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## JOSE PEDRO CALVO SORANDO ELECTED AS NEW IUGS SECRETARY GENERAL

The ballot of the IUGS Council Members designated Prof. José Pedro Calvo Sorando as the new IUGS Secretary General.

### *José Pedro Calvo Sorando's CV:*

Prof. José P. Calvo was born in Valencia, Spain, in 1952. He graduated at the University Complutense of Madrid (UCM) in 1974 and conducted a PhD thesis on Miocene carbonate deposits of the Prebetic Zone (SE Spain) from 1974 to 1978. After 8 years as Lecturer at the UCM and the Politechnical University of Madrid, he got a position as Associate Professor at the Department of Petrology and Geochemistry of the UCM. His research has been mainly focused on the geology and sedimentology of continental sedimentary basins (e.g. fossil lake systems in the Iberian Peninsula, as well as in other Mediterranean regions like Greece and Italy). Carbonate and evaporite continental deposits have been main research topics during most of his career. Some of this research was focused on diatomite deposits and other sedimentary materials of economic interest (e.g. special clays, sulfate, magnesite, dolomite). José Calvo was involved in scientific international collaboration with research groups mainly from the US Geological Survey, Università di Palermo, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris, National University of Athens, and ETH in Zürich. He led and participated to both Spanish and international research projects (e.g. IUGS–IGCP projects) on fossil and recent lake systems from 1986 to 1998.

José Calvo was elected Head of the Department of Petrology and Geochemistry of the UCM in 1999, and he obtained a professor position there in 2001. He was Secretary General of the International Association of Sedimentologists from 2002 to 2010. At a national level, José Calvo participated actively to the internal life of the Geological Society of Spain (SGE) and was Secretary and Editor-in-Chief of the Society in the nineties, and its President from 2000 to 2004.

From 2004 to 2010, José Calvo moved to the Spanish Geological Survey (IGME) as Director General. During this period, he was involved also in several managing tasks in EuroGeoSurveys acting as President of EGS in 2008. He was



charged of the organization of the International Year of Planet Earth in Spain (2007–2009).

Currently, José Calvo teaches as a professor of the Department of Petrology and Geochemistry of the UCM. He is happy to run graduate courses dealing with Principles of Geology and some other matters included in Engineering Geology courses, especially industrial rocks and their use as building materials. His research interest is still centered on the petrology and geochemistry of Cenozoic sediments and rocks.

*José Pedro Calvo Sorando reacted after his election:*

“A few days after being elected as the new IUGS Secretary General, I am pleased to salute all members, committees, boards and organizations involved in the IUGS activities, with thanks for supporting my nomination. Certainly, it encourages me to do my best to push the Union ahead. Of course I must learn many things in order to make an efficient job. In this purpose I will take in advantage my professional profile built for about 40 years of teaching and research on sedimentary geology, starting with a glance into engineering geology and running in parallel with frequent excursions into industrial minerals and rocks. Working during 6 years in a geological survey provided me a global view of Geosciences and some capacity for managing, which combined well with my job as SG of the International Association of Sedimentologists. That’s the experience I will be pleased to render to IUGS.”

The IUGS President, Executives and Secretaries warmly welcome José to his new IUGS responsibilities.

Complementary details on José Pedro Calvo Sorando at [his personal webpage](#).

## **REPORT ON 3<sup>RD</sup> YES CONGRESS, DAR ES SALAAM**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Young Earth Scientist (YES) Congress, held at the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, from August 11 to 14, 2014, was a successful conference along with the 25<sup>th</sup> Colloquium of African Geology (CAG25). In this congress, there were nearly 500 participants including more than 300 registered delegates from 46 countries. The theme was “Bridging Geo-generations into Global Earth Sciences Integrations”. The congress was inaugurated by the Vice-President of Tanzania along with the Minister of Minerals in Tanzania.

The congress included 7 parallel sessions in which participants (including Earth scientists from academia, industry, Geoscience organizations and decision makers) discussed key topics. The major topics covered in sessions included Geoscience in Society, Mineral and Energy Resources, Geohazards, Hydrogeology and Climate Change, with a special emphasis on the African continent. The congress also included workshops on Geoparks, Mathematical Geology, Geology for Global Development and Geochemistry. An Art exhibition was displayed all along the



meeting, exposing Zhao Chuang's works on Dinosaurs and a documentary Movie Premiere showed by the PNSO group on "Reconstructing and Reflecting Lives for Past". Along with the young researchers, there were more than 200 students from various schools who participated in the inaugural ceremony.

Several business meetings took place including Earth Science Matters Foundation EC meeting, YES Network meetings with national chapters and local organizing committees to discuss the perspectives of this third version of the Young Earth-Scientists Congress. One of the main highlights of this event was the announcement of the registration of the YES Network as a non-profit organization hosted by the EuroGeoSurvey in Brussels, Belgium.

Communicated by Amel Barich, IUGS Councilor and Vice-President of the YES Network.

### **35<sup>TH</sup> IGC PREPARATIONS**

The Scientific Program for the 35<sup>th</sup> International Geological Congress (IGC35) is progressing very well. A Committee of the Scientific Program, with Prof. Laurence Robb (Oxford University) as Chair, has been appointed. Core sectors underpinning the IGC35 scientific content are: Geoscience for Society, Fundamental Geoscience, and Geoscience in the Economy.

During the combined 3<sup>rd</sup> YES Congress and CAG25 Meeting in Dar es Salaam, a new high-profile field trip was proposed at the IGC35 booth. It is preliminary entitled "Africa's High and Low Superlatives" and would take a group of 35 delegates to the summit of Kilimanjaro and the Njwaneng gold mine near Carletonville, RSA, which are respectively the highest and lowest points that can be visited on the African continent. Together with the Great African Train Geosafari, a train trip between Cape Town and the Victoria Falls, this new field trip will form the flagship field trips for IGC35.

More on IGC35 at [its website](#).

### **IUGS PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE'S CALL FOR MEMBERS TO THE *EPISODES* EDITORIAL BOARD**

The journal *Episodes* is the "flagship" publication of IUGS. The IUGS Publications Committee is in the process of appointing new members to the Editorial Board to achieve a better spread of expertise and geographical representation. Nominations for the Board are invited from geoscientists, especially those who are in mid-career and have a strong current research and publication record. Nominations should be accompanied by a CV. Details of the duties of Board members can be found on the IUGS website. Nominations should reach the Chairman of the IUGS Publications Committee, Brian Marker, by September 30, 2014. His e-mail address is [brian@amarker.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:brian@amarker.freeserve.co.uk)



## GEOCHEMISTRY SOFTWARE IS FREE FOR STUDENTS

Aqueous Solutions LLC, maker of *The Geochemist's Workbench* (GWB) software package, recently announced that it is distributing its sophisticated geochemistry software to university students around the world at no charge. Students now have access to some of the same tools used by leading companies in the environmental, renewable energy, oil and gas, and mining industries. GWB Student is available at no charge to undergraduate and graduate students who are currently registered as full-time students at an accredited university offering degrees in geoscience.

Recognized for its easy-to-use interface and fully integrated graphics, as well as for its powerful and reliable computing engine, the GWB makes quick work of geochemistry tasks small and large. With just a few clicks, GWB Student balances reactions, figures equilibrium constants, and produces Eh-pH and activity diagrams. The package features a spreadsheet designed to hold and manipulate geochemical data.

GWB Student is downloadable at <http://student.gwb.com>

More information on GWB Student at [http://student.gwb.com/student\\_overview.php](http://student.gwb.com/student_overview.php)

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### NOTES

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