are to understand the evolutionary biology and adaptive ecology of benthic foraminifera and their relation to the geologic history of the Earth. For this purpose, I use both geological/paleontological and biological/ecological approaches. In particular, I have actively introduced experimental methods into the field of foraminiferal research. Up to the present time, I have published more than 275 papers. The Palaeontological Society of Japan awarded me the Yokoyama Medal in 2010, the Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research awarded me the 2016 Joseph A. Cushman Award and Japan Geoscience Union elected me the 2019 JpGU Fellow in recognition of this scientific output.

In parallel to my purely scientific activities, I have taken on a variety of service responsibilities at both domestic and international levels. In Japan: President of the Palaeontological Society of Japan (2005-2007); Council member / Member of Science Council of Japan (2005-present); Section President of Biogeosciences, Japan Geoscience Union (JpGU) (2009-2014); Representative of the Union of Japanese Societies for Natural History (2012-2018); Co-project Leader, Tohoku Ecosystem-Associated Marine Sciences, MEXT supported research project (2012-present). At a global level: Member of the Science Planning Committee and Science Advisory

Structure Executive Committee, of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (2004-2011); Councilor and vice-President of the executive committee of the International Paleontological Association (IPA) (2006-2018); associate editor of EGU journal, Biogeosciences (2010-present) and Treasurer of the executive committee of the International Union of Geological Sciences (2016-2020).

Statement:

I am a nominee for the post of treasurer of the IUGS for the period 2020-2024. Since becoming involved in service duties, I have learned that scientists should work with and for society at the same time as working for the science community. In 2011, a huge earthquake and associated tsunamis struck northern Japan and inflicted great damage to local communities. I have established a research project with colleagues to monitor the recovery processes of marine ecosystems impacted by these events. Our results will contribute to the scientific community, but should also help coastal fisheries and economies to recover from this disaster. This is an active example of "Science for Society". Geological sciences should provide not only basic knowledge, but also contribute to the sustaining of stable human lives on Earth. I believe that the IUGS should work for both science and society.