International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior

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NEWSLETTER No. 28 -MARCH 1991

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

As the Vienna General Assembly approaches and preparations are proceeding, I would like to remind those who receive this Newsletter, particularly National Correspondents, that they should make every effort to ensure that information in the Newsletter is distributed as widely as possible among their colleagues. You will see from the Association accounts published here, that we keep our administrative costs very low, in order to support scientific activities to the fullest extent. We therefore do not distribute the Newsletter directly to all interested scientists, but rely on recipients to pass information to colleagues.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Vienna.

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R D Adams Secretary-General

OBITUARY - ACADEMICIAN V.V. BELOUSSOV

We were all saddened to learn of the death, on 25 December 1990, of Professor V V Beloussov, an earth scientist of the broadest interests and vision. For many years he played a leading role in international and Soviet geophysics, being largely responsible for the International Geophysical year (1959-61), and also President of the Soviet Geophysical Committee. He was President of IUGG from 1960 to 1963, and about this time was also the leader of several Unesco-sponsored missions to evaluate seismological requirements in developing areas.

His wise and friendly influence will be missed throughout the geophysical community.

FLINN AWARD

The American Geophysical Union has established an annual "Flinn Award" in memory of Edward A Flinn, who died so tragically in 1989. The award is to recognise those "unsung" people who through their roles as facilitators and co-ordinators contribute to the advancement of geophysical research. Ted Flinn, in his life and work, exemplified this concept by his dedication to the ideal of AGU's motto, "unselfish cooperation in research". The first Flinn Award will be presented at the AGU's 1991 Spring Meeting.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY, VIENNA 11 - 24 AUGUST 1991

The Third Circular, with details of all sessions and convenors, is now available. Please note that the Local Organizing Committee has moved from Vienna, and its address is now:

> IUGG 91 Local Organizing Committee c/- Prof. H Sünkel Dept of Mathematical Geodesy Steyrergasse 30 A-8010 GRAZ AUSTRIA Tel: +43 316 873 6346 Fax: +43 316 813247 Telex: 311221 TUGRZ A

The official organizer for travel, accommodation and registration is:

AUSTROPA Box 30 A1010 Vienna AUSTRIA Tel: +43 222 588 00/0 Fax: +43 222 568533 Telex: 111 222

The/date for receipt of abstracts was 1 March 1991, but any enquiries about late abstracts should be addressed to the convenor of the session concerned, or to:

> Dr B Hofmann-Wellenhof Institute of Applied Geodesy Steyrergasse 30 A-8010 Graz AUSTRIA

Full details of IASPEI scientific sessions have been circulated in Newsletter 27, as well as being contained in the Third Circular. Please note that the address of the convenor of Symposium 8 "Heat Flow", Rock Mechanics and Seismicity" is:

> Prof. G Ranalli, Institut fuer Mineralogie und Petrographie ETH-Zentrum CH-8002 Zurich SWITZERLAND

and not the Canadian address given in the Third Circular.

BUSINESS SESSIONS

IASPEI will hold two open Plenary Sessions during the Assembly, at which all intersted scientists are welcome, but in the event of voting being necessary on administrative matters, only accredited national representatives will be allowed to vote.

Under our statutes any matter may be discussed with the agreement of a majority of those present, but preliminary agendas are as follows:

First Plenary Session, Monday 12 Aug. a.m.

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

The meeting will be followed by an Association Lecture - details of which will be announced later.

Second Plenary Session, Wednesday 21 Aug., evening

President's Report Secretary-General's Report Discharge of Accounts Relations with IUGG Relations with Unesco Association Activities: Commission Activities and Structure African Working Group IDNDR ISOP Publications Future Activities and Assemblies Election of Officers for 1991-1995 Appointment of Representatives Other Business Adoption of Resolutions

The first session on the opening morning will comprise a minimum of administrative activity and will primarily be dedicated to the Presidential Address, followed by the Association lecture.

The second session on the Wednesday evening of the second week, will be the main business session at which the Association's past activities and future plans will be discussed. The election of officers will also take place at this meeting. A Nominating Committee, already set up, will put forward proposals for officers. The Committee comprises: Prof. Z Suzuki (Chairman), Prof. H Berckhemer, Prof. B A Bolt, Prof. A D Gvishiani and Prof. E G Kausel. Those wishing to make suggestions should contact a member of the committee either before the Assembly or during its early part.

IUGG CHRONICLE

After 33 years, Georges Laclavere has relinquished the post of Editor of IUGG Chronicle. Throughout this time he has produced a complete and valuable record of the activities and achievements of the Union and its Associations, for which we are all grateful. The editorship has been taken over by the present Secretary-General of IUGG, Professor Paul Melchior, and all further correspondence relating to the Chronicle should from now on be sent to him at the Royal Observatory, Brussels.

IASPEI 1991 SEISMOLOGICAL TABLES

These new tables, designed for use in global earthquake location and seismic phase association, have been developed from the work of the IASPEI Subcommission on Earthquake Algorithms with support from IASPEI, Unesco and the U.S. Air Force Geophysical Laboratory. The Editor and Compiler is Prof. B L N Kennett.

The tables are derived from a radially stratified velocity model iasp91, which is represented in parametric form as polynomials in radius. They are published as a 170 page book, by the Research School of Earth Sciences, Australian National University, and comprise:

- (i) Travel time tables at 1° intervals for P and S out to 125°, at a range of depths from 0 to 700km, and tables for PcP, ScS, ScP, PKP, SKS, SKP for appropriate distance ranges.
- ii) Differential time tables at 1° intervals for pP-P, sP-P, sS-S, pS-S.
- iii) Summary tables giving expected phases with times and slowness at 2° intervals from 0 to 180°, and a range of depths.
- iv) Ellipticity Correction Tables at 5° intervals for main phases, and a range of depths derived from the 1976 formulation of Dziewonski and Gilbert.
- v) The iasp91 velocity model in parametric form.

The book is available at a price of A\$14 (mailing A\$5 surface, A\$9 airmail), from: Bibliotech, ANUtech Pty Ltd., G.P.O. Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2601, Australia. Fax: +61 6 257 5088. Payment by major credit cards is accepted.

These tables will be subject to careful study and experimental use before the Vienna Assembly, where they will be discussed fully by the Subcommission on Algorithms and other appropriate groups.

STUDY OF THE EARTH'S DEEP INTERIOR

The Union SEDI Committee will hold a meeting at the Vienna Assembly on the evening of Monday, 19 August, following the Union Symposium U6, Dynamics of the Earth's Deep Interior and Earth Rotation. The meeting will discuss current and planned activities and elect new officers for 1991-1995.

SEDI has continued to prosper since its formation in 1987, and has arranged symposia at Blanes, Spain in June 1988, Exeter, UK in July 1989 and at Santa Fe, New Mexico in August 1990. These meetings have been of broad scientific interest, cutting across the usual scientific divisions between the Union's Associations. The Santa Fe meeting is reported in EOS of 5 February, 1991, which reviews the main topics discussed:

- . the main geomagnetic field
- . structure of the core and lower mantle
- . mineral physics
- . paleomagnetic secular variation
- . core-mantle coupling and length of the day
- . core surface fields and motions
- . core dynamics and geodynamic theory

A further symposium is being planned for the middle of 1992 in Japan with the suggested topic "Lateral heterogeneity of the transition between core and mantle".

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