



# International Association of Hydrogeologists

## Polish National Chapter – Annual Report for 2013

- **Council of the Polish National Chapter of IAH (2010-2013)**

Andrzej J. Witkowski, President

Anna Kuczyńska, Secretary

Jerzy Małecki, Member

Jacek Rózkowski, Member

Stanisław Staško, Member

Andrzej Sadurski, Chairman of the Hydrogeological Commission of the Committee of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences

- **New elected Council of the Polish National Chapter of IAH (from October 2013 till new election in 2016)**

Andrzej J. Witkowski, President

Marek Marciniak, Vice-president

Sławomir Sitek, Secretary

Stanisław Staško, Member

Anna Żurek, Member

- **Membership information:**

At the end of 2013 the Polish National Chapter had 49 members, including one honorary member – prof. Jan Dowgiałło. Most members are associated with academic centres and scientific institutions. Only three members are drawn from industry and three members have student status. The majority of members are full time professionals. In 2012 we had 53 members.

- **Activities**

In 2013 the Polish National Chapter organised two board meetings and one general assembly for all members. The board meetings were held on 1<sup>st</sup> March and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in Sosnowiec, and the General Assembly was held on 16<sup>th</sup> October in Jachranka, near Warsaw. Reports of the above meetings are available at [www.iahpoland.org](http://www.iahpoland.org) (in *Z prac Zarządu*).

The most important activities of the Polish National Chapter during 2013 were:

## **I. Changes in the constitution of the Polish National Committee of IAH**

According to proposals for some changes in the current constitution of the Polish National Committee (expressed by the management committee at the meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2013) an on-line voting system was opened on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2013 and closed on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2013. The total number of votes cast was 41 out of 49 members.

The results of voting for particular changes:

1. In Article 2, section 1, paragraph C should be cancelled (the Hydrogeological Commission of the Committee of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences currently does not exist) (40 votes);
2. In Article 2, section 2: Previously: *Ordinary members of the management committee of the Polish National Committee will normally serve for three years term beginning on the day of election. No ordinary members shall serve more than two terms consecutively.* Now is: ***All members of the management committee of the Polish National Committee will normally serve for three years term beginning on the day of election. They can serve for no more than two terms consecutively.*** (39 votes);
3. In Article 2, section 3: Previously: *The officers of the management committee shall be a Chairman and a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Polish National Committee from amongst their membership. The Chairman shall serve for three years term, which is not renewable; the Secretary, if elected, may serve for a further term.* Now is: ***The officers of the management committee shall be a President, Vice President and a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Polish National Committee from amongst their members.*** (40 votes);
4. In Article 2, section 4: Previously: *The Chairman will preside over meetings of the Committee.* Now is: ***The President or Vice President (in case of President's absence) will preside over meetings of the Committee.*** (40 votes);
5. In Article 3, section 2: Previously: *A quorum shall consist of four elected members of the Polish National Committee. Each member of the Committee, whether elected or otherwise, shall have one vote. Decisions will be made by a majority vote with the Chairman having the casting vote if necessary. If a quorum cannot be achieved, business may continue, but the next meeting of the Committee at which there is a quorum must ratify decisions.* Now is: ***A quorum shall consist of four elected members of the Polish National Committee. Each member of the Committee, whether elected or otherwise, shall have one vote. Decisions will be made by a majority vote with the President or Vice President (in case of President's absence) having the casting vote if necessary. If a***

*quorum cannot be achieved, business may continue, but the next meeting of the Committee at which there is a quorum must ratify decisions.* (41 votes).

The proposed changes in the constitution have been made upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Polish National Committee (according to the constitution).

## **II. Election of Council for 2013 - 2016**

The Polish National Chapter of IAH is run by a Council of 5 members (President, Vice President, Secretary and 2 members) elected every three years (according to the newly changed constitution). The process of electing the new Council began with a call for nominations on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013. Nominations closed on 16<sup>th</sup> September.

Candidate list:

President	1	Andrzej J. Witkowski
Vice President	1	Marek Marciniak
Secretary	1	Sławomir Sitek
Members	3	Dariusz Dobrzyński, Stanisław Staško, Anna Źurek

The on-line voting system opened on 19<sup>th</sup> September and closed on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2013. The total number of votes cast was 41 out of 49 members. The results were announced at the General Assembly held in Jachranka near Warsaw on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013.

### **New elected Council:**

**President: Andrzej J. Witkowski** (40 votes)

**Vice President: Marek Marciniak** (37 votes)

**Secretary: Sławomir Sitek** (37 votes)

**Members: Stanisław Staško** (22 votes) **and Anna Źurek** (35 votes).

## **III. Co-organisation of conferences and workshops:**

1. Co-organisation of the 4<sup>th</sup> International Field Workshop for Young Hydrogeologists on “*Geothermic*”. It was held on 24 - 26 May 2013 in Łądek-Zdrój (charming and the oldest spa in Poland) and was organized by the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Wrocław. The theme of the workshop, which was attended by

45 participants, was problems of geothermal waters. The extremely attractive part of the workshop was a lecture about the Łądek-Zdrój spa and its therapeutic waters presented in the "Wojciech" spa pool by Professor Wojciech Cieżkowski. Another attraction of the workshop was a visit of the largest cave opened for visitors in Poland – the Bear Cave in Kletno. Based on papers presented at the workshop, a special book including 12 full papers and 7 abstracts was published.



*Participants at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Field Workshop for Young Hydrogeologists*

2. Co-organisation of the XIVth International Conference “Hydrogeochemistry 13” which was held on 20 - 21 June 2013 in Sosnowiec. The conference was attended by 40 participants from Poland, Slovakia and the Czech Republic. These conferences are organised every two years alternately by co-operating Universities from Poland (University of Silesia, Katowice), Slovakia (Comenius University, Bratislava), and the Czech Republic (Technical University, Ostrava). They are a very good example of effective co-operation between the Polish, Slovak and Czech IAH national chapters.
3. Co-organisation of the XVI conference of “Current Challenges in Hydrogeology”, which is a national conference dedicated to professional hydrogeologists, organised every two years by various leading academic centres in Poland. The conference in 2013 was held from 16 to 18 October and was organised in Jachranka near Warsaw by

hydrogeologists from the University of Warsaw in cooperation with the Polish Geological Institute and Polish National Chapter of IAH. Conference papers were published in the Bulletin of the Polish Geological Institute Special Issue No 456, Hydrogeology, z. XIV/1-2 (2013). The conference was attended by 260 Polish hydrogeologists.



*XVI conference: “Current Challenges in Hydrogeology”, Jachranka, 16-18.10.2013.*

- IV. Management of the website of the Polish National Chapter [www.iahpoland.org](http://www.iahpoland.org).** The website contains up to date information about hydrogeological meetings and conferences held in Poland and in neighbouring countries, information about past conferences, an extensive database of hydrogeological publications, hydrogeological photo gallery, links to interesting hydrogeological websites – hydrogeological institutions in Poland and abroad, educational web pages. The web page contains full information about the board and its activities, as well as information about membership.
- V.** Delegates of the Polish National Chapter participated in 40<sup>th</sup> IAH Congress in Perth and in the IAH Central European Groundwater Conference held in Morahalom, Hungary. At this Conference, the President of the Polish National Chapter attended the meeting of representatives of IAH National Chapters and presented a report on current activities of our chapter.



*Polish delegates Andrzej Kowalczyk and Andrzej Witkowski with Jozsef Toth, Morahalom, Hungary, 8-10 May 2013*

- VI.** The President of the Polish Chapter, Andrzej Witkowski participated in the work of IAH Working Group on Education led by Bruce Misstear.
- VII.** Editorial work on the book “Calcium and Magnesium in Groundwater: Occurrence and Significance for Human Health” (Editor: Lidia Razowska-Jaworek) as the next volume of the IAH - Selected Papers on Hydrogeology series. This book is based on papers presented at the international seminar: calcium and magnesium in groundwater – distribution and significance, held in Katowice, Poland in September 2012.