

# Annual Report for 2013

## 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 in five Divisions and three Inter-divisional Commissions, each led by a Chair and a Co-Chair. Each Division/Commission may form Working Groups in given specialised topics and elects 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](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. Member Countries are represented at IAGA Assemblies by accredited Chief Delegates who may vote on matters, according to the voting rules set out in the Statutes and By-Laws, at meetings of the Conference of Delegates. Information on the EC members and National Correspondents are found at:

[http://www.iugg.org/IAGA/iaga\\_pages/science/sci\\_structure.htm](http://www.iugg.org/IAGA/iaga_pages/science/sci_structure.htm)

### 3. ACTIVITIES

The highlights of the IAGA year have to be the excellent Scientific Assembly in Mérida, Mexico, the very first IAGA summer school, and the successful launch of ESA's Swarm constellation in late November.

#### **The IAGA 2013 Scientific Assembly**

The IAGA 2013 Scientific Assembly took place August 26-30, 2013 in Mérida, Mexico, under the motto ``Living on a magnetic planet". The meeting was attended by 459 participants from 43 countries, a smaller number than expected and probably caused by the recent economic restrictions in the USA and southern Europe. 871 papers (609 oral and 262 posters) were presented in 51 sessions organized by the five IAGA Divisions and the two Inter-divisional Commissions. In Merida, it was a pleasure to recognise the achievements of IAGA scientists at all stages of their careers at the Open and Awards ceremony. The new Shen Kuo Medal for Interdisciplinary Achievements was awarded for the first time to Jean-Louis Le Mouél (France), the IAGA Long Service Medal honored Evgeny Kharin (Russia) and Michel Menvielle (France), and the IAGA Young Scientist Award was given to Henrique Aveiro (USA), Laura Holt (USA), Cristina Garcia-Lasanta (Spain) and Ilya Kuzichev (Russia). Participants enjoyed the very comfortable, safe and therefore relaxed environment of Mérida city and the charm and kindness of the local people. The IAGA EC members and the National Delegates warmly thanked the LOC and particularly its chair, Harald Böhnell, for the meeting organization.

#### *Conference of Delegates of the IAGA*

Two meetings of the Conference of Delegates of the IAGA were held during the IAGA Scientific meeting, the first on Tuesday August 27, 2013, 1600-1810, and the second on Friday August 30, 0830-1005. Both meetings were attended by 25 of the Chief Delegates from the 35 voting member countries that had sent accreditation letters. A very brief summary of the topics discussed and decisions and recommendations made can be found in *IAGA Newsletters no 50*.

#### *EC meetings*

Three meetings of the IAGA Executive Committee (EC) were held in Merida, the first (EC-1) on Sunday August 25, 2013, 1200-1715, the second (EC-2) on Tuesday August 27, 1900-2150, and the third (EC-3) on Saturday August 31, 1000-1200. The main decisions of these meetings are indicated in the last *IAGA Newsletters issue*.



IAGA XII motto

Opening and Award Ceremony



Opening and Award Ceremony



First IAGA school: Students and lectures during the field trip

### First IAGA Summer School

The first IAGA School took place also in Mérida, before the IAGA Scientific Assembly, from 19-27 August 2013. 20 pre- and post-graduate students from 11 countries worldwide (including China, Russia, Mexico, Brazil, Peru, USA, France, and Austria) attended the event. These attendees included students nominated for the IAGA Young Researcher Award, and nominated by the IAGA Division and Working Group leaders. The event was also open to any interested people able to fund themselves. The whole event took place in a very informal and friendly — though hard-working! — atmosphere. Not only the students, but also the lecturers enjoyed the event very much. All the students became highly visible during the IAGA Assembly. Their attitude and mutual support was evident also during scientific sessions, when very often a group of students attended talks and posters given by their colleagues, with lively discussion ensuing. The Summer School's success depended on Eduard Petrovsky's efforts to ensure it went ahead.

## Swarm

ESA selected Swarm as the fifth explorer mission in ESA's Living Planet Programme. The mission consisting of three spacecraft was successfully launched on November 22, 2013. The three spacecraft shall deliver data that will provide new insight into the Earth's system by improving our understanding of the Earth's interior as well as the near Earth electro-magnetic environment important for space weather effects. The very first high-accuracy and high spatial resolution measurements of the strength, direction and time variations of the magnetic field, complemented by precise navigation, accelerometer and electric field measurements, will provide the required observations to model the various sources of the geomagnetic field.

## Sponsored Topical Meetings

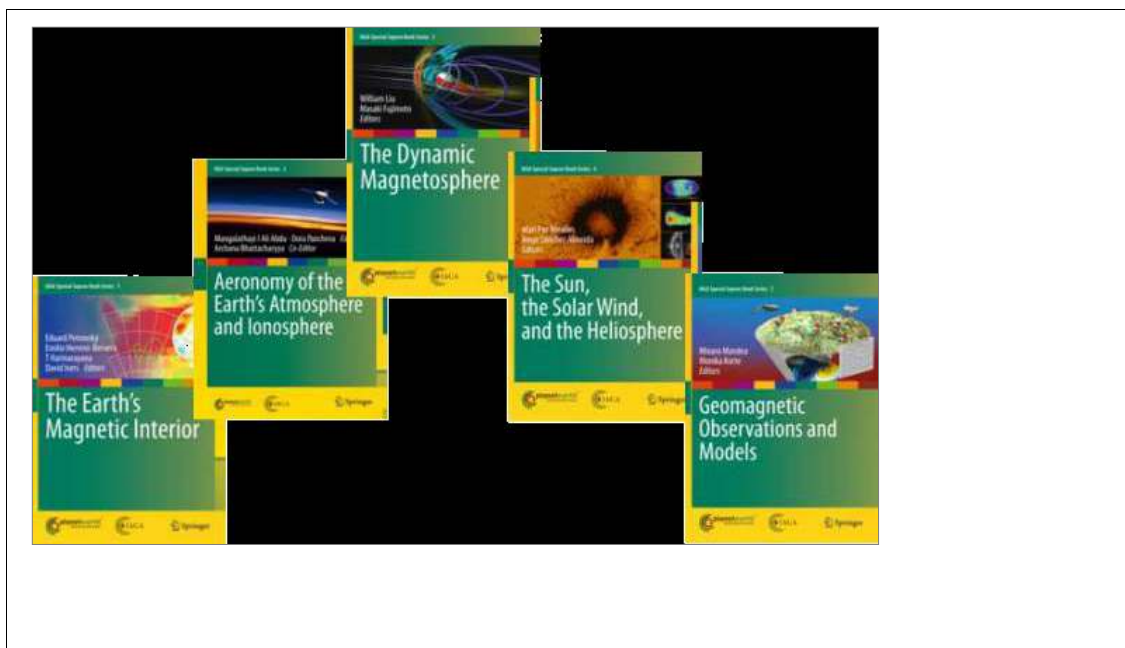
IAGA sponsored a topical meeting during 2013:

October, 23-25 Montevideo (Uruguay)	Third Biennial Meeting of the Latin American Association of Paleomagnetism and Geomagnetism - LatinMag
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## Publications

### *IAGA books*

One of the most important achievements of IAGA in recent years was to publish, with Springer, a series of five books, summarizing the state of the science of the IAGA five divisions. As well as providing useful reference texts, the income to IAGA from Springer for this venture was used to support scientists attending the last Scientific Assembly in Sopron, Hungary.

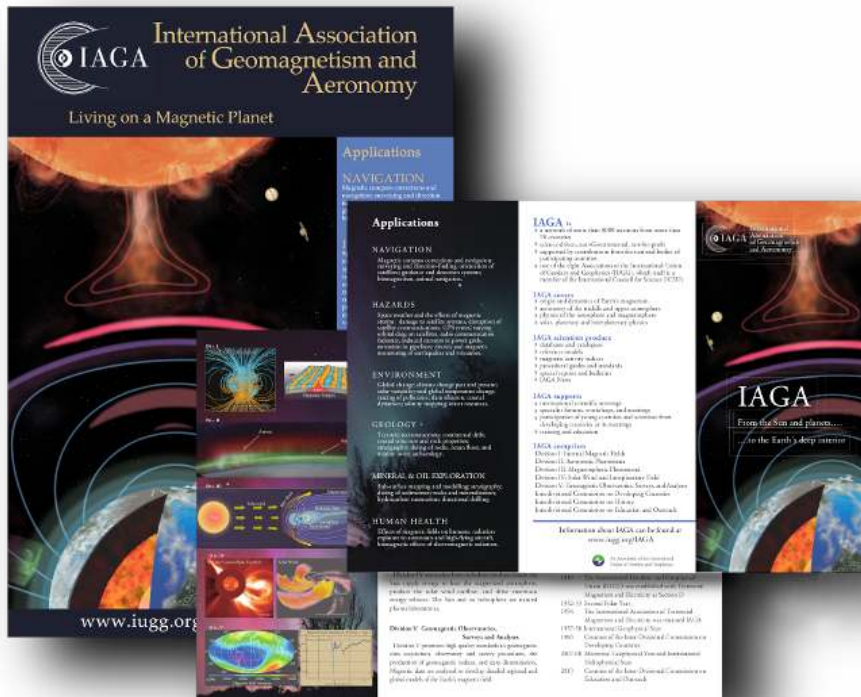




The last issue of IAGA Newsletters was distributed at the end of December 2013. It can be downloaded from the IAGA web site [www.iugg.org/IAGA](http://www.iugg.org/IAGA). Among other things, reports from EC and CoD meetings can be found there.

### New Flyer and Poster

During the XXII<sup>th</sup> SA the final version of the new IAGA flyer was agreed upon by the EC.



### Preparations for IAGA2017

Conference of Delegates approved the proposal to hold a joint Scientific Assembly with IAMAS and IAPSO in Cape Town in 2017, the other two Associations having already taken the decision to meet there. The organisation will be complex and challenging, but the potential benefits to our science are enormous. It will be the first time IAGA has held an Assembly in Africa.

### 4. FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The XXVI General Assembly of the IUGG will take place in Prague from June 22 to July 2, 2015. IAGA works on the scientific programmes in order to offer to its members an exciting multi-disciplinary conference.

Mioara MANDEA  
IAGA Secretary General