

IAMG 2021 Council Meeting Agenda, 2021- August 30, Online Council Meeting

Meeting time

06:00 (UTC-6)
GMT-4, 0800 Ottawa, US Eastern
GMT-6, 0600 Edmonton
GMT-7, 0500 US Pacific
GMT+1, 1300 UK
GMT+2, 1400 Europe
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GMT+10, 2200 Sydney, Australia

Agenda

0:00 - 0:05 Approval of agenda
0:05 - 0:15 ESM presentation (Courtney Jermyn)
0:15 - 0:25 President's report (Peter Dowd)
0:25 - 0:30 Past president's report (Jenny McKinley)
0:30 - 0:45 Treasurer's report (Madalyn Blondes) (require motion)

- Guidelines for assessing/approving financial assistance requests (e.g., to support individual member's travel)

0:45 - 1:00 Data collection and internal communications platform
1:00 - 1:20 Publications committee (Jaime Gomez-Hernandez + Journal Editors)

- License to publish
- Website (Katie Silversides)

1:20 - 1:35 Meetings committee (Regina van den Boogaart)

- Format of future online workshops/presentations
- Update on IAMG 2022 (Nancy) (Guillaume Caumon)

1:35 - 1:45 Outreach committee (Eric Grunsky)

- Role/membership/challenges

1:45 - 1:50 Curriculum quality committee (Julian Ortiz)

- Role/membership - does the current form still work?

1:50 - 2:00 New business + Other items in the report

Other items in the report

Awards committee's report (Xiaogang Marshall Ma)
Lectures committee's report (Christien Thiar)
Student affairs committee's report (Ute Mueller)
Update on Encyclopedia of Mathematical Geosciences (B. S. Daya Sagar)
Secretary general's report (Juliana Leung)
Archivist's report (Graeme Bonham-Carter)

Minutes of the IAMG Council meeting

Attendees

Peter Dowd, Juliana Leung, Madalyn Blondes, Christien Thiant, Jennifer McKinley, Jie Zhao, Renguang Zuo, Pauline Collon, Alessandra Menafoglio, Karel Hron, Jonggeun Choe, Roussos Dimitrakopoulos, Boyan Brodaric, Regina van den Boogaart, Jaime Gomez-Hernandez, Ute Mueller, Eric Grunsky, Gerald van den Boogaart, Courtney Jermyn.

A quorum was attained.

Approval of Agenda

Peter informed the meeting of two minor changes to the previously distributed agenda:

- Gerald has been invited to participate in the discussion of the agenda item on *Data collection and internal communications platform*; and
- Due to scheduling conflicts, the Publications Committee item has been moved to immediately after the President's report.

The agenda was unanimously approved.

Earth Science Matters (ESM) Presentation

Courtney Jermyn, Executive Director of the Earth Science Matters Foundation, gave an invited presentation. A few highlights:

- Eric Grunsky (former Treasurer) was the IAMG representative for ESM, but stepped down in 2020 at the conclusion of his appointment.
Action item: Find a replacement to represent IAMG in ESM.
- Courtney gave a presentation on a recent event (a collaboration between UNESCO-IGCP and ESM): "*Transformathon – The Journey Begins*". The focus was on "accelerating the energy transition to reach global climate goals". It included a four-day pre-event with a series of speakers and scheduled networking, a three-day hackathon main event, and one-day pitches and awards. The 28 international participants (students and career professionals) were divided into seven teams. The teams worked on collaborative projects from various parts of the world. A variety of topics, from smart cities to water, were included. Very positive feedback was received.
- If IAMG is interested in including something similar in future meetings, ESM would be happy to collaborate. The topics can be anything that IAMG deems important. It could be a good opportunity to attract outside participants – potential new members (if the event is open to a broader audience).
- ESM can assist with outreach efforts (e.g., posting IAMG events or engagement with the younger generations).
- Questions about ESM should be directed to Courtney.

President's Report

Peter provided a summary of his activities (details are provided in the report). Madalyn inquired about the payment schedule for the website developer. The 1st payment was made after finalizing the structure of the sitemap. Two other installments will be due at later dates. No other questions were raised.

Publications Committee

Jaime provided a few highlights from his report. In particular, a poll was conducted to assess our readers' views regarding open access. A total of 63 responses were collected (a summary is in the report). Most participants were unwilling to pay a substantial fee for open access (500-1000 Euros). They would prefer to continue the current model (options of both subscription and open access are available). Council agreed that this concludes the matter.

Particular concerns about the relationship with Springer were raised by the Editor of *Mathematical Geosciences*. The significant issues with the quality of typesetting that have been reported over the past four years have been left to the Editor to rectify. In addition, the current Springer representative has bypassed the Editor in scheduling meetings about *Mathematical Geosciences* and thus excluded the Editor from discussing IAMG journal issues. An acceptable solution is required from Springer to rectify the typesetting issue. In addition, an effective working relationship with Springer can only be achieved by the Springer representative working directly with, and through, the IAMG appointed Editor and IAMG representative for the journal, as has been the standard process since the assignment of the journal's publication to Springer in 2005. Following an extended discussion of these issues, it was agreed that the President, on behalf of the Council, will raise these issues directly with Springer and seek an agreement to rectify them. In discussing these issues with Springer, it should be emphasized that editors-in-chief are appointed by Council and they represent the association in all dealings with the publishers.

Action item: Peter to convey these issues to Springer and seek a satisfactory resolution.

The issue of "licence to publish" was raised by both Jaime and Peter. The option was strongly encouraged by Springer (additional details are included in the addendum). Although there appears to be no substantial negative impact, Council members were not sure about the potential legal implications. Roussos advised that we should look at existing agreements and current contracts. There are some legal ramifications if copyright remains with the journal. Jenny agreed that we need to understand the legal implications of any change in the data licence agreement for both MG and NRR. Jaime inquired about the advantage(s) of IAMG owning the copyright (e.g., has such an arrangement ever benefited the association in the past?). Council members were not aware of such examples. However, Roussos mentioned a potential scenario of an author, or organization, asking for a return of the copyright, and such a request would only be possible if the association owns the copyright.

Action item: The Committee should seek legal advice on the copyright issue.

Roussos commented that there has been a decline in the quality of papers received by MG. There has also been a shift in the topics covered by MG accompanied by a trend in papers that would have previously been submitted to MG now being submitted to other journals. Although the overall Impact Factor has not been affected, the trend is still something of concern because MG is our flagship journal.

The issue of publishing IAMG conference papers in the journals was raised. There are no specific guidelines for conference organizers on whether or not papers should be published in any of the association journals (e.g., IAMG 2019 special issue in MG). The Council agreed that we should strongly encourage conference organizers to publish the papers in a special issue.

Action item: Jaime will draft a formal recommendation and present it to Council for a vote.

Pauline commented that some institutions have cancelled subscriptions to all Springer journals due to costs. She also pointed out that insufficient reviewers and/or more pressure to publish quickly are some of the contributing factors to the lower quality of papers and longer publication times. This is a challenge for all journals and authors.

Karel suggested that Springer be requested to advertise and promote MG more actively. Roussos also agreed that MG is often omitted in advertisements sent out by Springer. He suggested that it would be more effective if the IAMG, instead of the editors-in-chief, contact Springer and ask for more marketing effort.

Post-meeting note: the President will include this in his discussion with Springer about the MG issues.

Past President's Report

Jenny provided some highlights from her report:

- IUGS – a few major events coming up, IAMG can potentially run a booth.

- DDE – Jenny was appointed to the role of Vice President of the Governing Council of the DDE Science Programme. She will have more to report after the next meeting.
- IAMG had planned a joint symposium with the CGI-IUGS.
- Forensic geology – a link with IUGS (although IAMG does not provide any direct sponsorship, we encourage such connections, particularly in the domain of spatial data analysis).

Treasurer's Report

Madalyn provided an abbreviated report for this year's meeting. She has been on parental leave since June. During her leave, she has been making sure the accounts are in order. She plans to provide a more detailed report and budget after returning from her leave in October.

Action item: Madalyn will provide specific budget items in October. Council will vote on the budget at a later time.

Overall, the accounts are in good shape, as investments have increased in value. Madalyn had a meeting with the investment manager, who stated that the current investment strategy is quite conservative. If we do want access to more cash, he would suggest moving from bonds to alternative strategies with a higher rate of return (current interest rates in the US are low; any future increase may lead to lower dividends). Although our principal is increasing, the conference costs will likely increase in the next few years. The association should be prepared to take a loss.

Motion (Peter, seconded by Jaime): To take the advice of the investment manager and adjust our investment strategy accordingly.

Motion passed by Council.

Juliana inquired about forming an advisory board for the treasurer (an issue that was also discussed in the last Council meeting in September 2020). Madalyn informed the Council that Regina has been advising her and assisting her with managing the various statements and expenses. She also occasionally discussed matters with David Collins (former treasurer). Jenny stated that the role of the advisory board was particularly important for running conferences (it is too much work for the treasurer and Regina). She suggested David be part of the board.

Action item: Madalyn will arrange an advisory board and inform the Council accordingly.

Jenny inquired about recovering some reimbursements from IGC funding. Madalyn is looking into that. Jenny and others suggested removing copies of the statements in the annual report (which will be available to all IAMG members). Christien suggested providing a ½ page financial statement or balance sheet.

Action item: Juliana will remove the statements in the report. The report will be updated later after Madalyn has finished revising the reports and budget.

Pauline expressed concerns about voting on the budget based on the existing information. No vote was conducted. Jenny confirmed that a motion is needed for the budget and the Treasurer's report (which is not available at the moment).

Action item: For important matters to be voted on (particularly finance-related), a couple of slides should be prepared and presented to facilitate discussion.

Madalyn suggested developing guidelines for assessing/approving financial assistance requests (e.g., to support individual member's travel). A discussion took place and it was agreed that this type of request should also go through the Meetings Committee. Jenny stated that, in the past, this type of request was assessed on a case-by-case basis, and it was meant to support individuals representing IAMG at a conference (i.e., not meant for an ad-hoc request to attend a meeting).

Action item: President, Treasurer, and Meetings Committee to come up with the guidelines to ensure transparency and fairness.

Data Collection and Internal Communications Platform

Gerald van den Boogaart delivered a presentation on the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) – a PDF version of the presentation was sent to the meeting attendees after the meeting. Some highlights from the presentation:

- GDPR applies to IAMG because the association provides services in the EU (including journals, memberships, conferences) and processes data in the EU (via Regina's office).
- Minimum requirements:
 - Naming a data protection responsible person.
 - Setting up and documenting internal data protection regulations and compliances.
 - Ensuring the rights to provide information about, block or erase personal data on request.
 - Immediate reporting of breaches (e.g., loss of personal data) to authorities.
- Additional requirements for certain cases:
 - Naming/hiring a data protection officer.
 - Providing a data protection declaration (e.g., who has access?)
 - Acquiring consent from persons affected.
 - Ensuring protection of data through contracts and instructions.

Gerald explained the current situation and what is needed:

- Data protection regulations.
- Data protection responsibility.
- Data protection officer (contractor).
- Data processing contract.
- Data protection declaration.

The data protection officer should be an external expert (contractor, ~\$600/month) and report directly to the executive or president. He/she can assist with writing data protection regulations, data processing contracts, and individual decisions.

The data protection responsible officer must be a member of the organization with sufficient authority to make decisions, be resident in the EU, and not directly involved in data collection and management.

We should update, or check, all our websites and web-based applications (including iamgconferences.org). Noted that iamg.org is compliant.

Proposed action items:

1. Council to name a data protection responsible person.
2. Develop a process for the responsible person to make decisions together with Regina:
 - a. Should a data protection officer be contracted?
3. These two or three persons would propose internal regulations, contracts, instruction regulations, and updates for the web-based system.
4. Council to adopt regulations and approve a budget for them.
5. Contracts, instructions, consent acquisition processes to be implemented.

Alternative for step #1: Council to establish an IT committee (instead of a single person).

Jaime commented on the challenges of appointing someone from a small association to be responsible for this task. Pauline raised the possibility of nobody being willing to take on this role. Peter also commented that this seems to be too onerous for anybody to take on. Eric proposed that we look into indemnifying the individual who acts on behalf of IAMG (he/she should not be held responsible if acting in good faith). Is it possible to get some liability insurance? Gerald stated that there could be fines for not reporting breaches, as well as damages due to any loss of IAMG data. Business insurance can be purchased for the individual. Gerald stressed that not complying with the GDPR can also be problematic for the association if something goes wrong.

Motion (Peter, seconded by Juliana): The data protection strategy requires investigation into purchasing liability insurance to protect those representing the IAMG in this data protection plan.

Approved by Council

Action item: Gerald and Peter will identify a few potential candidates for the data protection responsible person position – the first step in Gerald's proposed action plan.

Meetings Committee

Regina provided an update, highlights of which are:

- The IAMG 2022 website has been online since May; short course and field trip proposals are out.
- The attendance for the online event this year was lower than expected (probably due to people located in many different time zones).
- Suggested that the Council formally approve the new scheme, as outlined in her report, for planning future conferences. It should be emphasized that the new scheme has been experimented with and successfully adopted for the past few conferences. The Council should confirm whether or not to adopt this scheme for future conferences.

Eric asked how profit is shared between local organizers and IAMG under the new scheme. Alessandra asked whether there is a consistent policy on profit sharing. Regina stated that the profit is shared 50/50 for some conferences, but the loss is borne by IAMG.

Action item: Regina will prepare a draft of the new process and potential modifications to the meetings guidelines. The guidelines should include a policy for profit-sharing. These items will be submitted to Council for approval. This item should be closed prior to soliciting proposals for the next conference.

Outreach Committee

Eric stated that the lack of active IAMG engagement in most of our outreach activities is a big challenge; most members with external affiliations are not Council members (except for Jenny). A possible solution is to include all members that are affiliated with other organizations, as well as someone from the Publications Committee, to be part of the Outreach Committee. At present, Eric is the only active member. He expressed special thanks to Jenny for her continued involvement with DDE and serving as the link between IUGS and IAMG. Peter invited Eric to come up with a plan for the committee structure and bring it to the Council for further discussion. Juliana also commented that we should ensure that Eric is copied on all email correspondence when engaging external organizations. Currently, most materials (e.g., newsletters) are forwarded to Katie only for posting on our website and social media.

Action item: Eric to provide a plan for the committee structure.

Curriculum Quality Committee

The Curriculum Quality Committee has been inactive for some time and the current Chair (Julian Ortiz) has asked whether there is any point in continuing it. Peter raised the question of whether or not IAMG has ever been involved in curriculum development in the past. Eric stated that we tried to develop a curriculum for short courses in 1994, but there was not much progress. He further commented that, although this issue is important, most academic institutions have very well-prescribed curriculum plans, rendering it nearly impossible for any schools to take suggestions from IAMG and implement them directly in their programmes. Jenny commented that the initial goal was to raise awareness in mathematical geosciences by providing support/advice to relevant programmes. However, that opportunity has never arisen. Courtney (ESM) commented that considering the changing role of geosciences in our society, it could be a good time for IAMG to get involved to help programmes to move forward or modernize their content. Eric stressed that, given many geoscience and engineering programmes are accredited, it is important to work with relevant accreditation bodies of such programmes.

Action item: Peter will follow up with Julian to define a potential path forward. Any suggestions/comments should be directed to Peter/Julian.

Other Items

The Awards Committee proposed a motion to change some wording regarding the Founders Scholarship in the IAMG Bylaws. The change was supported by the previous Council in Jan-Feb 2020, but no vote was taken. Several Council members had to leave the meeting after the two-hour mark; hence, a quorum was not attained and a vote could not be conducted.

Action item: Email the motion regarding the proposed changes to all voting members and conduct a vote via email.

Ute informed the Council that similar ambiguities can be found in other award descriptions (e.g., unclear definitions of postgraduate) and that they should be clarified. The Student Affairs Committee has received many such inquiries over the years.

Action item: Ute will check those wordings and proposed the appropriate changes.

Juliana asked about the possibility of scheduling another meeting (e.g., in another two months) to go over the budget and action items from this meeting. Madalyn supported that idea. Peter agreed that we should circulate emails to discuss scheduling for the next meeting.

Action item: Juliana will send out emails for scheduling the next meeting, after consulting with Peter and Madalyn.

Meeting minutes recorded and transcribed by Juliana Leung
Meeting adjourned 08:37 (UTC-6)

Addendum



Juliana Leung <juliana2@ualberta.ca>

Natural Resources Research/ License To Publish

Petra van Steenbergen <petra.vansteenbergen@springer.com>

Thu, Aug 19, 2021 at 7:48 AM

To: "John Carranza (ejmccarranza@gmail.com)" <ejmccarranza@gmail.com>

Cc: "Dr Peter Dowd (peter.dowd@adelaide.edu.au)" <peter.dowd@adelaide.edu.au>, Ilona Isaeva <ilona.isaeva@springernature.com>, "mblondesiimg@gmail.com" <mblondesiimg@gmail.com>, "juliana2@ualberta.ca" <juliana2@ualberta.ca>

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The amendment also addresses the point that, in line with Springer Nature policy since 2017 with respect to its own journals, we will no longer register copyright in the journal in any jurisdiction on behalf of the Society. Please note, however, that in the U.S., Springer Nature complies with the Library of Congress's (LoC) mandatory policy to deposit and we provide the Library of Congress with electronic copies of published materials.

May you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I am looking forward to hearing from you.

With kind regards, Petra

Petra van Steenbergen

Executive Editor Earth and Environmental Sciences

Springer

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2 attachments



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NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree to amend the Agreement as follows;

1. Save as set out herein the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
2. Notwithstanding any provision in the Agreement stating that the Society shall own the copyright in all articles, the Parties acknowledge that copyright in articles published in the Journal from the Amendment Effective Date shall remain vested in the authors or original copyright holders (e.g. authors’ institution). The copyright will be acknowledged in the copyright line of the relevant article as “The Author(s) under exclusive licence to [Society name]”. The Society shall be named as the contracting party to all agreements with the authors of articles to be published in the Journal. Authors shall be required to agree to or sign the Publisher’s relevant standard author license to publish agreement (the “LTP”) via the Publisher’s workflows and systems. The Society acknowledges the LTP may be amended from time to time by the Publisher.

3. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Agreement, the Publisher will have no obligation to register copyright in any jurisdiction on behalf of the Society.

4. This Amendment shall be governed by, and shall be construed in accordance with, the laws of [example]. The courts of [example] shall have the exclusive jurisdiction.

5. This Amendment shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon each of the Parties and each of their respective permitted successors and permitted assigns.

6. The headings in this Amendment are for reference only and do not affect the interpretation of this Amendment.

7. This Amendment constitutes the sole and entire agreement between the Parties with respect to the subject matter contained herein, and supersedes all prior and contemporaneous understandings, agreements, representations, and warranties, both written and oral, with respect to such subject matter. The Parties agree to waive the requirement to sign on paper and to accept as binding such documents signed electronically by all Parties provided they use an industry accepted electronic signature service such as, but not limited to, DocuSign.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Amendment as of the date first written above.

Date _____

Date _____

For internal use only:

Journal No:

GPU/PD/PS:

Legal Entity Number:

Addendum-Journal-Society—LTP 07/2021