



INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORY OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES (INHIGEO)

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INHIGEO CIRCULAR 2021, Number 2 June 2021

Dear INHIGEO members and friends,

Welcome to a new INHIGEO Quarterly Circular, which provides you with the third circular to our online INHIGEO Symposium in July, organized by our Polish colleagues. It also contains miscellaneous news and information to the next INHIGEO Meeting, which is being planned for next year.

Thank you very much to those who have responded to our call for INHIGEO membership renewal. You will find an updated list of INHIGEO members at the back of our next Annual Record. **Please check your personal entry and report any error, you may notice, to me.**

I'd like to use this opportunity to thank all those, who make sure that INHIGEO continues to be a strong and lively enterprise despite the difficulties of the pandemic.

Best wishes to all of you: stay safe!

Martina Kölbl-Ebert
INHIGEO Secretary General

Attachments:

- IUGS Annual Report
- 3rd circular to the 46th INHIGEO Symposium 19–22 July 2021
- JAHIGEO Newsletter

Anniversaries Series for the IUGS Website and E Bulletin: new papers published!

Silvia Figueirôa (Brazil), William Brice (USA) and Margaret Lopes (Brazil):

Born 170 years ago – Orville Adelbert Derby (1851–1915) and Brazilian geology

Orville A. Derby was born July 23, 1851, in Kellogsville, New York. He studied Geology at Cornell University at just the right time, as Professor Hartt was in the process of developing an expedition to Brazil. Young Orville was one of the eleven students chosen to be part of this exploration in 1870, known as the “First Morgan Expedition”. This fact was to change Derby’s life forever, for Brazil became the centre of his career, his life, and later his adopted home.

IUGS E-Bulletin 174, May 2021;

http://www.inhigeo.com/anniversaries/INHIGEO_Anniversary_Derby.pdf

Carol Bacon (Australia):

Died 110 years ago – William Frederick Petterd (1849–1910) and Tasmanian mineralogy

The author of the first catalogue of the minerals known to occur in Tasmania, William Frederick Petterd (1849–1910), died just over 110 years ago, on 15 April 1910. He had an extraordinary interest in the natural world and when little more than a boy he was looked upon as an authority in matters relating to Australian conchology and entomology. He travelled widely through parts of Polynesia and Queensland on collecting expeditions and described 244 species of minerals, 40 of which had not been recorded in other parts of Australia, including crocoisite (crocoite), PbCrO_4 , (now the State mineral emblem of Tasmania).

IUGS E-Bulletin 175, June 2021;

http://www.inhigeo.com/anniversaries/INHIGEO_Anniversary_Petterd.pdf

IUGS Journal Episodes:

History of the International Geological Congress 1878–2000

The outstanding congresses in this series of papers have now been assigned to authors and are in progress. Many thanks to all involved for taking on these interesting research projects.

Classic Papers series

The Classic Papers series established in 2000 has been well received and seventeen have been published to date – further contributions to the series expanding the range of disciplines and geographical areas covered are requested. Suggestions for topics would be most welcome.

<http://www.inhigeo.com/publications.html>

If you are interested in submitting contributions for this historical series in Episodes, please contact the INHIGEO [Publications and Outreach Coordinator](#).

Kathleen Histon

46th INHIGEO Symposium 19–22 July 2021

The 3rd Circular has been attached to this INHIGEO Quarterly Circular.

47th INHIGEO Symposium 2022 at Les Eyzies in southwestern France

The Comité français d’Histoire de la Géologie (COFRHIGEO) will organize the 2022 INHIGEO Congress in France, in September 2022, in the Périgord region (southwestern France). The main venue of the congress will be Les Eyzies, a picturesque village in the Vézère Valley, otherwise known for its many prehistoric sites (Lascaux, Cro-Magnon, La Madeleine, Font de Gaume, Combarelle, etc.). We present here a program which is still provisional and subject to possible revision.

Périgord is an active tourist region with many accommodation offers at reasonable prices (hotels, AirBnB). There are also accommodation possibilities in Les Eyzies, notably the Maison François Bordès, managed by the University of Bordeaux. The village is also well served by train from the city of Bordeaux.

Conference talks and poster sessions will take place at the Musée national de la Préhistoire [National Museum of Prehistory] of Les Eyzies, from September 16th to 20th, 2022. The 4-day conference would include three days of talks and scientific activities, and one-day excursion in the Vézère Valley (Lascaux IV, Combarelle, Font de Gaume...). The main scientific themes will be:

- History of Quaternary geology, prehistory and geology of caves;
- History of Miocene geology, since the region includes the Burdigalian and Aquitanian stratotypes;
- Other sessions of the conference will cover all subjects related to the history of geosciences.

In addition, pre- and post-conference excursions, subject to independent pricing and organization, will be planned:

- Pre-conference excursion, from Poitiers to Les Eyzies (September 15th): The impact sites of Chassenon-Rochecouart resulted from the fall of an asteroid in Triassic times. Molten and brecciated rocks, observed by Desmaret in 1773, were long taken for volcanic rocks, and remained a geological enigma until the 1960s, when the impact origin was recognized.
- Post-conference excursion, from Les Eyzies to Bordeaux (September 21st to 24th [?]): The Vézère Valley and other prehistoric sites further south, in Périgord, Quercy and possibly Ariège, will be visited. The excursion will end with the Miocene sites of the Bordeaux region: Sainte-Croix-du-Mont (studied since 1620); the Saucats and La Brède Natural Geological Reserve (Burdigalian and Aquitanian stratotypes, Montesquieu’s house). Some Bordeaux vineyards and cellars, notably the Bordeaux Wine Museum, will also be on the program.

The Conference program will be supervised by a Scientific committee, chaired by Philippe Taquet, former president of the INHIGEO and current president of the COFRHIGEO. The material organization (registrations, financial management) will be entrusted to an organizing committee, chaired by Claudine Cohen and Pascal Richet. It will benefit from several

sponsorships and the services of the association *Naturalia et Biologia*. The abstract and excursion booklets, written in English, will be published in digital formats, and if possible, in hard copy. A first circular will be sent by the end of September, with a request for a letter of intent by the end of 2021.

After a year of pandemic, we invite you with great pleasure to come to Les Eyzies for a congress which will be the occasion to meet again and to visit interesting sites in a pleasant region.

For the COFRHIGEO, the secretary,
Gaston Godard

Meeting Invitation

Dear INHIGEO colleagues

Here is a notice about a meeting planned in 2022 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth (in Bonn) of Julius von Haast, who had a distinguished career in New Zealand. I hope that some of you may be interested in participating in this meeting.

In recent years the Geoscience Society of New Zealand has published several collections of letters written by Haast, available on the web as downloadable PDF files, You may be interested in the correspondence between Haast and Hochstetter – see link below.

The letters of Ferdinand von Hochstetter to Julius Haast, transcribed and edited by Sascha Nolden

With best wishes from New Zealand
Simon Nathan

Commemorating Julius von Haast

May 2022 is the 200th anniversary of the birth (in Bonn) of Julius von Haast. After he emigrated to New Zealand he had a distinguished career as an explorer, geologist, moa expert, botanist and university professor. He founded the Canterbury Museum in Christchurch in 1867, and was its Director until his death twenty years later.

To celebrate the varied contributions made by Haast, a conference in Christchurch, organised by Canterbury Museum, is planned for the weekend of 30 April – 1 May 2022. It will include talks on different aspects of his life and career. The conference will be live-streamed so that people from overseas can participate.

We are keen to hear from people who may be interested in attending and participating so that we can make up a preliminary programme and keep in touch.

<https://www.canterburymuseum.com/whats-on/celebration-of-the-life-of-julius-von-haast/>

Mid-year Letter from the IUGS President (11 May 2021)

IGC Meetings: With the Local Organising Committee (LOC) we have cancelled the 36th IGC meeting that was planned for Delhi in August 2021. We are now helping the LOC in reimbursing all of the congress registration fees, field-trip registration and exhibition registration and you will be, or have been, contacted to provide information to the LOC for the refund. Although this level of operational involvement is not the role of the President of the IUGS, I have personally taken on the leadership with Dr Ranjit Rath of the LOC, the aim being, as far as is possible, to restore confidence in the IUGS and the IGC. I note that the Indian LOC will organise a COVID rescheduled virtual 36th IGC meeting in March 2022, which will include discussions on geoscience and society at the political level in the country, to be followed by a two-day high-level virtual webinar on the major themes of IUGS science.

The 37th IUGS in Busan, Republic of Korea is the focus for the next IGC assembly, and we have already agreed that the 38th IGC will take place in St Petersburg, Russia in 2028.

Anniversaries and outreach: IUGS is 60 years old in 2021 and the UNESCO IGCP will have been running for 50 years in 2022. We thus plan a series of outreach events from autumn 2021 through to May/June 2022 to celebrate these anniversaries with IUGS members, UNESCO and other ISC partners.

Although the IUGS programmes and commissions are themselves active in outreach and communication and IUGS itself has its own outreach and publication activities, I feel that IUGS needs more visibility in public and government engagement. This can come through enhancing our existing channels, but in a more reactive and fluid way – one activity that the executive is looking at is enhancing the IUGS image overall and for this, we will need to invest in an active engagement programme, such as one that might utilise our upcoming anniversaries.

Strategy and Statutes: We will be increasing our interaction with other ISC Unions. I have met with the ISC Geo-Unions and we have joined the ISC standing committee on disaster risk reduction (ISC SC-DRR). We have nominated people for ISC board roles who we can work with in increasing the reach of IUGS.

Geoscience is at a point in which the discipline is going through the biggest changes for decades as we enter the energy transition towards zero-carbon, and there is an ongoing perception that geology is mainly about extracting resources. We need to emphasise the role of geology in underpinning sustainable development, and I believe IUGS needs a strong series of activities that show how geology can underpin the UN Sustainable Development Goals. However, I am pleased that many of our activities do work towards the SDG and also that our partnership with UNESCO underpins this.

To underline the role of the IUGS in delivering the UN SDG, we will rewrite the IUGS strategy (while not reinventing the wheel) and we will present this alongside a revised set of statutes at the IUGS 60th anniversary in 2022.

John Ludden, IUGS President

Membership News

Barry Cooper (INHIGEO Past-President) has been awarded the Tom Vallance Medal of the Geological Society of Australia for 2021 for his contribution to the history of geology. The medal has been presented on 13 May.

The Tom Vallance Medal is a relatively new award commemorating the contribution of past INHIGEO Vice President, the late Tom Vallance. Past recipients of the Vallance Medal have been David Branagan, David Oldroyd, Tom Darragh and Sue Turner, have all also been INHIGEO members.

Sadly, INHIGEO member for the Netherlands, **Frederik van Veen** has died 29 March 2021.



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Next Circular

Dear INHIGEO members, you will receive the next circular with information updates around September 23rd. Until then: Take care and stay healthy!

Kind regards
Martina Kölbl-Ebert