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IASPEI Newsletter

(No. 18, April 1987)

To: National Correspondents, Officers and Representatives of the Association, and related organisations.

This issue of the Newsletter is somewhat delayed, for a number of reasons, including the move of the IASPEI Secretariat with the ISC at the end of last year to the new address given above. Recently there has also been much activity concerned with the planning of the Vancouver Assembly, details of which are given below.

This Newsletter also contains the sad news that we are having to seek another site for our 1989 Assembly. We are sorry that circumstances have forced us to move away from Oslo, particularly as our Norwegian colleagues had already done much good work in preparation. Under the over-riding principles of the ICSU regulation on the Free Circulation of Scientists, however, we have no alternative, and we are actively looking for another site.

Robin Adams,

R. D. Adams
Secretary-General

1989 GENERAL ASSEMBLY

At our 1985 General Assembly, IASPEI enthusiastically accepted an invitation from the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters to hold its 1989 General Assembly in Oslo, jointly with IAGA.

Preparations were proceeding smoothly, until in February 1987 the Presidents of both Associations received a letter from the Academy to say that under new legislation being introduced into Norway, no participants from the Republic of South Africa would be granted visas, and additionally, the authorities of the University of Oslo would not allow the use of their facilities if South Africans attended.

Under the rules of the International Council of Scientific Unions, by which we are bound, meetings must be open to all bono fide scientists without discrimination on the grounds of "race, religion, political philosophy, ethnic origin, citizenship, language or sex.". We therefore had no option but to cancel plans to meet in Oslo. The Executive is actively considering alternative sites, and we hope that a definite decision will be made by the time of the Vancouver Assembly. Efforts are being made to maintain a combined meeting with IAGA, but this may no longer be possible.

VANCOUVER ASSEMBLY 9 - 22 AUGUST 1987

The programme is now fixed, as given in earlier Newsletters, and in the Third Circular, which is available from the Local Organising Committee, who address is:

IUGG Assembly, Venue West,
801-750 Jervis Street,
Vancouver BC
Canada V6E 2A9 (Telephone (604) 681-5226)

The deadline for the submission of abstracts is now passed, and convenors will now be putting together their programmes.

The deadline for registration with reduced fee is 1 May. After that date the fee rises from Can \$175 to Can \$225. Please note that this may now be paid by VISA or Mastercard (Access or Eurocard) credit cards, by quoting the card number and expiry date.

Please note that all requests and information regarding registration and accommodation should be sent to Vancouver, not to the IASPEI Secretariat. Requests for financial assistance should be sent to the convenor of the session to which the participant is contributing.

IASPEI Plenary Sessions

Two plenary sessions will be held. National Correspondents should take this as formal notification of the meetings. Provisional agendas are given below, but other matters may be raised if approved by a majority of delegates present. These meetings are open to all, but voting is restricted to accredited national delegates.

Monday, 10 August 0930

President's Welcome
Presentation of Accounts
Appointment of: Nominating Committee
 Resolutions Committee
 Audit Committee
Presidential Address

Following this meeting, there will be an Association Lecture by Dr. R. D. Hyndman, Director of the Pacific Geoscience Center on "The Integrated Geoscience Lithoprobe Program across the Margin of South-western Canada".

Wednesday, 19 August 1930

President's Report
Secretary-General's Report and Discharge of Accounts
Reports of Commissions and Review of Commission Structure
Relations with UN and other agencies
1989 Assembly
Future Activities
Adoption of Resolutions
Election of Officers
Appointment of Association Representatives
Other business

IASPEI PUBLICATION POLICY

The Association has entered into an agreement with Elsevier Science Publishers, whereby Elsevier will have the first right to publish proceedings of our Symposia at the Vancouver Assembly, usually as special issues of their regular journals, which include "Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors", "Tectonophysics", "Engineering Geology" and "Journal of Volcanology". Convenors are likely to be asked to act as guest editors, and IASPEI will receive a proportion of the royalties from the sale of the journals.

STUDY OF EARTH'S DEEP INTERIOR (SEDI)

A group of about twenty geodesists and geophysicists met at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, 6 - 8 November 1986, to discuss a Study of the Earth's Interior. The meeting has produced a draft proposal which defines the important scientific problems relating to the Earth's deep interior, and asks IUGG at the Vancouver Assembly in August 1987 to consider setting up SEDI as a Union Committee. The idea of SEDI has grown from an earlier proposal in IASPEI and IAGA for an International Study of the Earth's Core and Lower Mantle (ISECALM).

The proposal is strongly multidisciplinary, and suggests improved seismic, magnetic and gravimetric observations, as well as experimental and theoretical work. Particular attention would be given to new computational studies of the dynamo problem and recent investigations of the fine structure of the inner core.

Acting Officers are E.R. Benton (USA), Chairman; D. Doornbos (Norway), Vice-Chairman; D.E. Loper (USA), Secretary.

WORKING GROUP ON SEISMOLOGICAL RECORDING AND EARTH SCIENCE STUDIES IN THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

The first meeting of this joint IASPEI/Unesco/ICL group took place in Paris, 4 - 6 November 1986. As well as representatives of the sponsoring agencies, the meeting was attended by a wide representation of seismologists from countries which at present operate seismograph networks in Africa. Particular attention was paid to the need to improve communications, and the need for better exchange of information among countries, particularly those where different languages are used. Detailed needs for improving seismological recording in Africa were discussed and proposals have been forwarded to appropriate UN agencies for support. The group next meets at the Vancouver Assembly.

NON-LINEAR SEISMOLOGY

A meeting on this topic was held 31 October - 6 November 1986, at Suzdal in the Soviet Union, attended by more than 100 participants. The discussions showed that non-linear seismic effects are widespread and strongly evident in nature; examples are the distortion of seismic signals during propagation, near-source effects, the non-linearity of vibrator-ground systems, and the variation in wave characteristics with applied tectonic stress.

Further experimental and theoretical work is planned, and the papers from the symposium will be published in "Physics of the Earth and Planetary Interiors".

The following is a selection of forthcoming meetings in the field of interest of the Association.

- 1987 May 28-30 CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY SYMPOSIUM ON PERMANENT SEISMOGRAPHIC OBSERVATORIES AND NETWORKS
University of California, Berkeley, Ca., USA
Prof. B A Bolt, Dept of Geology & Geophysics, University of California, Berkeley, Ca 94720, USA
- 1987 Jun 1-6 TERRESTRIAL HEAT FLOW AND STRUCTURE OF THE LITHOSPHERE
Bechyne, Czechoslovakia
Dr. V Cermak, Geophysical Institute, Bocni II
14131 Prague 4, CZECHOSLOVAKIA
- 1987 Jul 6-10 CRYPTOEXPLOSIONS AND CATASTROPHIES IN THE GEOLOGICAL RECORD
Parys, South Africa
Cryptoexplosions Workshop, Bernard Price Institute,
University of Witwatersrand, 1 Jan Smuts Ave,
Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA
- 1987 Aug 9-22 XIX GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IUGG
Vancouver, BC., Canada
IUGG Assembly, c/o Venue West, 801-750 Jarvis Street,
Vancouver BC, V6E 2A9 CANADA
- 1987 Aug 24-28 FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANTARCTIC EARTH SCIENCES
Cambridge, UK
Dr. M R A Thomson, British Antarctic Survey,
Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, UK
- 1987 Sep 14-16 1987 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE PRECURSORS
Beijing, China
Prof. Lu Dajing, Applied Physics and Seismology Lab.,
Chinese Academy of Sciences, Box 603, Beijing, CHINA
- 1988 Jul 6-8 SEISMIC PROBING OF THE CONTINENTS AND THEIR MARGINS
Canberra, Australia
Dr. J H Leven, BMR, Box 378, Canberra ACT 2601
AUSTRALIA
- 1988 Aug 2-9 NINTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING
Tokyo/Kyoto, Japan
9WCEE, Japan Convention Services,
Nippon Press Center, 2-1, 2 chome
Uchisaiwai-cho, Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 100, JAPAN
- 1989 Jul 9-19 28TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
Washington DC, USA
IGS, P O Box 1001
Herndon, VA., 22070, USA
- 1989 Sep 4-9 4TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ANALYSIS OF SEISMICITY AND SEISMIC RISK
Bechyne, Czechoslovakia
Dr. Z Schenkova, Geophysical Institute, Bocni II
14131 Prague 4, CZECHOSLOVAKIA