



Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| General Announcements | 3 |
| Summary of the IAG General Assembly, Prague, Czech Republic, June 22 – July 2, 2015..... | 3 |
| Meeting Announcements | 4 |
| 4th IAG Symposium on Terrestrial Gravimetry: Static and Mobile Measurements | 4 |
| Meetings Calendar | 6 |
| ESA/JRC International Summer School on GNSS 2015..... | 6 |
| VI International Time Scale Algorithms Symposium and Tutorials..... | 6 |
| ION GNSS+ 2015..... | 6 |
| Third Space for Hydrology Workshop "Surface Water Storage and Runoff: Modeling, In-Situ data and Remote Sensing"..... | 6 |
| INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche..... | 6 |
| ICTRS 2015..... | 6 |
| GRACE Science Team Meeting..... | 6 |
| Wilhelm und Else Heraeus Autumn School..... | 6 |
| ISDE 2015..... | 6 |
| DORIS Analysis Working Group Meeting..... | 6 |
| 9th Coastal Altimetry Workshop..... | 6 |
| OSTST 2015..... | 6 |
| Earth Observation for Water Cycle Science 2015..... | 6 |
| 2015 ILRS Technical Workshop..... | 7 |
| COSPAS Capacity Building Workshop on Planetary Data Mission Analysis | 7 |
| 5th International Colloquium Scientific and Fundamental Aspects of the Galileo Programme..... | 7 |
| 10th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG)..... | 7 |
| 2nd Symposium of COSPAR: Water and Life in the Universe..... | 7 |
| EuroCarto 2015 | 7 |
| International Technical Symposium on Navigation and Timing..... | 7 |
| VII SIRGAS School on Reference Systems | 7 |
| IS-GNSS 2015..... | 7 |
| Symposium SIRGAS 2015 | 7 |
| 4th International VLBI Technology Workshop (IVTW) | 7 |
| MMT 2015 | 7 |
| AGU 2015 Fall Meeting | 7 |
| United Nations International Meeting on Global Navigation Satellite Systems..... | 8 |
| ION Precise Time and Time Interval Meeting (PTTI)..... | 8 |
| IGS Workshop..... | 8 |
| 9th IVS General Meeting..... | 8 |
| JISDM 2016 | 8 |
| TG-SMM 2016 | 8 |
| EGU General Assembly 2016 | 8 |
| GEOProcessing 2016 | 8 |
| FIG Working Week 2016..... | 8 |
| ESA Living Planet Symposium 2016 | 8 |
| 18th Geodynamics and Earth Tide Symposium 2016..... | 8 |
| GAGER 2016..... | 8 |
| International Symposium on Geodesy and Geodynamics (ISGG2016)..... | 8 |
| 41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly | 9 |
| AOGS 13 th Annual Meeting..... | 9 |
| INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche..... | 9 |
| AGU 2016 Fall Meeting | 9 |
| IAG / IASPEI Scientific Assembly | 9 |

The *IAG Newsletter* is under the editorial responsibility of the *Communication and Outreach Branch* (COB) of the IAG.

It is an open forum and contributors are welcome to send material (preferably in electronic form) to the IAG COB (newsletter@iag-aig.org). These contributions should complement information sent by IAG officials or by IAG symposia organizers (reports and announcements). The *IAG Newsletter* is published monthly. It is available in different formats from the IAG new internet site: <http://www.iag-aig.org>

Each *IAG Newsletter* includes several of the following topics:

- I. news from the Bureau Members
- II. general information
- III. reports of IAG symposia
- IV. reports by commissions, special commissions or study groups
- V. symposia announcements
- VI. book reviews
- VII. fast bibliography

General Announcements

Summary of the IAG General Assembly, Prague, Czech Republic, June 22 – July 2, 2015

The quadrennial General Assembly of the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) was held together with the 26th General Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics from June 22 to July 2 in Prague, Czech Republic. The following summarises the principal outcome of the scientific and administrative meetings. A detailed report will be given as usual in the Geodesist's Handbook to be published in 2016 in the Journal of Geodesy together with the descriptions of all components in the new IAG structure 2015-2019.

More than 4000 participants registered for the IUGG General Assembly, about 500 of those as IAG associates. This is the largest number of participants since the General Assembly 1995 in Boulder, USA. The IAG organised 1 Union Symposium (of 11 in total), 3 Joint Symposia with other Associations (of 27 in total), and 8 IAG Symposia. IAG co-conveners were involved in all the other Union Symposia and in 10 other Joint Symposia. 545 presentations (of 5378 in total) were given in the IAG Symposia, and 65 (of 711 in total) in the IAG lead Joint Symposia, nearly half of those as posters.

The IAG Symposia were structured according to the four IAG Commissions and the three GGOS Themes; because of the large number of abstract submissions, the sessions dealing with the gravity field (IAG Commission 2) were split into the static and the time-variable gravity. The highlights were new techniques in the realisation of reference frames, new approaches for the solution of the geodetic boundary value problem and time dependent gravity field models, recent results of geodynamic studies, applications of geodetic positioning techniques (in particular GNSS) for interdisciplinary Earth observations, unification of physical height systems, geo-hazards monitoring, and latest results of sea-level modelling.

Aside from the scientific sessions there were many administrative meetings. The IAG Council, i.e. the representatives of the IUGG member countries, met twice and made some important decisions. The revised IAG Statutes and Bylaws were adopted; the result of the e-mail election of the new IAG officers 2015-2019 was noted; the IAG accounts 2010-2014 were audited and approved; the budget 2015-2018 was accepted; the next IAG Scientific Assembly was selected to be held in Kobe, Japan, from July 30 to August 4, 2017; and two IAG resolutions were passed (see below).

The IAG Executive Committee (EC) 2011-2015 met three times; the principal topics were the reports of the Commissions, the Inter-Commission Committee on Theory (ICCT), the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS), the IAG Services, the Communication and Outreach Branch (COB), and the Editors of the Journal of Geodesy (JoG) and the IAG Symposia Series. These reports are published in the IAG Reports 2015 (Travaux de l'AIG Vol. 39) and available at the IAG Homepage. The new ICCT President, GGOS Chair, and JoG Editor in Chief for the period 2015-2019 were appointed (see list below). The new EC 2015-2019 held its constituting meeting immediately after the General Assembly on July 2, 2015. Principal topics were the new structure of the Commissions and the ICCT including the appointment of its Vice Presidents, and the appointments of the Editors of the IAG Symposia Series and the IAG Representatives to IAG, IUGG and external bodies. The publication of the Geodesist's Handbook was discussed.

Four IAG Awards were presented at the General Assembly Opening Session: the Levallois Medal for distinguished service to the IAG and to the science of Geodesy in general to Reinhard Rummel, Germany (see IAG Newsletter July 2015), the Guy Bomford Prize for outstanding contributions to geodetic studies to Yoshiyuki Tanaka, Japan, and the Young Authors Awards 2013 to Krzysztof Sońnica, Switzerland, and 2014 to Alvaro Santamaría-Gómez, France.

Two Resolutions were approved by the IAG Council: The "IAG Resolution for the definition and realization of an international height reference system (IHRS)" resolves the vertical reference level as an equipotential surface of the Earth gravity field with the potential value $W_0 = 62\,636\,853.4 \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-2}$, and the "IAG Resolution for the establishment of a global absolute gravity reference system" resolves to establish a gravity reference frame by globally distributed reference stations linked to the international comparisons of absolute gravimeters, and to initiate the replacement of the International Gravity Standardization Net 1971 (IGSN71) and the latest International Absolute Gravity Base Station Network by the new Global Absolute Gravity Reference System.

The new IAG officers elected by the Council or appointed by the Executive Committee are:

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| President: | Harald Schuh (Germany) |
| Vice President: | Zuheir Altamimi (France) |
| Secretary General: | Hermann Drewes (Germany) |
| President of the COB: | József Ádám (Hungary) |

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| President of Commission 1: | Geoffrey Blewitt (USA) |
| Vice-President of Commission 1: | Johannes Böhm (Austria) |
| President of Commission 2: | Roland Pail (Germany) |
| Vice-President of Commission 2: | Shuanggen Jin (China) |
| President of Commission 3: | Manabu Hashimoto (Japan) |
| Vice-President of Commission 3: | Cheng-Li Huang (China) |
| President of Commission 4: | Marcelo Santos (Canada) |
| Vice-President of Commission 1: | Allison Kealy (Australia) |
| President of the ICCT: | Pavel Novák (Czech Republic) |
| President of the GGOS: | Hansjörg Kutterer (Germany) |
| Members at Large: | Ludwig Combrinck (S. Africa) |
| | Maria Cristina Pacino (Argentina) |
| Service Representatives: | Riccardo Barzaghi (Italy) |
| | Ruth Neilan (USA) |
| | Axel Nothnagel (Germany) |
| Editor in Chief of the J. Geodesy: | Jürgen Kusche (Germany) |
| Editor in Chief of IAG Symposia: | Jeff Freymueller (USA) |
| Assistant Editor of IAG Symposia: | Laura Sánchez (Germany) |

HERMANN DREWES
IAG Secretary General



Photo: Participants of the IAG Opening Session, June 25, 2015

Meeting Announcements

4th IAG Symposium on Terrestrial Gravimetry: Static and Mobile Measurements *April 12-15, 2016, Saint Petersburg, Russia*

You are invited to take part in the 4th IAG Symposium on Terrestrial Gravimetry: Static and Mobile Measurements to be held at the State Research Center of the Russian Federation – Concern CSRI Elektropribor, JSC, St. Petersburg, Russia on 12 - 15 April 2016.

The Symposium topics include:

- instrumentation and methods for absolute and relative measurement of gravity fields, static and mobile measurements and their application to shipborne, airborne platforms (planes, helicopters, airships) and other mobile platforms;
- absolute ballistic gravimeters (including those based on the use of cold atoms), relative gravimeters of all types including superconducting gravimeters;
- gravity gradiometers;
- new technologies, equipment and materials for development of all types of gravimeters;
- new results of measurement of gravity networks and the coverage of new regions;
- metrology issues in gravimetry, the results of the comparisons of absolute gravimeters, application of gravity measurements in metrology;

- standardization and databases of absolute measurements of the gravity field;
- gravitational experiments.

The following topics are especially welcome for presentation at the Symposium:

- new technologies and applications of gravity measurements such as planetary absolute and relative gravimetry;
- links between satellite and terrestrial or planetary gravity measurements;
- possible applications of terrestrial gravimetry in combination with GPS/GLONASS technologies;
- gravimetry applications in navigation.

The Symposium languages are English and Russian.

Simultaneous translation from Russian into English and from English into Russian is provided.

International Scientific Committee

Chairman - Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences,

Prof. Vladimir Peshekhonov — Russia

Vice-chairman – Prof. Urs Marti

— Switzerland

Members:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|------------|
| Prof. Matthias Becker | — | Germany |
| Prof. Sylvain Bonvalot | — | France |
| Prof. Vyacheslav Fateev | — | Russia |
| Prof. Rene Forsberg | — | Denmark |
| Prof. Olivier Francis | — | Luxembourg |
| Prof. Yoichi Fukuda | — | Japan |
| Dr. Iskander Gayazov | — | Russia |
| Dr. Alessandro Germak | — | Italy |
| Prof. Vyacheslav Koneshov | — | Russia |
| Dr. Jaakko Mäkinen | — | Finland |
| Dr. Maria Cristina Pacino | — | Argentina |
| Dr. Alexander Sokolov | — | Russia |
| Dr. Leonid Vitushkin | — | Russia |
| Dr. Hartmut Wziontek | — | Germany |

Organizing Committee

Chairman: Dr. Alexander Sokolov — Russia

Vice-chairs:

Dr. Leonid Vitushkin — Russia

Mrs. Margarita Grishina — Russia

Members:

Prof. Vyacheslav Koneshov — Russia

Mr. Anton Krasnov — Russia

Dr. Evgenii Krivtsov — Russia

Dr. Vladimir Lygin — Russia

Important Dates

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| 1 September 2015 | – | deadline for abstract submission. |
| 20 October 2015 | – | accepted papers listed on the Symposium website. |
| 1 November 2015 | – | the Symposium preliminary program available on the website |
| 25 December 2015 | – | deadline for submission of papers to be published in Symposium proceedings |
| By 20 March 2016 | – | online registration |

Symposium Website

<http://www.elektrotribor.spb.ru/tgsmm2016/eindex>

LEONID VITUSHKIN

Meetings Calendar

ESA/JRC International Summer School on GNSS 2015

August 31 – September 10, 2015, Barcelona, Spain

URL: <http://congrexprojects.com/2015-events/15m21/registration>

VI International Time Scale Algorithms Symposium and Tutorials

September 9 – 11, 2015, Sèvres, France

URL: <http://www.bipm.org/en/conference-centre/bipm-workshops/tsas/>

ION GNSS+ 2015

September 14 – 18, 2015, Tampa, Florida, USA

URL: <http://www.ion.org/gnss/index.cfm>

Third Space for Hydrology Workshop "Surface Water Storage and Runoff: Modeling, In-Situ data and Remote Sensing"

September 15 – 17, 2015, Frascati, Italy

URL: <http://hydrospace2015.org/>

INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche

September 15 – 17, 2015, Stuttgart, Germany

URL: <http://www.intergeo.de/>

ICTRS 2015

September 17 – 18, 2015, Rhodes, Greece

Fourth International (URSI) Conference on Telecommunications and Remote Sensing

URL: <http://www.ictrs.org>

GRACE Science Team Meeting

September 21 – 23, 2015, Austin, Texas, USA

URL: <http://www.csr.utexas.edu/grace/GSTM/>

Wilhelm und Else Heraeus Autumn School

October , 4-9 2015, Bad Honnef, Germany

Global gravity field modeling from Satellite-to-Satellite Tracking data

URL: <http://www.geoq.uni-hannover.de/autumnschool.html>

ISDE 2015

October 5 – 9, 2015, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

URL: <http://digitalearth2015.ca/>

DORIS Analysis Working Group Meeting

October 15 – 16, 2015, Greenbelt, Maryland, USA

URL: <http://ids-doris.org/report/meeting-presentations/ids-awg-10-2015.html>

9th Coastal Altimetry Workshop

October 18 – 19, 2015, Reston, Virginia, USA

URL: <https://joss.ucar.edu/meetings/2015/9th-coastal-altimetry-workshop>

OSTST 2015

October 20 – 23, 2015, Reston, Virginia, USA

URL: <https://joss.ucar.edu/meetings/2015/ocean-surface-topography-science-team-meeting>

Earth Observation for Water Cycle Science 2015

October 20 – 23, 2015, ESA-ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

URL: <http://www.eo4water2015.info/>

2015 ILRS Technical Workshop

October 26 – 20, 2015, Matera, Italy

URL: http://ilrs.gsfc.nasa.gov/about/2015_ILRS_Technical_Workshop.html

COSPAR Capacity Building Workshop on Planetary Data Mission Analysis

October 26 – November 6, 2015, Guaratinguetá, Brazil

URL: <http://cbw.cosparbrazil2015.org/>

5th International Colloquium Scientific and Fundamental Aspects of the Galileo Programme

October 27 – 29, 2015, PTB Braunschweig, Germany

URL: <http://congrexprojects.com/2015-events/15a08/introduction>

10th Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG)

November 1 – 6, 2015, Boulder, Colorado, USA

URL: <http://www1.joss.ucar.edu/>

2nd Symposium of COSPAR: Water and Life in the Universe

November 9 – 13, 2015, Foz do Iguacu, Brazil

URL: <http://cosparbrazil2015.org/>

EuroCarto 2015

November 10 – 12, 2015, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://eurocarto.org/>

International Technical Symposium on Navigation and Timing

November 16 – 17, 2015, Toulouse, France

URL: <http://signav.recherche.enac.fr/index.php/events/international-technical-symposium/symposium-2015/>

VII SIRGAS School on Reference Systems

November 16 – 17, 2015, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

URL: <http://www.sirgas.org>

IS-GNSS 2015

November 16 – 19, 2015, Kyoto, Japan

International Symposium on GNSS

URL: <http://www.isgnss2015.org/>

Symposium SIRGAS 2015

November 18 – 20, 2015, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

URL: <http://www.sirgas.org>

4th International VLBI Technology Workshop (IVTW)

November 23 – 26, 2015, Auckland, New Zealand

International Symposium on GNSS

URL: <http://www.irasr.aut.ac.nz/conferences/4th-international-vlbi-Technology-workshop-ivtw>

MMT 2015

December 9 – 11, 2015, Sydney, Australia

The 9th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology

URL: <http://www.mmt2015.org/>

AGU 2015 Fall Meeting

December 14 – 18, 2015, San Francisco, California, USA

URL: <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2015/>

United Nations International Meeting on Global Navigation Satellite Systems

December 14 – 18, 2015, Vienna, Austria

URL: http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/events/data/2015/2015_united_nations_international_meeting_on_gnss.html

ION Precise Time and Time Interval Meeting (PTTI)

January 25 – 27, 2016, Monterey, California, USA

URL: <http://www.ion.org/ptti/>

IGS Workshop

February 15 – 19, 2016, Sydney, Australia

URL: <http://kb.igs.org/hc/en-us/articles/205944657-IGS-Workshop-2016-Information>

9th IVS General Meeting

March 13 – 17, 2016, Ekudeni (Johannesburg), South Africa

URL: <http://ivs2016.hartrao.ac.za/>

JISDM 2016

March 30 – April 1, 2016, Vienna, Austria

3rd Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring

URL: <http://www.jisd2016.org/>

TG-SMM 2016

April 12 – 15, 2016, Saint Petersburg, Russia

4th IAG Symposium “Terrestrial gravimetry. Static and mobile measurements”

URL: <http://www.elektropribor.spb.ru/tgs2016/eindex>

EGU General Assembly 2016

April 17 – 22, 2016, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2016.eu/>

GEOProcessing 2016

April 24 – 28, 2016, Venice, Italy

URL: <http://www.iaria.org/conferences2016/GEOProcessing16.html>

FIG Working Week 2016

May 2 – 6, 2016, Christchurch, New Zealand

URL: <http://www.fig.net/fig2016/>

ESA Living Planet Symposium 2016

May 9 – 13, 2016, Prague, Czech Republic

URL: <http://lps16.esa.int/>

18th Geodynamics and Earth Tide Symposium 2016

June 5 – 9, 2016, Trieste, Italy

URL: <http://www.lithoflex.org/g-et/>

GAGER 2016

July 18 – 23, 2016, Wuhan, Hubei, China

Geodesy, Astronomy and Geophysics in Earth Rotation (GAGER2016) – A Joint IAU / IAG / IERS Symposium

URL: <http://main.sgg.whu.edu.cn/gager2016/>

International Symposium on Geodesy and Geodynamics (ISGG2016)

July 22 – 26, 2016, Tianjin, China

URL: <http://isgg2016.csp.escience.cn>

41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly

July 30 – August 7, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

URL: <http://www.cospar-assembly.org/>

AOGS 13th Annual Meeting

July 31 – August 5, 2016, Beijing, China

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2016/>

INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche

October 11 – 13, 2016, Hamburg, Germany

URL: <http://www.intergeo.de/>

AGU 2016 Fall Meeting

December 12 – 16, 2016, San Francisco, California, USA

URL: <http://meetings.agu.org/upcoming-meetings/>

IAG / IASPEI Scientific Assembly

July 30 – August 4, 2017, Kobe, Japan

URL: <http://iag.dgfi.tum.de/index.php?id=291>