



December 2007

Visit the IASPEI Web-page: www.iaspei.org

**Best Wishes to all of the IASPEI family for a healthy and
prosperous New Year 2008!**

"X"
"XXX"
"GOD JUL"
"BUON ANNO"
"FELIZ NATAL"
"JOYEUX * NOEL"
"VESELE * VANOCE"
"MELE * KALIKIMAKA"
"NODLAG SONA DHUIT"
"BLWYDDYN NEWYDD DDA"
BOAS FESTAS
"FELIZ NAVIDAD"
"MERRY CHRISTMAS"
"KALA CHRISTOUGENA"
"VROLIJK KERSTFEEST"
"FROHLICHE WEIHNACHTEN"
"BUON NATALE-GODT NYTAR"
"HUAN YING SHENG TAN CHIEH"
"WESOLYCH SWIAT-SRETAN BOZIC"
"MOADIM LESIMHA-LINKSMU KALEDU"
"HAUSKAA JOULUA-AID SAID MOUBARK"
"N PRETTIG KERSTMIS"
"ONNZLLISTA UUTTA VUOTTA"
"Z ROZHDESTYOM KHRYSTOVYM"
"NADOLIG LLAWEN-GOTT NYTT SAR"
"FELIC NADAL-GOJAN KRISTNASKON"
"S NOVYM GODOM-FELIZ ANO NUEVO"
"GLEDILEG JOL-NOELINIZ KUTLU OLSUM"
"EEN GELUKKIG NIEUWJAAR-SRETAN BOZIC"
"KRIHSTLINDJA GEZUAR-KALA CHRISTOUGENA"
"SELAMAT HARI NATAL - LAHNINGU NAJU METU"
"SARBATORI FERICITE-BUON ANNO"
"ZORIONEKO GABON-HRISTOS SE RODI"
"BOLDOG KARACSONNY-VESELE VIANOCE"
"MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR"
"ROOMSAID JOULU PUHI-KUNG HO SHENG TEN"
"FELICES PASUAS EIN GLUEKLICHES NEUJAHR"
"PRIECIGUS ZIEMAN SVETKUS SARBATORI VESELE"
"BONNE ANNE VESEL BOZIC IN SRECNO NOVO LETO"
XXXXX
XXXXX

Sincerely, on behalf of all the IASPEI Executive,

Peter Suhadolc IASPEI Secretary-General

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1. Refurbished IASPEI website and new webmaster!

After about 15 years of service our webmaster Eric Bergman, has decided to quit its service for IASPEI. I would like to express him, on behalf of the whole IASPEI community, our sincere thanks for his long service:
"Thanks a lot Eric, well done!"

Our new webmaster is now Alice B. Walker from Edinburgh, Scotland (UK). Many of you will certainly remember her as the efficient ESC Assistant secretary. Thanks Alice, for taking over this important task!

Alice has already started to refurbish the IASPEI website, as you have certainly noticed. More changes and additions are due to come in 2008. With her help we aim at maintaining the website constantly updated. But she needs YOUR input, so please send me reports, files, news and anything you deem might be interesting to the seismological community. We will send the information via our Newsletter and post it on the website.

For the time being the website will continue to be hosted in the USA with the same URL: **www.iaspei.org**

**2. Commission on Seismological Observation and Interpretation
Update on Working and Task groups**

TG on Scattering and Heterogeneity
Chair: Haruo Sato (Japan)

WG on Reference Events For Improved Locations
Co-Chairs: Paul Richards (USA) & Robert Engdahl (USA)

WG on Magnitude Measurements

Chair: James Dewey (USA)

WG on Updating Manual of Seismological Observatory Practice

Chair: Peter Bormann (Germany)

WG on Triggered and Induced seismicity

Chair: Stanislaw Lasocki (Poland)

WG on Seismological Archives

Chair: Roger W.M. Musson (UK)

WG on Historical Seismology

Co-Chairs: Paola Albini (Italy) & Katsuhiko Ishibashi (Japan)

WG on Networks and Stations Codes

Chair: Avi Shapira (Israel)

WG on reporting Seismic Phase Weights

Chair: Lars Ottemöller (UK)

WG on Default Depths

Chair: Maiclaire Bolton (Canada)

WG on Definition of Authoritative Locations

Chair: Remy Bossu (France)

3. In Memoriam

Mikhail Vasiljevich Nevsky (3.04.1945 – 29.09.2007)

Mikhail Vasiljevich Nevsky, an outstanding Russian seismologist, passed away in Moscow on 29 September 2007. He was born in a small village in Kirgizia on 3 April 1945 to a family of a Russian geologist. His father was exploring metal deposits in Tjen-Shan. Samples of mercury were kept under his cradle. Later the family lived in Moscow. After finishing a secondary school in 1963 Mikhail entered the Geological Department of Moscow State University.

M.V.Nevsky graduated from the University in 1968 and continued his study at the Chair of Geophysics as a post-graduate student in the field of seismic prospecting. Professor A. M. Epinatjeva, a recognized expert in seismic prospecting in Russia and abroad, was his supervisor in this period.

The first serious scientific work of Nevsky was devoted to anisotropy of sedimentary rocks. During his post-graduate study Nevsky carried out a thorough investigation of extensive experimental data sets, suggested new techniques in field observations and solutions to direct and inverse problems of wave propagation in transversally-

isotropic media. His PhD thesis later evolved into a book "Quasi-anisotropy of seismic wave velocities" which was awarded the highest Lomonosov Prize for the young scientists of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Since 1975 Nevsky was working in close cooperation with Professor A.V.Nikolaev, correspondent member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, a recognized Russian geophysicist. Nevsky concentrated his efforts on the detailed study of fine structure of seismic wave-fields and their space and time variations related to stress and strain changes in real geophysical media. Together with the colleagues Nevsky laid the basis of seismic observations at small-aperture arrays in Russia. He developed new methods of estimation of scattering and attenuation properties based on new, statistical models of geophysical media, so called "random media", with irregularly distributed inhomogeneity. Nevsky was one of the main authors of the National Program of Seismic Observations and Earthquakes Forecast in Russian Federation in the middle of 80-s last century.

Starting from 1977, M.V.Nevsky actively participated in joint Russian-American Research Program on Earthquakes Forecast. He collected an exclusive dataset of arrivals of seismic waves from controlled industrial explosions recorded by dense seismic networks of US Geological Survey in Central and Southern California. This study reliably proved the existence of long-period waves of deformation along active faults. Later he continued his studies in different regions of the world and evaluated the speed of propagation of such slow of waves of deformation of up to several kilometers per year. In 1996 he received his Doctor's degree.

M.V.Nevsky has been working in the Schmidt Institute of Physics of the Earth since 1971. He was an academic secretary and later a deputy director of the Institute for many years. At the end of 80-s' last century he has been elected by chairman of the Section of seismology and physics of the Earth's interior of the National Geophysical Committee of Russian Academy of Sciences. Nevsky actively participated in the work of scientific councils and editorial boards of the Academy.

The style of his scientific work was exceptional. He was a person of encyclopedic learning, very scrupulous in selecting experimental data, careful in making assumptions and exact in making conclusions. His writing was clear, elegant and complete. He was the author of more than 150 scientific publications, including monographs, and numerous scientific National reports.

Nevsky was a wise administrator. He knew everyone of the staff by name, he knew their work in detail. His friends and colleagues loved and respected him for his attention to people and eagerness to help.

Mikhail Nevsky had sharp ironic mind. He was gifted in many aspects: he was a clever narrator, loved poetry and painted lovely landscapes in water-colors. For many of us he was a teacher in science and a true scientific leader. He will never be replaced.

Alexey Zavyalov

4. News in short

Motion of the European Parliament on "The Regional Impact of Earthquakes"

The European Parliament adopted on 14 November 2007 the report by Nikos Vakalis on "The Regional Impact of Earthquakes". This is the first text adopted by a European Institution which is exclusively dedicated to the phenomenon of earthquakes and proposes a series of regulatory and financial measures at prevention, response and remedy levels.

The report (pdf file) is available upon request from the Office of Nikos Vakalis MEP <nvakalis@nvakalis.gr> and will be posted on the IASPEI website soon.

5. FORTHCOMING MEETINGS (2008)

Evison Symposium on Seismogenesis and Earthquake Forecasting 18-22 February 2008, Wellington, New Zealand

You are cordially invited to participate in this meeting, which will honour the pioneering contribution that Professor Frank Evison (1922-2005) made to the fields of long-term seismogenesis and earthquake forecasting.

LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE: David Rhoades, Matt Gerstenberger, Euan Smith, Martha Savage and David Vere-Jones
E-mail: Evison.Symposium@gns.cri.nz
Website: <http://www.gns.cri.nz/evisonsymposium/>

European Geosciences Union (EGU 2008) 13-18 April 2008, Vienna, Austria

The EGU General Assembly will be held again at the congress centre Austria Center Vienna (ACV) in Vienna, Austria, from 13 to 18 April 2007. The EGU General Assembly will bring together geoscientists from all over Europe and the rest of the world into one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences. Especially for young scientists the EGU appeals to provide a forum to present their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geosciences. The EGU is looking forward to cordially welcome you in Vienna!

Deadline for Receipt of Abstracts: **14 January 2007**
Website: <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2008>

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING AND
DISASTER MITIGATION (ICEEDM08)
April, 14-15, 2008, Jakarta, Indonesia**

Organised by: Indonesian Earthquake Engineering Association. The ICEEDM08 Conference is an opportunity to share views and experiences regarding lessons learned from recent and past earthquakes, enabling all scientists and practicing engineers, including government officials to formulate action plans for anticipating future earthquakes.

THEME AND TOPICS

The main theme of the conference is: Earthquake Disaster Risk Reduction: Engineering Challenges after Recent Disasters. The topics include the followings:

- Probabilistic & Deterministic Seismic Hazard Assessment
- Seismic Zonation and Microzonation
- Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering
- Soil-Structure Interaction
- Performance-Based Design
- Case Histories in Recent Earthquakes
- Case Histories in Earthquake Engineering Design and Construction
- Tsunami Modeling and Tsunami Early Warning System
- Seismic and Tsunami Disaster Mitigation & Management
- Retrofit, Rehabilitation, and Reconstruction
- Non-Engineered Buildings
- Community-Based Disaster Risk Management

E-mail: iceedm08@si.itb.ac.id

Website: <http://www.si.itb.ac.id/iceedm08>.

**The 2008 Annual Meeting of the Seismological Society of America (SSA 2008)
April 16-18, 2008, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA**

This year's meeting is being hosted by Los Alamos National Laboratory in cooperation with other Rio Grande institutions including New Mexico Tech, Sandia National Laboratory and University of Texas at El Paso.

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline

11 January 2008

Program w/ Abstracts Online

22 February 2008

Meeting Pre-registration Deadline

14 March 2008

Hotel Reservation Cut-Off

23 March 2008

Online Registration Cut-Off

6 April 2008

Abstracts are now being accepted. Submit online at <http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/2008/absub/> until January 11, 2008.

For a listing of special sessions please visit
<http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/2008/specialsessions.html>.

**AGU Joint Assembly
27-30 May 2008, Fort Lauderdale, Florida**

The Joint Assembly will be 26-30 May 2008 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and will continue to build on the theme of 'A Meeting of the Americas'. This theme is to promote cooperative efforts among the AGU and other scientific societies in the Americas. As such, we encourage sessions focusing on scientific topics of current interest, particularly to the Americas. The Assembly is typically a moderate-sized meeting that allows for a higher fraction of oral presentations than can typically be accommodated at the AGU Fall Meeting. The Program Committee is developing a Union-wide science program that will cover topics in all areas of geophysical sciences. Located in sunny Florida, the Joint Assembly is sure to offer exciting sessions and a relaxing atmosphere.

General meeting inquiries

E-mail: ja-help@agu.org

Exhibit inquiries:

E-mail: exhibits@agu.org

Website: <http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja08/>

**The 27th IUGG Conference on Mathematical Geophysics
June 15 – 20, 2008, Longyearbyen on Spitsbergen, Norway**

The theme of the meeting is Dynamics in Earth Systems. All researchers using quantitative methods to study evolving Earth systems are invited. Studies that integrate field observations, laboratory experiments and theoretical models are especially welcome. Particular focus will be given to physical problems where new quantitative theories offer the possibility of significant progress in our understanding of environmental processes. These problems include fracture, ranging from ice sheets to earthquakes; geophysical fluid dynamics, ranging from internal and surface flows to oceanic and atmospheric dynamics; and physical aspects of the Earth's biological, chemical, and climatic evolution.

Contact: Hilde Lynnebakken, hilde.lynnebakken@fys.uio.no .

Seismix2008

June 8-13, 2008, Saariselkä, Finland

The symposium will be held in Saariselkä, north of the Arctic Circle at latitude 68° 25' N in the Finnish Lapland. More information can be found in the first circular of the meeting: www.seismo.helsinki.fi/seismix

We would be grateful if you could also fill the preliminary registration form while visiting the web site. Welcome !

Contact persons: Dr. Pekka Heikkinen <pekka.j.heikkinen@helsinki.fi>

Prof. Ilmo T.Kukkonen <ilmo.kukkonen@gtk.fi>

MERCEA'08

2008 Seismic Engineering International Conference commemorating the 1908 Messina and Reggio Calabria Earthquake July 08-11, 2008 – Messina and Reggio Calabria – Italy

The 2008 Seismic Engineering International Conference commemorating the 1908 Messina and Reggio Calabria Earthquake (MERCEA'08) will be held in Reggio Calabria, Italy, from July 8 to 11, 2008. The Conference will provide an international forum for specialists, researchers and practising engineers to discuss the latest research results and technologies in the field of earthquake engineering and geotechnics.

TOPICS

1. The 1908 Messina and Reggio Calabria earthquake
2. Site characterisation, microzonation and site effects
3. Soil liquefaction and liquefaction countermeasures
4. Slopes, embankments, dams and waste fills
5. Foundations, and soil-structure interaction
6. Earth retaining structures and Geosynthetics
7. Codes and guidelines
8. Structural engineering
9. Emerging technologies
10. Numerical methods
11. Passive protection devices and seismic isolation
12. Advanced technologies in construction and retrofit of structures
13. Seismic risk
14. Stochastic methods
15. Structural safety and reliability
16. Structural dynamics

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Abstracts should be submitted by email (in plain text, Microsoft Word or PDF) to mercea08@unirc.it no later than December 31, 2007.

IMPORTANT DATES

December 31, 2007 - Deadline for abstract submission

January 15, 2008 – Acceptance notification

March 1, 2008 – Deadline for full paper submission and early registration

CONTACT

MERCEA'08 Secretariat: Domenico Giofrè, Maria Clorinda Mandaglio, Francesco Nucera

c/o Dipartimento di Meccanica e Materiali – Facoltà di Ingegneria – Feo di Vito – 89122 Reggio Calabria - Italy

Email: mercea08@unirc.it

Website <http://www.mercea08.org>

**33rd International Geological Congress
August 8-14, 2008, Oslo, Norway**

We encourage you to submit abstracts and attend the 33rd IGC meeting in Oslo, Norway. *Please, notice that the abstract submission fee 20 EUR per submitted abstract will increase to 40 EUR per abstract after January 1, 2008.* Among others we would like to draw your attention to the following symposium:

**EIL-06 Seismic anisotropy and rheology of the crust and mantle
Convenors: Jaroslava Plomerova, Martha Savage, Thorsten Becker, Vadim Levin**

Relative motion of rock masses, both past and ongoing, are at the heart of our understanding of the way our planet behaves. One of the few indicators of rock deformation caused by large-scale motions deep within the Earth is the directional dependence (anisotropy) of seismic wave speed. Many modern studies of the Earth's structure address the issues of where seismic anisotropy is seen, what are the parameters of directional dependence, and what that means in terms of Earth's interior dynamics. As our ability to resolve anisotropic structure and to simulate the processes of rock deformation in computer models are rapidly improving, the study of seismic anisotropy and its implications is evolving, becoming progressively more quantitative. At the same time, an improved understanding of anisotropic texture-formation mechanisms for different conditions makes interpretation of seismic anisotropy indicators more challenging. This section seeks contributions on the state of the art in resolving details of seismic anisotropy at depth; predicting likely effects of anisotropy on seismological observables; and comprehensive interpretations of seismic anisotropy in terms of past and present deformation at depth.

Information for this symposium: Jaroslava Plomerova, jpl@ig.cas.cz
Website: www.33igc.org

9th Workshop on 3D Modelling of Seismic Waves Generation

**22 September - 4 October 2008, The Abdus Salam International
Centre for Theoretical Physics - Trieste, Italy**

Scientists and students from all countries which are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA may attend the activity. Participants must have an adequate working knowledge of English. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries, a limited number of students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend. There is no registration fee to be paid.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

May be requested only by candidates who are nationals of, and working in, a developing country, and who are not more than 45 years old.

Limited funds are available for a few participants, to be selected by the Organizers, and who accept to attend the entire activity.

REQUEST FOR PARTICIPATION

The Application Form (available at smr1965@ictp.it) should be completed and returned before **28 May 2008** either by e-mail to: smr1965@ictp.it

Please save and send file attachments in either PDF (preferably) or RTF zipped or Doc format

or by regular mail or courier posted to:

Workshop on Three-Dimensional Modelling of Seismic Waves Generation (smr 1965 c/o Ms. G. De Meo)

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics

Strada Costiera 11, 34014 Trieste, Italy

IMPORTANT:

The ICTP will process the application form only if duly filled in all its parts. It cannot process any visa request, unless all requested personal data are provided. Recent photograph and signature of the candidate are compulsory.

ACTIVITY SECRETARIAT

Telephone: +39-040 2240 355

Fax: +39-040 2240 585

E-mail: smr1965@ictp.it

ActivityWebsite: <http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?1965>

ICTP Home Page: <http://www.ictp.it/>

12th IACMAG conference

GEOMECHANICS IN THE EMERGING SOCIAL & TECHNOLOGICAL AGE

October 1-6, 2008, Goa, India

Websiste: www.12iacmag.com

4th International TOPO-EUROPE Workshop

October, 5-7, 2008, Euroforum Infantes, El Escorial (Madrid), Spain.

The aim of the workshop is to provide an open forum for science on the feed-backs between deep Earth and surface processes. As many of you know a number of projects, funded in the context of the ESF Eurocores TOPO-EUROPE, will start in 2008. In the meantime a lot of national programs and preparations for TOPO-EUROPE research in broadest sense are underway. The TOPO-EUROPE workshop in Madrid will enable to promote cross fertilisation and coordination of projects and ideas, as well as serving as a platform for planning the next steps in the long-term TOPO-EUROPE research agenda.

Main topics to be addressed include:

- Modelling of tectonic-climate interactions
- European topography during the Pliocene
- Quantification of land subsidence and uplift in intraplate domains
- Non-inverted rift intraplate ranges
- Global Alpine-Himalayan orogenic system analysis
- Topography evolution from basin infilling analysis and river tectonics.
- Coupled lithosphere and surface processes
- Topo-Iberia

- Topo-Wecep

Location:

The workshop will be held in the Euroforum Infantes (<http://www.euroforum.es/>), in El Escorial (<http://www.sanlorenzoturismo.org/ingles/default2.htm>), close to the San Lorenzo de El Escorial Palace (Constructed by Philip the 2nd). It is 56 km from Madrid with buses and trains every half hour (<http://escorial.banesto.euociber.com/i9700020.htm>) on the 6th and the 7th of October. Participants are invited to arrive for a buffet the 5th in the evening. A geo-intraplate field trip in the Spanish Central System is organized for the 8th. We look forward to a pleasant and fruitful meeting!

Further details on the meeting program will be provided in the 2nd circular which will be send out in early January.

Please confirm your attendance by returning by e-mail to Gerardo de Vicente gdv@geo.ucm.es, the enclosed expression of interest for your participation.

Expression of interest:

Name:

E-mail:

Is interested in participation Yes No

Field trip participation Yes No

Preliminary Title of presentation:

Contact persons:

Sierd Cloetingh: sierd.cloetingh@falw.vu.nl

Gerardo de Vicente (contact): gdv@geo.ucm.es

Alfonso Muñoz-Martín: amunoz@geo.ucm.es

**14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering (14WCEE)
October 12-17, 2008, Beijing, China**

Secretariat: c/o Chinese Association of Earthquake Engineering

9 Xuefu Road, Harbin 150080, China

Tel: +86-451-86652900

Fax: +86-451-86652651

Email: secretariat@14wcee.org

URL: <http://www.14wcee.org>

<http://www.14wcee.com>

<http://www.14wcee.net>

**NEW CHALLENGES IN EARTHQUAKE DYNAMICS: OBSERVING AND
MODELLING A MULTI-SCALE SYSTEM**

ESF-FWF Conference in Partnership with LFUI

18 - 23 October, Obergurgl, Austria

Closing date for applications: 22 June

Information: European Science Foundation - ESF Conferences Unit

Email: conferences@esf.org

Website: www.esf.org/conferences