

Annual Report 2021 – IASPEI

1. SHORT INTRODUCTION OF ASSOCIATION

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

Most IASPEI efforts during 2021 were directed towards the 3rd Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly planned for Hyderabad, India, in 2021 and the (re)planning of the Assemblies of IASPEI's four Regional Commissions, planned for 2020 and rescheduled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. ADMINISTRATION

- EC & Bureau meetings

The IASPEI Bureau / Executive Committee (EC) had two joint meetings in 2021 both organized as video conferences. There were additional regular e-mail exchanges regarding all Association related questions (as e.g., financial support, requests, planning of future Assemblies or business to be solved immediately) with the members of the IASPEI Bureau and EC throughout the year.

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

No changes.

- Other matters

Website. The IASPEI website has the address <http://iaspei.org>.

Statutes. The IASPEI statutes and by-laws were not changed in 2021. IASPEI is registered as a Norwegian organization (Norwegian Org. Number 916 047 495).

Newsletters. IASPEI Newsletters have been regularly sent as PDF-file attachments to more than 3000 e-mail addresses. The Newsletters are also available for download from the IASPEI website. Four Newsletter issues as well as three bulk-mails with information regarding the 3rd Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly were distributed in 2021.

3. ACTIVITIES

- Scientific Assemblies, Workshops/Symposia etc.

The 3rd Joint Scientific Assembly of IAGA (International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy) and IASPEI was planned as conference in Hyderabad, India. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic our Indian colleagues organized the

Assembly as a fully virtual event from August 21 – 27, 2021 (<https://www.iaga-iaspei-india2021.in/>). Although new challenges had to be mastered with this new format, the meeting attracted 828 participants from 53 countries, over 500 from IAGA and nearly 300 from IASPEI, and included 212 students from 37 different countries. The program of the Scientific Assembly did not differ much from the originally planned one, and included 3 joint plenary talks, 8 joint sessions and 27 IAGA and 17 IASPEI symposia with altogether 778 abstracts for oral and poster presentations. It was preceded by the NGRI-CSIR Diamond Jubilee Symposium, which celebrated the 60th anniversary of the hosting institute with 8 invited lectures. During the Assembly, the IASPEI Commissions and IASPEI sponsored bodies also had their business meetings.

The 13th General Assembly of the Asian Seismological Commission (ASC) was originally planned to be held in Sharm el-Sheikh (Egypt), in June 2020. The Assembly was postponed and then held as part of the 3rd Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly in Hyderabad, India, in August 2021. The 14th General Assembly is now planned to be held in Egypt, in October 2022.

The 38th General Assembly of the European Seismological Commission (ESC) was originally planned to be held on Corfu (Greece), in September 2020. The Assembly was postponed and was held as a fully virtual conference in September 2021.

The 3rd General Assembly of the African Seismological Commission (AfSC) was originally planned to be held in Kasane (Botswana) for June/July 2020. The Assembly was postponed several times and is now planned as a virtual conference for 2022.

The 4th General Assembly of the Latin American and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) was originally planned to be held in Quito (Ecuador), in August 2020. The Assembly had to be postponed and is now planned for November 2022.

Several IASPEI related or supported Workshops and Summer Schools planned for 2021 were cancelled or postponed to a later date.

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

In August 2021, the IASPEI Commission on Education and Outreach organized a pre-Assembly Summer School in the week before the Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly, in which 13 instructors gave lessons for 30 students.

The IASPEI Commission on Education and Outreach in collaboration with a) South Asia Alliance of Disaster Research Institutes (SAADRI), b) National Science and Technology Center for Disaster Reduction (NCDR), Taiwan, c) Multidisciplinary Centre for Geoinformatics, Delhi Technological University (DTU) and d) National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India organised a Three-day Online International Workshop on “Role of Early Warning System in Geo-Meteorological Hazards Risk Reduction”, which was held from 8 – 10 December, 2021.

Some 2,000 hard copies of the first printed edition of the IASPEI New Manual of Seismological Observatory Practice (NMSOP, 2002) are currently being used in more than 100 countries at seismological observatories, data and analysis centers, and for teaching, research, and field applications. In addition, it is used as basic material

within national and international seismology training courses, or by private enterprises and individual scientists. In 2014, a rigorously updated and amended electronic second edition, NMSOP-2, was completed and put online, thanks to the efforts of the late Peter Bormann. This version, as well as future ones, are professionally maintained, further developed and edited by the GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences under a long-term commitment and the auspices of IASPEI and its Commission on Seismological Observation and Interpretation (CoSOI). All versions are freely available and downloadable from the website of the GFZ Library (<http://bib.telegrafenberg.de/publizieren/vertrieb/nmsop/>).

- Scientific Programs, Projects, Publications

In 2020, IASPEI continued to financially support the work of the Inter-Association Working Group on Electromagnetic Studies of Earthquakes and Volcanoes (EMSEV).

- Awards/Anniversaries/Obituaries

Awards

The **IASPEI Medal** is awarded for distinguished contributions in seismology: for sustaining IASPEI goals and activities and for scientific merits in the field of seismology and physics of the Earth's interior. The Medal is awarded every 2nd year during the IASPEI Assemblies. During the 3rd Joint IAGA-IASPEI Scientific Assembly, IASPEI honored Prof. Barbara Romanowicz (USA/France) with the **2021 IASPEI Medal**.

In 2016, the IASPEI Bureau established an **IASPEI Early Career Scientist Award** program aimed at engaging excellent young researchers in the IASPEI community. Each of the four IASPEI Regional Commissions was asked to select one Early Career researcher (graduate student, postdoctoral researcher, pre-tenure faculty member) from their commission at each even-year Assembly of that Regional Commission. The ESC decided during their General Assembly in September 2021, to give an IASPEI Early Career Scientist Award to Irina Dallo (Switzerland).

Obituaries

Obituaries for prominent scientists of the IASPEI community are regularly published in the IASPEI Newsletters and on the IASPEI webpage. In 2021, sadly, 10 obituaries had to be published.

4. PLANNED FUTURE ACTIVITIES/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 will become a quite busy year for IASPEI:

- In 2022, the IASPEI main activity will concentrate on the 28th IUGG General Assembly planned for 11 – 20 July 2023, in Berlin, Germany (<https://www.iugg2023berlin.org/>).
- All four Regional Commissions of IASPEI (AfSC, ASC, LACSC and ESC) are planning to hold their Assemblies in 2022:

AfSC plans its 3rd General Assembly as virtual conference in Botswana).

ESC plans its 38th General Assembly at a joint conference with the European Association of Earthquake Engineering (EAEE) as the 3rd European Conference on Earthquake Engineering and Seismology (3ECEES) in Bucharest, Romania, in September 2022.

The 4th General Assembly of LACSC is now planned for Quito, Ecuador, in October 2022.

ASC plans its 14th General Assembly in Egypt for October 2022.

The IASPEI Bureau / ExeCom decided during its joint meeting in September to organize the 2015 Scientific Assembly again as a Joint Assembly together with IAGA in Lisbon, Portugal.



The opening ceremony of the IAGA-IASPEI Joint Assembly 2021 was attended in person by selected local participants and streamed online for all others.