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IUGG Annual Report for 2008

The IUGG Annual Report provides a summary of the activities of the Union, IUGG Associations and Union and Inter-Unions Commissions. Thanks to the input from the Associations and Commissions, the 2008 IUGG Annual Report is now completed and posted on the IUGG web-page:

<http://www.iugg.org/publications/reports/report2008.pdf>

We invite you to download this impressive summary of last year's activities.

Nomination Committee 2011 IASPEI General Assembly, Melbourne

The IASPEI Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the IASPEI President, has approved the following names for the IASPEI Nominating Committee member list.

- Bob Engdahl (Chairperson, USA)
- Soren Gregerson (Denmark)
- Kiyoshi Suyehiro (Japan)
- Raoul Madariaga (France)
- David Rhodes (New Zealand)
- Gennady Sobolev (Russia)

Nominations must be sent directly to the e-mail address of the Chairperson: bob.engdahl@gmail.com

International Scientific Studies project

To evaluate the capability and readiness of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty's verification regime

Hofburg Imperial Palace, Vienna, Austria
10 to 12 June 2009

The International Scientific Studies Conference - ISS-2009 Conference - will evaluate the capability and readiness of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty's (CTBT) verification regime to detect nuclear explosions worldwide. It will also address relevant



FOREWORD

After our successful IASPEI 2009 Scientific Assembly in Cape Town, we are looking forward to a good co-operation with CTBTO during the International Scientific Studies

Project to be held in Vienna; details on the right.

I am still sending out the Newsletter as an attachment to an e-mail, trying to limit its size. It can also be downloaded from the IASPEI website:

<http://www.iaspei.org/newsletters/newsletters.html>

The website also has special pages on the Cape Town Assembly including abstracts, Plenary and Keynote lectures, Resolutions and a photo-gallery (www.iaspei.org/cape_town_2009/cape_town_2009.html).

The IASPEI Newsletter is distributed to National Correspondents and other national representatives we know of, to all IASPEI officers, to IASPEI scientists who attended recent IASPEI Assemblies, and to various research organisations in countries around the world.

Peter Suhadolc
Secretary General

scientific and technical developments since the Treaty opened for signature in 1996.

Participation: The Conference is open to diplomats, officials, scientists, representatives from non-governmental organizations and the media.

Scope and themes: The Conference is being organized by the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) and will consist of: **plenary sessions, keynote speaking sessions, panel discussion sessions, thematic presentation sessions, poster sessions and exhibitions.**

ISS-2009 will address all aspects of the Treaty's verification regime and its ability to detect and locate observed events, including the International Monitoring System and the on-site inspection regime.

The following topic areas will be discussed:

1. Seismology
2. Hydroacoustics
3. Infrasound
4. Radionuclide
5. Atmospheric Transport Modelling
6. On-site inspections including geophysical exploration and radionuclide techniques
7. System Performance
8. Data mining and exploitation

Scientific Panel: The ISS Scientific Panel consists of Coordinators who are responsible for overseeing the work undertaken within the above topic areas. They will also review the scientific contributions submitted. The Coordinators for Seismology are: Prof. Wu Zhongliang and Prof. Barbara Romanowicz.

Programme summary:

Day 1: Overview of scientific developments since 1996 and their implications for the CTBT's capability.

Day 2: In-depth discussions of contributed scientific studies.

Day 3: Looking ahead in connecting the CTBTO with Science. Discussions will focus on the themes of: how science can be applied to promote security, science and technology foresight, global capacity building, and scientific and civil applications of CTBT-related data and knowledge.

A draft programme can be found at: www.iaspei.org/meetings/forthcoming.html#issp

Language: The official language of the Conference is English.

Registration: Participants are encouraged to register by **15 May 2009. No registration fee is charged.** Limited funds are available on request to help meet the cost of attendance.

Accepted abstracts: Authors of accepted abstracts will be requested to make their full papers available at the Conference. The scientific papers will be published in scientific journals according to the praxis of the individual journals. Presentations made at the Conference will be summarized in a special publication that will also include a compilation of the one page abstracts in the form of an annex.

More information: Further information on the ISS-2009 Conference, including a preliminary agenda, hotel accommodation details and other administrative information, will be available at the CTBTO web site at: www.ctbto.org

**ISS-2009 Conference Contacts:
Provisional Technical Secretariat
of the Preparatory Commission for the CTBTO**

Address: P.O. Box 1200, 1400 Vienna, Austria

Telephone: +43 (1) 260306509

Telefax: +43 (1) 260305989

Conference webpage: www.ctbto.org

Contact address: iss@ctbto.org

Bids open for 2013 IASPEI Scientific Assembly

The bidding for the IASPEI 2013 Scientific Assembly is open and we invite all IASPEI National Correspondents and officers to send suggestions and expressions of interest to the IASPEI Secretary General (suhadolc@units.it). The last 3 meetings were held in Vietnam, Chile and South Africa. Is it time to have one again in Europe or North America?

Perhaps we could have a joint meeting with another IUGG Association?

In Memoriam Jörg Ansorge (1935–2008)



Professor Dr. rer. nat. Jörg Ansorge passed away quietly at his home in Bachenbülach near Zürich, Switzerland on November 22, 2008 after a short severe and incurable illness.

Jörg was born on October 8, 1935 at Königsberg (then Germany, now Russia). His family soon moved to Berlin and later to Stuttgart. Towards the end of WW II their house burned down in an air raid, and therefore the family with Jörg as the oldest of four children was evacuated to villages in the Swabian Jura, very close to the Steinheimer Becken meteor crater (which was not known to be one at that time). There Jörg went to

elementary school. Later the family moved near Esslingen close to Stuttgart, where Jörg finished secondary school in 1956.

The same year he started studying physics at the Institute of Technology in Stuttgart, later named University, and in 1964 received his diploma in physics. His thesis with the title "Model Seismic Investigations of Inhomogeneous Wave Fronts" was supervised by Professors Hans Berckhemer and Wilhelm Hiller at the State Earthquake Service of Baden-Württemberg, later integrated into the new Institute of Geophysics at the University.

There followed one year of advanced studies at Columbia University and the Lamont-Doherty Geophysical Observatory under Professors Maurice Ewing and Lee Alsop.

On his return from USA in 1965 he started work as a Research Scientist at the newly-founded Institute of Geophysics at the University of Karlsruhe under its director Professor Stephan Müller. His main responsibilities were the logistics of explosion seismic profiles in Central Europe, especially the Alps, and research on the seismic structure of the crust and upper mantle based on these experiments. He also was engaged (with Professor of Geodesy Hermann Mälzer) in the planning and construction of the renowned Black Forest Observatory near Schiltach. Incidentally, during this period he returned to the Steinheimer Becken for geophysical surveys.

In 1972 he followed Stephan Müller to the Institute of Geophysics at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule in Zürich (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology), where he worked until his retirement in 2000. His responsibility was mainly the research and organisation of long-range deep seismic sounding experiments.

In 1975 he received his Doctor of Natural Sciences with a dissertation on "Die Feinstruktur des Obersten Erdmantels unter Europa und dem mittleren Nordamerika" at the University of Karlsruhe.

He was a leading figure in the following three big projects, among others:

- The European Geotraverse 1982 - 1992, a transeuropean geophysical profile running from the North Cape to Tunisia with participation of scientists from many European countries.
- Explosion seismic studies of the structure beneath the Alps (1970 – 1992).
- EUROPROBE: an international project for the study of the structure and dynamics of the crust and lithosphere in Europe (1994 – 2005).

From 1978 to 1979 Jörg spent a very rewarding stay as visiting scientist at the University of Utah at Salt

Lake City with Professors Robert B. Smith and David Chapman.

Jörg was always engaged in teaching and the supervision of diploma and dissertation work. Under his guidance more than 20 students successfully finished their theses. He led the geophysical field training courses at ETH Zürich and held special lectures there and at the University of Bern. In recognition of his help with the modernisation of the geology curriculum at the University of Bern he was appointed honorary professor at that university.

Jörg was elected to numerous national and international committees, boards, and working groups and acquired a high reputation due to his outstanding ability to moderate discussions of technical and personal aspects. This became very clear from speeches given by colleagues and friends on the occasion of his retirement. He earned the highest respect of all his colleagues and also became a very good friend of many of them. His energy, clear thinking, integrity, candour, genuine interest and curiosity, and unfailing willingness to achieve the best possible results were outstanding and will always be remembered by all who had the pleasure of working with him. The last honorary medal was awarded to him by the Spanish Foundation J. Garcia Sinerez "In gratitude for his continuous assistance, high competence and friendly relationship with the Spanish Geophysical Community during the pioneering crustal studies program in the Geodynamic Project framework". Unfortunately he could not travel any more to Madrid for the celebration in 2008 due to the progressing illness.

Besides his professional career Jörg was a very active mountaineer and spent time on many mountains with hiking, climbing or on skis. He was a leading team member in such groups, and on several occasions he also organised special excursions for groups of Swiss and southern German geophysicists. He greatly enjoyed being in the mountains and everybody with him respected his skills and expertise.

Jörg's fight (together with his wife Adelheid) with his fatal illness aroused admiration in all those visiting him during his last year. He never complained about his situation, which he clearly saw in front of him. He is survived by Adelheid and their sons Christof and Ulrich and daughter Kathrin. We will miss him as a trusted friend and colleague.

Dieter Mayer-Rosa, Zürich and Walter Zürn, Schiltach

Call for nominations for the Beno Gutenberg Medal of the European Geophysical Union

The Beno Gutenberg Medal was first established in 1996 by the European Geophysical Society to honor

the scientific achievements of Beno Gutenberg. It is reserved for individuals in recognition of their outstanding contributions to Seismology. The European Geophysical Union continues to award it once every two years. The deadline for the present round of nominations is May 31, 2009. Information on the nomination process is available at:

<http://www.egu.eu/awards-medals/proposal-and-selection-of-candidates.html>

Job Opportunities

GREEN SCHOLAR / POSTDOCTORAL POSITIONS AT IGPP / SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY- UCSD

The Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) at the University of California San Diego (UCSD) has openings for one or more postdoctoral scientists as Green Scholars. Joint funding from the Green Foundation for Earth Sciences and extramural sources associated with specific research projects is available to support postdoctoral positions in a broad range of research areas in geophysics beginning in the first half of 2009. We will review applications from all subfields of geophysics. Applicants should identify their primary field(s) of interest for postdoctoral research.

The positions are available for one year and are renewable subject to satisfactory performance and availability of funds. Salary will be determined by UCSD, commensurate with qualifications and experience and based on UC salary scales.

Applicants should send a 1-2 page statement of interest and a Resume with the names of at least two references, immigration status, and the expected PhD completion date to:

Green Scholar Selection Committee
c/o Michell Parks

Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics (IGPP)
Scripps Institution of Oceanography
University of California, San Diego
9500 Gilman Drive, MC 0225
La Jolla, CA 92093-0225

Review of applications started on December 1, 2008 and will continue until the positions are filled. The University of California is an equal opportunity / affirmative action employer with a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of diversity.

Joint Inversion of Radio Magnetotelluric data and Dispersion Data from Surface Wave methods (MASW, Ambient Noise Array)

Post Doc Opportunity at the Institute of Engineering
Seismology, Greece

The last few years we have acquired Radio-

Magnetotelluric and Surface Wave Data in a number of sites in order to better reveal the physical properties of the shallow structure for Engineering purposes. We are looking for a Researcher that would like to work on Joint Inversion of these data through a co-operation with our Institute and IFM-GEOMAR, in Germany. The candidate should have experience with analysis of either MT or Surface Waves data. Also, experience with inversion and even better joint inversion along with programming experience, preferably in C++, is desirable.

The position is for 6-12 months and the Researcher should start between May and July this year. More details and the financial details are described in

http://www.itsak-gr.eu/files/MC-TOK_ITSAK-GR_MT-SW.pdf

The deadline for applicants was on the 6th of April but please enquire for possible extensions by writing to:
alekos@itsak.gr

' CRYSTAL2PLATE ' Marie Curie Initial Training Network IN EARTH SCIENCES

In the framework of a newly established research and educational program of the European Community we invite applications of highly motivated individuals for 10 PhD and 2 Postdoc positions starting from September 1st, 2009.

CRYSTAL2PLATE is an interdisciplinary research and training network that aims to advance our understanding on a key question in Earth Sciences, still unsolved 40 years after the establishment of the theory of plate tectonics:

How does mantle convection produces, and is modified by, plate tectonics.

The core of the **CRYSTAL2PLATE** training program is made of cross-disciplinary research projects that address this fundamental question. To attain this objective, CRYSTAL2PLATE research projects will explicitly consider interactions between physical and chemical processes as well as between crystal-scale processes and large-scale dynamics in the mantle.

They will combine case studies in well-chosen target areas with new developments in petrophysics, seismology, geochemistry, and petrology as well as laboratory, theoretical, and numerical modeling of the mantle from the cm- to the global scale. Each project involves at least two different disciplinary approaches and will be co-supervised by senior scientists from different institutions. The high-level training will be completed by thematic short-courses, field trips, workshops, and by personal and career development courses and activities.

The aim of the **CRYSTAL2PLATE** training program is to provide: (1) state-of-the-art concepts and leading-edge techniques essential to study complex natural systems via collaborative research projects, courses, and scientific exchanges within and beyond the

network; (2) essential career-management skills via courses and activities aimed to develop organizational, management, and networking skills; and (3) an understanding of the impact of research results for the private sector and an insight of the enterprise world via exchanges with and visits to associated industrial partners.

The **CRYSTAL2PLATE** network is composed by 7 European research teams internationally recognized for their expertise in complementary fields of Earth Sciences:

- Université de Montpellier 2, France (Coordinator; petrophysics, geochemistry, seismology)
- University of Bristol, UK (seismology, geochemistry)
- ETH Zurich, Switzerland (geodynamical modelling, thermodynamics)
- Laboratoire Fluides, Automatique et Systèmes Thermiques, Orsay, France (fluid mechanics & geodynamics)
- University Roma TRE, Italy (experimental tectonics)
- University of Utrecht, Netherlands (seismology)
- Instituto Andaluz de Ciencias de la Tierra, Granada, Spain (petrology)

A more complete description of the CRYSTAL2PLATE positions and training program, deadlines and online application forms can be found at:

<http://www.gm.univ-montp2.fr/CRYSTAL2PLATE/home.html>

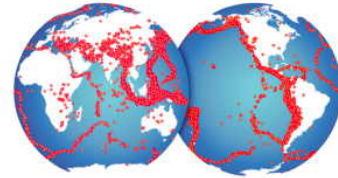
Position at the Swiss Seismological Service ETH Zurich

The Swiss Seismological Service (SED) at the ETH Zurich will renew and modernise the National Strong Motion Network. We solicit applications for a Scientific Researcher with experience in Engineering Seismology and Seismic Instrumentation. The position should be filled by 1 August 2009 (or following discussion). The core duties to be fulfilled include: evaluation and characterisation of strong motion stations using geophysical methods; the design and operation of temporary seismic networks; and the analysis, interpretation and documentation of earthquake recordings. The successful candidate will be part of a team dedicated to the network renewal, and will be responsible for the management and execution of the field measurements and their analysis and interpretation, as well being the contact point with industrial partners. The integration of the scientific issues in the project will play a major role in design of the new network.

The successful candidate will have a PhD in Seismology, Geophysics, Engineering Seismology or a related Engineering discipline. Excellent communication skills are a prerequisite, as is fluency in English, and either German or French. The position will be for 3 years, with possibility of extension. The location will be the ETH Zentrum in Zurich. Complete application documents (CV, certificates, references)

should be sent to Dr. Donat Fäh, faeh@sed.ethz.ch. For additional information on this position, please contact the same address.

GEM: THE GLOBAL EARTHQUAKE MODEL



A PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

GEM FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED

The Global Earthquake Model (GEM) is a five-year public-private initiative with the goal of establishing global independent standards for calculating and communicating earthquake risk worldwide.

The GEM Foundation has been recently established with legal headquarters at the Eucentre Foundation, in Via Ferrata 1, 27100 Pavia, Italy. IASPEI is represented in the GEM Foundation Governing board through its Secretary general, Prof. Peter Suhadolc.

The main purpose of the GEM Foundation is to establish an independent, uniform standard for calculating and communicating earthquake hazard and risk, and to be a critical instrument to support decisions and actions to reduce earthquake losses worldwide. GEM will be a global resource centre for professionals within earthquake risk. This will call for the integration of developments on the forefront of scientific and engineering knowledge of earthquakes, in several modules, including hazard, vulnerability, exposure, economic losses and risk.

An Outreach Meeting of the Global Earthquake Model (GEM) will take place on 8-10 June, 2009, in Munich, Germany.

For more details please see the GEM webpage: <http://www.globalquakemodel.org>

New Book

WAVES AND VIBRATIONS IN SOILS EARTHQUAKES, TRAFFIC, SHOCKS, CONSTRUCTION WORKS

Jean-François Semblat and Alain Pecker
Date of publication: Feb 2009

The main scientific and engineering goal of this book is to deal simultaneously with soil dynamics/vibrations and wave propagation in soils (including seismic

waves). These various fields are generally considered separately and the important links between them, both from scientific and practical points of view, are unfortunately not investigated. They are usually considered in separate disciplines such as earthquake geotechnical engineering, civil engineering, mechanics, geophysics, seismology, numerical modelling, etc. The objective of the book is to offer in a single publication an overview of soil dynamics and wave propagation in soils with emphasis on engineering applications. It starts from a wide variety of practical problems (e.g. traffic induced vibrations, dynamic compaction, vibration isolation), then deals with 1D and 2D/3D wave propagation in heterogeneous and attenuating media (with application to laboratory and in situ dynamic characterization of soils), gives an overview of various numerical methods (e.g. FEM, BEM) to simulate wave propagation (including numerical errors, radiation/absorbing conditions, etc) and finally investigates seismic wave propagation and amplification in complex geological structures (e.g. irregular topographies, alluvial deposits).

Meetings Calendar

A calendar of scientific meetings relevant to the interests of IASPEI scientists is maintained at:

<http://www.iaspei.org/meetings/forthcoming.html>

where more details can be found. We report below just the titles, dates, places and websites of the forthcoming meetings.

The Meeting of the Americas

2009 Joint Assembly

24–27 May 2009, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Session Proposal Submissions Open

Deadline: 05 November 2008

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

International Symposium on Earthquake Seismology and Earthquake Predictability

May 2009, Beijing, China

Website: <http://www.cea-igp.ac.cn/>

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC STUDIES PROJECT

To evaluate the capability and readiness of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty's verification regime, Hofburg Imperial Palace, Vienna, Austria

10 to 12 June 2009, Vienna, Austria

Conference webpage: www.ctbto.org

Contact address: iss@ctbto.org

Seismic Tomography

A NERIES-ORFEUS workshop

July 2-3, 2009, University of Utrecht, The Netherlands

Scientific organisation: Jeannot Trampert and Andrea

Morelli

Registration deadline: June 1, 2009

Abstract submission deadline: June 1, 2009

More information can be found on:

www.neries-eu.org or

www.orfeus-eu.org/Announcements/workshop_utrecht_2009/workshop_utrecht.htm

International Symposium on Earthquake Seismology and Earthquake Predictability

July 5-9, 2009, Beijing China

Abstract submission deadline: May 31 2009

www.cea-igp.ac.cn/English/Symposium/index.htm

From Core to Crust: Towards an Integrated Vision of Earth's Interior

July 20 – 24, 2009, Trieste, Italy

The Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics Organizer(s): Directors: K. Aoudia, S.

Scandolo, J. Niemela

Application deadline: April 30, 2009

Contact E-mail: smr2048@ictp.it

AOGS2009 – 6-th Annual General Meeting

11-15 August 2009, SUNTEC Singapore

Abstract Submission - Opens 15 Jan 2009

Enquiries & Assistance - Please Email

info@asiaoceania.org

Website:

<http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2009/index.asp>

Advanced Workshop on Evaluating, Monitoring and Communicating Volcanic and Seismic Hazards in East Africa

August 17 - 28, 2009, Trieste, Italy.

The Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics.

Organizer(s): Directors: K. Aoudia, E. Calais, C.

Ebinger, T. Wright, G. Yirgu

Application deadline: April 30, 2009

Contact E-mail: smr2053@ictp

Web-Page: <http://www.ictp.it>

The 5th International Symposium on Tibetan Plateau / The 24th Himalaya-Karakorum-Tibet Workshop

11 – 14 August, 2009, Beijing, China

Website: http://www.itpcas.ac.cn/5istp_24hkt

Contact persons: Prof. Zhu, Liping

<lpzhu@itpcas.ac.cn>, Prof. Fang, Xiaomin

<fangxm@itpcas.ac.cn>

Climate Forcing of Geological and Geomorphological Hazards?

15 - 17 September 2009, University College London, UK

The Third Johnston-Lavis Colloquium, on the theme of *Climate Forcing of Geological and Geomorphological Hazards*, will address relationships between past and contemporary climate change and the triggering of hazardous geological and geomorphological phenomena. The meeting is supported by the UK Met

Office, the British Geological Survey, the British Antarctic Survey and UCL and Oxford universities.

SESSIONS

S1. Past climate change and geological and geomorphological hazards

S2. Feedback effects and climate modification

S3. Short time-scale drivers of geological and geomorphological hazards

S4. Climate change forcing of geological and geomorphological hazards

Early-bird registration and abstract deadline:

6 July 2009

Contact email: w.mcguire@ucl.ac.uk

For further information go to: <http://www.abuhrc.org>

International Tsunami Symposium

July 14-17, 2009, Novosibirsk, Russia

The 24th symposium in the row of research symposia organized by the IUGG Tsunami Commission since 1961. The symposium will cover all the basic tsunami science including theoretical, observational, instrumental and operational aspects of this essentially multi-disciplinary problem.

Web-site: <http://tsun.sssc.ru/tsunami2009/>

Deadline for abstracts: April 30, 2009.

2010

2010 AGU Joint Assembly in Brazil

August 8-13, 2010, Iguassu Falls, Brazil

Call for session proposals:

www.geophysics2010.org

Enquiries: Marcelo S. Assumpcao

<marcelo@iag.usp.br>

ESC2010 (European Seismological Commission 2010)

September 5-9, 2010, Montpellier, France

Venue: Corum Conference Centre

Contact: Rémy Bossu (bossu@emsc-csem.org)

XIX Congress of the Carpathian Balkan Geological Association

23-26 September 2010, Thessaloniki, Greece

Web: www.cbga2010.org

Email: info@cbga2010.org

General Information about IASPEI

The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior is one of the eight Associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics [[IUGG](#)].

The other IUGG Associations are:

International Association of Cryospheric Sciences ([IACS](#))

International Association of Geodesy [[IAG](#)]

International Association of Hydrological Sciences [[IAHS](#)]

International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences [[IAMAS](#)]

International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans [[IAPSO](#)]

International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy ([IAGA](#))

International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior [[IAVCEI](#)]

Scientific Assemblies

IASPEI holds an Ordinary General Assembly every four years in conjunction with each Ordinary General Assembly of IUGG. Between the General Assemblies, IASPEI holds a Scientific Assembly, sometimes meeting with one of the other Associations of IUGG.

Participation in IASPEI Activities

IASPEI welcomes all scientists throughout the world to join in research into Seismology. IASPEI is subdivided into a number of Commissions, many of which have working groups for the study of particular subjects in their general areas of interest. On occasion, these internal IASPEI groups issue their own newsletters or circulars and many maintain their own web sites. At the IASPEI Assemblies, the groups organize specialist symposia, invite scholarly reviews and receive contributed papers that present up-to-the-minute results of current research. The IASPEI web site gives, or provides links to, information on the range of IASPEI activities.

The IASPEI Web site

Information on IASPEI can be found at: <http://www.iaspei.org/>

Contacting IASPEI

The Secretary-General is the main point of contact for all matters concerning IASPEI.

Prof Peter Suhadolc

Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra

Universita' di Trieste

Via E. Weiss, 1

I-34127 Trieste, ITALY

E-mail: suhadolc@units.it