

# Minutes

of the

## Annual SNC-IUGG Committee Meeting

11 November 2011, 11:30 – 12:45

Department of Earth Sciences, ETHZ, Zürich

### Committee members present

Dr Charles Fierz, Secretary and treasurer, IACS

IAG	Dr Beat Bürki, Mr Adrian Wiget
IAHS	Dr Bruno Schädler
IAMAS	Dr Markus Furger
IAPSEI	Dr Lapo Boschi
IAVCEI	Prof. Dr Peter Ulmer
IPA	Dr Marcia Phillips

### Committee members absent with regrets

Prof. Dr Marc Parlange, President

IAGA	Prof. Dr Andrew Jackson
IAHS	Prof. Dr Rolf Weingartner

### Committee members absent

IAGA	Prof. Dr Peter Wurz
IAPSO	Prof. Dr Thomas Stocker

Secretary C. Fierz opens the meeting and welcomes the committee members present. Both Profs M. Parlange and R. Weingartner are absent due to sickness while Prof. A. Jackson excused himself for professional reasons. Dr B. Schädler replaces Prof. R. Weingartner and eminently represents the PF Geosciences as its current President. The necessary quorum required by the bylaws is attained.

### 1. Approval of the agenda

No modifications or additions are requested and the agenda is accepted as proposed in the invitation to the meeting.

### 2. Approval of the minutes of the committee meeting in Fribourg, 19 November 2010

The minutes are accepted with one minor modification, with thanks to SNC-IUGG secretary C. Fierz. Nevertheless, the Secretary apologizes for misspelling Mr A. Wiget's name once more.

### 3. Communications

Our IPA representative Dr M. Philipps reports on the advancement of the Tenth International Conference on Permafrost TICOP. The venue has been moved from Tuymen to Salekhard, in the middle of a Russian permafrost region. Dr M. Phillips is member of the International Advisory Committee to TICOP and acts as Associate Editor for the conference proceedings. Regarding permafrost activities in Switzerland, PERMOS, the Swiss Permafrost Monitoring Network, is now in its second decade and aims at maintaining a high data quality standard.

The Swiss Geodetic Commission SGC celebrates its 150<sup>th</sup> jubilee this year. SGC organised a scientific Symposium in June (see also Agenda item 8) with keynote speakers and international attendance. A special issue of "Geomatik CH" reported on the event. Furthermore, dedicated talks were organised in 6 to 7 high education institutions across Switzerland.

The preparation for the DACA-13 conference to be held in Davos in July 2013 ([www.daca-13.ch](http://www.daca-13.ch)) is on track. The Swiss National Organizing Committee recently met with the Secretary Generals of both concerned Associations (IACS and IAMAS) to review the first 29 proposals for Symposia and discuss about the time skeleton of the conference. It is expected that the scientific program can be put on line early next year.

### 4. Reports of the members with particular focus on the XXV IUGG GA 2011

#### IUGG

Prof. Dr Parlange represented Switzerland at the IUGG Council Meetings.

#### IACS

Some 200 cryospheric Scientists and not few from Switzerland made it to Melbourne. The delegates attending the plenary elected the new Bureau expected to give more impetus to the young Association. SNC-IUGG Secretary C. Fierz was elected President-Elect, that is, he will take over the IACS Presidency from Prof. Dr Ian Allison 2013 in Davos.

WMO launches Global Cryosphere Watch GCW, a WMO Polar Activity. The implementation of this program may have beneficial consequences on the continuation of snow, glaciers, and permafrost monitoring in Switzerland.

#### IAG

The SGC produced as usual a quadrennial report that can be found under [www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#national](http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#national) Dr Bürki and Mr Wiget jointly represented Switzerland at IAG Meetings in Melbourne. Dr Urs Marti (SwissTopo) was elected President of the Subcommission on Regional Geoid Determination

This will involve some travelling due to commission work. Prof. Dr M. Rothacher stepped down as chair of the Global Geodesic Observation System GGOS. Prof. Dr M Sideris (Canada) was elected IUGG Vice-President. Our committee supported his nomination to this position.

#### IAGA

Prof Dr Jackson was the Swiss delegate in Melbourne. There is no report regarding IAGA activities.

#### IAHS

Dr Schädler was the Swiss delegate in Melbourne. IAHS is revigorating its Bureau and Commissions. Dr Tobias Jonas (WSL/SLF), for example, was elected Vice-President of the International Commission on Snow and Ice Hydrology ICSIH. The next IAHS Scientific Assembly will be held 2013 in Göteborg (Sweden) jointly with IAPSO and IASPEI.

#### IAMAS

Dr Furger was the IAMAS delegate in Melbourne and provided a written report (Appendix A). Together with Prof. Dr Schmutz, he presented DACA-13 at the IAMAS plenaries.

## IAPSO

No delegate, no report.

## IASPEI

Dr Boschi was the IASPEI delegate in Melbourne, where Prof. Dr D. Giardini was elected President of this Association. Congratulations to him. In the meantime, Prof. Giardini was also elected President of the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia. He will keep his professorship at ETHZ and it is thus too early to think of what roles he would have to reconsider.

## IAVCEI

No Swiss delegate was present in Melbourne. Prof Ulmer reports on the creation of new sub-commissions, for example, on public awareness. He will provide a short report about 2011 activities.

## Notes:

As of 5 December 2011, Prof. Giardini resigned as Director of the Schweizerischer Erbebendienst SED.

Secretary C. Fierz forgot to remind all committee members prior to the meeting to provide a short report of activities.

## 5. Treasurer's report

The treasurer tables his report. The report displays an income of CHF 3459.50 and an expenditure of CHF 5213.50 of which CHF 1 739.- is the surplus 2009 returned to SCNAT. The bank account balance on 31 December 2010 amounted to CHF 79.40 with no surplus to be returned. The report is accepted by the members present with thanks to the treasurer.

## 6. Budgets 2011 and 2012

### 2011

This year accounting will close with a small surplus that will help cover future administrative fees.

### 2012

Our requests for Union Lecture, travel assistance, and expenses related to the preparation of the DACA-13 conference were all accepted without cuts. PF Geosciences also sponsors the DACA-13 conference with CHF 20 000.-. Note that this sponsoring does not affect our other requests. The allotted budget is pending acceptance by the Executive Council of SCNAT.

## Notes:

The change in payment policy of SCNAT does not (any longer) affect committees and commissions. The budget allowance is transferred once to our account, which simplifies administrative work.

## 7. Website

Secretary C. Fierz apologizes for not having been able to bring this task to an end. It is decided that SNC-IUGG shall go online by the end of this year. Every member should provide by 23 December 2011 the latest both the logo of the Association he or she represents and a picture (preferred format: portrait) characterizing that Association.

## 8. Union Lecture

### 2011

Our IAG representatives (Dr B. Bürki and Mr A. Wiget) wanted to propose a Union Lecture related to the 150<sup>th</sup> jubilee of the SGC (see Agenda Item 3). This was not really in line with the main theme of the Plenaries proposed by the Local Organizing Committee. Thus it was decided that SNC-IUGG would support the SGC Scientific Symposium that took place in June 2011 while

SNC-IUGS could use its part to support the Bernoulli/Matter Symposium organized in the framework of SGM 2011.

2012

Next year SNC-IUGG only will have funds to sponsor the Union Lecture UL. We propose that we use this funds to sponsor a DACA-13 related UL (IACS & IAMAS). This will very well match the SGM 2012 Plenary theme "Mountains – up & down". SGM 2012 Co-chair Bruno Schädler welcomes the idea and asks for sending him nominations for potential keynote speakers by mid-December 2011. He will also represent our committee and the UL idea within the Local Organizing Committee of SGM 2012. The SGC also envisages to propose yet another keynote speaker.

#### **9. Activities 2012**

Next year IAHS will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Delft, the Netherlands, in the framework of the symposium on the "Completion of the IAHS decade on Prediction in Ungauged Basins and the way ahead", 23-24 October 2012.

Swiss participation at the International Radiation Symposium [IRS 2012](#), Berlin, 6-10 August 2012, at the 33<sup>rd</sup> GA of the European Seismological Commission [ESC 2012](#), Moscow, 19-24 August 2012 as well as in IAG commission work and IACS Bureau Meetings are examples of Swiss IUGG related activities in 2012.

Mr A. Wiget also alludes to the [GEOSummit](#) to take place in Bern, 19-21 June 2012.

#### **10. Varia**

Nothing to report.

#### **11. Next Meeting**

16 November 2012 in Bern (SGM 2012), time to be announced.

2011-12-13 / C. Fierz

## Swiss Geodetic Commission

### Annual report 2011

#### 1. Swiss Geodetic Commission: 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2011

In 2011 the Swiss Geodetic Commission (SGC) was celebrating its 150 year anniversary. The Commission was founded in 1861 in the frame of the first European Arc Measurements. First president was General Henri Dufour.

The main event of the jubilee was the official ceremonial act with a scientific symposium held at ETH Zürich on June 10. More than 100 national and international guests attended the Jubilee-Colloquium with four messages of congratulations and five scientific lectures. In the evening the commission invited to an apéro riche in the Dozentenfoyer in the ETH main building, overlooking the city of Zürich.

Other jubilee actions were the specially dedicated talks in the annual series of colloquia or seminars at the member institutions and organisations of the SGC:

- 08.03.: Journée GEOMATIQUE-News organized by Leica Geosystems at the HEIG-VD, Yverdon-les-Bains: 150 ans de Commission géodésique (Prof. A. Geiger)
- 01.04.: Bundesamt für Landestopografie swisstopo, swisstopo Kolloquium: CHTRF2010: Dritte Wiederholungsmessung im GNSS-Landesnetz LV95, Messkampagne und erste Resultate (Dr. A. Schlatter, Dr. E. Brockmann)
- 15.04.: Laboratoire de Topométrie, EPF Lausanne: New Challenges in Kinematic Geodesy and Navigation (spring meeting of the Swiss Geodetic Commission)
- 18.04.: Astronomisches Seminar, Astronomisches Institut der Universität Bern: Präzise Bahnbestimmung des GOCE-Satelliten mittels GPS (Dr. H. Bock)
- 28.04.: Institut Vermessung und Geoinformation, FHNW, Muttenz: Schweizerische Geodätische Kommission – 150 Jahre geodätische Forschung: Was wissen wir mehr? (Prof. A. Geiger)
- 31.10.: Skyguide, Dübendorf; autumn meeting of the Swiss Geodetic Commission, including guided tour in skyguide
- 12.11.: Swiss Geoscience Meeting 2011 (ETHZ), Session 17: Synergies between Advancements in Geodesy and other Geosciences (various speakers)
- 24.11.: Geomatik-news organized by Leica Geosystems in the Technopark Zürich: 150 Jahre Geodäsie (Prof. A. Geiger)

Issue 06/2011 of the Journal "Geomatik Schweiz" was a special edition dedicated to the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Swiss Geodetic Commission with scientific and overview papers of members of the SGC.

## **2. XXV. IUGG / IAG General Assembly, 28.06. - 07.07.2011 in Melbourne, Australia**

Regarding the activities in context with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) the year 2011 was dominated by the activities for the IUGG/IAG XXV General Assembly, held from June 28 to July 7 2011 in Melbourne, Australia (<http://www.iugg2011.com/>). The motto of the Symposium was "Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet". Members of the Swiss Geodetic Commission attending the Symposium were: Prof. G. Beutler, Dr. B. Bürki, Dr. R. Dach, Dr. U. Hugentobler, Dr. A. Jäggi, Dr. U. Marti, Prof. M. Rothacher, Mr. A. Wiget. The SNC-IUGG was represented at the IAG official meetings by Beat Bürki and Adrian Wiget.

Apart from the scientific meetings many working group, technical and organizational meetings were held, e.g. for the Global Geodetic Observing System (GGOS). For more information please visit the website <http://www.iag-aig.org> and <http://www.iag-ggos.org/>.

Following tradition the Swiss Geodetic Commission published an extended compilation of reports covering the scientific activities related to geodesy in Switzerland in the years 2007 – 2011. The structure of this national report was divided into four commissions according to the structure of the International Association of Geodesy:

- 1 Reference Frames
- 2 Gravity Field
- 3 Earth Rotation and Geodynamics
- 4 Positioning & Applications

The national report is publically available on the Website of the Swiss Geodetic Commission: <http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#national>

At the IUGG/IAG GA in Melbourne it was decided that the next IAG Scientific Assembly shall be organized in 2013 in Potsdam (Germany) and the next IUGG / IAG General Assembly in 2015 in Prague (Czech Republic).

## **3. XXI. EUREF Symposium 25. - 28.05.2011 in Chisinau, Moldova**

Dr. E. Brockmann, swisstopo, member of the EUREF Technical Working Group (TWG), attended the symposium of the IAG Sub-commission EUREF. He presented the Swiss national report 2011 to EUREF as well as the EPN web page for monitoring the official national ETRF coordinates.

For more information please visit the websites: → <http://www.euref2011.md/>

## **4. EUREF Technical Working Group Meetings:**

The Technical Working Group (TWG) of EUREF is responsible, in general, for the control of EUREF activities and policy. Its tasks are described in [http://www.euref-iaq.net/euref\\_twg\\_info.html](http://www.euref-iaq.net/euref_twg_info.html). Representative for Switzerland is E. Brockmann. In 2011 the TWG met three times:

- Padua (Italy), 02.-04. 03. 2011
- Chisinau (Moldova), 24. 05. 2011
- Frankfurt (Germany), 27.-28. 10. 2011

For more information please visit the website

→ [http://www.euref-iaq.net/euref\\_twg\\_meetings.html](http://www.euref-iaq.net/euref_twg_meetings.html)

## **5. E-GVAP Expert Meeting, 19. - 21.10.2011, Toulouse, France**

E-GVAP is a project of the EUMETNET partners together with geodetic partners providing GPS delay and water vapour measurements from near-realtime processing for operational meteorology. swisstopo is a processing centre providing delays for E-GVAP estimated by GNSS observations. An annual expert meeting was organized by the French meteorological service and was dedicated to showing the status and planning the next steps.

For more information please visit the website → <http://egvap.dmi.dk/>.

## **6. IAG/EC and GGOS at the AGU-Meeting, 05. - 09.12.2011, San Francisco, USA**

For the next four years, Dr. Urs Marti (swisstopo) was elected as president of IAG Commission 2 – Gravity Field. As a member of the IAG Executive Committee he participated at the EC meeting organized during the American Geophysical Union (AGU) fall meeting 2011 in San Francisco. Again, meetings related to IAG and GGOS were held.

December 2011, A. Wiget, B. Bürki

# 2011 Annual Report of the Swiss representative of IAMAS

Markus Furger, National Correspondent of IAMAS

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## Activities 2011

2011 was dominated by IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne, Australia, and preparations of the DACA-13, the Davos Atmospheric and Cryospheric Assembly in 2013.

- **XXV IUGG General Assembly, Melbourne, Australia**

The XXV IUGG General Assembly was held in Melbourne, Australia, from 27 June to 8 July 2011. With approximately 3,500 participants from over 91 countries, the scientific program comprised of 4758 presentations including 2831 oral and 1926 poster. Full information about the program, the venue, and the special events can be found at [www.iugg2011.com](http://www.iugg2011.com).

The attendance to the conference was financially supported by the SNC-IUGG. Besides the scientific program, two Executive Committee Meetings of the IAMAS were held as side meetings, and a joint banquet in an excellent Chinese restaurant provided opportunities for networking and social contacts among IAMAS representatives. The conference was also used to spread information about the upcoming DACA-13, and for close inspection of the workings and requirements of a large conference. The Swiss IAMAS delegation consisted of Prof. Werner Schmutz (PMOD-WRC, Vice-President of the International Radiation Commission) and Dr. Markus Furger (PSI, National Correspondent of IAMAS).

Tasks:

- The National Correspondents are asked to try to obtain funding for student registration fees at a local level (instead of via IAMAS).
- IAMAS is establishing a Young Scientist Award that will be presented for the first time at DACA-13.

- **DACA-13 in Davos**

The SNOG (Swiss National Organizing Committee) now counts 13 members and is chaired by Prof. Heini Wernli of ETHZ. It gathered in February and October in Davos and in September in Zurich. Contracts for the Davos Conference Center as the venue have been signed. Conference support (registration, abstract handling) will be provided by Davos Tourismus. DACA-13 is present at the internet with a webpage. A Scientific Steering Committee was constituted and drafted a first session program from session proposals submitted after a respective call on the webpage. Financial support from potential funding agencies and sponsors is presently acquired.

## Swiss People with IAMAS duties

- Prof. Werner Schmutz, PMOD/WRC      Vice-president of IRC
- Dr. Martin Wild, ETHZ                      Co-chair of the Global Energy Balance WG of IRC
- Dr. Markus Furger, PSI                      Swiss National Correspondent of IAMAS
- Dr. Julian Groebner, PMOD/WRC        Member of IRC

## eMail list for IAMAS-CH

An eMail list exists to quickly distribute IAMAS information relevant to potentially interested people in Switzerland. At present, this informal list contains 32 persons from universities and research institutions active in atmospheric sciences.

## Budget 2012

Support for IRC commission work has been submitted in time and is listed in the SNC-IUGG budget request.

- Travel support for IRC commission work (W. Schmutz)                      **CHF800.00**