

Annual Report for 2011

International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy

1. INTRODUCTION

IAGA, the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (AIGA - Association Internationale de Géomagnétisme et d'Aéronomie) is one of the eight Associations of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG). It is a non-governmental body funded through the subscriptions paid to IUGG by its Member Countries. IAGA has a long history and can trace its origins to the Commission for Terrestrial Magnetism and Atmospheric Electricity, part of the International Meteorological Organisation which was established in 1873.

IAGA is the premier international scientific association promoting the study of terrestrial and planetary magnetism, and space physics. IAGA is concerned with the understanding and knowledge that result from studies of the magnetic and electrical properties of:

- the Earth's core, mantle and crust
- the middle and upper atmosphere
- the ionosphere and the magnetosphere
- the Sun, the solar wind, the planets and interplanetary bodies.

2. ADMINISTRATION

IAGA is organised into five Divisions and two Interdivisional Commissions each led by a Chair and Co-Chair. Each Division/Commission may form Working Groups in specialist topic areas and elect officers to run the business of the Working Groups. During the XXV IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne 2011, Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet, IAGA renews its officers. The links below lead directly to lists of the Division/Commission leadership and the Working Group names and officers

http://www.iugg.org/IAGA/iaga_pages/science/sci_structure.htm

IAGA is administered by an [Executive Committee](#) on behalf of IUGG [Member Countries](#) in accordance with the Association's Statutes and By-Laws. IAGA communicates with Member Countries through National Correspondents nominated by appropriate national bodies. The election process was conducted using the scheme proposed by David Kerridge, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, and approved by the Conference of Delegates. The newly elected Executive Committee members are:

President: Kathryn Whaler (UK); **Vice-President:** Eduard Petrovsky (Czech Republic)

Members:

Archana Bhattacharyya (India)

Iver Cairns (Australia)

Jeffrey Forbes (USA)

Toshihiko Iyemori (Japan)

Monika Korte (Germany)

Laszlo Szarka (Hungary)

Andrew Yau (Canada)

Past President: E. Friis-Christensen (Denmark)

3. ACTIVITIES

The XXV IUGG General Assembly

The year 2011 has been marked by the XXV IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne 2011, Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet. The number of IAGA registrants (536) was smaller than at the previous IUGG meeting in Perugia (669). However, the IAGA presence was remarkable, as IAGA scientists were involved in organising 4 Union symposia, and led 5 Inter-Association symposia; the IAGA-only part of the meeting consisted of 16 symposia, sub-divided into several parts, spanning the full range of IAGA science interests.

The IAGA programme began on 29 July and ran through to the end of the General Assembly. As we move out of a period of exceptionally low and prolonged solar activity, space weather issues are going to become more important, especially given mankind's increasing dependence on satellite technology; alongside this, radiation belt studies, and studies of the electromagnetic earth environment, are crucial. Both these themes featured strongly in the IAGA programme. Other highlights included results from the Decade of Geopotential Research, particularly from the three low Earth orbiting magnetometry satellites Oersted, CHAMP and SAC-C, and anticipating the ESA multi-satellite mission Swarm; and the importance of data assimilation in geodynamo and related studies, incorporating techniques developed from other branches of IUGG science, especially meteorology. The meeting brought many occasion for scientists to discuss all these topics, over breaks, poster sessions, and at the IAGA dinner.



The 'IAGA Medal in Recognition of Valued Services to the IAGA Community over Many Years' was awarded to Bengt Hultqvist. The following young scientists received the 2009-2010 IAGA Young Scientist Award: Annika Seppälä, Joanna Roszkowska-Remin, Gilda Currenti.

The Finance Committee analysed the IAGA financial situation and concluded that at the beginning of 2011, the total amount of IAGA funds was on the order of three times the total expenditure for a year during which there is an Assembly.

Changes in Statute 15 (Modification of the Status), Statute 16 (Modification of the By-Laws), and By-Law 4 (Honorary Membership of IAGA) were proposed and accepted.

Four resolutions were presented and accepted. They are available (in English and French) on http://www.iugg.org/IAGA/iaga_pages/Resolutions/Resolutions.htm

Sponsored Topical Meetings

IAGA sponsored the following four topical meetings during 2011:

February, 14-18	4th IAGA/ICMA/CAWSES-II TG4 Workshop on Vertical Coupling in the Atmosphere/Ionosphere System - Prague (Czech Republic)
May, 9-11	3rd International High Energy Particle Precipitation in the Atmosphere (HEPPA) Workshop - Granada (Spain)
November, 13-17	IAGA-III-Symposium Heliospheric Physics during and after a deep solar minimum - Luxor (Egypt)
November 23-26	Second Biennial Meeting of the Latin-American Association of Paleomagnetism and Geomagnetism (Latin-Mag) - Tandil (Argentina)

Publications

One of the most important achievements of IAGA during the last two years was to publish, with Springer, a series of five books, representing results obtained by the IAGA five divisions over recent years. As well as providing useful reference texts, the income to IAGA from Springer for this venture was used to support scientists attending the last SA in Sopron, Hungary.



IAGA News 48 was distributed end December 2011. It can be found at the IAGA web site www.iugg.org/IAGA. Among other things, reports from topical meetings co-sponsored by IAGA can be found there.

4. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

[The XIIth Scientific Assembly](#) is going to be held in Mérida Yucatán, Mexico, from August 26 to 31, 2013. The preparation of the scientific program is the core of our future activities.

Mioara MANDEA
IAGA Secretary General