

IACS



International Association of Cryospheric Sciences

4th IACS Bureau Meeting

Palais des Congrès, Montreal, Canada

July 24, 2009

Bureau members present

Georg Kaser (Past President: PP Kaser)

Ian Allison (President: P Allison)

Manfred Lange (Secretary General: SG Lange)

Gino Casassa (Vice President: VP Casassa)

Charles Fierz (Division Head; Snow and Avalanches: DH Fierz)

Ralf Greve (Division Head; Planetary and Other Ices of the Solar System: DH Greve)

Valérie Masson Delmotte (Division Head; *Cryosphere, Atmosphere and Climate*: DH Masson Delmotte)

Bureau members absent with regrets

Peter Jansson (Vice President: VP Jansson)

Julian Dowdeswell (Division Head; *Glaciers and Ice Sheets*: DH Dowdeswell)

Kumiko Goto- Azuma (Vice President: VP Goto Azuma)

Claude Duguay (Division Head; *Marine and Freshwater Ice*: DH Duguay)

Minutes

Budget Audit

The Budget Audit, which was provided by J. Jacka and G. Cogley was briefly reviewed and presented by P Alison. He proposed acceptance of the budget and also that the Treasurer Lange be exonerated. This was seconded by DH Greve and thereby the issue closed.

IACS Web-site and Newsletter

It was again discussed that the web-site needs to be kept updated. PP Kaser explained that any material that is being sent to VP Jansson should be completely prepared and ready to be included on our web-site. One idea that was discussed is that each division head provides a brief description of the division, its aims and objectives (about one paragraph) and forwards them to the President and the General Secretary by the end of August 2009. Similarly, each Working Group should be introduced with its aims and objectives as well as its membership.

Action: Each Division Head to prepare a brief description of the respective Division and forwards it to the President and the General Secretary by the end of August 2009

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for IACS Standing Groups were discussed and it was decided that P Allison will collect the existing information, distribute it to the members of the Bureau and the members of the Standing Group (StG) for revision. Upon endorsement of the ToR by the StG and their formal acceptance by the IACS Bureau (via email), the ToR, they will be made available on the IACS web-site.

It was also discussed that our web-site should contain an "IACS-only" section, which should be used for exchange of internal information and documentation of background documents.

Action: VP Jansson to establish a password-protected "IACS-only" section on our web site

In summary, we will send a collated list of items to VP Jansson. We also need to review the existing links to other web-sites particularly the ICSIH site. We need to have a general email-address for inquiries which will be forwarded to the SG and the P. We will have news items posted which will be provided by the Bureau members and posted by VP Jansson. As an initial step to an IACS Newsletter, we will modify our IUGG Annual Reports as the basis. A summary and a content list will be posted on Cryolist. We need to make relevant links to other important sites more visible (currently under "Ressources").

Bureau Elections in 2011

According to our Statutes, we need to set up a Nomination Committee consisting entirely of members outside of the current Bureau. This notwithstanding, we might want to set up an ad-hoc group/search committee preparing the necessary steps. P Allison proposes VP Azuma-Goto, PP Kaser, P Allison and VP Cassasa to be members of this group.

Action: Set up an ad-hoc group/search committee as well as a Nomination Committee to prepare for the Bureau elections in 2011 (P Allison)

Budget Planning Group

We need to set up a group that guides us in planning for budget allocations. P Allison proposes SG Lange, P Allison and DH Fierz to be members of this group.

Action: Set up a Budget Planning Group (P Allison)

Representative to the GTM-G Advisory Group and the Search Committee for the new WGMS Director

An IACS representative needs to be nominated. There is a list of possible members that PP Kaser will contact. The chair of this group will be the Head of the IACS Division on Glaciers and Ice Sheets.

Our representative on the Search Committee for the new WGMS Director will be PP Kaser.

Honorary IACS Member

The Bureau discussed nomination of PP Jones as an Honorary member of IACS. There was unanimous agreement to move forward and to proceed with his appointment during the next IACS Plenary in Melbourne 2011.

Action: Prepare for the nomination of PP Jones as an Honorary member of IACS (P Allison)

IACS Assembly 2013

The issue of the Assembly was discussed, particularly in light of possibly joining forces with IAMAS. There are indications that IAMAS would welcome a joint Assembly. DH Fierz, as the Swiss IACS Delegate put forth an official invitation to have the Assembly hosted in Switzerland, if IAMAS agrees to a joint Assembly. If this materializes, we will start discussions with IAMAS on the scope and format of the Assembly, particularly joint sessions and poster sessions. P Allison, DH Fierz and SG Lange were nominated to represent IACS in the discussions with IAMAS and the local host in preparing for the Assembly.

Action: Start discussions on joint IAMAS-IACS Scientific Assembly in Switzerland in 2013 (P Allison, DH Fierz and SG Lange)

Sea Ice Representative in IACS

During the IACS Plenary, it was discussed to strengthen sea ice research within IACS. PP Kaser explained that this issue was extensively discussed prior to establishing IACS and it was then decided that we maintain a single working group on sea- and fresh-water ice. It was concluded that this issue deserves attention, but that no immediate action is needed.

Educational Activities

Also during the Plenary, there was a plea to enhance educational activities within IACS and in collaboration with other organizations. There is a proposition by DH

Greve to collect web-sites of ongoing educational activities on cryospheric-science subjects by the Bureau members and to publicize them on our web-site.

To collect web-sites of ongoing educational activities on cryospheric-science subjects and to send them to the SG; the SG will forward the complete list to VP Jansson for publication.

Action: to collect ideas and information on educational activities (all Bureau members)

Global Cryosphere Watch

The Bureau notes that WMO has approved the initiation of the establishment of a Global Cryosphere Watch. We look forward to receiving more information on this initiative to be discussed during our next Bureau meeting.

International Commission on Planetary Atmospheres and Environments

DH Greve reported that he has been asked to become a member of the International Commission on Planetary Atmospheres and Environments (ICPAE), which is a IAMAS commission. He accepted and proposes to do so as IACS's representative. The Bureau welcomes this move.

Next Bureau Meeting

After some discussion, consensus evolved that we should consider a Bureau meeting in conjunction with and prior to next year's EGU meeting in Vienna, i.e., on May 1st and 2nd 2010. PP Kaser will contact Reinhard Böhm at the Zentralanstalt für Meteorologie und Geodynamik to host the meeting.

Action: to prepare the "logistics" of the next IACS Bureau meeting in Viena (PP Kaser)

Closing

The meeting was closed at around ?