

IUGS E-Bulletin #14 October 10, 2006

IGC33 2008 –News

News, including circulars are found on the Congress web site
<http://www.33igc.org/>

Session organised by IUGS Commissions

Human Impacts on Geological Processes. (IUGS GEM Commission)

This session will focus on the strengths and weaknesses of approaches (Chemical Fingerprinting; Spatial Analysis; Temporal Evidence; Speciation/Partitioning; Mass Balances; etc.) available to assess the human impact on geological processes, and why this information is critically needed for environmental management and sustainable development strategies. Contact Kevin Telmer (ktelmer@uvic.ca).

We invite other IUGS commissions and other IUGS bodies to submit a short (approximately 50 words) description of planned meetings during the IGC in 2008 to be included in the next IUGS Bulletin.

International Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE)

The IYPE Status Report dated August can be loaded down from
http://www.iugs.org/iugs/news/iype_status_14august06.pdf

IYPE was registered as a non-profit organisation in the State of Delaware on 16th March. The statutes are approved and a tax-free status also requires bye-laws, which are now being developed. The management team was an informal body supported by IUGS and UNESCO and will now be replaced by a Board and Secretariat. The management team and representatives from IUGS (Peter Bobrowsky) and UNESCO (Robert Missotten) are acting as a provisional board (11 persons).

National IYPE committees are now established in 23 nations. The IUGS-IYPE lateral agreement states that partners who have taken the initiative for IYPE are acknowledged as founding partners. IYPE has now established a total of 50 partnerships. It is expected that most geological surveys in Europe will ultimately be partners. Three geological surveys in Europe had responded positively – Norway, Ireland, Spain. There are 26 associate partners. Partnership increase the funding, but major sponsorship should come from industry

Plans for the near future include the launching of the full science programme, divided into ten broad themes. Two decisions to be made soon are:

- Establishment of the IYPE secretariat.
- Formation of the IYPE Board

The Outreach Programme Committee has by now developed a website (<http://www.esfs.org/>), produced flyers in twelve languages, and released many thousands of general information brochures and leaflets. IYPE would like national committees to translate these documents into their own languages, where translations

are not already available. New outreach ideas are welcomed. Planning is in progress for a high-level meeting (heads of state and top-level scientists) at UNESCO early in 2008. There is a link to the new UN plan on Sustainable Development.

Other news

GEO-SPECTRUM JOURNAL

We want to highlight the Geo-Spectrum Journal, which is a non-profit online journal. See: <http://www.agiweb.org/geospectrum/>

GEM Newsletter

The excellent GEM Newsletter No 6 can be loaded down as a pdf-file from the GEM web-site: <http://www.lestari.ukm.my/iugsgem/>

IGCP

An important news for all geologists: Invitations for new IGCP projects are now announced. The projects are funded jointly by IUGS and UNESCO. You can load down the new IUGS guidelines and proposal forms from <http://www.unesco.org/science/earth/igcp.shtml>

The 6th international symposium on Eastern Mediterranean Geology and the 9th international geological conference of Jordanian Geologists Association will be held in Amman during 2-5 April, 2007. The conference offers a unique opportunity for corporations, governmental agencies and academic institutions to display their products, services, new technologies and progress in their research. You are kindly requested to circulate this information to any relevant corporation and academic institute in your country.

For further information, please contact Dr. Khaled al-Shawabkeh: shawabkeh29@hotmail.com

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Sylvi Haldorsen
(IUGS Vice President)