



# NEWS AND INFORMATION

## International Association of Hydrogeologists

The international groundwater organisation

Since 1956 a world-wide forum on the management of groundwater for the benefit of mankind and the environment

### IAH family meets in Lisbon

The health and vitality of IAH was very evident at the Lisbon Congress in September. Our Portuguese Chapter is a young one, only established in the 1990s, but one that has gone from strength to strength as the groundwater community in Portugal developed its influence in the light of national environmental challenges.

Of the large team of hard working Portuguese colleagues special recognition should go to the three key persons who were responsible for the organisational and scientific success of this meeting. The Chairman of the Organising Committee was Antonio Chambel, President of the IAH Portuguese Group. Teresa Condeso de Melo, the Secretary of the IAH Portuguese Group was the Organising

Secretary of the Congress. Luis Ribeiro was the Chairman of the Scientific Committee who had the responsibility for the scientific sessions and also was Senior Editor of the congress publications.

The topic for the 2007 Congress was Groundwater and Ecosystems - a subject of the moment which drew nearly 600 attendees from nearly 60 countries to the Congress and its various side meetings giving our young chapter the opportunity and the challenge of running one of the largest IAH meetings in recent years. It was a challenge which they rose to magnificently and all who attended were much impressed by the commitment and energy of the organising team and their enthusiastic group of student helpers.



*Celebration and congratulations at the closing session*

#### How to contact IAH

PO Box 9, Kenilworth, CV8 1JG, UK  
Tel: +44 (0)870 762 4462; Fax: +44 (0)870 762 8462  
E-mail: [iah@iah.org](mailto:iah@iah.org); Web: [www.iah.org](http://www.iah.org)

To join IAH please visit the web site and either join on-line or download the membership application form

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It was a truly international congress. Attendees from Australia matched those registered from the host country at 45. There were 47 attendees from Latin America marginally exceeding the number from the US and Canada. Using funds taken from a top slice on registration fees (in accordance with IAH policy) and with generous support from UNESCO and the Cape Town 2000 fund, a total of 37 persons from developing countries received financial support to attend the Congress.

In total there were 400 scientific contributions (215 presentations and 185 posters) supporting the 12 keynote lectures at the Congress.

The History of Hydrogeology meeting on the day preceding the Congress attracted 80 participants and there were 35 attendees to the symposium and field trip organized by the IAH Commission on Hard Rock Hydrogeology. This symposium has its own separate publication *Thermal and Mineral Waters in Hard Rock Terrains* produced under the auspices of the Iberian Working Group of the Commission and edited by José Manuel Marques, Antonio Chambel and Luis Ribeiro.

Apart from the congress itself which drew a wide international attendance, there was a large number of parallel meetings organised by UNESCO, UNEP and IAH commissions and a preparatory meeting for the 5th World Water Forum. As a consequence of Portugal's current Presidency of the European Commission there was also a full working session of the technical teams developing the implementation of the European Groundwater Directive. The combined energies and enthusiasms of all these groups made the Conference Gala Dinner, held in the magnificent setting of the Estafa Fria Plant House in the Parque Eduardo VII a memorable event. Our Portuguese hosts made this a memorable meeting of the IAH family.

The congress started with a plenary session with keynote lectures from Malin Falkenmark (Senior Scientist at the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI) and Chair of the Scientific Program Committee for the Stockholm Water Symposium), Christine Colvin, (CSIR, South Africa and Chairman of the IAH Commission on Groundwater Dependant Ecosystems) and Judson Harvey of USGS. The outputs of the Congress are included in an abstract volume and CD ROM which will be followed by a Selected Papers Volume in the IAH book series a theme issue in Hydrogeology Journal and other parallel publications.

The congress was supported by pre-congress courses, mid and post-congress field trips, and a number of social events. As an extra attraction, IAH members who are football (soccer) fans were able to attend a match in the magnificent stadium adjacent to the congress venue between Sporting Lisbon and Manchester United in the European Champions League.

At the closing ceremony Ryoko Yoshioka, President of IAH Japan, invited all IAH members to attend the next Congress in Toyama in October 2008 and the attendees warmly thanked the organising team for a stimulating and well organised meeting.



(From left) Antonio Chambel, Teresa Condesso de Melo and Luis Ribeiro

## IAH awards in Lisbon

The annual congress is the time when IAH makes its awards.



Professor of Hydrogeology in Spain, an energetic

The principal prize of IAH is the President's Award which in 2007 went to Professor Ramón Llamas, former President and Honorary Member of IAH. In making the award IAH President Stephen Foster made reference to Ramón's long and distinguished career as the first

President of IAH at a time of change and growth and through his commitment as a director or trustee of various scientific, environmental and developmental NGOs to advocating the important, but neglected, role of groundwater development in national water policies, and its relation to habitat conservation. Ramón first applied the memorable term 'silent revolution' to describe the globally important changes in irrigated agriculture associated with the widespread private drilling of water wells by individual farmers.



The Association's Distinguished Associate Award was made to Professor Malin Falkenmark. The citation to the award noted that she had throughout her distinguished career delivered an integrated vision of human impacts on land, water and environment and translated

natural science realities into social and political messages.

Honorary Membership of the Association was conferred on Ivan Johnson (pictured top right) and Ian Simmers (pictured bottom right).

Ivan has had a long career both in USGS and as an independent consultant promoting the wise use of groundwater especially managed aquifer recharge



and was responsible for setting up the IAH Commission which he still energetically supports although now well into his 80s. Ivan's award will be presented, after this issue goes to press, at the ISMAR6 conference in Phoenix, Arizona.



Ian is Emeritus Professor Hydrology at the Free University of Amsterdam and for 20 years, until 2006, was the Editor in Chief of IAH book series and the person responsible for establishing the scientific rigour of the series. Ian was present in Lisbon to receive his award.

## IAH Council meeting in Lisbon

The IAH Council had its 2007 meeting in Lisbon, Below is a summary of the key issues discussed:

Changes to the rules of the Association were agreed. The following changes are now implemented:

- The option to be an on-line member and receive all IAH services by e-mail or through the web is confirmed and members who take this option in the future will see a reduction in their fee. In addition to this change two new membership classes were confirmed. IAH members who are no longer in active professional employment and who would like to remain in IAH, but not take the Journal either in hard copy or on-line, will pay a reduced retired members fee. IAH is also creating a new category of Corporate Sponsor for companies who make financial donations to the work of IAH. The new membership categories are explained at: [www.iah.org/join\\_membertype.htm](http://www.iah.org/join_membertype.htm)
- Changes have been made to the structure of Council. The positions of Treasurer and Scientific Programme Member have been re-titled Vice President: Finance & Membership and Vice President: Programme and Science Coordination respectively. These changes have been made to better reflect the roles of these posts. The regional portfolios of the Vice Presidents have been reviewed so that a distinction is no longer recognised between Eastern and Western Europe to reflect the political integration of Europe.

- Council has also agreed a series of terms of reference for the different responsibilities on the IAH Council.

New fee rates were agreed for 2008. Full details can be found at [http://www.iah.org/news\\_current.asp](http://www.iah.org/news_current.asp) The headline information is that membership fees will reduce for those members who are ready to convert to on-line membership but increase by around 3% for those who wish to continue to receive IAH membership benefits by mail as previously.

Council agreed to encourage members and Chapters to give full support to the Sponsored Membership Scheme recognising the value of the scheme to achieving the IAH mission (see page 4).

Council received positive reports from Nick Robins (Editor-in-Chief of IAH books) and Cliff Voss (Executive Editor of Hydrogeology Journal). In 2007 more IAH books have been published through Taylor and Francis than in any previous year. Cliff's report was that HJ had now largely overcome the problem of manuscript delays thanks to the vigorous efforts of the editorial team all of whom were present in Lisbon. There was a proposal to increase the number of languages offered for abstracts but because of space limitations this can only be done by transferring abstracts to the web. The French National Committee was not ready to support this change and value highly the published French abstracts but the IAH editorial team, with the backing of Council will continue to progress this option in the light of the increasing moves to web publication of Hydrogeology Journal.

## IAH Sponsored Membership Scheme

For over 15 years IAH has run a successful, widely admired and copied sponsored membership scheme whereby groundwater professionals in developing countries who do not have the personal resources to become members are able to receive the benefits of membership through the generosity of an existing member.

Some five per cent of the IAH membership is sponsored which is an impressive total but action is needed to retain and increase that total.

IAH is asking all National Chapters in high income countries to devote part of their activities to raising money to support the sponsorship scheme, perhaps by devoting part of the charge it makes for national events. IAH is encouraging National Chapters to develop "twinning" arrangements with one or more developing countries so that there can be close professional engagement and feedback. IAH is asking individual members to make an additional contribution with their 2008 fees. A form to register interest is attached to the back of this Newsletter, can be downloaded from the IAH web site and will be included with the IAH fees request for 2008.

### PLEASE TAKE ACTION TO SUPPORT THE SCHEME SIGN UP NOW USING THE FORM ON THE BACK PAGE

#### Introduction

The IAH Sponsored Membership Scheme was initiated in the early 1990s. From small beginnings the scheme has grown significantly and currently supports 182 members, that is some 5% of the total membership. It is because of the scheme that IAH has such a broad international membership (over 135 countries). The scheme supports a significant membership in some countries for example Ethiopia, Uganda and Nigeria. It is no coincidence that these are the countries which are running the most active and visible groundwater professional groups in Sub-Saharan Africa.

IAH was one of the first membership NGOs to develop a scheme like this and it is truly valued, as demonstrated by the comments received from beneficiaries opposite.

Hydrogeology in developing countries is gaining ground and recognition with respect to its role in the achievement of MDGs on water. Hydrogeologists therefore need to come out strongly and provide the required professional expertise to facilitate the achievement of the MDGs as expected. To make their contribution effective and lasting hydrogeologists need to keep up to date with new developments in the groundwater field. Hydrogeology Journal, the principal benefit of sponsored membership, with its mix of theoretical and applied papers, is ideal for this purpose and many correspondents with the Burdon Network give feedback on its value to them.

There is no doubt that the scheme has been a success and it is clear that it is more essential than

ever before as many in the developing world do not have access to groundwater literature and information to enable them to do their work effectively.

Despite all of the above, the scheme is at a tipping point and all the signs are that unless commitment to it is reinvigorated its capacity to do what is clearly needed will diminish.

#### Issues for the scheme

- Although the scheme currently supports more members than ever the National Chapter and personal member contributions have been dropping over recent years;
- One reason is that senior members of the Association supported the scheme on its inception but, perhaps because they have retired or because after a number of years they want to move their charitable donations to other causes;
- A recent appeal to National Chapters did not generate any new contributions;
- These trends have been masked over the last three years because IAH has been able to support growth from central funds which included a substantial one-off contribution as a result of work for UNESCO. That money will be used up in 2008 and because of other pressures on IAH resources will be hard to replace. No allowance has been made for this in the 2008 provisional budget used to assess the new fees;
- The sums required are not large - €2000 Euros a year, just one Corporate Sponsorship or the profits of one well run national meeting would maintain the scheme.

## Comments from sponsored members on benefits of sponsorship

I am a hydrogeologist from Albania benefiting from the sponsored membership of IAH for more than ten years. On the occasion of the renewal of my sponsorship I would like to thank you very much. The system of sponsored membership is helping a great number of specialists from the developing countries to be in contact with the best results of groundwater research and development. I receive regularly all the IAH mailings and find these materials very important for my activity and for the activity of my colleague hydrogeologists in Albania. I like to compliment you for the very useful and very dynamic activity of IAH in the dissemination of the scientific achievements on groundwater investigation and practices. IAH is already transformed in the big family of the hydrogeologists of the whole world.

Many thanks for your very kind message. I am heartily grateful to you and the Association. I myself and many of my students actually have been benefiting from it so much.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the Executive and the Association for their support and the continuation of my sponsored membership of IAH. This has been very beneficial not only to me and my work but also my country (Samoa) which depends a lot on groundwater for their water supply and I am so grateful for this membership.

I really appreciated you and the office staff of IAH for helping me to find a sponsor and to receive sponsored membership of IAH. Knowledge gained from IAH Journals is of great value in the field of teaching Hydrogeology to post-graduate students. Words cannot express my gratitude if you will do me the favour of continuing my sponsored membership.

I am really enjoying my membership and I have attended a couple of IAH conferences which have been of tremendous benefits to me especially in the area of my research. At this junction I would like to ask for continued sponsorship as my PhD research is still going on and I will not want to miss the opportunity and benefits of membership.

I am very grateful to IAH for getting me a sponsor and for the regular mailing of the Hydrogeology Journal. In fact it is very difficult for me to express the benefits I am gaining from the journals. Above all I am now gaining confidence and getting proud of my profession. Especially the different Models (although my knowledge about this is very limited) used to investigate groundwater conditions in different countries to solve challenging problems is making hydrogeology real. Most people around me where I am working were thinking that hydrogeology means only drilling and pumping tests.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsor and would like to tell you a lot of students have benefited from the material sent by IAH and the information provided by them in the last few years and also our staff members and supervisors who have no access to such important and precious journal.

Since 2004 the IAH honored me by accepting me to join the IAH and to be the first and the only member from Iraq. I am so grateful to IAH for this opportunity and to the member colleague who sponsored me. All the IAH hydrogeology Journal that I received are available to my students since from 1990 till 2003 our libraries didn't get any new scientific journals. Until now there is no credit card service in Iraq to pay my membership fees.

I strongly wish to remain in the IAH sponsored membership. I will appreciate a great deal if my sponsor is still willing and able to support me. I have continued to find the IAH family, activities and outputs to be very useful for our work in the developing world. I have been receiving the IAH mailings regularly. Please keep up the good job and pass my very sincere appreciation and thanks to our very kind sponsors.

I am very grateful for having obtained yet another five year sponsorship with IAH. Please convey my heart felt thanks and gratitude to my Sponsor. I pledge to use the knowledge I acquire from the association to advance groundwater development in my region.

## President's Column FROM THE WATER TABLE

### LISBOA - GETTING TO THE 'ROOTS' OF ECOSYSTEM USE

'Groundwater-dependent ecosystems' - the overarching theme of our recent 35th Congress in Lisboa proved to be very timely. The IAH-Executive is most grateful to the Portuguese National Chapter for their efforts in organising an excellent scientific conference and a rich parallel programme, which also allowed synergies with the UNESCO-IHP, the UNEP and the EC-DG Environment to be further explored.

Groundwater plays an integral role in sustaining certain types of aquatic (and even some terrestrial) habitats and their associated landscapes and is thus a critical factor in efforts to maintain the ecological integrity of such ecosystems. But the subject proved to be extremely complex once one got down to detail because:

- a distinction must be made between 'aquifer-dependent wetland ecosystems' (associated with groundwater flow in, and discharge from, the saturated zone of permeable formations) and other ecosystems either using, or tolerant of, groundwater;
- some ecosystems are dependent upon deep groundwater flow paths of very long residence time whilst others use shallow flow paths with rapid turnover;
- in the case of 'river corridor ecosystems', how far after groundwater discharge to surface water via the hyporheic zone do we consider 'aquifer-dependent';
- groundwater quality deterioration (increases in salinity, nitrate, ammonium, phosphate or pesticides) may have a greater impact on such ecosystems than flow modifications;
- groundwater degradation is only one factor in ecosystem sustainability - and others (such as land drainage, soil erosion, urban encroachment and the introduction of foreign vegetation) can have of equal or greater impact in some cases.

Because of this complexity, groundwater specialists (or hydrogeoecologists if you will) must make efforts to 'simplify without being too simplistic' their understanding of such systems (to borrow words from Professor Malin Falkenmark's impressive keynote overview) and to maintain a sound balance between the 'geo', 'hydro', 'chemo' and 'bio' dimensions.

During the Congress it became evident that groundwater specialists will need to become more engaged with the closely inter-related questions of 'what ecosystems to protect' and 'how (and at what price) these ecosystems can be protected'. A more realistic balance between the long-term goal of sustaining healthy ecosystems and the need for short-term improvement in human livelihoods needs to be achieved - but rather different perspectives on these questions are likely to arise between different climatic regions and between industrialised and developing nations.

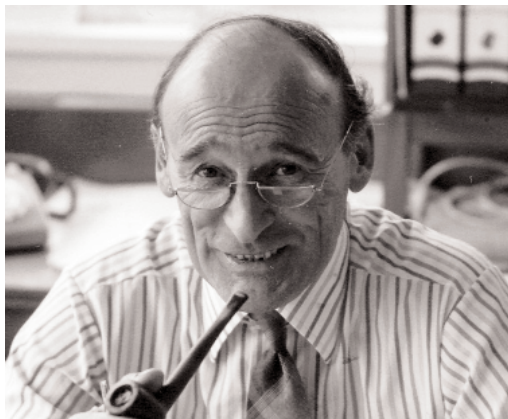
The proceedings brought to my mind a memorable quote from a Congress in the early 1980s by the late Dr David Burdon of UN-FAO (commemorated by our Commission which bears his name) "an aquifer which is always full is probably just as badly managed as one which is always nearly empty". David was, of course, speaking with a vision gained from extensive international experience of water resource scarcity problems and was concerned about maximising the use of available aquifer storage and the seasonal input of aquifer recharge. It would appear that to maximise groundwater ecosystem services (and for that matter groundwater access for the poor) our aim must be to minimise water-table decline - whereas if our aim is to maximise recharge and use of aquifer storage then substantial seasonal and dry-year depletion of aquifers is unavoidable. This tension will become all the more accentuated in a future haunted by the prospect of 'accelerated climatic change'.

But in many cases a more rational approach should emerge from 'the detail'. Decision-making urgently needs to be informed by sound hydrogeological and economic analyses based on reliable evaluation of actual (and potential) impacts and on full understanding of the costs and benefits of ecosystem protection and thus of the direct and indirect value of ecosystem functions and services.

We go forward from Lisboa with a mix of 'saudade' and 'optimismo' - knowing that the joyful experience of the IAH Congress will not be repeated but that it played an important role in strengthening our Association, providing increased inertia to the Commission on Groundwater-Dependent Ecosystems with the prospect soon of a landmark publication on this topic.

## John Day (1925 - 2007)

John Day, "an IAH elder statesman" died suddenly at his home in Southern England on 13th August 2007 in his 82nd year. John, sometime Chief Hydrogeologist of the British Geological Survey, was a great supporter of IAH and, through his wise counsel, he contributed much to its development. With his death IAH has lost another direct link with the founding fathers of IAH.



The idea of forming an International Association of Hydrogeologists began as international contact between hydrogeologists increased during and immediately following the Second World War. First mooted at the IGC in London in 1948 and developed, with strong influence from Francophone hydrogeologists in Algiers in 1952, the concept was realised in Mexico City in 1956. Stephenson Buchan of the Geological Survey of Great Britain was the British representative in this founding group. John Day's view of service to society was international in scope, encouraged by the love of travel which he shared with his wife Cynthia. John was, therefore a natural UK successor in the role of national IAH representative, which Steve encouraged during his Presidency of IAH from 1974 to 1977.

This first IAH Congress to be held in the UK was in Birmingham in July 1977 and John was a member of the Organising Committee. The success of the congress and increased British membership of IAH led to the formation of a UK National Committee of IAH under the auspices of the Royal Society of which John was the first chair. During his stewardship of the UK Committee it organised a further Congress in Cambridge in 1985. John served as a Vice-President of IAH from 1984 to 1993 during the Presidencies of Ramon Llamas and Erik Romijn. He was elected an honorary member of the Association in 1993 at the

Oslo Congress, a meeting that he did a lot to support and mentor.

The 1980s was a key period in the evolution of IAH with expanding membership, expanding services and a much more broadly based international membership. It was a period of opportunity and challenge for IAH. John's advice and counsel, offered freely, enthusiastically and non-judgementally was a great influence on the organisation during that period, from which it still benefits. In 1992 the IAH Council, through Jaroslav Vrba, organised a special seminar in Prague which today would probably be called a "policy think tank". But the then President Erik Romijn proposed it should be named the "John Day meeting" out of respect for John and in recognition of his contribution over the years to the role and purpose of IAH. A similar meeting was held 10 years later in Romania where that tradition was continued.

Although a natural conservative he was not an opponent of change providing it had a clear and agreed purpose. Long after he had ceased to be an official of the organisation he provided valuable counsel in the next big step that the Association took in 2000 in transforming itself from a club to an incorporated body. His name is one of the three founding subscribers who signed the new Articles of Association on 14th March 2000 that preceded the formal adoption of the new status by the IAH membership in Cape Town in November 2000.

John was international in outlook but proud of the idiosyncrasies of being English. For this author, this was best typified when, on a visit to Georgia (then in 1987 still part of the Soviet Union), the hosts prevailed upon their visitors to sing their respective national song. John, in the lead of a modest UK contingent, rejected the more obvious choices and launched with enthusiastic animation into "Tit-Willow" from the Gilbert and Sullivan's Mikado. But we might have equally sung, as we did at John's funeral, in a typically English country church, on a gorgeous September day, just a few miles from the house he had built and lived in for over 50 years, Jerusalem - "in England's green and pleasant land". In the words of his son Martin, "Good bye, old chap".

Cynthia Day, who was well known to many members of IAH from her attendance at many IAH meetings and who was a great support to John in his professional and domestic enterprises, sadly died two months after John. IAH sends its condolences to their son Martin.

## Preparing for the 36th IAH Congress in Japan



### XXXVI Congress of IAH Integrating Groundwater Science and Human Well-being Toyama City, Japan 26 October - 31 October 2008

The congress will address, in the context of groundwater development and management, human security, environmental security, food security and climate change. It will provide a forum for discussion between groundwater specialists and other disciplines recognising the importance of these issues in ensuring a sustainable society and in preserving human well-being.

For further details visit <http://www.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp/~IAH2008/> or e-mail: [ysakura@faculty.chiba-u.ac.jp](mailto:ysakura@faculty.chiba-u.ac.jp) and see circular included with this issue

IAH Japan have identified local policies on the environment and education about water as key factors in getting the hidden issues of groundwater management better understood and acted on in their country. They hope that, in welcoming the world's groundwater scientists to Japan for the 36th IAH Congress in October 2008, Japan will both learn from and contribute to international expertise. In April 2006 IAH Japan held a "Kick-off" meeting for the Congress to raise awareness of the issues and followed this by a Pre-Forum meeting in August 2007. Both of these meetings were held in Toyama, the congress venue, on the western seaboard of Honshu, the main island of Japan.

The August 2007 Pre-Forum meeting was in two parts. The first day began with a series of lectures on water management issues with both an international and local flavour. A common theme was better understanding of the problems and better communication on issues to policy makers and the public. Marios Sophocleous of the University of Kansas, USA and Andrew Skinner of IAH made the international contributions. This led to a round table session of university and school teachers who discussed their role in improving understanding. The education theme was continued on the second day when three groups of school students presented on their water related projects and answered questions from Pre-Forum attendees. For the final session the students and audience took a tour of the dramatic alluvial fan of the Kurobe river to see some of the project sites.

I encourage as many IAH members as possible to attend the 2008 Congress in Japan. Through the theme Integrating groundwater science and human well-being the congress will address a range of important issues where hydrological understanding is critical to maintaining and improving quality of life and environment. Throughout there will be a focus, as in

the recent pre-Forum, on public understanding and education.

Toyama itself is not one of the more famous tourist destinations but it lies in a region that would fascinate any geologist. The Tatyama mountains that tower 3000 meters above the city form one of the most attractive upland terrains, winter and summer, in Japan. The coastal plain on which Toyama sits is but a small break in the slope before the 1000 meter descent to the floor of the Sea of Japan. The principal groundwater interest in the area is within the large alluvial fan that makes up the coastal plain and is itself intersected by deep gorges. The Sea of Japan adds a gastronomic interest because of the sea food specialities of the region.

Getting to Toyama is not difficult. The best route for many will be through the modern Kansai airport that serves Osaka. Kansai gives a more relaxing experience to the traveller than Tokyo's Narita airport and has the added advantage of being linked by a direct and frequent train to Kyoto. This city, apart from being a not-to-be-missed tourist destination, has direct limited-stop express trains to Toyama. Alternatively Toyama airport has direct international flights from cities in countries neighbouring the Sea of Japan, such as Seoul and Shanghai.

IAH Toyama offers the groundwater and environmental specialist the chance to visit an accessible but less visited corner of Japan and to learn from and contribute to the important debate on using groundwater science for the benefit of humankind and the environment. I encourage you to visit the IAH 2008 Toyama web site and register your interest. Make a note of the dates: 26 to 31 October 2008.

**Andrew Skinner**  
Executive Manager

## Call for nominations - Could you be a member of the IAH Council and help run our Association?

IAH is run by a Council of 13 members elected every four years. IAH is a charitable, incorporated organisation and so the members of its Council are its Directors and trustees of the Charity. The term of office of the present Council runs until the General Meeting of the Association to be held in Toyama, Japan in October 2008. All posts on the Council are up for election and nominations are now being sought.

The timetable proposed for the 2008 elections is as follows:

01 January 2008	Nominations open
31 May 2008	Nominations close
31 June 2008	Nominations published
01 September 2008	Election papers distributed by mail and e-mail.
21 October 2008	Postal vote closes. Votes may be made in person or by internet up to 10.00hrs on the day of the General Meeting.
28 October 2008	Date of General Meeting and announcement of results.

Electronic voting will be used following its successful use in 2004 but members who do not want or do not have facilities to vote electronically will have the option to record a conventional ballot by post or in person. All members with registered e-mail addresses will receive voting papers by e-mail, which will contain both a link to the election website and a unique polling reference number. The e-mail will offer an option for members to request hard copy voting papers if they do not wish to use the electronic system. Electronic voting will be on a separate and secure website. The voter will have full access to all the supporting material for the candidates online. Those IAH members for whom we do not hold e-mail addresses or whose e-mail address is found to be invalid will receive hard copy voting papers by post, also containing their unique polling reference number.

The anonymous voting paper can be returned by mail in the usual way. However, they can also use the polling reference number to vote electronically without disadvantage. All votes, whether electronic or postal, will be identified only by the same reference number system. Postal votes will be entered anonymously onto the election database and since there is only one set of polling codes any double vote will be identified and rejected. The election database contains a record and count of all votes.

### Posts and candidates

There are twelve posts up for election in 2008. As a result of the changes to the Association's rules (see page 3) the names and responsibilities of some posts have been changed from the current Council. The posts for election are:

President	Secretary General
Vice Presidents for:	
Finance & Membership	Programme and Science Coordination
North America	Latin America and the Caribbean
Europe (Western and Central)	Eastern Europe and Central Asia
Asia	Australasia and the Pacific
Sub-Saharan Africa	Middle East and North Africa

The following are not eligible for re-election in their current post - name and current post:

Stephen Foster, President (but he succeeds Emilio Custodio in the Past President Council position)  
Ken Howard (Vice President, North America); Emilia Bocanegra (Vice President, Latin America and the Caribbean); Ahmed Khatar (Vice President Middle East and North Africa); Florian Zamfirescu (Vice President, Eastern Europe).

Nominations should be sent to the IAH President, Stephen Foster, and be received not later than 31 May 2008. A nomination should contain a biography of the candidate and a letter from the candidate to confirm his or her willingness to stand for election. Candidates will be required to formally acknowledge the guidelines of conduct adopted at the Lisbon Council meeting before being accepted on to the voting list.

Address for nominations: Prof Stephen Foster, PO Box 9, Kenilworth, CV8 1J, UK; e-mail: [iahfoster@aol.com](mailto:iahfoster@aol.com)

## IAH News

### Changes to IAH fees and membership classes.

IAH Council at its meeting in Lisbon on 20th September 2008 approved changes to the membership fees for 2008. The new fees that will apply from 1 January 2008 for all classes of membership and membership categories can be found at: [http://www.iah.org/news\\_current.asp](http://www.iah.org/news_current.asp) The highlights are:

- Reductions in fees for members who are happy to receive Hydrogeology Journal and all other publications in electronic format only. The reduction for low income country members is Euro 13 to only Euro 20 and for all other members the reduction is between Euro 6 and 7;
- Increases in fees of around 3% for members who prefer to continue to receive the printed version of Hydrogeology Journal. The increase is Euro 4 for high income countries.

### Other membership and fee changes

- In response to membership requests a new retired membership category has been introduced for 2008. Retired members will pay half the regular rate but will not receive Hydrogeology Journal. They will however be full voting members and receive mailings of other publications such as News and Information;
- Corporate Members are being invited to upgrade their membership to Corporate Sponsor.

### World Hydrogeological Map

The WHYMAP (World-wide Hydrogeological Mapping and Assessment Programme), a collaboration of BGR (Germany), UNESCO, IAH and many other partners, is close to a major goal of producing a Groundwater Resources Map of the World 1:25 000 000 scale. A final draft of this map was presented to a meeting of the IAH Commission on Hydrogeological Maps in Lisbon at the XXXV IAH Congress in September and this will lead to a final publication in March 2008 together with a detailed explanatory booklet.

This final draft is also being exhibited at the next UNESCO General Conference being held in October 2007 where a special exhibition in preparation for the launch of the International Year of Planet Earth (2008) will take place *Planet Earth from Space to Place*

You can find more information about the WHYMAP Project by going to the WHYMAP home page <http://www.bgr.de/app/whymap/>

You can find more information about the International year of Planet earth by going to <http://www.esfs.org/>

### IAH Data Privacy Policy

IAH has adopted a data privacy policy in accordance with best practice for organisations which hold personal data on their members. All personal information which IAH holds or acquires will be treated in accordance with this policy.

The policy covers information we hold on IAH members and also on non-members who contact IAH through our web site. It describes how we may use personal information and who may access it. The policy emphasises that because, for reasons of efficiency and economy the Association uses electronic systems of administration it cannot accept into membership persons who are not willing for the Association to hold their address and other personal information electronically. Members may opt however to withhold their data from the on-line membership directory in which case it will only be available to the Association's staff for their legitimate needs. Members are reminded of these choices periodically in electronic and printed communications.

The above is only a summary of the policy which can be found in full on the IAH web site at [http://www.iah.org/privacy\\_policy.htm](http://www.iah.org/privacy_policy.htm)

### IAH Japan



The Japanese national Chapter of IAH has recently held elections and has appointed Dr Ryuma Yoshioka as the new President of IAH Japan. Dr Yoshioka will also serve as the Chairman of the Organising Committee of the 36th Congress to

be held in Toyama in October 2008. This brings to an end the long term of service in the interests of IAH of Prof Yasuo Sakura who was the President of the IAH Japan and who is thanked for his energetic services on behalf of the Association.

### IAH Ecuador

The IAH National Chapter for Ecuador (GECAIH) have published the first circular for the IX Congress Groundwater Hydrology Congress of ALHSUD which will be held in Quito from 8 to 12 July 2008. For details see the IAH conference listing or contact Ing Oscar Larrea, President of GECAIH at [gecaih@gmail.com](mailto:gecaih@gmail.com)

### IAH Commission on Mineral and Thermal Waters

The Commission held its annual meeting at Stâna de Vale, Romania in October during which the term of office of the Commission Chairman, Peter Kralj of Slovenia, came to an end. The newly elected Chairman is Dr. Werner Balderer from ETH Zurich, Switzerland.

### IAH books on the web

IAH is investigating the possibility of making volumes from its out of print book series (ICH volumes 1-17 and SP 1-4) available for web download and needs to

assemble a set for (destructive) scanning. The IAH archive does not contain duplicates of all volumes and Nick Robins, IAH Editor-in-Chief, would like to make contact with any member who would be willing to donate their copies. Please contact Nick at [nsro@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:nsro@bgs.ac.uk) and tell him what volumes you can offer.

### Hydrogeologist Time Capsule

The IAH time capsule pilot project, the initiative of Craig Simmonds of Adelaide and Philippe Renard of Lausanne, is about to go live. The idea of the time capsule is make permanently available video interviews with pre-eminent hydrogeologists in which they provide reflections on their careers. The videos will be accessible for download to provide a legacy for the scientists and students of the future and be used in educational courses internationally. You can view the pilot site at <http://www.iah.org/timecapsule> and further details will be announced in the editorial message in issue 16:1 of Hydrogeology Journal.

## New Executive Manager of IAH appointed

Following the decision by Andrew Skinner to end his position of Executive Manager of IAH in 2008, a general advertisement was put out in the spring of 2007 in IAH News and Information and on the IAH website to seek a replacement. A number of applications have been received and two outstanding candidates were interviewed during the Lisbon Congress by members of the IAH Executive. As a result, we are pleased to announce that John Chilton has been appointed as the new Executive Manager of IAH for a period of at least four years.



John is a long standing member of IAH and served as Chair of the UK National Committee from 2001 to 2006 and as an Associate Editor of Hydrogeology Journal from 2003 to 2007. He was chair of the editorial committee which produced the two volumes of papers from the 1997 Nottingham IAH Congress. During his long career in the British Geological Survey, John worked extensively on groundwater resource and groundwater quality issues in the UK and overseas, including many development aid and technical cooperation projects in Africa, Latin America, the Near and Middle East and South Asia. In recent years he has worked extensively with WHO, UNEP, UNESCO, UNECE and UNICEF as well as supporting the European Commission in its guidance for the implementation of the Water Framework Directive and Groundwater Directive. He is greatly looking forward to bringing this experience to the benefit of the Association,

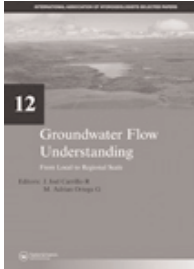
while at the same time recognising that Andrew Skinner will certainly be a hard act to follow.

We are grateful to Andrew, who was and still is providing an outstanding service to our Association, for agreeing to assist John Chilton to take over smoothly the responsibilities for managing the executive functions and leading the IAH secretariat with effect from February 2008.

**Willi Struckmeier - Secretary General**

## New IAH Publications - 60% Discount to IAH Members

### SP12 Groundwater Flow Understanding: From Local to Regional Scale



Eds: J Joel Carrillo Rivera and M Adrian Ortega Guerrero (2008)  
200 pages  
ISBN: 978 0 415 43678 6  
Price to IAH members (with 60% discount) £18.80/US\$31.98  
Full price £47.00/US\$79.95  
Available January 2008

Any sustainable groundwater development programme requires knowledge of the prevailing flow system, extending from local to regional scale. This book of selected papers, arising from the 23rd International Hydrogeologic Congress in Mexico in 2004, discusses integral ground-water management with scale flow issues and presents methods of defining, preventing, controlling and mitigating negative environmental impacts related to groundwater. It highlights specific issues such as transboundary groundwater flow, groundwater recharge, ground-water mining, and groundwater flow in thick aquifers; and stresses the importance of the sustainable development of groundwater and its social and economic implications. The book will interest groundwater researchers and professionals, students, water resources specialists, government administrators and educators, and those interested in groundwater and the environment. This volume will provide the reader with new insights into the procedures and processes that are influenced by scale of the groundwater flow system.

**Further details and information on how to order are on the publications pages on the IAH web site**

## Water Programme Database - Request for Help

Jan Nonner, Associate Professor of Hydrogeology at the UNESCO- IHE Institute for Water Education based in Delft, The Netherlands has requested help from IAH National Chapters and IAH members in setting up a database of water education programmes. He writes:

Educational and research organisations with Water Education Programmes are the key organisations to be involved in creating awareness for water amongst people and to provide opportunities for a challenging career in the water sector. International organisations in water including IAH and UNESCO-IHE help the educational and research organizations with Water Programs around the world by providing information to their staff and students. For example, IAH involves staff and students through their Hydrogeology Journal and conferences and UNESCO-IHE offers new Water Programs.

However comprehensive and up to date information is not available on what water education programmes are provided worldwide and IAH is supporting the initiative of UNESCO-IHE to set up and maintain a database containing key information of these organisations. These organisations could include universities, colleges, institutions or polytechnics. The information envisaged includes the full name of the organisation, faculty or section where the Water Education Programmes are offered, street address and e-mail address, and the types of Water Education Programmes offered. IAH National Chapters and IAH members, especially those working in educational and research organizations with Water Programmes, are invited to make key information of all the organisations with Water Programs in their country available. If national databases exist we would appreciate that they are drawn to our attention.

All information contributed will be made accessible to the international water community and we believe that, with the support of the water education community, this could be a valuable resource

You are kindly requested to send the information, preferably in Excel format, or requests for further information on the project, to Jan Nonner ([j.nonner@unesco-ihe.org](mailto:j.nonner@unesco-ihe.org)).

# Conference Listing

Summary details of conferences with e-mail or web addresses are given below. For a fuller list of conferences and more details, including links to web sites visit [www.iah.org/confs/](http://www.iah.org/confs/)

## 2008

20-21 Feb 2008 California, U.S.A. Site Closure Strategies.  
Web: <http://www.grac.org>

11-14 Mar 2008 Jaipur, INDIA. International Groundwater Conference on Groundwater Dynamics and Global Change.  
Email: [groundwater2008@gmail.com](mailto:groundwater2008@gmail.com)

31 Mar - 3 Apr 2008 Adelaide, AUSTRALIA. 2nd International Salinity Forum - Salinity, Water and Society - Global Issues, local action.  
Web: <http://www.internationalsalinityforum.org>

15-17 Apr 2008 Adelaide, AUSTRALIA. WATER DOWN UNDER 2008. incorporating the 31st Hydrology and Water Resources Symposium and the 4th International Conference on Water Resources and Environmental Research.  
Web: <http://www.waterdownunder2008.com>

2-5 Jun 2008 Karlovy Vary, CZECH REPUBLIC. IMWA 2008 congress.  
Web: <http://www.natur.cuni.cz/imwa2008/>

18-20 Jun 2008 Istanbul, TURKEY. Symposium on Flow and Transport in Heterogeneous Subsurface Formations: Theory, Modelling & Applications.  
Web: <http://www.iahr-gw2008.net/>

23-28 Jun 2008 Naples, Florida, U.S.A. 20th Salt Water Intrusion Meetig.  
Web: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/swim/index.htm>

25-28 Jun 2008 Kampala, UGANDA. Groundwater and Climate in Africa. The conference seeks to bring together water and climate scientists and thereby improve current understanding of the impact of climate variability and change on groundwater resources in Africa.  
Web: <http://www.gwclim.org>

8-12 Jul 2008 Quito, ECUADOR. IX Congreso Latinoamericano de Hidrología Subterránea.  
Web: <http://alhsud.com>

6-14 Aug 2008 Oslo, NORWAY. 33rd IGC - the Geoscience World Congress 2008 with the theme Earth System Science: Foundation for Sustainable Development.  
Web: <http://www.33igc.org>

1-4 Sep 2008 Montpellier, FRANCE. XIIIth IWRA World Water Congress.  
Web: <http://wwc2008.msem.univ-montp2.fr>

7-12 Sep 2008 Vienna, AUSTRIA. World Water Congress and Exhibition. Organised by International Water Association.  
Web: <http://www.iwa2008vienna.org>

14-18 Sep 2008 Freiberg, GERMANY. Uranium Mining and Hydrogeology. Organised by TU Bergakademie Freiberg. Sponsored by Saxonian State Ministry of Environment and Agriculture and International Mine Water Association.  
Web: <http://www.geo.tu-freiberg.de/umh/>

15-18 Sep 2008 Prague, CZECH REPUBLIC. HydroPredict'2008 -- International Interdisciplinary Conference on Predictions for Hydrology, Ecology and Water Resources Management: Using Data and Models to benefit Society. Organised by IAHS, BOKU, USGS and other institutions.  
Web: <http://www.natur.cuni.cz/hydropredict2008/>

15-17 Sep 2008 Korsor, DENMARK. GroPro - Groundwater Protection Plans and Implementation in a North European Perspective.  
Web: <http://www.polytec.dk/gropro/>

15-19 Sep 2008 Leuven, BELGIUM. Water and Urban Development Paradigms: Towards an integration of engineering, design and management approaches. Hosted by Katholieke Universiteit Leuven.  
Web: <http://www.urbanwaterconference.be/>

8-10 Oct 2008 Athens, GREECE. 8th International Hydrogeological Congress of Greece. Organised by the Hellenic Committee of Hydrogeology in collaboration with the Cyprus Association of Geologists and Mining Engineers.  
Web: <http://iah-hellas.geol.uoa.gr>

13-19 Oct 2008 Lahore, PAKISTAN. 20th International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) Congress. Organised by ICID.  
Web: <http://www.icid.org>

13-14 Oct 2008 Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. Non-renewable groundwater resources - sociotechnical aspects of non-renewable groundwater resources; half-empty, half-full, top-down, bottom-up, and some paths forward. Organised by N.G.W.A. Web: <http://www.ngwa.org/DEVELOPMENT/conferences/details/0810135055.aspx>

26-31 Oct 2008 Toyama City, JAPAN. 36th Congress of IAH; Integrating Groundwater Science and Human Well-being. Organised by Japan National Chapter of IAH. Web: <http://www.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp/~IAH2008>

## 2009

17-20 Mar 2009 Adelaide, AUSTRALIA. Workshop on Water Recycling via Aquifers.  
Email: [peter.dillon@csiro.au](mailto:peter.dillon@csiro.au)

6-9 Apr 2009 Vienna, AUSTRIA. HydroEco'2009. 2nd International Multidisciplinary Conference on Hydrology and Ecology: The Groundwater/Ecology Connection. Hydro'2009 is a follow-up to the successful HydroEco'2006. Organised by IAHS, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences in Vienna and other institutions.  
Email: [karel.kovar@mnp.nl](mailto:karel.kovar@mnp.nl)

7-12 Sep 2009 Hyderabad, INDIA. Sustainable development and management of groundwater resources of hard rock terrains. Joint IAH/IAHS International Convention combining 37th IAH Congress and 8th IAHS Scientific Assembly.  
Email: [iahs@ensmp.fr](mailto:iahs@ensmp.fr) or [w.struckmeier@bgr.de](mailto:w.struckmeier@bgr.de)

## Report from the Ethiopian Association of Hydrogeologists

The Ethiopian Association of Hydrogeologists held its Millennium Conference on 6 October 2007 in Addis Ababa. The Ethiopian Association of Hydrogeologists was established in the year 2006. The objectives of the Association are:

- to promote and advocate hydrogeological sciences in Ethiopia;
- to create a platform of discussion, information and collaboration for groundwater professionals;
- to serve the purpose of using groundwater for development;
- to assist the expansion of groundwater education, study and research in Ethiopia;
- to collaborate with other local and international associations with similar objectives.

A total of 67 new and existing members attended the meeting. Out of the participants 30 joined in 2007 bringing the total membership to 115. The members are drawn from government institutions, the private sector, academic institutions, the public sector and UN agencies.

The Millennium workshop and meeting had two agendas. The first was aimed at deliberating on key issues related to groundwater research, information, knowledge, institution, technology and consequently recommending the future needs. The second was a technical session where four research results were presented.

More details about the Association can be found at <http://www.eah.org.et>.

## Geological Society of America Annual Meeting 2007 IAH Treasurer and President mile-high in Denver

At the invitation of Jack Sharp, IAH Treasurer and Geological Society of America President for 2007, Stephen Foster (IAH President) made a stopover at the GSA Annual Meet in Denver-COLORADO (the 'mile-high city' and gateway to the 'American West') during 28-30 October 2007. Congratulations must go first to Jack - who is the first hydrogeologist to occupy this illustrious position for more than a decade, and second to the GSA (with whom IAH is now an Associated Society) for a dazzling conference at the Colorado Convention Centre with some 6,500 participants and a bewildering offering of distinguished lectures, scientific sessions, technical exhibitions, films, receptions and committees.

Worthy of specific mention in our connection were:

- Jack Sharp's Presidential Address on the topic 'There's Adventure in Geology';
- GSA Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished Lecture by Bridget Scanlon on 'Implications of Climate Variability for Groundwater & Waste Disposal in Semi-Arid Regions';
- NGWA Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecture by James Butler on 'What the Heck is a Phreatophyte'.

Thanks are also due to Patricia Bobeck and Danielle Rempe, both from The University of Texas at Austin, who staffed the IAH Booth in the Exhibition Hall.

The IAH President also had the pleasure of attending the IAH-USA National Chapter Committee Meeting on 28 October 2007 (with a good turnout in Jack Sharp's impressive 37th floor penthouse presidential suite) and the GSA Hydrogeology Division Luncheon on 30 October 2007 (at which Janet Herman received the Hydrogeology Distinguished Service Award and Shaun Frape the O E Meinzer Award). The GSA-HD has a large membership (being the second largest GSA Division) and will celebrate its 50th Anniversary in 2009. The focus of discussion was ways of promoting IAH national membership and activity, and of forging closer links with the GSA.

## SWIM-20 - 20th Salt Water Intrusion Meeting: 23 to 28 June 2008 in Naples, Florida, USA

SWIM, the Salt Water Intrusion Meeting, has been held every two years since 1968. The next SWIM will be held June 23-27, 2008, in Naples, Florida, USA. This will be the 20th SWIM and will be the first time that SWIM is held outside of Europe. It will also be the first time that a meeting focusing on salt water intrusion in aquifers will be held in the USA. Here is some background providing IAH members an update on this meeting series.

SWIMs deal with saline ground water intrusion in coastal and inland aquifers. SWIMs successfully bring together people interested in saline groundwater issues: well-known specialists, water managers and students. SWIM is unique in that the free exchange of technical ideas is promoted by maintaining a relaxed and friendly meeting environment. There is no formal SWIM association, no membership and no fees. SWIM continues purely through the efforts of participants who voluntarily organize meetings. Presentations are in a single room to avoid the impersonal atmosphere resulting from concurrent sessions and to stimulate multi-disciplinary interaction.

SWIMs are usually held near the sea coast. The pleasant location and the traditional field excursion provide ample opportunity to discuss ideas with fellow attendees. At SWIM-20 in Florida, the traditional mid-SWIM field trip will be to the Everglades, where participants will have the opportunity to experience the famous "River of Grass".

SWIM was started in 1968 by the late Professor Dr. W. Richter, who invited several German, Dutch and Danish colleagues to his institute in Hannover, Germany. These countries had similar groundwater salinization problems and Dr. Richter felt that an informal dialogue would be mutually beneficial. The next five meetings were organized by countries surrounding the North Sea (1970, Vogelenzang, The Netherlands; 1972, Copenhagen, Denmark; 1974, Ghent, Belgium; 1977, Medmenham, UK; and 1979, Hannover, Germany). The number of attendees grew steadily over the years, and the countries of interested participants expanded away from the North Sea. Subsequent meetings were organized in Sweden (Uppsala, 1981) and Italy (Bari, 1983). After a return to the originating countries (1986, Delft, The Netherlands and 1988, Ghent, Belgium), SWIMs were held in a variety of locations across Europe (1990, Danzig, Poland; 1992, Barcelona, Spain; 1994, Cagliari, Italy; 1996, Malmö, Sweden; 1998, Ghent, Belgium; 2000, Miedziezdroje, Poland; 2002, Delft, The Netherlands; 2004, Cartagena, Spain).

In the year 2000, another meeting series with similar interests, but with worldwide scope, was formed by Professors Alex Cheng (USA) and Driss Ouazar (Morocco) with support from Leonard Konikow and Clifford Voss (USA) to meet the growing need for global scientific interchange on salt water intrusion. This meeting series, called Salt Water Intrusion in Coastal Aquifers (SWICA), held its first conference in 2001 in Essaouira, Morocco, and a second meeting in 2003 in Merida, Mexico. The SWICA meetings were well-attended by former SWIM participants. In Mexico, discussions about merging of SWIM and SWICA began. The third SWICA meeting was held together with the 19th SWIM in 2006 (Cagliari, Italy). At this joint meeting, participants decided to combine the best features of both meeting series and to merge under the SWIM name. Meetings will be alternately held within and outside Europe every two years. The 2008 meeting will be held in Florida, USA, and SWIM will return to Europe (likely Portugal) in 2010.

For the State of Florida and many other coastal communities in the USA, the 20th SWIM comes at an opportune time. Shallow ground water is the sole source of drinking water for the 5-million residents of South Florida. Florida is currently suffering from a major drought, particularly onerous in South Florida, where the strictest water restrictions have been imposed to lessen the rapid decline of shallow aquifer water levels. In Florida, many well fields are located near the freshwater-saltwater interface, always making them susceptible to contamination by salt water, but especially now, as water levels drop. The 20th SWIM offers a unique opportunity for water managers and policy makers to discuss coastal aquifer management strategies with seawater intrusion experts.

Information on the 2008 SWIM in Naples, Florida is available at:

<http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/swim/index.htm>

Submittals of presentation abstracts are due in late January 2008.

General information on SWIM, including proceedings from several past meetings, is available at:

<http://www.swim-site.org/>

Information on previous SWICA meetings is available at: <http://www.olemiss.edu/sciencenet/saltnet/conf-swica.html>

**Mark Bakker, Christian Langevin, Luc Lebbe, and Clifford Voss Co-organizers of SWIM-20**

