



Annual Report 2011 – IASPEI

1. SHORT INTRODUCTION OF ASSOCIATION

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.

Most of the IASPEI efforts during 2011 were directed towards the IUGG2011 General Assembly in Melbourne, in particular IASPEI Symposia and the IASPEI-led Inter-Association Symposia. However, several important scientific meetings have been also sponsored by IASPEI and several ongoing projects continued.

2. ADMINISTRATION

- EC & Bureau meetings

The IASPEI Bureau and Executive Committee have met several times in Melbourne in June/July.

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

Two resolutions passed at the General Assembly in Melbourne encourage the creation of two more regional Commissions of IASPEI: the African Seismological Commission and the Latin American Seismological Commission to foster more cooperation within these two regions and the organization of regular IASPEI regional meetings.

- Other matters

Statutes. After several years of preparation and discussion, revised IASPEI Statutes have been unanimously approved in Melbourne during the IUGG General Assembly. Changes mainly reflect the changes in practice related to shorter scientific assemblies, the possibilities offered by modern internet era tools, and clarifications of language to avoid ambiguity.

Website. The IASPEI website has been updated continuously, mainly with the help of the IASPEI webmaster Alice Walker. The Website has recently moved to Edinburgh, where it is hosted by the BGS. IASPEI is very much indebted to BGS for this help!

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. Three issues were distributed in 2011.

3. ACTIVITIES

- Scientific Assemblies, Workshops/Symposia etc.

2011 IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne.

IASPEI participated to the conference with more than 400 (395 officially registered as IASPEI) delegates, of which 78 supported financially with grants. The scientific programme included 18 IASPEI and 13 Inter-Association symposia with IASPEI participation.

Symposium on the Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion

The 4th International IASPEI/IAEE Symposium on the Effects of Surface Geology on Seismic Motion (ESG4) was held at the University of California Santa Barbara from August 23 - 26, 2011. It was organized by Ralph Archuleta. It included six plenary sessions. More details on <<http://esg.eri.ucsb.edu/Home>>

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

Global Earthquake Model

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. D Giardini, a proxy for P Suhadolc, GEM Foundation Governing Board member on behalf of IASPEI, has attended two meetings in 2011, in June in Beijing (China) and in December in Pavia (Italy). The GEM initiative is progressing well and a number of Projects have been assigned to groups of the seismological worldwide community to study basic seismological input data for seismic hazard assessment.

IASPEI has sponsored the following workshops/symposia held in 2011:

- *Session S4.6 of Seismotectonics and Seismic Hazards in Africa*, a session at the CAG23, 7 - 14 January, 2011, Johannesburg, South Africa, was sponsored by IASPEI. IASPEI support went to a student from the Ethiopia Geophysical Observatory.

- *International Symposium on "Advances in Earthquake Science-2011"* held at the Institute of Seismological Research, Raisan, Gandhinagar, India, on January 22-24, 2011, with 169 attendees of whom 15 supported by IASPEI/IUGG funds. Organized by the Institute of Seismological Research, Department of Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat.

- *12th International Workshop on Modeling of Mantle Convection and Lithospheric Dynamics*, held in Groß Dölln (Germany) on August 20-25, 2011 with around 120 attendees. It was organized by GFZ under the auspices of the Commission on Earth structure and Geodynamics.

- *International Symposium on Geophysical Imaging with Localized Waves*, held at Sanya, Hainan Island, China on August 2011. It was organized by Ru-shan Wu under the auspices of the Task Group on Seismic Scattering and Heterogeneity, IASPEI Commission on Seismological Observation and Interpretation.

- *International Course on "Theory and Practice on the waveform inversion to compute the seismic moment tensor, Point- and complex-source modeling using program ISOLA"*. Held on September 2-10, 2011 in Costa Rica and organized by Ronnie Quintero (National University and Seismological and Volcanological Observatory of Costa Rica). 21 participants from Latin America attended the workshop, three of whom sponsored with IASPEI funds.

- Scientific Programmes, Projects, Publications

The IDEA (International Digital Earthquake Archives) project of the Committee for Preservation of WWSSN and Historical Seismograms (also called simply *Seismoarchives: Seismogram Archives of Significant Earthquakes of the World*), is continuing under the guidance of Willie Lee. IRIS is archiving the scanned seismograms.

The IUGG-funded IASPEI-ISC Project *Networking of world seismologists (Improving Geophysical Science Link to the Society during Natural Extreme Events, Especially in Developing Countries)* is well underway. IASPEI and ISC are developing and maintaining a worldwide registry of seismologists & geophysicists willing to serve as a point of contact in countries with and without affiliation to IUGG.

IASPEI has set up an Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) for the GEM hazard global component project *Global Instrumental Earthquake Catalogue* under the leadership of ISC. IASPEI has received financial support from this grant for this activity, which is progressing nicely.

Several publications are available from the IASPEI Secretariat. IASPEI on approval distributes free copies of its publications to institutional libraries in less developed countries.

- *IASPEI: Cooperation for Better Understanding of the Earth*
- *International Handbook of Earthquake and Engineering Seismology (Part A and B)*
- *New Manual of Seismological Observatory Practice*

- Awards/Anniversaries/Obituaries

- *IASPEI medal*. IASPEI has decided to award no more frequently than biennially an IASPEI Medal for outstanding service in furthering the aims of IASPEI.
- *Obituaries* for prominent scientists are regularly published in the IASPEI Newsletters.

4. PLANNED FUTURE ACTIVITIES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

- *33rd General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission*

August 19-24, 2012, Moscow, Russia. Website: www.esc2012-moscow.org

- *9th General Assembly of Asian Seismological Commission 2012*

September 17-20, 2012, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Website: www.asc2012.mn

- *Latin American Seismology Symposium*, Lima, Peru, September 23-26, 2012, in the framework of the XVI Peruvian Geological Congress and SEG 2012 Conference.

- *IAHS, IAPSO, IASPEI Joint 2013 Assembly in Gothenburg, Sweden*, July 22-26, 2013: Knowledge for the Future. Website: <http://iahs-iapso-iaspei2013.com/index.asp>