

## **IAMG 2023 General Assembly Meeting**

### **Meeting Time/Location**

Date/Time: August 9, 2023 @ 16:30 – 17:30 (GMT+02:00)

Location: The 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference of the IAMG, NTNU, Trondheim, Norway,

### **Agenda**

Welcome

- Introduction from the President (Peter Dowd)
- Approval of agenda (motion required)

Presentation of Awards/Honours (Peter Dowd)

Reports by President

- A short summary of activities
- State of finances
- Plans for future IAMG meetings
  - IGC 2024 – Busan, Republic of Korea
  - IAMG 2025 – Zhuhai, China
  - IAMG 2026 – Montreal, Canada

Action Items/Highlights from the Council Meeting

- Outreach Committee
- Curriculum Quality Committee

New business

Adjournment

## Welcome

- Peter Dowd started the meeting at 17:33.
- Agenda approved.

## Award Presentations

- Peter presented the following awards:
  - Founders Scholarship 2023: Sofia Nerantzaki (not present – to be delivered elsewhere at the conference).
  - *Mathematical Geosciences* Student Award 2023: Camilla Fagandini.
  - Felix Chayes Prize: Dr. Pieter Vermeesch.

## Reports by President and Council

- Peter provided an update on IAMG's finances and the situation of the Treasurer position.
  - The former Treasurer resigned. Sean McKenna agreed to act as the Interim Treasurer for three months to clear the backlog of issues that have accumulated since the Treasurer resigned.
  - Following Sean's appointment, a candidate is available to take over the position for the remaining tenure of the current Council. The Council agreed that the Nominating Commission for the next Council shall include this person as an applicant for the Treasurer position for the four-year tenure of the next IAMG Council. The reason for doing so is the difficulty in finding anyone willing to undertake the onerous workload of the position.
  - To reduce the workload of position, Council has agreed to transfer some financial operations to the IAMG office in Europe and is in the process of creating a plan for this move.
  - Question from the audience: what were the eligibility criteria, and is the position unpaid? Peter explained that the Treasurer must be a U.S.A. citizen resident in the U.S.A. The reason for this is that IAMG bank account is in the USA. There is no remuneration for this position.
- Discussion of future IAMG meetings
  - Jenny briefly explained why our IAMG annual meetings are merged with IGC meetings every four years – IAMG is affiliated with IUGS, so we do not host a competing conference with IGC whenever they have a meeting.
  - IAMG has submitted a theme (#41) with multiple sessions, and members are encouraged to submit abstracts.
  - Karel encouraged IAMG to advertise our IGC 2024 sessions to other affiliated associations.
  - Qiuming Cheng gave a brief introduction to IAMG 2025 (October 2025). He thanked the Council and Meetings Committee for selecting them. He is excited to host another IAMG meeting in China after almost 20 years. There is strong (financial) support from many Chinese colleagues and research communities.
  - Roussos briefly introduced IAMG 2026, which will be held in Montreal in August 2026.
- Peter provided an update on the Nominating Commission for the next Council. He encouraged members to send suggestions for nominees to the Nominating Commission. The positions are President, 6 Councillors, VP, IGC Councillor.
- Qiuming Cheng provided an update on IGC 2028. The hosting country/location has not been decided – the host country will be decided at IGC 2024 (Australia and Canada)

are potential candidates). The implication is that we will not have any IGC Councillor candidates until after IGC 2024.

- Peter informed the assembly that the Council has decided to dissolve the curriculum committee – the Committee has been inactive for more than five years. This issue was also discussed at last year's General Assembly.
- Peter led a discussion on the Outreach Committee including concerns and suggestions expressed by Eric Grunsky the former committee chair:
  - How should we report IAMG activities with other institutions?
  - Should the information be communicated on our website?
  - How to establish more interaction with other institutions?
  - Should we consider mergers with other institutions?
  - Should we merge the Publications and Outreach Committees?
- Feedback was solicited from the membership on the following items:
  - Updating the webpage – the current format may not be compatible with certain mobile devices.
  - Delivering content through other resources (YouTube)
  - Exploring synergy with other organizations → e.g. running conferences back-to-back with other organizations (co-conferences)
  - Identifying competing organizations (e.g., SIAM) and exploring how they operate. Can we learn anything from these organizations?
  - Promoting IAMG at other conferences (e.g., EAGE digital conference next March)
  - Reaching out to the younger generation?
  - Submitting interesting IAMG stories to our affiliated organizations to be featured in their newsletters or other communication materials (e.g., IUGG and IUGS monthly e-newsletters)

Peter encouraged members to send their suggestions to him by e-mail.

Peter also asked the membership about their thoughts on mergers with other associations. Some general responses are:

- It is possible, but it depends on the associations being considered. Others commented that there are no compatible associations.

Some members were not in favour of merging, but instead suggested more collaboration while still maintaining our own identity. This would involve sharing certain resources and collaborating with other active groups, such as we already do with DDE. Jan Harff provided an update on the DDE session that is supported by IAMG and expressed gratitude for the Council's support.

Peter requested volunteers for the Outreach Committee. Behnam Sadeghi, Mathieu Gravey and Sara Kasmaeeyazdi expressed interest, and Peter will discuss this further with them. The objective of the committee is to create a fresh approach to the priorities and strategies for IAMG's outreach initiatives. A few members recommended seeking assistance from the general membership for brief undertakings, as people may be more inclined to participate in short-term commitments rather than long-term ones.

Meeting adjourned at 17:40.