
IUGS E-BULLETIN (NO. 67, OCTOBER 2011)

34TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IGC) 5-10 AUGUST 2012, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

The Third Circular has been released and can be downloaded from the IGC website front page at <http://www.34igc.org/> or download the pdf direct from http://www.34igc.org/FileLibrary/34igc_third_circular_v5.pdf.

The Third Circular represents a major milestone in the organisation of the 34th IGC and it includes important information that delegates will need to plan and arrange their participation at the 34th IGC in Brisbane:

- Early bird registration
- Updates to the scientific program, including confirmed plenary and keynote speakers
- Detailed information of the field trips
- A reminder about abstract submission
- Details of workshops and short courses
- Accommodation options
- Accompanying persons program
- Trade Exhibition opportunities in the GeoExpo
- You can register directly by visiting the "Register now" link, or via the website at <http://www.34igc.org/>.

The IGC website, together with the Third Circular, has everything you need to know about the IGC, from international visas, to latest news, etc. The Fourth Circular will be released in November/December, 2011.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR "HISTORY OF THE GEOSCIENCES" AT THE IGC, BRISBANE, 2012

The International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO) will be organising 6 Symposia sessions at the Brisbane IGC under Theme 33. "History of the Geosciences" (for details about the Symposia, see the Third Circular on the IGC website at <http://www.34igc.org/>).

In preparation for Symposium 33.1 "Biographical studies of eminent geologists", the Symposium Coordinator Professor David OLDROYD has been compiling what he would like to be a comprehensive list of biographical and autobiographical books about, or by, geologists. (Journal articles, obituaries, or book chapters are not being included in the growing list.) He wishes the record to cover the whole world and up to the present, as far as this can be achieved.

The purpose of the exercise is to see what patterns emerge. What sort of figures have attracted biographers? Who writes biographies or autobiographies. What countries and what languages provide most examples? Which countries, parts of the world, or cultural groups, provide the most and which the least? And why? Who might be suitable subjects for biographies but have been neglected hitherto? What patterns and changes over time can be discerned in this form of literature? To date he has assembled very many items from North America, Western, Northern and Central Europe, and Australasia and a substantial number from Russia and China. But almost no items have been found from Africa, South America, Japan, India, the Near and Middle East, Southeast Asia, and Muslim countries anywhere. Portugal and the Balkan countries also appear to have no writings of this kind. In preparation for Symposium 33.1 David would therefore be most pleased to receive items from such areas in particular. If responding to this request, please supply David with the following information: Surname of person being written about; Country of that person; Surname of the author of the biography or autobiography; Title of the book; Year of publication; Type of book (e.g. biography, autobiography, life and letters, correspondence, travelogue). All communications will be acknowledged and all information will be most gratefully received. Please email David OLDROYD at: doldroyd@bigpond.com

NOMINATIONS FOR THE IUGS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE 2012-2016 TERM

In compliance with the IUGS statutes and Bye-Laws, in April 2011 the Nominating Committee invited all the IUGS Adhering and Affiliate Organizations and Commissions to submit proposals for candidates for each office within the IUGS Executive Committee for its next term 2012-2016. Elections of nominated candidates will take place during the IUGS meeting at the 34th International Geological Congress in Brisbane, Australia, in August 2012. Candidates may also be nominated by the Nominating Committee. If you wish to propose a candidate to be nominated by the Nominating Committee please contact the IUGS Secretariat (email: IUGS@usgs.gov) and request a copy of the nomination form, and information regarding the rules for nominations for the election of officers. The Nominating Committee in particular encourages parts of the world that have not been represented in the Executive Committee for a long time to try to identify good candidates from their region.

INVITATION TO HOST THE IUGS SECRETARIAT

The IUGS President has circulated a request to all IUGS Adhering Members seeking their consideration of the possibility of hosting the IUGS Permanent Secretariat in their country. The IUGS Secretariat is the central hub for all correspondence to, from, and within IUGS, and its major functions are related to communications, administrative, and secretarial tasks for the IUGS Executive Committee and Council. For the past three years the IUGS Secretariat has been hosted by the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, USA, under an agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey and the

U.S. National Committee. According to the agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey their support to the IUGS Secretariat will be terminated by the end of 2012 and another organization will have the opportunity to host the Secretariat. Since the Secretariat should be relocated before the end of 2012 and since the transfer of all the files, archives, etc., will take several weeks, a decision on the new home should be made by August 2012 at the latest. The deadline for reception of proposals from Adhering Members is 30 April 2012. For enquiries email: IUGS@usgs.gov.

NEXT PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU) ELECTED

Professor Gordon McBEAN, an internationally recognized meteorologist and climate change expert, has been named as the future President of the International Council for Science (ICSU). An established member of the ICSU community, McBEAN was elected by representatives from ICSU's 120 National Members and 30 International Scientific Unions gathered at the 30th ICSU General Assembly in Rome, Italy, on 27–30 September 2011. He is set to succeed the current ICSU President, Yuan T. LEE, in October 2014. Other Members elected to the ICSU Executive Board are: Officers: Vice-President for Scientific Planning and Review: Malegapuru W. MAKGOBA (South Africa); Vice-President for External Relations: Sergio PASTRANA (Cuba); Secretary General: David BLACK (Australia); Treasurer: Hans RUDOLF OTT (Switzerland). National Members: John BALL (United Kingdom); Luiz Davidovich (Brazil); Nicole MOREAU (France); Guoxiong WU (China). See the Press Releases at: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/press-releases/press-releases-2011/>

OUTCOMES FROM THE ICSU 30TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY, ROME, 26-30 SEPTEMBER 2011

During the ICSU General Assembly, which was attended by members of the IUGS Bureau, the ICSU membership made a number of important decisions that will influence the directions and conduct of international science for the benefit of society in the coming years. Two major new international interdisciplinary initiatives were strongly endorsed. The first of these, the Earth System Sustainability Initiative (ESSI) is still in the planning phase and is designed to bring together different scientific disciplines and other societal stakeholders to address five Grand Challenges for sustainability, which have been identified through a broad consultation exercise.

- 1, Forecasting - improve the usefulness of forecasts of future environmental conditions and their consequences for people;
- 2, Observing - develop, enhance and integrate the observation systems needed to manage global and regional environmental change;
- 3, Confining - determine how to anticipate, recognize, avoid and manage disruptive global environmental change;
- 4, Responding - determine what institutional, economic and behavioural changes can enable effective steps toward global sustainability;
- 5, Innovating - encourage innovation in developing technological, policy and social responses to achieve global sustainability

One of the unique features of ESSI is that it is being co-designed by an Alliance of scientific organisations, funders and UN policy bodies. It will build on the strengths of the existing global change programs that are currently co-sponsored and supported by members of this Alliance. The main focus will be on mitigation, adaptation and new pathways to sustainable development. The urgency of the need for new knowledge in this area was reflected in the debate at the Assembly.

The second new initiative relates to urban health and wellbeing. The Assembly approved a science plan laying out a new conceptual framework for addressing the complexity of factors that influence health and wellbeing in the urban environment. This initiative aims to bring different disciplines together around common urban problems to generate practical knowledge that can be used by local decision makers. It was reported at the Assembly that scientists are already actively working on the implementation of this science plan in the Asia and Pacific region.

The other notable outcome of the Assembly was the endorsement of some rewording of the Principle of Universality of Science, which previously focused on the freedoms or rights of scientists. The new wording introduces explicit reference to responsibilities with regard to the conduct and communication of science. By embracing this change, all the Member organizations of ICSU agree to uphold and promote these responsibilities.

GEOUNIONS MEETING AT THE ICSU GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In preparation for the ICSU General Assembly, the GeoUnions held a meeting on 25 September at Villa Celimontina, Rome, to consider different topics of common interest, and was attended by members of the IUGS Bureau. The GeoUnions is an informal group of Unions within ICSU comprising: the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the International Geographical Union (IGU), the International Union for Quaternary Research (INQUA), the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS), and the International Union of Radio Science (IURS).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE ICSU COMMITTEE ON FREEDOM AND RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CONDUCT OF SCIENCE (CFRS)

The Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the conduct of Science (CFRS) is a key ICSU policy committee responsible for promoting the Principle of Universality of Science (see <http://www.icsu.org/about-icsu/structure/committees/freedom-responsibility>). Nominations for 6-8 new members to serve on the committee are now invited. The term of service is three years, starting in April 2012 and potentially renewable once, and the committee meets twice per year, normally for 3 days, once in Paris and once outside of Europe. Occasionally, the CFRS holds other meetings or workshops, which some members attend. The main criterion for selection, by the Executive Board, is scientific expertise, including relevant experience and interest. In addition, all ICSU committees are balanced, as far as possible, for geographical representation and gender. Please submit nominations using the CV template posted on: <http://www.icsu.org/member-zone/calls-for-nominations> and return them to Rohini RAO (Rohini@icsu.org) as soon as possible and preferably no later than Friday, 16 December 2011.

VACANCY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ICSU WORLD DATA SYSTEM (WDS)

The ICSU World Data System (WDS) is a new programme which strives to build a world-wide "community of excellence" for scientific data, with searchable common data directories and catalogues, while ensuring the long-term stewardship and provision of quality-assessed data and data services to the international science community. The Executive Director will head the International Programme Office (IPO) for WDS at the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) in Japan, with core funding provided by NICT. This location was selected following an international call for offers to host the Office. ICSU invites applications for this post and the closing date for applications is 15 October 2011. For more information email: Maureen BRENNAN at: maureen@icsu.org

VACANCY: ICSU WEB EDITOR-SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

ICSU is seeking a Web Editor-Science Communications Officer located in Paris, France, for an 18-month period, starting in January 2012, or as soon as possible. The closing date for applications is 4 November 2011. Applications (preferably in one combined PDF file) should be sent via email to recruitment@icsu.org with "Web editor-Communications Office" in the subject line, and addressed to Professor Deliang CHEN, ICSU Executive Director. For more details see: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/jobs-at-icsu/project-science-communication-officer>

IUGG E-JOURNAL SPECIAL ISSUE DEDICATED TO ICSU EVENTS

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) (<http://www.iugg.org/>) has released a Special Issue of The IUGG Electronic Journal Volume 11 No. 10A (17 October 2011) which is dedicated to the 30th General Assembly of the International Council for Science (ICSU) and to the Associated Events. To download the pdf of the 10 page Special Issue go to: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/>

ONEGEOLOGY UPDATE

The OneGeology project (<http://www.onegeology.org/>), an international initiative of the geological surveys of the world, was launched in 2007 and has been a ground-breaking project with a significant contribution to the "International Year of Planet Earth" becoming one of their flagship projects. The OneGeology project has been managed out of the British Geological Survey and has made a significant impact on standardisation of geological map data around the world. The OneGeology Steering Group, held a meeting in Tokyo on 27-28 September, which was attended by a member of the IUGS Bureau. The main item discussed by the Steering Group was the future of OneGeology. The Steering Group was in full agreement that OneGeology should proceed with arrangements to be formally registered as a "Not-for-Profit Company Limited" to allow its significant operations to continue. This process will be completed before the International Geological Congress in Brisbane in August 2012 as several OneGeology meetings are planned to be held at that event. Another main issue discussed by the Steering Group was the future goals and directions to allow updating and improvement of OneGeology data in the near future (such as a move towards a larger scale than the 1:1 million scale for regions with available data, and access to downloading OneGeology data via mobile phones etc.).

GLOBAL GEOPARKS UPDATE

The recent successful and informative 10th European Geoparks Conference 2011, hosted by Gea Norvegica Geopark, Langesund, Norway, from 16-18 September 2011, was also the occasion for important related meetings. The European Geoparks Network (EGN) Advisory Committee held their meeting on 13 September, and the EGN Coordination Committee had their meeting from 14-15 September. This Conference was also the venue for the Global Geoparks Network (GGN) Bureau meeting. The EGN Coordination Committee adopted all the recommendations made by the Advisory Committee and, following approval by the GGN, the EGN now has 6 new Geoparks making a total of 48 Geoparks from 16 European countries. (See: <http://www.europeangeoparks.org/bsite/home/1%2C1%2C0.asp>). At the Global Geoparks Network Bureau meeting 9 new member Geoparks (including the 6 new EGN Geoparks), were approved in seven countries and 1 existing Geopark Lochaber (Scotland) was removed from the EGN list. The new

Geoparks are: Hong Kong Geopark (China), Tianzhushan Geopark (China), Bauges Geopark (France), Katla Geopark (Iceland), Burren and Cliffs of Moher Geopark (Ireland), Apuan Alps Geopark (Italy), Muroto Geopark (Japan), Sierra Norte de Sevilla Geopark (Spain), and Villuercas Ibores Jara Geopark (Spain). The Global Network of National Geoparks, created under the aegis of UNESCO in 2004, now numbers 87 Geoparks in 27 countries around the world. (See: <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/environment/earth-sciences/geoparks/>)

PROMOTING CREATION OF A GEOPARKS NETWORK IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The concept of a Geopark is being increasingly used in Europe and Southeast Asia, in recognition of landscapes with important geological and geomorphological values. In Latin America and the Caribbean, although they have not the same impact yet, countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela and Uruguay are making good progress on the issue. Within this context, the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science in Latin America, and the Caribbean and the Municipality of Flores (Uruguay), with the support of the IUGS, has decided to organize a Conference on "Geoparks: an alternative for local development" which will take place from 13 to 15 November in the city of Trinidad, Flores, Uruguay. The Conference will have the participation of outstanding foreign scientists in the field, and will aim at advancing the development of Geoparks in Latin America and achieving agreements toward the creation of a Latin American Geoparks Networks. It also will feature national cases currently underway in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela and Uruguay, among others. The event will feature stakeholders from the academia, the State, and the private sector, in Latin America and the Caribbean, who are directly involved in the preservation and dissemination of the importance of geological heritage through local sustainable economic development, including geo-tourism. The website for the conference is at: <http://www.unesco.org.uy/ciencias-naturales/es/areas-de-trabajo/ciencias-naturales/ciencias-de-la-tierra/inicio/en-portada.html> For more information email the Regional Bureau for Science of UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean at: geo@unesco.org.uy

OVERVIEW OF THE VIII FORUM GEOITALIA 2011

The VIII Forum GEOITALIA 2011, organized by the Italian Federation of Earth Sciences, an IUGS affiliated organization, was held on 19-23 September at the Lingotto Congress Centre, Torino, Italy. The Forum comprised 20 symposia, with a total of 80 sessions, plus 10 thematic sessions, 5 round tables, 13 meetings of professional societies, working groups and committees, and 19 workshops. The 3011 authors involved gave 828 presentations and 528 posters. The Forum was attended by a member of the IUGS Bureau.

REPORT ON THE GEOETHICS SESSION AT THE GEOITALIA 2011 CONGRESS

Below is an abstract of a report by Dr Silvia Peppoloni on the success of the Geoethics and Geological Culture session held at the GeoItalia 2011 Congress in Turin, Italy during September 19-23, 2011. (To download the full text go to: http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/Geoethics_session_Geoitalia2011_report.pdf). The session started with a very interesting interview with the famous sociologist Prof. Franco Ferrarotti (University of Rome) about the social implications of geological research and practice. This was followed by an introductory talk by Dr. Ian Lambert, the Secretary General of the 34th International Geological Congress (Brisbane, August 2012), Dr Lambert discussed ethical aspects related to geo-resources management, suggesting to the audience cues of reflections. Altogether the Geoethics session had 2 keynote papers, 4 invited lectures, with 35 speakers in total (including not only geologists, but also philosophers, social scientists, geophysicists, seismologists, psychologists, naturalists, anthropologists, freelancers, technicians of the Public Administration). Topics covered were: sustainability, geo-resources exploitation, Geodiversity, natural hazards, property of the subsoil data, scientific dissemination, relationships among geoscientists, mass media and politics, evaluation criteria of geological researches, didactics in schools, cultural and social aspects in the territory management. This included an interview with Prof. Giulio Giorello (one of the most prominent Italian philosophers of science) that aroused much interest. The also session hosted two important international speakers from the Russian Federation: Prof. Ludmila Ryzhova, Professor at the State Geological-Explorative University of Moscow, and Dr Nataliya Nikitina, head of the Geoethical Section within the Russian Geological Society. In her closing speech Dr Silvia Peppoloni expressed gratitude to Dr Ian Lambert for his invigorating presence and thanked the delegates for their contributions and discussions. She also mentioned the session "Geoethics and natural hazards" at the General Assembly of European Geosciences Union (Vienna - April 22-27, 2012), and the Geoethics Symposium under the Theme 2 at the 34th IGC (Brisbane - August 5-10, 2012), as important future events on Geoethics.

NEW PUBLICATION ON THE HISTORY OF ANTARCTIC RESEARCH

The history of the ICSU Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) has recently been published entitled "Science in the Snow - fifty years of international collaboration through the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research" by D.W.H. WALTON and P.D. CLARKSON, with additional material from C.P. SUMMERHAYES. The book covers the first 50 years from the establishment in 1958 and, as well as detailing its development and achievements. The 11 extensive appendices contain details of its membership, meetings, officers, staff, awards, symposia and publications. Published by SCAR the book costs £24 (post free) from the SCAR Secretariat (email Rosemary NASH at: rn283@cam.ac.uk) or online: <http://www.scar.org/publications/purchase/#purchaseScienceinSnow>

NEED TO CONTACT A GEOSCIENCE ORGANIZATION SOMEWHERE AROUND THE WORLD?

See the website of the Directory of Geoscience Organizations of the World: <http://www.gsj.jp/Intl/Dir/a.htm>
Maintained by the Geological Survey of Japan. For additions, corrections, or updates email: intl@gsj.jp

RECENT INFORMATION ON PUBLICATIONS, JOURNALS AND NEWSLETTERS

CCOP E-News - The Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP) produces the CCOP E-News that can be downloaded from their website (<http://www.ccop.or.th/>) in PDF format. To download go to: http://www.ccop.or.th/download/e-news/CCOP_e-news_vol1no1.pdf

CPC (formerly known as CPCEMR) - The Circum-Pacific Council for Energy and Mineral Resources website is at: <http://www.circum-pacificcouncil.org>

EFG - The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) newsletter GeoNews can be downloaded from: <http://www.eurogeologists.eu/index.php?page=175> To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, please register at: <http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters-subscription.html>

EGS - EuroGeoSurveys a consortium of 32 European Geological Surveys which aims to address European geoscience for society. See their EuroGeoSurveys Newsletters at: <http://eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters.html>. To automatically receive the issues of the Newsletter, you can register online at: <http://www.eurogeosurveys.org/newsletters-subscription.html>

GEOETHICS - The latest copies of the "Geoethics News" newsletter can be downloading from the Geoethics website at: http://tierra.rediris.es/Geoethics_Planetary_Protection/

GSAf - The Geological Society of Africa (GSAf) Newsletters can be downloaded from the Home page of the Society at: <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org>

GWP - For the Global Water Partnership (GWP) Monthly Newsletter "NewsFlow" go to: <http://gwpforum.us1.listmanage.com/subscribe?u=2e4d7bb2bd4f7590eb7d7929e&id=8e059efa29>

IAG - The International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) publishes its newsletter at 3 month intervals. The Newsletters can be downloaded at: <http://www.geomorph.org/pb/pbnew.html>

ICSU - the International Council for Science (ICSU) newsletter "ICSU Insight" will keep you up to date with ICSU global and regional activities, latest publications, and events. View the newsletter at: <http://www.icsu.org/news-centre/insight/newsletters-2011/insight-april-2011>. Visit the ICSU website at: <http://www.icsu.org/>

IFA - The International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA) has produced a Fertilizer Glossary that is now available on-line in five languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Chinese. There are more than 150 terms and expressions related to fertilizer use, soil science, fertilizer manufacture and analysis, and application machinery and methods. See it at: <http://www.fertilizer.org/ifa/HomePage/LIBRARY/Glossary-of-fertilizer-terms>.

IGBP - The International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) website is at: <http://www.igbp.kva.se/> and their News archive is at: http://www.igbp.kva.se/?view=news_archive.

IMGA - The International Medical Geology Association (IMGA) newsletter can be downloaded from their website at: http://www.medicalgeology.org/pages/public/publications/page_Publications.htm.

IUGG - The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) latest electronic E-Journal is on their website at: <http://www.iugg.org/publications/ejournals/> NOTE the 18 July edition lists the IUGG Bureau members and Association Presidents and Secretaries General for 2011-2015.

IUGS - To download back issues of the IUGS Episodes magazine see: <http://www.episodes.co.in/www/backissues.htm>. Also E-Bulletins of the IUGS issued since October 2002 can be found at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=e-bulletins>.

IUSS - The International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) Bulletin can be downloaded in high and low resolution PDF from <http://www.iuss.org> The monthly IUSS Alert newsletter can be accessed via the same page.

ProGEO News - the newsletter of the European Association for the Conservation of the Geological Heritage can be downloaded from: <http://www.progeo.se/>

SCAR - The Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) is a committee of the International Council for Science (ICSU) charged with the initiation, promotion, and co-ordination, of scientific research in Antarctica. SCAR also provides international, independent scientific advice to the Antarctic Treaty system and other bodies. To download the recent issues of the SCAR Newsletters go to: <http://www.scar.org/news/newsletters/issues2011/>. Their recently released "Antarctic Science and Policy Advice in a Changing World: SCAR Strategic Plan 2011-2016" can be downloaded from: <http://www.scar.org/strategicplan2011/>

SGA - Newsletters of The Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA) available at: <http://www.e-sga.org>

YES - The Young Earth-Scientists YES Network Newsletters at: <http://www.networkyes.org/index.php/news/>

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NOTE the listings of forthcoming meetings shown below will normally be included in an IUGS E-Bulletin only once and then they will appear on the IUGS website. The IUGS website (www.iugs.org) lists more "geo" related events than any other website devoted to such information. An analysis of the IUGS 2010 website statistics indicates that the "IUGS Calendar" section is the most frequently visited element of our website with regular hits from over 160 countries. The IUGS is pleased to continue this service to help promote all "geo" related events. Please send your meeting posting requests directly to the IUGS Secretary General at pbobrows@nrcan.gc.ca. To see the IUGS listing of forthcoming geoscience meetings, conferences, and workshops, go to the Calendar section of the IUGS website at: <http://iugs.org/index.php?page=calendar&phpMyAdmin=2c9f06db78f0953a55b10dcfdc5907f6>

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November 13-15, 2011 "Geoparks: an alternative for local development." Conference. Trinidad, Flores, Uruguay. Organised by the Regional Bureau for Science of UNESCO in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Municipality of Flores, Uruguay, with the support of the IUGS. The conference is aimed at advancing the development of Geoparks in Latin America and achieving agreements toward the creation of a Latin American Geoparks Networks. It will also feature national geoparks activities currently underway in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela and Uruguay, among others. For more information about the event contact the Regional Bureau for Science of UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean email: geo@unesco.org.uy

November 21-28, 2011. The First International Conference on African and Arabian Geoparks. El Jadida, Morocco. Theme: "Aspiring Geoparks in Africa and the Arab World." This initiative is organised by The African Geoparks Network (AGN) and supported by UNESCO, the IUGS, the GSAf. The AGN aims to identify, promote, and advise on the importance and preservation of geological sites in Africa in collaboration with other stakeholders. The network and its conferences aim to build long-term bridges among people interested in geoheritage, geotourism, geoconservation, environment and sustainable development (researchers, policy makers, economists, geopark and natural heritage sites and local community administrators and leaders, NGOs, business operators, Medias and individuals) in order to make them a lever of local sustainable development in Africa. More information at: <http://www.africangeoparksnetwork.org>

December 07-09, 2011. Strategic Seismic Data Acquisition, Processing & Interpretation Onshore/Offshore 2011. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. A World-Class Seminar for exploring Africa, with many case studies and exercises. Specially designed for seismic, geophysical, and other geological professionals in Africa, the Middle East and Asia. More information at: <http://www.magenta-global.com/>

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January 22-24, 2012, Vancouver, Canada. The 4th International Professional Geology Conference (4IPGC). Theme "Earth Science - Global Practice". Geoscientists Canada together with co-conveners, the Australian Institute of Geoscientists, the European Federation of Geologists, and the American Institute of Professional Geologists, have developed an exciting 2.5 day program for th4IPGc. For full details see: <http://www.4ipgc.ca>.

May 21-25, 2012. "Volcandpark", 1st International Congress on Management and Awareness in Protected Volcanic Landscapes, Olot, Spain. This is the first congress to be devoted to the management, the raising of awareness and geotourism in protected volcanic areas. It aims to act as a forum for debate and thought that will provide a link between knowledge of vulcanology and territorial planning and awareness in the people who work in these volcanic landscapes

(national and natural parks, natural reserves, etc.) Endorsed by the International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI) (<http://www.iavcei.org>). Details at: <http://www.volcandpark1.com>.

June 17-23, 2012. 12th International Multidisciplinary Scientific GeoConference & EXPO SGEM2012. Albena Resort| Bulgaria. Theme: Modern Management of Mine Producing, Geology and Environmental Protection. Held under the aegis of Ministry of Environment and Water, Bulgaria, and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. Addressing surveying geology & mining ecology management, oil and gas, geodesy, photogrammetry, remote sensing, GIS, informatics, geoinformatics, micro and nanotechnologies, water resources, air and climate, ecosystems, soils, renewable energy, environmental protection, environmental economics. Conference website: <http://www.sgem.org>

August 5-10, 2012. 34th International Geological Congress (IGC) in Brisbane, Australia. The primary IUGS conference that is held every 4 years. See the information above, and visit the Congress website at: <http://www.34igc.org/>

August 25-September 1, 2012. XXII International Society for Photogrammetry & Remote Sensing Congress (2012 ISPRS). Melbourne, Australia. Theme: "Imaging a Sustainable Future". The Second Circular has been released and abstracts can now be submitted. For all details see the website at: <http://www.isprs2012.org/>

September 17-21, 2012. XII National Meeting of Geomorphology. Santander, Spain. Organized by the Spanish Society de Geomorfología (SEG) and the Cantabria Campus of International Excellence, which covers among others the University of Cantabria (UC) and The International University Menéndez Menendez Pelayo (UIMP). See the First Circular at: <http://www.segsantander2012.unican.es/index.html>. For more information contact the conference secretariat. Email: segsantander2012@unican.es

November 1-3, 2012. 5th International Conference of the European Society for the History of Science. Athens, Greece. For details see the website at: <http://5eshs.hpdst.gr>

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January 8-14, 2013. The 40th Anniversary of the Geological Society of Africa (1973-2013). Theme "40 Years of GSAf (1973-2013): Earth Sciences Solutions to African Development Challenges" will be conducted at the United Nations Economic Commission Conference Center (UNECA), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Ethiopian Geosciences and Mineral Engineering Association (EGMEA) will organize this joint conference and will distribute the first circular shortly. Details will be posted on the websites at: <http://www.geologicalsocietyofafrica.org/> and <http://www.egmea.org.et/>

With best regards,
Colin SIMPSON
IUGS Councillor
simpsons@grapevine.com.au

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