

IAMG 2022 Hybrid Council Meeting

Meeting Time/Location

Date/Time: Aug 29, 2022 (Monday) @15:30 (GMT+02:00) Central European Time - Paris

Location: ENSG in Vandoeuvre-lès-Nancy (<https://goo.gl/maps/jp7arYiaETeuLGTi6>). The best way to come from downtown is to take the tram T1 towards CHU Brabois. The tram stop is "Faisanderie".

To join virtually via Zoom:

<https://ualberta-ca.zoom.us/j/96575560754?pwd=K2xsTHlaaFFIUUpZYVcxamZtMIBQUT09>

Meeting ID: 965 7556 0754 Passcode: 063561

Find your local number: <https://ualberta-ca.zoom.us/j/96575560754>

Agenda

0:00 – 0:05 Approval of agenda

0:05 – 0:15 President's report (Peter Dowd)

0:15 – 0:25 Past President's report (Jenny McKinley)

0:25 – 0:45 Publications committee (Jaime Gomez-Hernandez + Journal Editors)

- Matters pertaining to Mathematical Geosciences (Roussos Dimitrakopoulos)
- Matters pertaining to Applied Computing and Geosciences (Boyan Brodaric)

0:45 – 0:55 Treasurer's update (Madalyn Blondes)

0:55 – 1:00 Website (Peter Dowd/Katie Silversides)

1:00 – 1:05 Awards committee (Xiaogang Marshall Ma)

1:05 – 1:15 Student affairs committee (Ute Mueller)

1:15 – 1:25 Meetings committee (Regina van den Boogaart)

1:25 – 1:35 Outreach committee (Eric Grunsky)

- Discussion of several recommendations made by the committee chair last year

1:35 – 1:45 Curriculum quality committee (Julian Ortiz)

- Discussion of future directions (should the committee be eliminated or rebranded?)

1:45 – 2:00 New business + Other items in the report

Note: The President will lead the discussions if the committee chairs are absent.

Other items in the report

Lectures Committee report (Christien Thiant)

Newsletter and website report (Katie Silversides)

Status Report on the Encyclopedia of Mathematical Geosciences-IAMG

Secretary General's report (Juliana Leung)

Minutes

Attendees

Peter Dowd, Juliana Leung, Madalyn Blondes, Jennifer McKinley, Xiaogang (Marshall) Ma, Roussos Dimitrakopoulos, Boyan Brodaric,

A quorum was not attained.

Approval of Agenda

Peter welcomed everyone, and the agenda was approved unanimously. Given a quorum was not attained, Peter recommended continuing the meeting and circulating the minutes among Council members and asked that they be approved. A follow-up meeting will be scheduled in Oct/Nov to discuss any items requiring a motion (e.g., budget) and further discussion.

Action item: In coordination with the President, the Secretary General will schedule a follow-up meeting.

President's Report

Peter summarized his activities (all details are provided in the report).

- Support for other conferences was discussed. Attendees at the meeting are in support of this item.
- To reduce phishing, a suggestion was raised to remove our emails on the IAMG website. Jenny commented that since most council members are academics, our email addresses are generally publicly posted and could still be attained by scammers. Peter said this was not the case at his university.
- Roussos suggested adding a page to the website for advertising positions at members' institutions/groups.

Action items:

- Council should decide whether or not to approve the proposed support for other conferences.
- Council should decide whether or not to remove our email addresses from the website or replace symbols in our addresses with "dot" and "at".
- Peter will contact his institution's IT team for suggestions.
- Katie/Peter will explore adding a page to the website for advertising positions (including those already included in the Newsletter).

Past President's Report

Jenny provided a few highlights on the DDE initiative.

- Several IAMG members are involved in the DDE, and she recommended our continuing support for the initiative.
- She will serve as the executive committee chair for a 2-year term.
- Peter is the IAMG representative.

Publications Committee + Journal Reports

Roussos discussed a few concerns related to *Mathematical Geosciences (MG)*:

- More support (more high-quality papers) from the research communities is needed.
- Recommended seeking more connections in the U.S.
- *MG* is not maintaining its position – the perception (though a misconception) is that only theoretical papers should be published in *MG*, while the journal scope includes a wide range of topics (including applications).
- Ongoing typesetting problems with Springer – some improvements were noted, but issues remain to be resolved.

Boyan discussed the status of *Applied Computing and Geosciences*:

- A mild improvement from last year was noted.
- Some special issues are in progress.
- Similar issues regarding support were also noted.
- Suggested that given many journals are now publishing computational works, researchers are disseminating their papers through more channels.
- Elsevier supports setting up a journal grant, but no financial support has been promised yet.

Both editors are inviting suggestions from the Council. Jenny suggested that the editors be connected with (and possibly be part of) the outreach committee, increasing the journals' visibility to a broader community.

Action items:

- Boyan will follow up with the publisher on the journal grant.
- Editors will connect with the outreach committee (once its function/organization is re-established).

Treasurer's Report

Madalyn provided an update on IAMG's finances. Overall, the cash account is up while the investments are down (currently at ~\$1.2 million).

Three items require Council's approval:

- 990 tax form (U.S. non-profit);
- Proposed asset re-allocation – needs the approval of proposed changes to our investment accounts. The market has been down in the past year (the cash account is yet to reflect the income and expenses for IAMG2022).
- Budget – same as last year's, except for additional conference expenses/income.

Input from the Council is needed on the budget. She recommended finalizing the draft after all expenses/reimbursements from IAMG 2022 conference are received and executed.

Jenny noted that this process would be easier next year because the numbers from IAMG 2022 would be available.

Action items:

- Council to approve the tax form and proposed asset re-allocation.
- Madalyn to provide a revised budget in Oct/Nov and discuss it in the follow-up meeting.

Updates on Website

Peter noted that the workload for updating the website may be increasing too much for the Newsletter editor (Katie). He will discuss this with Katie and, if necessary, propose that some paid support be made available.

Awards Committee

Marshall noted that three awards are open for nomination for this year (details in the website and report). He planned on using a number of channels/email lists to announce our awards. The number of nominations has increased. The committee currently consists of 5 voting members; 1-2 members will be rotating out according to restrictions on their terms stipulated by the bylaws.

He proposed an amendment to the bylaws regarding the Founders Scholarships: the awards should not be given to postdocs but only to students.

Action item: Juliana, Marshall, and Regina will coordinate an electronic vote by the membership on the proposed amendment.

Student Affairs Committee

The committee has proposed some changes (details are provided in the report).

Action item: The Council to review the proposed changes and inform the rest about their comments and (dis)approvals.

Meetings Committee

No update was given at the meeting. Peter has been copied on some of the emails between IAMG and the conference organizers. More detail will be provided at the General Assembly.

Outreach Committee

Eric's recommendations are provided in the report. It is suggested to seek some input at the General Assembly. Jenny suggested that the editors be connected with (and possibly be part of) the outreach committee,

The Council would like to acknowledge and express our gratitude to Eric Grunsky for all the work and service he has provided to the Outreach Committee over the years.

Action item: The Council to review and consider Eric's recommendations (formulating a new structure, plan, and committee membership).

Curriculum Quality Committee

In last year's meeting, Julian noted that the committee is not functional (details were provided in the previous year's minutes). The initial goal was to support universities (e.g., offering our short courses to their undergraduate/graduate programs). A discussion with Julian (and others on the committee) is needed:

- Offering our short courses to other organizations or associations?
- New committee structure (new volunteers and members)?
- Establishing more focus on data science?
- Rebranding?

It was suggested that we seek some input at the General Assembly.

Action item: Peter to discuss with Julian the next steps.