

IAMG Council Meeting, 2005

Sunday, 21 August 2005, Hart House, University of Toronto

Attendees

Frits Agterberg, President
Nick Fisher, Vice President
Gina Ross, Treasurer
Clayton Deutsch, Secretary General
Graeme Bonham-Carter, Past President
Maria João Pereira, Councilor
Qiuming Cheng, Councilor
Heinz Burger, Awards Committee Chair
Mike Hohn, Publications Committee Chair
Tim Coburn, Past Student Grants Committee Chair
Helmut Schaeben, Student Affairs Chair
Harald Poelchau, IAMG Newsletter Editor
Ed Sharp, Editor, Mathematical Geology
Dan Merriam, Editor, Natural Resources Research
Eric Grunsky, Webmaster
Zhijun Chen, Student Chapter
Abani Samal, Student Chapter

President Agterberg convened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. The Agenda is attached.

Agenda for IAMG Council Meeting

Toronto, Canada
Sunday August 21st, 2005
2:00 to 5:00pm

Location:

2nd Floor Meeting Room
Hart House, University of Toronto

1. Welcome by Frits Agterberg, President
 2. Frits Agterberg, President 10 mins
 3. Nick Fisher, Vice President 10 mins
 4. Clayton V. Deutsch, Secretary General 10 mins
 5. Gina Ross, Treasurer 20 mins
 6. Michael Ed. Hohn (Publications Committee) 20 mins
 7. Alex Desbarats Sean McKenna (Chair of Distinguished Lecturers) 10 mins
 8. Tim Coburn (Student Grants Committee) 10 mins
 9. Abani Samal (Student Chapters Representative) 10 mins
 10. Helmut Schaeben (Chair of Student Affairs) 10 mins
 11. Eric Grunsky (Webmaster) 20 mins
 12. Pamela Lyons (IAMG office) 20 mins
 13. New Business 20 mins
 14. 5pm End of Meeting
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President's Report

President Agterberg's report was distributed in advance of the meeting (see attached). There was

further discussion on a focused group or commission to review constitution and guidelines. A number of issues were discussed informally.

After taking over from the previous Council at the 32nd International Geological Congress (IGC) in Florence, August 2004, we have continued to run the IAMG in the same vein as it was governed before. According to our Constitution, the IAMG is affiliated with two parent organizations: the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) and the International Statistical Institute (ISI).

Association with IUGS does not restrict us to hold one annual meeting every four years during IGCs. We are encouraging joint meetings with IUGS commissions at our other annual conferences like this year's sessions co-sponsored by the IUGS Commission for the Management and Application for Geoscience Information (CGI), which is the youngest IUGS sub-body formed last year in Florence. Next year, at our annual conference to be held in Liège, Belgium, September 3-8, 2006, there will be a joint symposium with the International Stratigraphic Commission, the oldest IUGS sub-body.

Our co-operation with ISI during the past year consisted of a well-attended Invited Paper Meeting during the 55th Session of the International Statistical Institute in Sydney, Australia, April 5-12, 2005 with the title "Statistical analysis of data with constrained sample space". At that time the IAMG also officially became an Affiliated Member of the ISI. We expect that ties with ISI will become even stronger in future.

This year we are co-sponsoring two other international meetings: 8th International Conference on Fluvial Sedimentology (ICFC) held in Delft, the Netherlands, August 7-12, 2005, and 2nd Compositional Data Analysis Workshop (CoDaWork-05), Girona, Spain, October 19-21, 2005. Next year we will co-sponsor the Ninth International Symposium on Mineral Exploration (ISME IX) to be held in Bandung, Indonesia, September 19-21, 2006. Other proposals for joint meetings during 2006 and later would be welcomed.

Two years from now our Annual Conference will be hosted by the China University of Geosciences (CUG), Wuhan and Beijing, September 2007. The 2008 IAMG Meeting will coincide with the 33rd International Geological Congress in Oslo, Norway. Proposals for organizing the IAMG 2009 Conference are to be called in December 2006 but it is not too early to consider possible host institutions preferably in North America again, because the next three meetings will be held in Europe and Asia.

A new type of honor recently approved by Council is the Georges Matheron Lecture to be held during IAMG conferences. This recognizes the scientist who pioneered and made lasting contributions in the fields of spatial statistics and mathematical morphology. We are indebted to the Matheron family for granting the IAMG the honor to organize this event annually from 2006 onward. The GM Lecturers will be selected by a committee chaired by the IAMG Vice President.

We are trying to increase the number of IAMG members, which had been decreasing in recent years, due to retirements of long-term members and other reasons. Special efforts are being made to recruit new student members. There are now two new classes of IAMG membership: 4-year membership renewals and lifetime membership. Members receive printed copies of our newsletter again. Our student grant program is continuing. In December 2004 our second IAMG Student Chapter was formed at CUG Wuhan with 37 members.

Our three international journals (Mathematical Geology, Computers & Geosciences, and Natural Resources Research) continue to flourish. Our four committees (Publications, Awards, Distinguished Lecturer and Student Affairs) are in place with new members. The IAMG Office in Kingston, Ontario, serves us well. Challenges for the coming years are to steer the IAMG with emphasis on increasing our membership and fostering new applications and collaborations.

Vice President's Report

Nothing to report.

Secretary General's Report

Secretary General Deutsch's report was distributed in advance of the meeting (see attached). Additional information on web hosting and web design was circulated. There was discussion on the transfer of responsibility of the website to the Secretary General.

The files of the Secretary General were received and organized in Edmonton. Certificates and plaques were prepared.

As in previous years, a report was submitted to IUGS. No additional funds are expected this year.

The possibility of redesigning the IAMG web site was considered; quotes were obtained. Third party hosting www.iamg.org was also considered; quotes were obtained.

Preparations were made for this meeting.

Webmaster's Report

Agenda item 12 was moved forward in the agenda because of discussion related to the Secretary General's report. Webmaster Grunsky will circulate an analysis of website in near future. Webmaster agrees that moving site from Government of Canada is a good idea. Attendees expressed gratitude to Webmaster Grunsky for longstanding website support and expressed understanding for his desire to pass on the responsibility for the website.

Report from the IAMG Webmaster - 2005

Summary

The IAMG website is in good shape. Access to IAMG web pages and program code for Computers & Geosciences continues to grow. A change in the management of the IAMG website is being planned and will take place during the next few months. This is being coordinated between the Secretary-General (Clayton Deutsch) and the Webmaster (Eric Grunsky).

WWW Activity

Access to the IAMG website continues to grow. An examination of "page hits" during the past 10 years has shown a steady increase in access to the site. Barplots for the the website "hits" can be viewed at <http://www.iamg.org/webstats.html>. In 2003 almost 250,000 pages were accessed. In 2004, the number pages accessed was down to about 175,000 hits, although some log information may have been lost. As of August 31st, 2005, almost 250,000 pages have been visited, almost more than double of that for 2003. The page hits account for legitimate pages visited but may also include a substantial number of visits from search engine crawlers. Even so, the IAMG website has proven to be a useful tool for IAMG members and non-members. A detailed analysis of which pages were accessed (i.e. by-laws, newsletters, awards, guidelines) has not been made however, this information can be extracted if required by the IAMG executive or council members.

FTP Activity

Access to program code for Computers & Geosciences continues with more than 20,000 programs accessed from January 1st to July 31st, 2005. Similar to www activity in 2003 and 2004, there were more than 40,000 programs downloaded in 2003 and slightly less than 40,000 programs downloaded in 2004. (see <http://www.iamg.org/webstats.html>)

Before 2002, programs were offered in .zip, .hqx and .tar.gz format. Since 2002, only .zip files are being placed on the site. Most operating systems now accommodate .zip files and this makes the administration of program code much easier.

Although administration of the IAMG web site will be change within the next few months, management of the ftp site for Computers & Geosciences program code will continue to stay with the journal. Eric Grunsky will continue to manage the ftp site for the foreseeable future.

IAMG Newsletters Access

Harald Poelchau (Newsletter 70) has shown that accessing the IAMG Newsletter has not been very popular. The decision to re-instate mailing hardcopy Newsletters of the Association will ensure that every member gets a chance to "lose it on their desk"! In any case, a digital copy of the Newsletter will continue to be available on the IAMG website. This will ensure that an archival copy of the Newsletter is always available and is a way to advertise the activities of the Association for non-members. In addition, it promotes the "transparency" of the IAMG.

IAMG Mirror Site

At the recent council meeting at the IAMG2005 meeting in Toronto, a discussion about the development of a mirror site for the IAMG was raised. Previous attempts to set up mirror sites (in Europe and Japan) failed because the host site (Natural Resources Canada) was making significant changes to the administration of its web servers which made mirroring of the IAMG website difficult. During the council meeting, it was mentioned that China might be a potential host for a mirror site for the IAMG. For those who use the internet in China, access to websites outside of China is costly. These costs could be significantly reduced if a mirror site could be implemented within China. Any decision to proceed with this will be dependent on how the new IAMG website will be hosted and managed.

Transition of the IAMG website

Earlier this year, Eric Grunsky advised Frits Agterberg that he wishes to step down as IAMG webmaster. Eric believes that he has contributed as much as he can to the website and believes it is time for some new ideas and technology to overhaul the website. Frits asked Clayton Deutsch to take part in the discussion as to how the website might migrate. Several emails were exchanged between Frits, Clayton and Eric. Clayton has proposed that a company be contracted to manage the website. Clayton also recommended that another company be contracted to re-design the IAMG webpages. After a round of discussions, it was suggested that the IAMG migrate towards a "Content Management System". This type of system provides a template for the typical IAMG web page which is standardized across the website. The webmaster would then be responsible for the page contents only. This simplifies the task of keeping web pages current. This approach was discussed at the IAMG council meeting in Toronto. It was agreed that Clayton and Eric would work towards a new website and ensure an orderly transition.

At this time, a designated webmaster has not been nominated. This is an unresolved issue. Currently the name www.iamg.org is registered with Network Solutions. The domain name is valid until 2008. The IAMG domain name should be carefully managed by the IAMG webmaster or other designated official. The domain name is leased and it can be lost if it is not renewed in time. The domain name is currently managed by the webmaster and the management of the domain name should not be overlooked when the IAMG website is migrated.

13-September-2005

Eric Grunsky

IAMG Webmaster

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ross's report was distributed in advance of the meeting (see attached). Attendees commended Treasurer Ross for thoroughness and budget. There was agreement to have the finances formally audited.

[Click here to view the treasurer's report.](#)

Publications Committee Report

Mathematical Geology

Submissions during 2005 are running ahead of that in previous years. Quite likely this is the result of the introduction of a web based submission system. An additional 9 articles were submitted as part of a special issue on compositional data analysis. As in previous years, time from receipt of a manuscript to time of publication is about one year if minimal revision is required.

The number of papers to be published in 2005 is similar to that of previous years:

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Papers	47	44	50	50	45	47
Book Reviews	9	6	9	8	9	8
Letters to Editor	3	2	0	3	1	0
Teacher's Aides	0	3	0	0	0	0
Submissions	87	54	74*	75*	66*	48!
Association Announcement	1	3	3	2	1	1

*excluding special issues

!period January through June

The scientific content of the journal is determined entirely by the nature of the manuscripts submitted. For example, no teacher's aides or letters have been published because there were no submissions. At the present time the editor is publishing all manuscripts that pass review. For the editor to exercise any direction over the scientific content of the journal under the current page agreement, annual submissions would need to reach at least 90 per year.

The journal was running nearly on schedule until Springer assumed the production duties being performed by Kluwer. As a consequence, since February the journal has again fallen about three months behind schedule. Hopefully the journal will be back on schedule by the end of the calendar year. The manuscripts for v.38 issues 1 and 2 are currently with Springer's production editor.

A web-based system has been available for manuscript submissions for one year now. Even so the editor still receives and reviews paper submissions. It will be at least another year of transition

while the old paper system is merged with the web-based system. While this system seems to be the way of the future, there is a new innovation. This is a high-speed copier which generates pdf files from paper and sends the pdf files out as e-mails. It is so rapid that a 30 page manuscript can be copied and sent out in less than a minute. In fact, if this system had been available two years ago, I would have delay a move to a web-based submission system. One advantage of the web-based submission system is that it becomes possible to distribute the review of manuscripts among the associate editors. As a consequence I expect associate editors to have a much more active role in the review process than in the past. At the present time this role is being tested by the deputy editor.

W. Edwin Sharp, Editor-in-Chief
Mathematical Geology

Computers & Geosciences

Volume 30 (2004) contained 9 issues (9-10 were combined), a total of 1127 pages, 96 regular articles, 6 short notes, 2 book reviews and 1 letter to the editor. Number 4 was a special issue entitled "Multi-dimensional geospatial technology for geosciences" edited by Zhilin Li and Chris Gold. Of the 102 papers published in volume 30, 63 (62%) were accompanied by code that was made available for public access on the IAMG server. The number of papers submitted in the last year is up sharply, mainly due to the electronic submission process. The first 7 issues of volume 31 (2005) have a total of 948 pages (94 papers), with an expected total of 1350 pages (135 papers) for the whole volume. Rejection rate is up: of the 252 decisions made on papers submitted electronically since about August 2004, 127 were accepted and 125 were rejected- almost exactly a 50% rejection rate.

I haven't seen the Impact Factor for 2004, but 2003 was 0.709, I think the best ever. The two most frequently downloaded articles (Elsevier's download statistics can be found at <http://www1.elsevier.com/homepage/sad/downloads/00983004.html>) from April 2004-April 2005 were "A MATLAB-based three-dimensional viewer" by Alan Witten (last year Alan's paper "Geophysica: MATLAB-based software for the simulation, display and processing of near-surface geophysical data" was the most downloaded), and Edzer Pebesma's paper "Multivariable geostatistics in S: the gstat package". Sadly, Alan Witten passed away early in 2005. We will miss his excellent contributions, and incisive reviews.

Independently of the download information, the Best Paper committee selected Edzer Pebesma's paper as the Best Paper for volume 30 (2004), number 7, pages 683-691.

Our former Managing Editor, Kathryn MacKinnon is receiving IAMG's Certificate of Achievement at the IAMG'05 banquet for her 10 years of excellent service to the journal. Jean Hubay is our new Managing Editor, and she is coping very well with the transition period from our original e-submission system to a new more advanced system that started June 1, 2005.

A new 5-year contract between IAMG and Elsevier was signed this spring. The royalties generated by the journal for IAMG during 2004 were in excess of \$60,000, up about 17% over 2003.

Graeme Bonham-Carter, Editor-in-Chief
Computers & Geosciences

Natural Resources Research

Year Volume Number of Number of
Manuscripts Submitted Manuscripts Published

2001	10	42	20
2002	11	28	24

2003	12	24	24
2004	13	27	23
2005	14	15+	8+

as of 27 July 2005

At present I have only five ms in hand of which one needed a complete rewrite and was returned to the author, at least two others will be rejected and possibly a third. The submission of good mss has slowed, but this is true not only for NRR but other journals as well (including the AAPG Bulletin). My deadline for issue number 3 passed a month ago. Numbers 1 (published) and 2 (in page proof) were six month behind schedule for lack of acceptable mss and partly because of the change in publisher. I now have gone through three publishers, five copy editors, and the journal is now typeset in India. Education starts all over with each change.

To my knowledge I have had only six paper by identified AAPG members submitted (as part of a symposium). We definitely need their support!!!! Rejection rate varies from year to year but ranges from about 21 to 38%; this year so far, it is 20% but promises to increase when the mss in the system are finished being processed. We are getting a lot of manuscripts from overseas or at least by foreign authors. Most of the mss forwarded to my by the editors of JMG and C&G are by foreign authors and are usually rejected for one reason or another.

Now the good news. We are processing papers from a symposium held in Canada several years ago. It is being organized and managed by Ken Logan, who is with Transcanada in Calgary. It is taking much longer than he anticipated but supposedly all the mss will be in my hands by the end of July. This will be a special issue (v. 14, no. 3) with seven papers and an introduction by Ken; it should prove to be a successful venture.

I am getting lots of attention from nongeologists about the paper of David Pimentel and Tad Patzek on 'Ethanol Production Using Corn, Switchgrass, and Wood' (NRR14/1). It seems we have found a subject of great concern and as a result many are reading the journal that otherwise wouldn't. I'll keep you informed about developments but they could be interesting.

Encourage your colleagues and friends to submit papers for consideration and please do so yourselves.

Daniel F. Merriam, Editor-in-chief
Natural Resources Research

IAMG Studies In Mathematical Geology (SMG)

According to Michael Seiden, the Oxford University Press Director of Marketing and Online Commerce, sales activity for the OUP-IAMG Studies in Mathematical Geology series has not been very good. Total sales (Aug. 2004 through July 2005) were 140 copies earning \$6865.00. The most recent monograph (No. 7-Geostatistical Analysis Of Compositional Data by Vera Pawlowsky-Glahn and R.A. Olea, 2004) has sold only 104 copies in the 12-month period Aug. 2004 through July 2005, despite OUP efforts, described as two mailings (one to geologists and one to mathematicians and statisticians), display at the American Geophysical Union and American Statistical Association conferences, and a customized e-flyer prepared at the request of the authors. The volume thus has a "life-time" sales of 362 copies; OUP had reported 222 copies sold in the 3 months following its appearance in May 2004.

There are only four in-print titles now; as described by Mr. Seiden: "two are extremely old, one is fairly old, and one was published about 12 months ago." The OUP website listed 5 titles in July 2005, including out-of-stock No. 2-Oil And Gas Forecasting which had sold 642 copies, "lifetime" (1990-2004; John Rauschenberg, OUP editor in charge of SMG production until August 2004 approached OUP Marketing about reprinting this number, evidently without success).

In-print SMG titles include No. 3-Geostatistical Glossary And Multilingual Dictionary which has sold 801 copies "lifetime" (since 1991-only 6 copies were sold from Aug. 2004 through July 2005); No. 5-Computers In Geology has sold 645 copies "lifetime" (since 1993-July 2005), with

one copy sold during the period of this report; No. 6-Modern Spatiotemporal Geostatistics had sold 830 copies through July 2004 (it appeared in 2000) and sold 29 copies during the current period for a total of 859; No. 7-Geostatistical Analysis Of Compositional Data has sold 326 "lifetime" copies.

Work is underway on SMG No. 8, with the preliminary title "Statistical Methods for Estimating Petroleum Resources." This is a lengthy unpublished document written by the late Prof. P.J. Lee during his tenure at National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan. A release from the author's estate has been secured. Extensive work on the mathematical notation (not yet perfected) has been necessary and all of the illustrations are being recreated at present with the assistance of Prof. John Davis. I provided Oxford with camera-ready copy for SMG volumes Nos. 3, 5, 6, and 7 and am prepared to send either copy or electronic files once the manuscript has been completed and the contract has been drafted and approved. The elapsed time between submission of the copy for SMG No. 7 and its appearance was disappointingly lengthy. I hope that OUP staff assigned to SMG series production will be more stable in 2006 than in the past several years. The remarkable turnover reported last year has continued, and in addition, the Earth Sciences editor, Cliff Mills, is now retired. As of this time, it has not yet been determined who will be in charge of the IAMG series at Oxford and I am currently awaiting word from Michael Penn, editor in charge of Mathematics, Statistics, and Physics.

Jo Anne DeGraffenreid, Editor
IAMG Studies In Mathematical Geology

IAMG Newsletter

NL69 and 70 (Dec. 2004 & June 2005) were mailed as hardcopy to all members - a change in policy, as the previous five issues were only available from the IAMG website. Also, these two NLs were the first to be printed in full color. With NL70 we moved from using Adobe PageMaker for producing the Newsletter to Adobe InDesign because PageMaker is now a dead-end product which will not be upgraded to run on the current Mac OS10. InDesign, after the usual steep learning curve, proved to be easier to use and more flexible. The Kingston Office didn't have any problem working with the files for printing.

As pointed out in the last Editorial, Frits Agterberg was right when he asked for the change to hardcopy mailing. Download statistics indicate that less than half of the IAMG membership bothered to look at or download the electronic NL issues.

Harald S. Poelchau, Editor
IAMG Newsletter

Awards Committee Report

In 2005 two new members joined the Awards Committee: Antonella Buccianti (Italy) and Jef Caers (USA). Their terms will run for four years and will end in spring 2007. They replaced A. Journel and Hugh Rollinson whose terms ended in 2004. The other members of the Awards Committee are Qiuming Cheng (Canada), Stephen Henley (UK), and Heinz Burger (Germany, chair). The committee has posted a call for nominations for the John Griffith Teaching Award and the 2006 Krumbein Medal in the IAMG newsletter No. 70, June 2005.

In 2005 the Awards Committee had to evaluate the proposals for the Felix Chayes Prize (winner: Eric Grunsky) and the Vistelius Award (winner Sebastien Strebelle). There were three nominations for both awards. Details about the evaluation procedure are given in IAMG Newsletter No. 70, p. 4.

The corresponding laudatios for the award winners are given by G. Bonham Carter and A.

Journal (see IAMG Newsletter No. 68, p. 4 ff). According to our rules the laudatios will also be published on the IAMG website and additionally in Mathematical Geology and Computers & Geosciences. (It should be mentioned here that the list of IAMG Award winners on our website must be updated. The last entry is 2002 for the Krumbein Medal and Griffith Award. And 2003 for the F. Chayes Prize and the Vistelius Award.)

For the last evaluation round again a mixed procedure was necessary: Not all committee members judged on the basis of 10-scale scores.. Instead of this fine scale the preferred evaluation method of two committee members was ranking (1=best, etc.). Therefore also the numerical scores were transformed into ranks and the winner were determined by the lowest sum of ranks from all committee members. This decision - which is not according to our Bylaws - was confirmed by the IAMG president.

Conclusion: The guidelines should be changed so that the evaluation can be based on ranks instead of numerical scores on a 1 to 10 scale. This makes sense because the quality of our candidates is always within the small range of 6 to 10 scores which is similar to the range of ranks.

The number of nominations is still unsatisfactory! At the moment a call for nominations is published in the IAMG newsletter and it will be necessary that the IAMG president will send a memo to all IAMG members by e-mail at least two weeks before the deadline ends (next action in the second week of January 2006). Both versions should contain all necessary details about the nomination procedure.

In the preceding Awards Report I've stated: A high number of qualified candidates is a prerequisite for assuring meritorious winners. Experience has shown that personal contacts to heads of research groups, institutes etc. are the best way to increase the number of suitable nominations. Especially IAMG Council members and other interested IAMG members are encouraged to activate their own contacts with respect to this task.

It would also be helpful for non native English speaking proponents to publish one or two examples of a "good" proposal on the IAMG website. (I couldn't find a link on the Awards page).

H. Burger
Chair, IAMG Awards Committee

Distinguished Lectures Committee Report Report of the IAMG Distinguished Lecturer Committee

IAMG General Assembly

Sunday, August 21st 2005, University of Toronto, Canada

Sean A. McKenna, Committee Chair

- The IAMG Distinguished Lecturer Series committee approved by council ballot on May 21st, 2005, currently consists of Sean McKenna (Sandia National Laboratories), Alexandre Desbarats (Geological Survey of Canada), Qiuming Chen (York University), Tim Coburn (Abilene Christian University), Jaime Gomez-Hernandez (Universidad Politechnia Valencia) Maria-Theresa Schafmesiter (Ernst Moritz Arndt University of Greifswald), Sanjay Srinivasan (University of Texas) and Frits Agterberg (ex-officio). This is the first report from this newly formed committee. The committee appreciates the willingness of Alexandre Desbarats to remain a member after his tenure as committee chairman ended last year.
- Frits Agterberg completed the second leg of his DL tour by delivering 19 lectures and a 5 day short course from October 5th to December 15th at a number of locations in Europe. The first leg

of Frits' tour was completed earlier in 2004 and covered locations in the southern hemisphere. A detailed report on Frits' activities on this second leg of his tour is provided in attachment.

- Dr. Lawrence J. Drew of the United States Geological Survey was the 2005 DL and completed a successful tour of several locations in eastern Europe between May 2nd and May 22nd. Larry gave 9 talks in The Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Serbia and Hungary. A concise report on locations of presentations and allocation of costs is attached to this email. Larry has also made available a hard copy photo essay of his travels as DL.

- A call for nominations for the 2006 Distinguished Lecturer was published in the June 2004 Newsletter. It was repeated on the IAMG web site and in the December, 2004 Newsletter. Although these announcements were prior to the formation of the current committee, to our knowledge, they did not generate a single nomination.

- The search for the next DL was initiated in the spring of 2005 with the goal of finding someone who had a broad background in the area of mathematical geology, who was an excellent speaker, who was well known beyond the borders of IAMG and who would work to spread enthusiasm for IAMG. Email conversations among the DL committee generated several lists of potential DL nominees. From these lists, Jean-Laurent Mallet (INPL-ENSG) was selected as the top choice for a DL nomination. Sean McKenna contacted Dr. Mallet, who indicated that he was honored by the interest in a potential nomination, but could not serve in that position in 2006. He may be interested in serving in this position in 2007 and the committee will keep in touch with him.

The second name on the list was Dr. Larry Lake (University of Texas). Larry was contacted and agreed to be put forward as a nominee. This touched off a large round of emails within the committee, mainly between Frits Agterberg and Sean McKenna. Dr. Lake was not an IAMG member at this time. The DL rules do not require IAMG membership; however, some felt that the rules should be amended to include IAMG membership as a requirement. Other members of the committee are strongly opposed to any change to the current rule. Dr. Lake has published a considerable amount of work in the general area of "mathematical geology", is known to be an engaging speaker and was enthusiastic about serving as an advocate for IAMG if nominated to the DL position. I have told Dr. Lake that he must become a member of IAMG to serve as DL and he has at least started this process.

- Dr. Lake will not be able to attend the IAMG '05 meeting. However, a letter from the committee chairman nominating Dr. Lake for the DL position includes his chosen presentation topics, and his CV is also included with this report.

2004 IAMG Distinguished Lecturer - Frederik Agterberg

Summary of European DL Tour - October-December 2004

From October 5 to December 15, Frits Agterberg as second IAMG/DL visited the U.K., Germany, Norway, Belgium, Spain, France, and the Netherlands, respectively. In addition to the lecturing, he had meetings with numerous geologists, geostatisticians and mathematicians. A detailed list of 19 lectures presented and a 5-day short course conducted at Delft Technical University is given below. Copies of the IAMG brochure and 2005 Toronto meeting circular were widely distributed. As during earlier 2004 DL southern hemisphere travel, Frits was accompanied enthusiastically by his wife Codien.

Thanks are due to many colleagues for invaluable help in composing the itinerary and local arrangements. Generous hospitality was received, successively, from: Walther Schwarzacher (Belfast, Northern Ireland), David MacDonald (Aberdeen, Scotland), Peter Turner (Birmingham, U.K.), Stephen Henley (Matlock, U.K.), John Cubitt (Holt, Wales), Heinz Burger and Wolfdietrich Skala (Berlin, Germany), Richard Sinding-Larsen and Arne Bjørlykke (Trondheim, Norway), Felix Gradstein (Oslo, Norway), Eric Pirard (Liège, Belgium), Anna Espinal (Cerdanyola, Spain),

Santiago Giral (Barcelona, Spain), Vera Pawlowsky, Juan José Egozcue and other members of the compositional data analysis team (Girona, Spain), Jean-Jacques Royer and Jean-Laurent Mallet (Nancy, France), Gert Jan Weltje (Delft, the Netherlands), and John Carranza (Enschede, the Netherlands).

The IAMG has paid about US\$ 4,000 for international travel during this trip, and host organizations provided approximately US\$ 12,000 for accommodation, meals and to cover other expenses. Important financial support from School of Geosciences, Aberdeen, Free University of Berlin, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), University of Liège - Département de Géoresources Minérales GEOMAC, University of Girona Faculty of Sciences, University of Nancy - CRPG, and Delft University of Technology is gratefully acknowledged.

In August 2004, Frits had been elected IAMG President, and matters related to the IAMG were discussed with European IAMG members during most visits. On November 10, a visit was made to Reed-Elsevier in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, for discussions of IAMG publication matters with Marten Stavenga, Publishing Director, Earth & Environmental Sciences, and Hetty Verhagen, newly appointed Senior Publishing Editor for Computers & Geosciences. On November 15, Frits attended a meeting of the local organizing committee for the 2006 Annual IAMG meeting chaired by Eric Pirard, and visited the venue on the campus of the University of Liège, Belgium, where this event will take place.

Including earlier DL-2 trips, Frits Agterberg has traveled 167 days to visit 30 different institutions in 14 countries (on all continents except Asia). Total international travel costs (in US\$\$) to IAMG were \$11,154.60 with local hosts paying approximately \$32,000 in addition to this amount. Thus the IAMG percentage of total DL-2 travel expenses (= about \$43,000 for 5.5 months abroad) is approximately 26%. During 2004, three one-week short courses were conducted including two at universities (State University of Rio de Janeiro, and Delft Technical University) where MSc and PhD students took these courses for credit.

List of European 2004 IAMG/DL Lectures:

October 11 - University of Aberdeen, Department of Geology & Petroleum Geology, School of Geosciences, Aberdeen, Scotland: "Quantitative Stratigraphy" (about 30 staff and students).

October 11 - University of Aberdeen, Department of Geology & Petroleum Geology, School of Geosciences, Aberdeen, Scotland: "Geological Time Scale 2004 and its use in sedimentary basin modeling" (about 20 graduate students).

October 14 - University of Birmingham, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Birmingham, U.K.: "Past and Future of Quantitative Geology" (about 20 staff and students).

October 14 - University of Birmingham, School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Birmingham, U.K.: "Geological Time Scale 2004" (about 10 staff and students).

October 21 - Free University of Berlin, Department of Geoinformatics and Remote Sensing: "Quantitative Stratigraphy" (about 10 staff and students).

October 27 - Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Department of Geology and Mineral Resources Engineering, Trondheim, Norway: "Probabilistic Mineral Resource Potential Mapping" (about 15 staff and students; video of lecture produced for later classroom use).

October 27 - Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Department of Geology and Mineral Resources Engineering, Trondheim, Norway: "Geological Time Scale 2004" (about

15 staff and students; video of lecture produced for later classroom use).

October 28 - Geological Survey of Norway, Trondheim, Norway: "Past and Future of Mathematical Geology" (about 30 professionals).

November 15 - University of Liège, Département de Géoresources Minérales GEOMAC, Faculty of Applied Science, Liège, Belgium: "Lognormal and Pareto Distributions in Geology" (about 20 staff and students).

November 18 - University of Barcelona, Servei d'Estadística, Cerdanyola, Spain: "Lognormal and Pareto Distributions in Geology" (about 20 staff and students).

November 19 - "Jaume Almera" Institute of Earth Sciences (CSIC), Barcelona, Spain: "3-Dimensional Geological Maps and the 2004 Geological Time Scale" (about 15 students).

November 23 - University of Girona, Faculty of Sciences, Girona, Spain: "Geological Time Scale 2004" (about 15 staff and students).

November 24 - University of Girona, Faculty of Sciences, Department of Informatics and Applied Mathematics, Girona, Spain: "Lognormal and Pareto Distributions in Geology" (about 15 professionals).

December 1 - University of Nancy, CRPG, Nancy, France: "Lognormal and Pareto Distributions in Geology" (about 20 professionals).

December 1 - University of Nancy, CRPG, Nancy, France: "Quantitative Stratigraphy" (about 15 staff and students).

December 2 - University of Nancy, CRPG, Nancy, France: "Mineral Potential Mapping Techniques" (about 20 students).

December 6-10 - Delft University of Technology, Department of Applied Earth Sciences, Delft, the Netherlands: "Topics of Mathematical Geology" (5-day short course: all five original DL-2 lectures with problem-solving; 10 graduate students).

December 13 - ITC Enschede, the Netherlands: "Probabilistic Mineral Potential Mapping Techniques" (about 20 students).

December 13 - ITC Enschede, the Netherlands: "GIS-based Probabilistic Mineral Potential Mapping Workshop" (about 15 students).

December 13 - ITC Enschede, the Netherlands: "Mathematical Modeling Tools in Geo-information Science and Earth Observation" (about 30 staff and students).

2005 IAMG Distinguished Lecturer: Lawrence J. Drew

Summary of Eastern European DL Tour, May 2005

§ May 2 to May 6: Prague, The Czech Republic; Host: Czech Geological Survey;
Talks (2): To audiences of between 20 to 25 students and professors;
Local support: all room costs and most food and taxi costs.

§ May 6 to May 12: Sofia, Bulgaria; Hosts: Two universities and the South Eastern Europe Exploration Conference;

Talks (3): To audiences ranging from 25 to 80. One to geology students and Professors; another to about 20 hydrogeologists and hydrologists; one as a plenary

speaker at the SEEE conference.

Local support: all room costs and most food and taxi costs.

§ May 12 to 16: Belgrade, Serbia; Hosts: Belgrade University and Eurasian Minerals Corp.

Talks (2): To audiences of 10 and 45 students and professors;

Local support: all room costs and most food and taxi costs.

§ May 16 to 22: Budapest, Hungary; Hosts: MAFI, Geological Society of Hungary, Szeged University, George Bardossy, Member of the National Academy of Sciences of Hungary;

Talks (2): Keynote speaker at the 9th Symposium on Geomathematics in Szeged

(50 in audience) and another to an audience of employees of MAFI and the MOL Oil Company (11 in audience).

Local support: all room costs and most food and taxi costs.

Students Grants Committee Report

[Click here to view the Student Grants Committee Report](#)

Student Chapters

REPORT SUBMITTED TO IAMG COUNCIL
TORONTO, CANADA on AUGUST 21 2005

To

The President, IAMG

IAMG Office

4Catarraqui Street, Suite 310,

Kingston, ON K7K 1Z7, Canada

Dear Sir,

In the summer 2004, our proposal for starting a student chapter at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale (SIUC) was accepted by the IAMG council. Since then, the chapter has grown from six students and one general member to twelve students and three general members from the geology department. The only requirement to join the SIUC student chapter is IAMG-membership. We hope to increase our membership by recruiting additional members from geology and reach out to other department to with similar interests.

PRESENT ACTIVITIES:

1. Meetings: We meet at least once during both the fall and spring semesters to discuss issues which face the chapter. To date, we have had four meeting and taken the following actions:
2. A Display Case: A poster was designed to presenting the purpose, goals, and benefits of IMAG membership. This poster is prominently displayed on the first floor of the geology department.
3. Webpage: Our website is now up and running. The web address is

<http://www.siu.edu/~er&p/IAMG>. It can also be accessed from the IMAG's, the SIUC geology department's and the ER&P research program's websites. The web address is <http://www.siu.edu/~er&p/IAMG>. The webpage was designed by the webmaster Mr Girmay of ER&P program.

4. IAMG Distinguished Lecture visit: SIUC has had the privilege of hosting two IAMG Distinguished Lectures, Drs Davis and Agterberg. Both lectures were presented in an combined ER&P and Geology Department seminars, which provided for enhanced exposure to the university community. We are planning to host Dr. Drew in October 2005. This year we are hoping to have two lectures. One will be for the ER&P1 research program's seminar which will have a multidisciplinary theme applicable to a broader geoscience audience. The second will be for the geology department which will pertain to mathematical techniques specifically geared to geological applications.

5. News Letter: The news letter of the student chapter was originally planned to be published both digitally and print copies by the end of spring 2005. However due to unavoidable circumstances the publication has been delayed until the end of October 2005 and will only be available in digital format in the interest of saving costs and recourses.

6. "Bridging the gap" seminar: The proposed seminar entitled "Bridging the gap" will have both student and professors speaking on the importance and applications of mathematics in their research. This seminar will likely take place either at the end of September or in early November. The main purpose of this seminar is to recruit new student members (both undergraduate and graduate level) with interest in quantitative methods (theory and applications) in geology. It is hoped this meeting will also create a greater awareness IAMG and its SIUC student chapter. If the seminar is successful we hope to make it an annual event.

FUTURE PLANS:

1. Participation in conferences: Members of the student chapter are enthusiastic to bring IAMG to international conferences such as AGU, GSA and section meetings of GSA. Student members are interested to make an IAMG booth in these conferences but fully dependent of the support by IAMG. The display materials should be supplied by IAMG or, can be made in our campus as per further negotiations with IAMG.

1.1. We propose to represent IAMG in coming North Central section meeting of GSA and their annual meeting in 2006. We understand that it will need negotiation between council members of both organizations (GSA and IAMG) prior to the meetings.

Depending on the success of such an activity, long term plans can be made much ahead of time for similar future activities.

2. First IAMG Student Chapter: an RSO: Under SIUC's scheme and guidelines for registered student organizations (RSO), we are in the process of making our student chapter an RSO. By doing so, we can operate in the campus with help from the offices of student-development and graduate and professional students council (GPSC) in SIUC campus. Also, this will help us to accept financial donations and spend them as per university guidelines.

3. An annual meeting with IAMG-DL/ or a special guest: We are also planning to host an annual meeting with dinner with IAMG-DL sponsored by the student chapter, where we will have a chance for open discussion with the IAMG-DL.

FINANCIALS:

1. IAMG donations: We thank IAMG for promising USD 2000.00 for the year 2005 to the SIUC student chapter. We intend to spend the money on following manner.

1.1. Undergraduate and Graduate Research Award: The applications will be invited for at least

two undergraduate and two graduate level awards in SIU-C campus. The amount of the award is not decided yet.

1.2. Travel support: If a representative from the chapter is not funded by any source, he/she will be considered for partial assistance towards travel to IAMG meeting and/or any other international meeting. The awarded student will be expected to acknowledge the assistance in his/her presentation.

1.3. Rest of the IAMG donations will be spent on different events as listed above throughout the year.

SUGGESTIONS:

To my understanding it is an important goal of IAMG is to increase its membership among young geoscientists having interest in quantitative methods and applications for long-term benefit of the IAMG. It is my belief that strong student participation in the organizations will lead to this goal. The following are my ideas to improve student participation in IAMG activities.

1. New Chapter:

1.1. The proposal for new student chapters should be considered to optimize geographic representation of members. A chapter with significant number of members, leaders and at least one faculty supervisor should be considered for creating a new chapter.

1.2. Host University/ institution: The chapter leaders should be able to operate legally in the university campus as an independent group (of students and other members) or, as a registered student/ research organization lead by both students and a faculty-advisor. This will help to manage the chapter activities (financial and non financial) efficiently. It should be made clear that the membership to the organization is paid. Donations should be encouraged to facilitate involvement of younger students in undergraduate level. A constitution should be drafted to define such activities.

2. Retention of the status as a chapter: Retention of the status of active student chapter should be subject to the following conditions or similar conditions as defined by IAMG.

2.1. Minimum student (& faculty) strength of 5-10 (should be decided by IAMG)

2.2. A chapter will be declared dormant if it lacks in required number of members for two consecutive years. This will result in reducing IMAG's financial help to the chapter if any.

2.3. If a chapter fails to retain the status of "dormant" for two years, the next year the chapter may face the consequence of no-funding from IAMG until it gets more members active to keep the chapter in active status.

3. Financial accounting: The chapter leader should be free to use the funds available to them in any way they decide as long as it is utilized in chapter related activities. The details of all expenses should be accounted for in the annual report to the IAMG.

4. Reorganization:

Each year, the IAMG student chapters deserve reorganization as "active student chapter" with letters to the student leader and the faculty advisor.

4.1. Certificates & Appreciation Letters: Maybe a certificate of appreciation issued to the student chapter which can be displayed in the central office of the hosting department or, research program.

4.2. Each year, efforts of a student leader or a student chapter should be recognised by IAMG for their exceptional contribution towards the benefit of the IAMG.

5. Student Grant Awards:

5.1. Depending on financial feasibility, the recipients of the Student Research Award should be invited to present their research in IAMG annual meetings.

I hope, in future, IAMG will become the focal point of all computational research and applications

in geosciences, so that any geoscientist involved or interested in this area (of research) can think of IAMG as the source for all information and guidance/ that he/she needs. Thanks Jonathan Remo, Saurav Biswas and Sarah Mueller for their comments and suggestions in making this report.

Abani R Samal
Representative, The First IAMG-student chapter
SIU-Carbondale

[Report from Zhijun Chen - China University of Geosciences](#)

Student Affairs Committee Report

Helmut Shaeben thanked Tim Coburn for his work and made some introductory remarks.

President Agterberg adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.