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

IASPEI Newsletter

June 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

Foreword

Dear Readers,

I hope this Newsletter finds you all well.

In this Newsletter, we have news regarding next year's Joint IAGA – IASPEI Scientific Assembly in Lisbon, Portugal, as well as news from the IUGG, information from the IASPEI Early Career Scientists Group, followed by updates regarding Regional Assemblies in 2024/25, information about a tsunami conference in October 2024, a planned interdisciplinary workshop about glacial isostacy in June 2025, and a report from an IHFC workshop in April 2024.

Then, I must inform you with great sadness that five of our colleagues passed away. We remember them with obituaries.

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 if I receive information about such events and can update the Meetings Calendar of future Newsletters.

Johannes Schweitzer
Secretary General

Joint IAGA – IASPEI Scientific Assembly 2025

The preparation work for the IAGA – IASPEI Joint Scientific Assembly in Lisbon, Portugal, in 2025 has fully started.

We will have three types of Symposia: IAGA – IASPEI Joint Symposia and IAGA and IASPEI alone Symposia.

Until the middle of August, there is still the possibility to propose IASPEI alone Symposia.

So, if you have an idea for an interesting topic for an IASPEI alone Symposium, please contact the Secretary General as soon as possible and send the Symposium title with a short description and a list of possible conveners to iaspei@norsar.no.

Then, the final list of Symposia will be decided by the Scientific Program Committee consisting of the IAGA and IASPEI SGs and members of the LOC in Portugal and published on the Assembly website https://iaga-iaspei-lisboa-2025.isel.pt in September 2024.

During the week before the Joint Scientific Assembly, both IAGA and IASPEI are planning Summer Schools for ECSs. Topics and details how to apply will be also announced on the Assembly website in September/October.

News from the IUGG

The IUGG Bureau proposes the following NEW definition of an ECS, which is in agreement with IASPEI's rules for the Early Career Award:

An ECS is a student, a PhD candidate, or a practicing scientist who received their highest academic degree within the past 10 years. This period can be extended because of career interruptions.

The IUGG Bureau has also decided to establish two new Standing Union Committees:

Early Career Scientist (ECS) Committee

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee

These new Committees are now under construction and for updated information please follow the announcements on the IUGG webpage (https://iugg.org/about/committees/).

Updates from the IASPEI Early Career Scientists (ECSs) Group

There will be an ECS session "Building Bridges: Fostering Connections and Discussions among Early Career Researchers in Seismology" at this year's ESC Meeting in Corfu, Greece, this September. Join us there to learn more about the IASPEI ECS Group and get involved!

For those who are not yet familiar with the IASPEI ECSs group, our aims are to
(i) foster international exchange between IASPEI ECSs,
(ii) increase the visibility of IASPEI activities for ECSs, and
(iii) create spaces for IASPEI ECSs to exchange with each other at conferences and general assemblies.

If you are interested in learning more and staying up to date you can follow us on social media:

Facebook: Iaspei Early Career Scientists
Instagram: iaspei.ecs
X (twitter): @IaspeiECS

Or if you would like to get in touch you can also email us at: iaspei.ecs@gmail.com

Best,

María del Puy Papí Isaba, Louisa Murray-Bergquist, and R. Arun Prasath

Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) – 15th General Assembly

The 15th General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) will be held at the Xanadu Hotel and Congress Center in Antalya, Türkiye, from November 3 to 7, 2024. This prestigious event is expected to attract around 300 participants, including early-career and senior researchers from across Asia and around the world, to delve into the latest advancements in seismology, seismic risk and hazard-related geophysical and geological studies.

The conference will feature numerous sessions covering a wide range of topics. For a detailed list of topics, please visit: https://www.asc2024.org/topics.

In addition to the scientific sessions, ASC 2024 will offer an exceptional learning opportunity through the "Introductory Course on Site Effects Assessment and Ground Motion Simulation," conducted by esteemed instructors Ayşegül Askan and Marco Pilz. This course, scheduled for November 3, 2024, is designed for postgraduate students and early-career scientists, aiming to enhance their skills in these critical areas of seismology. For registering for the course please visit: https://forms.gle/cfcZXCQR8dx1kxUB6.

Congress and accommodation hotel will be the same. Thus, you will have the chance to meet with your colleagues for four days in technical sessions and during lunch breaks. For more detailed information about the conference, please visit the official website: www.asc2024.org.

Important dates to remember:

Early Bird registration deadline: June 30, 2024
Abstract submission deadline: July 30, 2024

We look forward to your participation and contributions to making ASC 2024 a landmark event in the field of seismology.

African Seismological Commission (AfSC) – 4th General Assembly

The fourth General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC) is scheduled to take place in Windhoek, Namibia from 24 – 28 February 2025.

More information will be announced within the next months.

3rd World Conference on Meteotsunamis

The 3rd World Conference on Meteotsunamis will be held in Bodrum, Türkiye, from October 13 to 17, 2024. This prestigious event is expected to attract more than a hundred participants, including early-career and senior researchers from across the globe, to explore the latest advancements in meteotsunami research.

The conference will feature numerous sessions covering a wide range of topics, including the physics of meteotsunami-generating disturbances, sea level measurements and analysis, atmospheric and ocean modeling, atmosphere-ocean interactions, the climatology of meteotsunamis, forecasting and early warning systems, hazard and risk assessments, and the socio-economic impacts of meteotsunamis. Additionally, discussions will address the effects of sea level rise on meteotsunami waves, their amplification in coastal zones, and the impact of meteotsunamis on extreme sea levels and long-term trends and tsunamis from atypical sources, including the Tonga event.

We are honored to announce our distinguished keynote speakers:

Prof. Alexander Rabinovich
Prof. Efim Pelinovsky
Prof. Emile Okal
Dr. Vasily Titov

For more detailed information about the conference, please visit the official website: https://3rdmeteotsunami.org/homepage

Important Dates to Remember:
Early Bird registration deadline: July 17, 2024

We look forward to your participation and contributions to make the 3rd World Conference on Meteotsunamis a landmark event.

Gozde Guney Dogan, Conference Co-Chair

2025 Glacial Isostatic Adjustment workshop: Advancing Models and Observational Constraints

A workshop on the topics of glacial isostatic adjustment (GIA), ice sheets, and sea-level change at the Institute of Ocean Sciences (IOS), located in Sidney, British Columbia, Canada, will occur from 2 – 6 June 2025. Glacial Isostatic Adjustment (GIA) is the response of the solid Earth to past and present-day changes to glaciers and ice sheets. It generates crustal displacements, sea-level changes, and alterations to the Earth's gravitational field, rotation, and the crustal stress settings. Recent developments in GIA modelling include an increased consideration of lateral variations in Earth structure (*i.e.*, three-dimensional Earth models) and coupled ice-sheet/Earth modelling. The workshop will bring together researchers to discuss recent advances in the observations, analysis and modelling of GIA. GIA models include the structure of the lithosphere and mantle, which is usually inferred from seismology (*e.g.*, seismic tomography). In addition, the aspect of seismicity due to ice-sheet melting will be discussed at the workshop. The proposed workshop aims to provide an opportunity for the exchange of ideas, data, and information necessary to create new knowledge in the field. We invite researchers from various disciplines (*e.g.*, geodesy, cryospheric science, seismology, geodynamics, geology) to attend the workshop with the goal of knowledge transfer and to foster networking between experts of the various disciplines to develop future international cross-disciplinary Earth system research within these topics. The workshop will be limited to 100 participants and abstract submission and registration will begin late 2024 or early 2025. The possibility to attend the workshop virtually will be made available. More information about the workshop can be found at https://polenet.org/2025-gia-workshop/.

Rebekka Steffen, The Swedish mapping, cadastral and land registration authority

Marine Heat Flow and Ocean Sciences

The workshop "Marine heat flow: assessment of the Southern Hemisphere" and the associated kick-off for the development of marine heat flow as an Essential Ocean Variable (EOV), was held from 19 – 21 April

2024, in Vienna, Austria. The meeting was organized by the International Heat Flow Commission (IHFC), the Task Force VIII of the International Lithosphere Program (ILP), and the GFZ German Research Center for Geoscience. Ten attendees from 6 countries (Mexico, Australia, Germany, France, Japan, Türkiye) participated in person. Further 7 were involved in the workshop preparation.

Heat flow, among the EOVs discussed (https://goosocean.org/what-we-do/framework/essential-ocean-variables/), is crucial for understanding and monitoring the ocean's state and ecosystems. Its impact on marine ecosystems, ocean circulation, sea level rise, carbon cycle, and natural resource management is significant. Monitoring heat flow helps in understanding and mitigating climate change impacts, disaster preparedness, and marine life conservation.

Significant achievements during the meeting and workshop included the recognition of marine heat flow's crucial role in ocean circulation dynamics, identification of variability along the ocean floor, and insights from modeling experiments indicating potential impacts on abyssal temperature rise, meridional overturning circulation, and sea level rise. Areas for future exploration were acknowledged, including mechanisms behind conductive and advective seabed heat flux, tectonic/geodynamic settings, and data gaps in Antarctica's offshore regions. Also, the need was highlighted for a coherent semantic adoption that will help to bridge with the oceanographic community.

Future research directions include exploring rock thermal properties and heat flow in marine environments, investigating interactions between heat flow and marine tectonic activities, examining geological and geophysical indicators providing insights into seafloor thermal processes, identifying and filling data gaps in Antarctica's offshore regions, and assessing marine data in the Global Heat Flow Database to enhance coverage and reliability. Also, potential technological developments were discussed.

The meeting and workshop facilitated fruitful discussions and laid a foundation for advancing marine heat flow research, highlighting its significance in understanding oceanic processes and climate change impacts. Based on the workshop findings, an application for the acceptance of the marine heat flow parameter as an EOV will be prepared. If you are interested in further details or would like to support this initiative, do not hesitate to contact the working group “Marine Heat Flow” of IHFC (https://ihfc-iugg.org/about/working-groups#wg_mhf).

Florian Neumann, Jeffrey Poort, Ben Norden, Sven Fuchs; for the IHFC

Obituaries

Vlastislav Červený (1932 – 2022)

We are sorry to inform the community that we lost the great scientist, colleague and friend, Professor Vlastislav Červený. Sláva, as we called him, passed away on May 21, 2022.

Sláva graduated from Charles University in Prague, Czechoslovakia, in 1956. He remained devoted to Charles University and, specifically, to the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics his whole life. He concentrated there on theoretical problems of seismic wave propagation, specifically on the seismic ray

theory, in which he was an expert. His work in this field is represented by many papers and reports, several books and codes, and it was crowned by his well-known book (often called ray-theory Bible) ”Seismic ray theory”.

Sláva built a strong team of closely collaborating colleagues, with which he undertook many activities, which made him and his team famous around the globe. Many of Sláva's colleagues throughout the world may remember him through the international workshops ”Seismic waves in laterally inhomogeneous media”, which were held at various castles and monasteries in Czechoslovakia and later in Czech Republic. In their early forms, during the cold-war times, the workshops helped to get together scientists from all parts of the divided world. Sláva also founded and led for many years the successful consortium project ”Seismic waves in complex 3D structures".

During his life, Sláva received many local as well as international awards. Among others, he received the Beno Gutenberg Medal of the European Geosciences Union, the Maurice Ewing Medal of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Gold Memorial medal of Charles University and the Ernst Mach Medal Medal of the Czech Academy of Sciences. He was a honorary member of the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers and of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists.

Sláva remains in our memories as a modest, gentle and friendly person always ready to help. Our community lost a distinguished scientist.

Ivan Pšenčík and Jan Šílený, Czech Academy of Sciences

Aleksander Guterch (1936 – 2023)

Aleksander Guterch, Professor at the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences, died on December 28, 2023, at the age of 87.

The Institute of Geophysics, University of Warsaw, was his primary affiliation but for almost all his professional life he was associated with the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences, where he started working in 1963. For more than 40 years, he headed the Deep Structures Laboratory and then the Department of Seismic Lithospheric Research. Around him, he built a strong scientific team for seismic studies of the Earth's crust and upper mantle. He was tutor and adviser for young people, graduate students and doctors.

In the years 1997 – 2003 Aleksander Guterch initiated and was the organizer or co-organizer of the great project of seismic research of the deep crustal structures and the lower lithosphere in Central Europe, from the Baltic Sea to the Adriatic Sea. These were great refraction seismic experiments commonly known as POLONAISE'97 (Polish Lithosphere Onsets – An International Seismic Experiment, 1997) CELEBRATION 2000 (Central European Lithospheric Experiment Based on Refraction, 2000), Sudetes 2003, GRUNDY 2003, and ALPS 2002 projects. All the main geological

structures of the study area have been covered by a system of modern seismic profiles, with a total length of about 20,000 km. The research was carried out in cooperation with 35 scientific and industrial institutions from 15 European countries as well as the USA and Canada. A summary of the results was presented in the publication “Crustal and lithospheric structures between the Alps and East European Craton from long-range controlled source seismic experiments”, in: Gerald Schubert (editor in chief) Treatise on Geophysics, 2nd edition, Vol. 1, Oxford: Elsevier; 2015, p. 557-586, authored by A. Guterch, M. Grad, G. R. Keller, and E. Brückl.

Aleksander Guterch did not limit his scientific interests to the area of TESZ (Trans European Suture Zone) in Poland and Central Europe but also to other tectonic units of the East European Craton, as Fennoscandia and Sarmatia in Finland, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine. The research was also carried out with wide international cooperation.

In years 1976 – 2010, he actively participated in seismic lithosphere studies of the polar regions in the Arctic and Antarctic. He organized six geophysical expeditions to the Arctic and five expeditions to West Antarctica, some of them jointly with the scientific institutions of Norway, Germany, Japan and the USA.

Aleksander Guterch's scientific achievement is outstanding. He is an author or co-author of about 250 publications, mainly in international journals and monographs. The importance of the results of his research is evidenced by numerous citations of his works (Scopus >5000) and the Hirsh index H49.

The Professor was leading many scientific projects and programs in Poland. He was a full member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, a member of Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the Academia Europaea, a member of the Warsaw Scientific Society, the Polish Geophysical Society, an honorary member of the Hungarian Society of Geophysicists, as well as a member of many national and international Scientific Committees and Associations. He was also the winner of many awards and distinctions, as well as the holder of several state decorations, including: Knight's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta (1973), Officer's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta (1998) and the Bene Merito honorary badge (2015). In 2018, during the ceremony of the Institute's 65th anniversary, he was awarded a medal named after Prof. Adam Dziewoński.

The Professor’s hobby was old cartography and the history of Poland. He was especially interested in the history of white arms in the Polish military. He was the President and honorary member of the Association of the Lovers of Old Arms and Uniforms in Poland and was awarded the Association’s gold badge. In 2013, on the occasion of the 600th anniversary of Sękowa, a village in the Beskids, Poland, where he was born, he was awarded the title of honorary citizen of the Sękowa commune.

Aleksander Guterch was born on February 16, 1936. He graduated from the Faculty of Physics, University of Warsaw, in 1961, and since 1963 he has been working at the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences. He received PhD degree in the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences in 1969.

In the person of the Professor, we lose not only a great scientist, but also a mentor to many of us and a kind colleague.

Aleksander Guterch was survived by his wife Barbara, two daughters, Magdalena and Anna, eight grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Tomasz Janik and Wojciech Czuba, Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences

Axel Plešingr
1933 – 2024

On Easter Monday, 1 April 2024, after a short illness, our colleague from the Geophysical Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences, Axel Plešingr (also Plešinger), passed away at the age of ninety (90). Axel was one of the founders of European and, without exaggeration, world broadband seismometry.

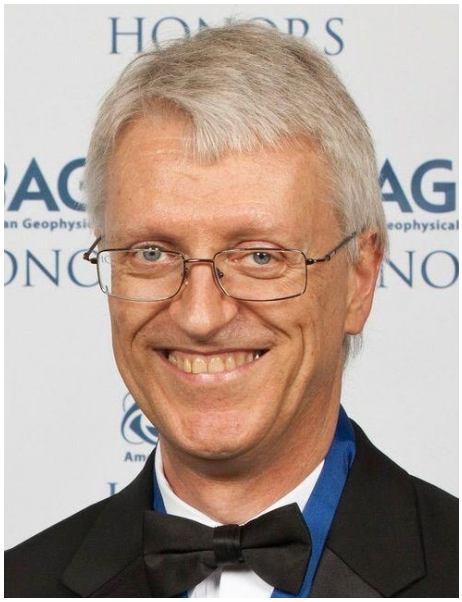
What path did Axel Plešingr, born 14 July 1933, take to become an expert in broadband seismometry in Europe and the world? Far from a direct path, young Axel specialized in electronics and joined the Geophysical Institute. He was attracted to the institute by an ambitious space study project in the Department of Ionospheric Research, but soon descended from the heights of the ionosphere down below the Earth's surface to fundamentally change the way seismologists listen to the Earth's pulses. He replaced the by-then widespread and traditionally accepted recordings of seismic motions using narrow-frequency passes with broadband-frequency recordings. Axel built a broadband system, not only at the observatory of the Geophysical Institute, near Kašperské Hory, but also in Książ, Silesia, Poland. In addition to establishing a databank of broadband recordings from the two European sites, Axel designed studies related to the structure of the crust in central Europe based on the dispersion of long-period, surface waves. His broadband system was unique at the time and inspired worldwide seismologists. Today, broadband registration is the standard in seismology, and the map of Europe and the world is dotted by such stations. Axel's old records from Kašperské Hory and Książ provide invaluable insight into world earthquake recordings that occurred in the days of broadband prehistory.

Axel Plešingr was not just a world-renowned expert in seismometry. Due to his specialty in seismic wave recording, Axel became a seismologist par excellence. His perfect understanding of seismic data, and his ability to accurately distinguish between natural signal and instrument artifacts on seismograms, led to fundamental studies: on the time functions of regional earthquakes, on the possibilities of studying lithospheric anisotropy, and on the possibilities of automatic type analyses for distinguishing between natural earthquakes and artificial seismic phenomena. As a recognized expert in seismometry, Axel helped to introduce modern methods of data recording and processing in many places around the world. His teaching abilities and his role as an expert in various seismological schools and courses, organized by scientific associations such as the European Seismological Commission or the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, cannot be overlooked.

In his scientific commitment, Axel Plešingr was rigorous and unrelenting in professional matters, but in his heart, he was always kind and willing to help. He helped others with his peculiar humor, and all of us who were in contact with him at the Geophysical Institute adored him for his spirit. In our memories, he remains with us.

Ivan Pšenčík and Jan Šílený, Czech Academy of Sciences

Pål Wessel
1959 – 2024



Pål Wessel, known as Paul within the geoscience community, developed the Generic Mapping Tools (GMT) software that has been widely used by seismologists and other geoscientists since the 1990s. Pål recently passed away at the age of 64.

Pål was born and raised in Sarpsborg, Norway, and attended the University of Oslo where he earned his BS and MS in applied geophysics in the early 1980s. It was in Oslo that Pål first learned the joys of programming by developing code to organize local table tennis tournaments. He put these skills to use in his MS thesis, writing codes to plot the output of gravity inversions of the Oslo Graben. Pål went on to do PhD research with Tony Watts and Bill Haxby at Columbia University, working with marine gravity data. Pål defended his PhD in the fall of ’89.

It was at Columbia that Pål and his officemate Walter H. F. Smith, coding day and night and subsisting on frozen burritos, developed the first version of the Generic Mapping Tools (GMT) in 1987. This was an open-source software package for the processing, displaying, and mapping of multi-dimensional data. GMT evolved rapidly, growing over the years with the help of many volunteers worldwide, to become the staple tool for tens of thousands of researchers in the Ocean, Earth, and Planetary sciences. With GMT, Pål made modern map-making techniques available to geoscientists everywhere. This opened new possibilities for analyzing and visualizing data, just in time for the rush of modern geoscience data that streamed from seismic networks, satellites, and various other detectors in the 1990s and the decades to follow. GMT became the backbone behind the visualizations within countless publications, PhD theses, and real-time mapping of data on the internet.

Pål spent nearly his entire career at the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology (SOEST) at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM). He moved to Honolulu in 1990 for a postdoctoral position, and soon joined the faculty of the Department of Geology and Geophysics (now Earth Sciences) UHM in 1991. In the years to follow, Pål wrote and contributed to well over 100 peer-reviewed research publications (and still counting) with ~30,000 citations, describing major contributions to marine geophysics. Paul developed plate tectonic reconstructions with the “Hotspotting” method, analyzed flexure of the lithosphere, characterized the Earth’s seamount population, and always continued his remarkable development of scientific software. He wrote two textbooks that he distributed to students and instructors free of charge. For these efforts, Pål was awarded a University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents’ Medal for Excellence in Research, was named a Fellow of both the Geological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union, and received the European Geoscience Union’s McHarg Medal in Geoinformatics.

At SOEST, Pål was a trusted, kind, committed, and all-around exemplary colleague. He brought in millions of dollars in grant money and worked on four seagoing research vessels that brought him around the world. He pushed for more inclusive and modernized working environments and served twice as department chair, challenging the university bureaucracy along the way. As the department chair, the infamous shark aloha shirt defined his signature uniform during faculty meetings. Pål particularly loved teaching data analysis and

programming classes, putting much effort into making his classes unforgettable with jokes, games, prizes, podcasts, and more.

Pål loved his family and friends. Pål met his wife during his first week after moving to Hawai'i, and they were married the same year. Before kids arrived, the couple biked around Tasmania and southern Australia, hiked in the Peruvian Andes, journeyed into the upper Amazon, Bolivia, & northern Chile, camped in Iceland and Norway, and hiked the outer Hawaiian Islands. With the addition of their two children, long camping road trips to exotic locales became a defining part of family life. Yearlong sabbaticals to Norway, Australia, San Diego, and England included memorable trips traversing the vast Australian outback, camping across North America, and roaming among the varied countrysides of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and England.

Pål met stressful situations with an unflappable and sometimes silly approach that relieved tension and brought lightness to life's challenges. Amongst colleagues, friends, and family, Pål was always known for his humor, kindness, care, and easygoing nature. He was very generous with his time, he was the embodiment of integrity, and he genuinely cared about others. He will be missed by colleagues in Hawai'i, collaborators worldwide, and by friends that he made everywhere he went.

In the fall of 2022, Pål and his wife retired to his home country of Norway, with plans to pursue research projects out of the University of Oslo, where he first learned scientific programming. Yet, Pål did not have time to realize these goals for his life's next chapter. In the summer of 2023 he managed to host a GMT summit at the University of Oslo, and he returned to Hawai'i for one final visit. Pål concluded a 3.5-year battle with cancer on March 26, 2024, peacefully at home in Norway in the loving company of his wife and two children, and with the support of his two siblings and good friends.

Clint Conrad, University of Oslo, Garrett Ito, University of Hawai'i, Walter Smith, NOAA and David Bercovici, Yale University

Alisher Khaidarovich Ibragimov (1957 – 2024)

On May 12, 2024, Alisher Khaidarovich Ibragimov – Head of the Laboratory of Instrumental Seismology and Seismometry of the Institute of Seismology of Uzbekistan Republic's Academy of Sciences - passed away.

Alisher was born in the city of Fergana on May 7, 1957, into a family of well-known journalists in Uzbekistan, which soon moved to Tashkent. He recalled with great warmth his childhood years spent in Fergana and almost every year he visited his small homeland, where his relatives on his father's side still live. Fergana Valley is known not only for the world's most delicious fruits, simplicity and hospitality of its people, but also for one of the highest levels of seismic activity in Central Asia. During the historical and instrumental period of observation, many earthquakes have occurred here, causing shaking with an intensity of 8 and 9 points. He often said that his experiences in his parents' aseismic, earthquake-resistant,

mud-brick house greatly affected his choice of seismology as a profession.

Alisher came to the Institute of Seismology right after graduating from high school in 1974. He was hired as a technician in the laboratory of “High pressures and temperatures”, which everyone jokingly called the laboratory of “Hypertension”. At that time the laboratory was headed by M. H. Bakiyev, who immediately recognized the young man’s persistence and inclination to experimental and scientific activity. For several years Alisher took part in field work collecting rock samples, laboratory research of their physical properties and experiments on the destruction of samples on a huge press, which at that time stood in the Institute. At the same time, he enrolled as a correspondence student at the Tashkent State University. The romance of the field remained with Alisher until the last days of his life - he travelled endlessly, and it did not tire him.

The meetings with Russian scientists S.D. Vinogradov and G.A. Sobolev from the Institute of Earth Physics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, where he was trained, played a major role in the formation of his scientific outlook. By that time those scientists had identified prognostic signs of rock destruction in the mode of acoustic emission, deformation field, and variations of electromagnetic pulses in laboratory tests. At that time, against the background of several successful forecasts of strong earthquakes made by the Institute of Seismology in the late 70's and mid 80's, it seemed that the solution to the problem of earthquake prediction was near, and Alisher was seriously involved in this research. In 1993, Alisher defended his PhD thesis on “Elastic properties of pre-Mesozoic rocks of the Middle and Southern Tien-Shan at high pressures” and tried to find, in full-scale conditions, the signs of large-scale destruction of rock massifs, which he revealed during laboratory destruction of samples. From 2001 to 2009, he headed the laboratory “Physics of earthquake source”, observing temporal changes of seismic wave velocity ratio Vp/Vs, tilts and deformations of the Earth’s surface.

From 2009 to 2014, Alisher headed the Tashkent Seismological Observatory. This is an iconic place for seismologists of Uzbekistan. Outstanding scientists such as E. M. Butovskaya and V. I. Ulomov worked there in their time. During the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945, seismic station “Tashkent” was headed by E. F. Savarensky. At this post the organizational talent of A.H. Ibragimov has come to light. He revived the service of rapid earthquake reports that had collapsed during the transition from analog to digital recording of seismic signals, re-organized a huge archive of bulletins and seismograms, introduced advanced methods of machine processing of digital records, and, in cooperation with scientists from GFZ (Potsdam), installed the SeisComP.

From 2014 to 2018, Alisher headed the Integrated Expedition of the Institute of Seismology. He was in charge of all seismic and prognostic stations operating in the Republic. He actively engaged in their optimization, organization of communication channels for rapid information transfer and integration of regional data into the world seismic observation networks.

Following the transfer of the national seismic monitoring network to the Ministry of Emergency Situations, Alisher returned to the Institute and headed the Laboratory of “Instrumental Seismology”, which was later renamed the Laboratory of “Experimental Seismology”, where he was actively engaged in the development of an early warning system for the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the organization of local seismic networks to monitor critical facilities, including the Nuclear Power Plant planned in the Jizzak region and a number of large water reservoirs. During time, a major part of his research was related to seismic microzonation of the territories of cities and sites allocated for the construction of critical facilities. He was considered one of the best specialists in the Republic on conducting and the interpretation of instrumental observations by methods of surface seismic survey and analysis of microseisms.

For many years, Alisher taught seismometer and engineering seismology at the National University of Uzbekistan.

Colleagues will keep the memory of an excellent specialist, modest, principled and responsive person, always ready to help.

Roman Solomonovich Ibragimov, Institute of Seismology, Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Meetings Calendar

We report below 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. The meeting calendar is also available on the IASPEI website.

2024

18th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering WCEE2024
June 30 – July 5, 2024, Milan, Italy
URL: https://www.wcee2024.it/

37th International Geological Congress (IGC 2024)
August 25 – 31, 2024, Busan, Rep. of Korea
URL: https://www.igc2024korea.org/

EMSEV 2024
September 2024, Crete, Greece
URL: https://emsev-iugg.org/posts/news11.html

39th ESC General Assembly
September 22 – 27, 2024, Corfu, Greece
URL: https://www.escgreece2024.eu/

SSA Fall Topical Meeting 2024 Photonic Seismology: Lighting the Way Forward
October 7 – 10, 2024, Vancouver, BC, Canada
URL: https://www.seismosoc.org/photonic/

3rd World Conference on Meteotsunamis
October 13 – 17, 2024, Muğla, Türkiye
URL: www.3rdmeteotsunami.org

15th ASC General Assembly
November 3 – 8, 2024, Antalya, Türkiye
URL: https://www.asc2024.org/

AGU Fall Meeting
December 9 – 13, 2024, Washington DC, USA
URL: https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting

2025

4th AfSC General Assembly
February 24 – 28, 2025, Windhoek, Namibia

SSA Annual Meeting 2025
April 14 – 18, 2025, Baltimore, MD, USA
URL: https://meetings.seismosoc.org/

2025 Glacial Isostatic Adjustment Workshop
June 2 – 6, 2025, Sidney, British Columbia, Canada
URL: https://polenet.org/2025-gia-workshop/

IASPEI 43rd Scientific Assembly as Joint Assembly with IAGA
August 31 – September 6, 2025, Lisbon, Portugal
URL: https://iaga-iaspei-lisboa-2025.isel.pt

SSA Fall Topical Meeting 2025: Environmental Seismology: Planning for the Planet's Future
October 14 – 17, 2025, Denver, Colorado, USA
URL: https://www.seismosoc.org/environmental-seismology/

AGU Fall Meeting
December 15 – 19, 2025, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA
URL: https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting

2026

AGU Fall Meeting
December 7 – 11, 2026, San Francisco, California, USA
URL: https://www.agu.org/Fall-Meeting

2027

IASPEI 44th General Assembly
IUGG 29th General Assembly
Incheon, Rep. of Korea

General Information about IASPEI

The **I**nternational **A**ssociation of **S**eismology and **P**hysics of the **E**arth's **I**nterior [IASPEI] is one of the eight Associations of the **I**nternational **U**nion of **G**eodesy and **G**eophysics (IUGG, http://www.iugg.org/).

The other seven IUGG Associations are:

- International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (http://www.cryosphericsciences.org/)
- International Association of Geodesy (http://www.iag-aig.org/)
- International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (http://www.iaga-aiga.org/)
- International Association of Hydrological Sciences (https://iahs.info/)
- International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (http://www.iamas.org/)
- International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (http://www.iugg.org/iapso/)
- International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (https://www.iavceivolcano.org/)

Scientific Assemblies

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

Participation in IASPEI Activities

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

IASPEI is subdivided into several Commissions, some 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 websites. 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 website gives, or provides links to, information on the range of IASPEI activities.

The IASPEI Website

The IASPEI website is hosted by the International Seismological Centre (ISC) in Thatcham, UK and can be found 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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