

# IASPEI Newsletter

April 2020

## IN THIS ISSUE

Foreword.....	1
13 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, Postponed.....	2
3 <sup>rd</sup> General Assembly African Seismological Commission (AfSC) Kasane, Botswana Postponed .....	2
4 <sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) Quito, Ecuador Postponed.....	2
37 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly European Seismological Commission (ESC) Corfu, Greece .....	2
3 <sup>rd</sup> IAGA – IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly Hyderabad, India – Call for Symposia.....	2
IUGG Grants Program 2020/21 .....	3
Call for Members of GEO Working Groups .....	3
News from the UNESCO International Geoscience Programme .....	3
Obituary.....	4
Meetings Calendar .....	6
General Information about IASPEI.....	7

## Foreword

Dear Readers,

This is the first Newsletter for 2020, which is turning into a totally different year than all the ones we lived so far. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed our professional and private life. Since its beginning more than 100 years ago, IASPEI has depended on global cooperation and data exchange and for this the IASPEI community has its regular meetings organised as international and intercontinental conferences.

For 2020, we planned to have the four General Assemblies of our Regional Commissions. Due to the pandemic, already three of these Assemblies had to be postponed as many other seismology related conferences or workshops (see also the Meetings Calendar). Please check regularly for up-dates on the conference related websites.

In February, shortly before the global COVID-19 outbreak, Monika Korte, IAGA Secretary General, and I visited our colleagues in Hyderabad, India, to prepare the next IASPEI Scientific Assembly, which is planned as a Joint Assembly with our IAGA colleagues. The Newsletter contains some more information.

Then, we have some information from IUGG regarding grants and GEO Working Group Members, and from UNESCO regarding the International Geoscience Programme.

With great sadness I must inform you that one of our colleagues passed away. We remember her in an obituary.

Please do not forget to send me information or corrections about international conferences and workshops with IASPEI related topics. This list can only be complete and correct when I receive information about such events and can update the Meetings Calendar of future Newsletters.

I wish you all and your families to stay healthy and hope that we all will meet again after the situation has become normal again.

Johannes Schweitzer  
Secretary General

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**13<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
Asian Seismological  
Commission (ASC)  
Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt,**

**Postponed**

The 13th General Assembly of the ASC had to be postponed. After the decision about a new date, the community will be informed.

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**3<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly  
African Seismological  
Commission (AfSC)  
Kasane, Botswana**

**Postponed**

The third General Assembly of the AfSC 2020 had to be postponed. Now, AfSC is planning for 2 – 8 December 2020. Please stay informed by checking the AfSC website <https://www.afsc-web.org.za>.

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**4<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly  
Latin American and  
Caribbean Seismological  
Commission (LACSC)  
Quito, Ecuador**

**Postponed**

The fourth Regional Assembly of the LACSC had to be postponed to 2021. A new date will be decided later. Please stay informed by

checking the conference website  
<http://www.lacsc2020.com>.

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**37<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
European Seismological  
Commission (ESC)  
Corfu, Greece**

At this moment, the preparations for this Assembly are continuing as originally planned. However, this may change in the next weeks. For updates please check regularly the conference website

<https://www.erasmus.gr/microsites/1193/>

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**3<sup>rd</sup> IAGA – IASPEI Joint  
Scientific Assembly  
Hyderabad, India**

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**Call for Symposia**

After 1969 in Madrid, Spain, and 2001 in Hanoi, Vietnam, IASPEI will join again the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) for a common Scientific Assembly in Hyderabad, India, in August 2021.

In February, Monika Korte, IAGA Secretary General, and I visited our colleagues from the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute in Hyderabad, India, to prepare the next Joint Scientific Assembly.

My impression from the visit was that our Indian colleagues are already very far with their planning and that they will do their best to make the conference a success. I am looking forward to meeting them again next year.

But first, the scientific program has to be defined, to make a participation in the Assembly attractive to a large number of seismologists.

At first, I ask the conveners from Symposia at the last General Assembly in Montréal to confirm their participation, to send me short descriptions of planned Symposia and to update the list of conveners.

Then, I ask all colleagues to send me possible titles, scopes and convener lists for new topics, which could be of interest for a larger group of seismologists. Of interest are in particular topics focusing on Asia, as well as interdisciplinary topics, which could be also of interest for our IAGA colleagues and organized as Joint Symposia.

Please send me your input until **the end of June 2020**. Only then there is a chance to finalize the list of Symposia before September, when the final list will be announced.

Johannes Schweitzer

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## IUGG Grants Program 2020/21

From IUGG we received the following information:

Please note that due to the coronavirus pandemic, the deadline to submit project proposals for the IUGG Grants Program 2020/21

([http://www.iugg.org/programs/grants\\_program\\_2020-2023.php](http://www.iugg.org/programs/grants_program_2020-2023.php)) is extended until **1 June 2020** (instead of 1 April 2020).

Please contact the IASPEI Secretary General, if you want to apply for such a grant.

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## Call for Members of GEO Working Groups

From IUGG we received the following invitation to nominate members for the GEO Working Groups:

The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) calls Members and Participating Organizations (incl. IUGG) to nominate individuals with relevant expertise to join its new Working Groups

- Capacity Development Working Group (CD-WG)
- The Climate Change Working Group (CC-WG)
- The Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRR-WG)
- The Data Working Group (Data-WG)

For more information, please see e-mail below and

[http://earthobservations.org/geo\\_blog\\_obs.php?id=417](http://earthobservations.org/geo_blog_obs.php?id=417).

If you know about any individuals who are interested to join the working groups, please contact Michael Sideris ([sideris@ucalgary.ca](mailto:sideris@ucalgary.ca)); the GEO Principal of IUGG) directly to get them nominated.

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## News from the UNESCO International Geoscience Programme

### *18 new projects to join the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) in 2020*

The IGCP Council, during their 5th Session of the annual Council meeting, decided to continue supporting 24 ongoing projects and approved 18 new projects, totaling 42 active IGCP projects in 2020.

UNESCO is the only United Nations organization with a mandate to support

research and capacity building in geology and geophysics, and the IGCP is our flagship. The IGCP has long been globally recognized amongst geoscientists as one of the most successful models for promoting international scientific cooperation in geosciences sharing a global vision for research. This joint venture created 48 years ago by UNESCO, and the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) continues to promote the sustainable use of natural resources, advancing new initiatives related to geo-diversity, geo-heritage and geohazards risk mitigation with the financial supports of the Jeju Province Development Corporation and UNESCO Chinese National Commission. The IGCP Council, supported by the Scientific Board, is responsible for evaluating project proposals according to the IGCP Guidelines, as well as for the quality assessment of projects in progress.

This year, the Council meeting was scheduled to meet on 13 – 16 March 2020, but due to COVID-19 precautions and safety measures, the evaluations were held online through teleconferencing between 12 – 16 March 2020. In this meeting, the progress of the 31 ongoing projects was assessed and 26 new proposals - submitted as of October 2019 according to the guidelines of the Council – were reviewed.

The details of IGCP 2020 projects and UNESCO Secretariat 2019 IGCP annual report ([www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/IGCP2019\\_Annual\\_Report\\_Final\\_Document-March20.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/IGCP2019_Annual_Report_Final_Document-March20.pdf)) can be accessed through UNESCO's webpage: <http://www.unesco.org/new/index.php?id=36711>

### ***Call for members to join the IGCP Council***

The purpose of this call is to invite nominations for three new candidates to become member of the IGCP Council. The current call concerns (i) Hydrogeology, (ii) Geodynamics, and (iii) Earth Resources.

If you are aware of excellent scientists, who have an exemplary track record in a particular field of research and a passion for international

collaboration, please suggest to them that they apply to join the IGCP Council. There is no limit to the number of nominations an organization can submit. We especially encourage nominations from female researchers or researchers based in African, Asian or Latin-American countries.

More information can be found here: <https://en.unesco.org/news/call-members-join-council-international-geoscience-programme-2020>

UNESCO Secretariat would like to thank the IGCP community for their contributions and welcomes new projects.

UNESCO Secretariat (via IUGG)

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## **Obituary**

### **Tatiana B. Yanovskaya (1932 – 2019)**



On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, after a serious and prolonged illness, the Honorary Professor of St. Petersburg State University, Russia, Tatiana B. Yanovskaya, passed away. She was a world-renowned seismologist who made significant contributions to the theory of

seismic wave propagation and interpretation of seismological observations.

Tatiana B. Yanovskaya was born on the 11<sup>th</sup> of August 1932 in St. Petersburg (former Leningrad), USSR, to the family of Prof. Boris M. Yanovsky, a prominent geophysicist, specializing in studying the Earth's magnetism. For a half a year during the Second World War, the Yanovsky family lived in besieged Leningrad before evacuating to Tadzhikistan. After their return from evacuation, Tatiana continued her education and graduated from high school cum laude (with gold medal) in 1949. She became a student of the Department of Physics at Leningrad State University (LGU). After graduating from LGU in 1954 she worked at the Seismological Station "Pulkovo" near Leningrad, and from 1960 to 1968 in the Leningrad branch of the Mathematical Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences in a group studying dynamics of elastic media, led by Professor G.I. Petrashen.

This group developed new technologies for the simulation of elastic wave propagation. Its participants, including T. Yanovskaya, were awarded the USSR State Prize in the field of science and technology for research in the theory and methods of calculating fields of seismic waves. In parallel, in 1958, she completed a PhD degree at the Institute of Physics of the Earth (IPE, Moscow), and defended her PhD thesis, "Methods for determining the source mechanism parameters from surface wave data," under the supervision of Prof. E. Savarensky.

During this period, she became a close collaborator of Prof. V. Keilis-Borok in developing new approaches in computational seismology, mostly in solving the inverse problems. She developed a methodology of inversion of observed data: travel times of body waves, phase and group velocity of surface waves in a 3D velocity structure of the Earth, with an evaluation of credibility of such models. In parallel, she investigated the peculiar wave propagation effects near caustics and in media with sharp vertical boundaries. Along with her students, she developed the original methodology for surface wave velocity

tomography, widely used for studies of different regions of the Earth.

From 1968 until her death she worked at the Department of Earth Physics of Leningrad State University (SPbSU), initially as a senior research fellow, and since 1986 - as a professor. In 1972 she defended her DSci dissertation "Methods for solving the inverse problem of seismology and their application to the study of the transition zone of the earth's core." She was a brilliant lecturer and supervisor of many postgraduate students, creating her own school in seismology in SPbSU. She was internationally recognized as a prominent scientist in the field of seismic wave theory and analysis, as well as in studies of tsunamis. She participated in regular workshops on seismic wave generation and propagation in the Abdus Salam International Institute of Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy.

In 1997, she was elected to be a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union. In 2002, the European Geophysical Society awarded her the Beno Gutenberg Medal for theoretical work related to the propagation of surface waves and tsunamis. She published 122 articles in scientific journals, five monographs and tutorials, and for many years she was a member of the Editorial Board of "Physics of the Earth", Journal of Russian Academy of Sciences. On January 25, 2010 she was awarded the title "Honorary Professor of St. Petersburg State University." During her last years of life, she continued to work, publishing papers in leading geophysical journals, and lecturing at the University.

The bright memory of Tatiana Yanovskaya - a tireless laborer of science, a wonderful educator, a noble, kind person - will live on in the hearts of her colleagues and students.

Anatoli Levshin, Colorado University, Boulder, USA  
Evgenia Lyskova, Saint Petersburg University, Russia

# Meetings Calendar

We report below titles, dates, places and websites of the forthcoming meetings relevant to the interests of IASPEI scientists. If you are aware of events not listed below or changes regarding these events, please inform the Secretary General.

## 2020

### Seismological Society of America (SSA)

April 27 – 30, 2020, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA

URL: <http://www.seismosoc.org/meetings/>

### EGU General Assembly 2020

May 3 – 8, 2020, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2020.eu/>

### 7th International Meeting on Heat Flow and the Geothermal Field

May 12 – 14, 2020, Potsdam, GFZ

URL: <http://ihfc-iugg.org/meetings/2020-potsdam>

### ASC General Assembly 2020

June 1 – 3, 2020, Sharm El-sheikh, Egypt

URL: <https://www.asc2020.org/>

### 19th International Workshop on Seismic Anisotropy &

### 2nd Workshop on Active and Passive Seismics in Laterally Inhomogeneous Media

June 15 – 20, 2020, Želiv Premonstratensian Monastery, Czech Republic

URL: [http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa\\_2020.htm](http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa_2020.htm)

### AfSC 3rd General Assembly

June 28 – July 4, 2020, Kasane, Botswana

URL: <https://www.afsc-web.org.za>

### AOGS2020 17th Annual Meeting

June 28 – July 4, 2020, Gangwon, South Korea

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2020>

### SEDI 2020

July 6 – 10, 2020, Taipei, Taiwan

URL: <http://sedi2020.earth.sinica.edu.tw/>

### LACSC 4th General Assembly

August 3 – 5, 2020, Quito, Ecuador

URL: <http://lacsc2020.com/>

### EMSEV2020

August 24 – 28, 2020, Taoyuan, Taiwan

URL: <https://irsl.ss.ncu.edu.tw/emsev2020>

### ESC 37th General Assembly

September 6 – 11, 2020, Corfu, Greece

URL: <https://www.erasmus.gr/microsites/1193>

### 17th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering

September 13 – 18, 2020, Japan

URL: <http://www.17wcee.jp/>

### 3rd International School on Earthquakes: Nucleation, Triggering, and Relationship With Aseismic Processes

October 5 – 9, 2020, Cargèse, Corsica, France

URL: <https://earthquakes3.sciencesconf.org/>

### AfSC 3rd General Assembly

December 2 – 8, 2020, Kasane, Botswana

URL: <https://www.afsc-web.org.za>

### AGU Fall Meeting

December 7 – 11, 2020, San Francisco, USA

URL: <https://www.agu.org/fall-meeting>

## 2021

### LACSC 4th General Assembly

2021, Quito, Ecuador

URL: <http://lacsc2020.com/>

### EGU General Assembly 2021

April 25 – 30, 2021, Vienna, Austria

### Seismological Society of America (SSA)

April 27 – 30, 2021, Anchorage, Alaska, USA

### 7th International Meeting on Heat Flow and the Geothermal Field

May 17 – 19, 2021, Potsdam, GFZ

URL: <http://ihfc-iugg.org/meetings/2020-potsdam>

**19<sup>th</sup> International Workshop on Seismic Anisotropy & 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop on Active and Passive Seismics in Laterally Inhomogeneous Media**

June 7 – 12, 2021, Želiv Premonstratsian Monastery, Czech Republic

URL: [http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa\\_2020.htm](http://sw3d.cz/apslim/apslim-iwsa_2020.htm)

**AOGS2021 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
August 1 – 6, 2021, Singapore

**3<sup>rd</sup> Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly**  
August 22 – 27, 2021, Hyderabad, India  
URL: <http://www.iaga-iaspei-india2021.in/>

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2021, New Orleans, USA

**2022**

**EGU General Assembly 2022**  
April 3 – 8, 2022, Vienna, Austria

**3<sup>rd</sup> European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology**  
June 19 – 24, 2022, Bucharest, Rumania  
URL: <https://3eceeds.ro/>

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2022, Chicago, USA

**2023**

**EGU General Assembly 2023**  
April 23 – 28, 2023, Vienna, Austria

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2023, San Francisco, USA

**2024**

**EGU General Assembly 2024**  
April 14 – 19, 2024, Vienna, Austria

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2024, Washington, USA

**2025**

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2025, New Orleans, USA

**2026**

**AGU Fall Meeting**  
2025, San Francisco, USA

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## General Information about IASPEI

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

The other IUGG Associations are:

Int'l Association of Cryospheric Sciences [IACS]  
Int'l Association of Geodesy [IAG]  
Int'l Association of Hydrological Sciences [IAHS]  
Int'l Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences [IAMAS]  
Int'l Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans [IAPSO]  
Int'l Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy [IAGA]  
Int'l 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

Since July 2015, all scientists participating in IASPEI activities are counted as members of IASPEI (see <http://www.iaspei.org/statutes.html>). IASPEI welcomes all scientists throughout the world to join in seismological research.

IASPEI is subdivided into several 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**

IASPEI can be found on the web at:

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

## **Contacting IASPEI**

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

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