



## Annual Report 2009 – IASPEI

### 1. SHORT INTRODUCTION OF ASSOCIATION (max. ½ page)

The International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior is the leading international association promoting the studies of the structure and of the geodynamical processes ongoing in our Earth's interior. IASPEI achieves its goals through scientific conferences, primarily those organized by IASPEI and its Commissions, but sponsoring also other international initiatives, fosters international cooperation, both in the monitoring seismic activity, research and education activities, especially in countries that are in the process of working towards full scientific development.

The main 2009 IASPEI activity was its the January 2009 Scientific Assembly In Cape Town, South Africa. However, several important scientific meetings have been also sponsored by IASPEI.

### 2. ADMINISTRATION (max. ½ page)

#### - EC & Bureau meetings

The Bureau and Executive Committee have met in Cape Town in January during the IASPEI Scientific Assembly.

#### - Changes in administration (setting up of new Commissions, Working Groups, etc., or termination of old Commissions, Working Groups, etc.)

As an outcome of the Cape Town conference a few WG have been discontinued: In the Commission on Seismological Observation and Interpretation the Working Group on Reporting Seismic Phase Weights and Working Group on Default Depths.

#### - Other matters

*Website.* The IASPEI website has been updated continuously, mainly with the help of the IASPEI webmaster Alice Walker.

*Newsletters.* Also the IASPEI Newsletter in its new vest has been regularly sent as pdf file attachment to e-mails. The Newsletters are also available for downloading from the website.

### 3. ACTIVITIES (max. 2 pages)

#### - Scientific Assemblies, Workshops/Symposia etc.

##### *The IASPEI Cape Town Scientific Assembly*

The IASPEI Scientific Assembly was held in Cape Town, South Africa, 11-16 January 2009. The Assembly, held for the first time on the African continent, provided a very good platform for seismologists worldwide to meet and to discuss the latest developments in seismology and physics of the Earth's interior research.

There were 347 participants from 60 countries registered for the Assembly. Eighty three of them were students, young researchers and researchers from less-developed countries who were partially sponsored.

Three Keynote lectures were delivered at the Assembly: Tom Jordan talked on “Earthquake Forecasting and Prediction: Progress in Model Development and Evaluation”; Raoul Madariaga discussed “Earthquake Dynamics: from source to radiation”; and Guust Nolet presented “Seismic tomography and the dilemma of the Earth’s heat budget”.

The 32 symposia of the programme covered the spectrum of research related to IASPEI Commissions and current “hot” topics in seismology, in a total of 335 oral and 106 poster presentations. These included, a session on “Capacity building and capturing undergraduate students to Geophysics/Seismology”, and two well-attended Panel discussions convened by R. Musson on: “Seismic Hazard: Living with Uncertainty” and “Earthquake Prediction: What the Future Holds”. Several IASPEI commission and working group meetings were organized during the Assembly.

The Assembly was conducted at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, which proved to be a perfect environment for delegates. The Local Organizing Committee, with the determinant support of the South-African Council for Geoscience, did a great job ensuring a smooth management and enjoyable social moments. Several pre- and post-conference fieldtrips were also organized.

A Summer school was organized in conjunction with the IASPEI Scientific Assembly and held during the week after the conference ended, attended by 27 fully sponsored, mostly African participants. Lecturers at the school were: Prof. Aldo Zollo, Prof. Yehuda Ben Zion, Dr. Martin Mai, Dr. John Douglas, Dr. Artur Cichowicz, and Prof. Colin Reeves.

The products of IASPEI Scientific Assembly in South Africa, including adopted resolutions, abstract volumes, keynote lectures, and useful meeting data are available at <http://www.iaspei.org/>

- Activities of Association Commissions, Working Groups, Divisions, Services etc.

The IAEE-IASPEI Joint Working Group on the International Alliance of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering Professional Associations activities were related to one of its missions: the GEM project, a global risk assessment initiative. P Suhadolc attended two meetings, in June at Hohenkammer (Munich) and in December in Paris.

IASPEI participated with its President and Secretary General to the International Scientific Studies conference organized by the CTBTO in June in Vienna. P Suhadolc was one of the panelists.

IASPEI has sponsored (on its own or an IUGG grant) the following workshops/symposiums in 2009:

The Second International Seminar on Prediction of Earthquakes Prediction, Lisbon, Portugal, 29-30 April, 2009.

International Symposium on Earthquake Seismology and Earthquake Predictability, Beijing, China, May, 2009; organized by the Seismological Society of China and the Institute of Geophysics, CEA

Workshop: From Core to Crust: Towards an Integrated Vision of Earth's Interior July 20 – 24, 2009, Trieste, Italy, at The Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics

Advanced Workshop on Evaluating, Monitoring and Communicating Volcanic and Seismic Hazards in East Africa, August 17 - 28, 2009, Trieste, Italy, at the Abdus Salam International Center for Theoretical Physics.

The international Geodynamics meeting at Suzdal, near Moscow, August

2009 with topics ranging from crustal dynamics to core convection.

IRIS Seismological Workshop 'Managing Waveform Data and Related Metadata for Seismic Networks', November 8-16, 2009, Cairo, Egypt.

The 11th International Workshop on Modeling of Mantle Convection and Lithospheric Dynamics held in Braunwald, Switzerland from June 28 to July 3, 2009.

- Scientific Programmes, Projects, Publications

The Seismoarchives (IDEA) project is going on. Willie Lee has continued to work hard on this project. IRIS is archiving the scanned seismograms.

- Awards/Anniversaries/Obituaries

Obituaries for prominent scientists are published in the IASPEI Newsletters.

4. PLANNED FUTURE ACTIVITIES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS (**max. ½ page**)

The 2010 AGU Joint Assembly in Brazil, Iguazu Falls, 08-13 August, is supported also by IASPEI taking an active role in the organization of the seismological sessions at the conference.

The European Seismological Commission will held its General Assembly in Montpellier, France, on September 6-10, 2010.

The Asian Seismological Commission will held its General Assembly in Hanoi, Vietnam on November 8-10, 2010.

IASPEI has given its sponsorship to the Geophysics, Geodesy and Tectonics of the North Africa Plate Boundary for Better Earthquake and Tsunami Hazard Assessments conference too be held in Algiers, Algeria on May 15-21, 2010 organized by ICTP.