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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.

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## IUGG Statement on Freedom to Conduct Science and Responsibilities of Scientists

*Prepared with consultations with IASPEI and the IUGG GeoRisk Commission and adopted by the IUGG Bureau on 28 June 2010.*

The International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) and all of its component bodies adhere to the Principle of the Universality of Science of the International Council for Science (ICSU), which is fundamental to scientific progress. This principle encompasses freedom in relation to (i) expressions of scientific ideas, hypotheses and forecasts, (ii) conduct of research using data, information, experiments and theories, and (iii) communicating scientific results to the public through open publications and scientific conferences. These freedoms are highly valued by the scientific community and generally accepted by governments and policy makers. However, this is not always the case.

For example, recently the L'Aquila (Italy) Prosecutor's Office indicted the members of the Abruzzi region's High Risk Committee for unintended murder in L'Aquila<sup>1,2,3</sup>. The indictment is based on the failure of the Committee to warn the population before the strong earthquake of 6 April 2009 that killed about 300 people. It is shocking and unacceptable to accuse and legally indict scientists and members of a governmental panel because they failed to make a prediction of an extreme natural event in a particular place. No scientist (or official person giving statements based on scientific opinions) should be prosecuted for having expressed a scientific opinion based on the available knowledge, which is always limited. Meanwhile societal stakeholders can use even limited scientific knowledge to benefit society. IUGG

### Foreword



Dear readers,

The Scientific Programme of the IUGG2011 General Assembly in Melbourne is ready and IS posted online. The list of approved UNION and IASPEI-Led Inter-Association

Symposia is reported below.

After some consultation with IASPEI and IUGG GeoRisk Commission, IUGG Bureau has adopted a statement on the Freedom to conduct Science and Responsibilities of Scientists, which applies also on what has happened in L'Aquila.

**Peter Suhadolc**  
Secretary General

Please note:

I am 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>

condemns unacceptable political and judicial interference into scientific issues.

This case shows how society can misuse science for political or other purposes and reflects the urgent necessity of the Earth science community to improve communication with policy makers and the public to explain the limitations of the present scientific knowledge of the Earth and its environment and the limitations on the predictability of extreme natural hazards.

The ICSU Principle of the Universality of Science focuses on scientific rights and freedoms but also emphasizes a number of responsibilities. Scientists have an individual responsibility to conduct their work with honesty, integrity, openness and respect, and a collective responsibility to maximize the benefit and minimize the misuse of science for society as a whole. The primary obligation of scientists is to conduct research, to discover new phenomena, to develop new knowledge, and based on the new knowledge to improve their forecasting capability so as to benefit society. A secondary, but important, obligation is to inform public and societal stakeholders on scientific findings within a reasonable time.

The Statement can be downloaded from the IUGG website: <http://www.iugg.org/about/special.php>

1 Caporale, G., Sottovalutarono il pericolo-terremoto. La Repubblica, 4 June 2010.

2 DeWind, A., Italian seismologists on shaky ground. Geoscientist online, 15 June 2010.

3 Nosengo, N., Italy puts seismology in the dock. Nature, 465, p. 992, 24 June 2010.

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## **IUGG2011 Melbourne, Australia, Scientific Program**

The Scientific Program for the IUGG2011 General Assembly is ready! Proposed Union and Inter-Association Symposia which are IASPEI-led are now defined and approved. I report for your convenience only the related titles and names of lead conveners. The details are already available on the Conference website: <http://www.iugg2011.com/program.asp>

### **UNION SYMPOSIA**

#### **U1- Science & Nuclear Test Ban Monitoring**

Ola Dahlman (Sweden), Zhongliang Wu (China)

#### **U2 - Grand Challenges in Natural Hazards Research and Risk Analysis, Kuni Takeuchi (Japan)**

#### **U3 - Recent Progress in the Studies of the Earth's Deep Interior, Gauthier Hulot (France)**

#### **U4 - Progress and Perspectives in Studies of the Continental Lithosphere, John Dawson (Australia)**

#### **U5 - Data Science / Informatics and Data Assimilation in Geophysical Models, Peter Fox (USA), Charles Barton (Australia)**

#### **U6 - Geoengineering: What are the Potentials for Climate Intervention, Carbon Scrubbing, and other Approaches to Moderate Climate Change and its Impacts? Michael MacCracken (USA), Alan Robock (USA)**

#### **U7 - Mathematical Tools in Geophysical Modelling, Matthias Holschneider (Germany)**

#### **U8 - Global and regional sea-level change, John Church (Australia), Simon Holgate(UK)**

#### **U9 - Do We Really Know the Hydrological Cycle?, Pierre Hubert (France)**

#### **U10 - Climate Change: a 360 degree-view from IUGG Associations, Eigil Friis-Christensen (Denmark)**

#### **U11 - Earth and Space Science in Africa, Charles Barton (Australia)**

#### **U12 - Early Career Scientists in Geophysics, Harsh Gupta (India)**

### **INTERASSOCIATION SYMPOSIA (IASPEI LED)**

#### **JS01 - Advances in Tsunami Science, Warning, and Mitigation, Kenji Satake (Japan)**

#### **JS02 - Heat Flow, Tectonics, and Geothermal Energy, Christoph Clauser (Germany)**

#### **JS03 - Scientific Results from Seafloor Networks, R. Stephen (USA)**

#### **JS04 - Physics and Chemistry of Earth Materials with Implications for Earth Structure and Processes, Hugh O'Neill (Australia)**

#### **JS05 - The Davies mantle: reconciling geophysical and geochemical perspectives, Ian Jackson (Australia)**

#### **JS06 - Tectonic Geodesy and Earthquakes, Jeff Freymueller (USA)**

#### **JS07 - Antarctic and Arctic Research, Ian Allison (Australia)**

**JS08 - Volcano Seismology**, Jurgen Neuberg (UK)

**J-S09 - Electromagnetic Studies of Earthquakes, Active Faulting and Tsunamis (EMSEV session1)**, M. Johnston (USA)

**J-S10 - Electromagnetic studies of active processes using space technology (EMSEV session2)**, M. Parrot (France)

**J-S11 - Imaging and monitoring active volcanoes and geothermal fields by ElectroMagnetic (EM) and other geophysical techniques (EMSEV session3)**, J. Zlotnicki (France)

**J-S12 - Towards short-term earthquake prediction - Electromagnetic and other possible precursors and their generation mechanisms (EMSEV session4)**, T. Nagao (Japan)

at the Rock Deformation Laboratory specializing in deformation of rocks to high strains at high temperatures. Luigi continued exploring the petrophysical properties of rocks, in particular, seismic properties. His fields of interests were the physical and mechanical properties of rocks at high confining and pore pressure, and high temperature, the CO<sub>2</sub> potential storage, the microseismicity recording during dehydration and hydrofracturing of rocks at high P and T, the up-scaling of physical properties and their anisotropy from the lab scale to the scale of geologic formations.

He was principal convener or co-convener of 16 international conferences or conference sessions, and editor or co-editor of 9 conference proceedings volumes. In 12 years he supervised 20 PhD students and published about 70 papers on peer-reviewed scientific journals.

Since 2008 he was Swiss representative for the IASPEI and a member of IUGG.

Luigi was diagnosed with cancer in 2000 and for nine years he fought bravely with recurring bouts of his illness. In the last year of his life he had to fight a new battle against leukemia. His colleagues and friends were stunned by his optimism and determination to continue with his scientific work, many times from the hospital. His loss is keenly felt by his many scientific friends and collaborators around the world.

His memory will live in our hearts!

Alba Zappone, Edi Kissling and Ernie Rutter (ETH)

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## In Memoriam

### Luigi BURLINI (1962-2009)



The Swiss IASPEI correspondent, PhD Luigi Burlini, passed away last December, after a long battle against leukaemia. IASPEI has lost an engaged committee member who until his last days was very active in promoting both IUGG and IUGS activities in Switzerland.

Luigi was born on March 14 1962, in Verbania, Italy. He studied geology at the University of Milan. His PhD work involved measurements of seismic wave velocities in metapelitic rocks from the Ivrea-Verbano complex, with laboratory work at the University of Wyoming, under the supervision of Prof. David Fountain. His study was focused on the link between petrophysical properties and rock deformation. After his PhD, he went to Manchester, UK, to further study the techniques of experimental rock deformation, in particular, the high-temperature plastic deformation of rocks. He returned to Milan on a post-doctoral fellowship, and established a rock mechanics and petrophysics laboratory. In 1997 he was called to ETH Zurich, Switzerland, to lead research

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## Job Opportunities

### ICSU Science Officer (Permanent position)

**Salary:** Euros 40,000–55,000 (net per year before income tax)

**Location:** Paris, France

**Closing date:** 16 August 2010

The International Council for Science (ICSU) is seeking a Science Officer to assist with the planning and implementation of ICSU's initiatives.

ICSU is a non-governmental scientific organization with a global membership. ICSU members include 121 national scientific bodies (mostly national academies of science) covering 141 countries, 30 International Scientific Unions, and 21 International Scientific Associates. Activities focus on three areas: International Research Collaboration; Science for Policy; and Universality of Science. This job offers a unique opportunity for the right candidate to help ICSU

in its mission to strengthen international science for the benefit of society.

The Science Officer will assist with the planning and implementation of ICSU's initiatives, with a focus on sustainability research including global environmental change. Examples of work tasks include support to ICSU committees, interaction with ICSU partners and members, and coordination of international research programmes. The ICSU Secretariat, located in Paris, France, is a small international team of 16 people and the ability to work in close cooperation with others is important.

#### **ICSU is seeking candidates with the following:**

##### *Qualifications and knowledge*

- An advanced scientific degree (preferably Doctorate) in a relevant natural or social science discipline and a further 5 years research or science management experience; and a broad interest in science.
- Demonstrated experience in science project/ programme development and coordination.
- Excellent knowledge of English and preferably some knowledge of French and/or other languages.
- Good working knowledge of MS Office systems, and of electronic databases and Web sites.

##### *Skills*

- Ability to draft reports and summarize scientific information.
- Good organisational skills and the capacity to deliver on allocated tasks and respond in a timely manner to deadlines.
- Positive and constructive attitude.
- Action-orientated and responsible.
- Creative and willing to take initiative.
- Good interpersonal skills and readiness to work within a team environment.

The salary (Euros 40,000–55,000 net per year before income tax) will be dependent on the experience and qualifications of the candidate. Applicants are requested to address the above description and qualifications in a cover letter and attach a curriculum vitae with the name and contact details of three referees. They are invited to indicate how serving in this position would support their own future science career objectives. Applications, with 'Science Officer' in the subject line, should be sent via email to [recruitment@icsu.org](mailto:recruitment@icsu.org) and addressed to Professor Deliang Chen, Executive Director, International Council for Science (ICSU).

The closing date for applications is **16 August 2010**. For more information on ICSU, please visit: [www.icsu.org](http://www.icsu.org)

## **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.

### **2010**

#### **2010 AGU Joint Assembly in Brazil**

**August 8-13, 2010, Iguassu Falls, Brazil**

Co-sponsored by IASPEI.

Enquiries: Marcelo S. Assumpcao [marcelo@iag.usp.br](mailto:marcelo@iag.usp.br)

Website: [www.geophysics2010.org](http://www.geophysics2010.org)

#### **European Conference on Earthquake Engineering**

**August 30 – September 3, 2010, Ohrid, Republic of Macedonia**

The organiser of the conference is the Macedonian Association for Earthquake Engineering (MAEE), under the auspices of EAEE.

Website: <http://www.14ecee.mk>

#### **ESC2010 (European Seismological Commission 2010)**

**September 6-10, 2010, Montpellier, France**

Venue: Corum Conference Centre

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

Website: [www.esc2010.eu](http://www.esc2010.eu)

#### **Geodynamical Phenomena: From Observations and Experiments to Theory and Modelling**

**September 20-24, 2010, Kiev, Ukraine**

Geophysical topics covered will range from surface processes to the core dynamics. We will also emphasize new developments in information technology and geo data-analysis.

Website: <http://marina.geo.umn.edu/kyiv/>

#### **XIX Congress of the Carpathian Balkan Geological Association**

**23-26 September 2010, Thessaloniki, Greece**

Email: [info@cbga2010.org](mailto:info@cbga2010.org)

Website: [www.cbga2010.org](http://www.cbga2010.org)



## **EMSEV 2010**

Electromagnetic Studies of Earthquakes and Volcanoes  
October 3-6, 2010, Chapman University, Orange,  
California

Websites: <http://sites.google.com/site/emsev2010/>  
<http://www.emsev-iugg.org/emsev/page011.html>

## **International Workshop on "Electromagnetic Signals Associated with Earthquakes and Volcanoes"**

3-6 October, 2010, Campus of Chapman University,  
Orange, California, USA

For abstract submission, please click  
<http://sites.google.com/site/emsev2010/abstract-submission>

Contact person: Ramesh Singh [ramesh@iitk.ac.in](mailto:ramesh@iitk.ac.in)  
Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/emsev2010/>

## **ASC2010 (Asian Seismological Commission 2010)**

November 8-10, 2010, in Hanoi, Vietnam

This will be the 8th ASC General Assembly.

Website: <http://www.asc1996.com/>

## **International Symposium on Emerging Trends in Earthquake Science (ETES-2010)**

**Sharing Up-to-date knowledge about Intraplate Seismicity and Seismic Microzonation**

15-19 December, 2010, Institute of Seismological Research (ISR), Gandhinagar (Ahmedabad), Gujarat, India

Contact person: Dr. B.K. Rastogi  
[brastogi@yahoo.com](mailto:brastogi@yahoo.com)

## **4th IASPEI International Symposium: Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion**

August 23-26, 2011, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA

Contact persons: Ralph Archuleta  
[ralph@crustal.ucsb.edu](mailto:ralph@crustal.ucsb.edu)  
or Jamie Steidl [steidl@crustal.ucsb.edu](mailto:steidl@crustal.ucsb.edu)  
Website: <http://esg.eri.ucsb.edu/>

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## **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/>

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## **Contacting IASPEI**

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

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