

Minutes

of the

Annual SNC-IUGG Committee Meeting

20 November 2015, 11:15 – 12:30

University of Basel, Bernoullianum, Bernoullistrasse 1

Committee members present

Dr Charles Fierz, Secretary and treasurer, IACS
IAPSEI Dr John Clinton

Committee members absent with regrets

IAG Mr Adrian Wiget
IAGA Prof. Dr Alexey Kuvshinov
IAHS Prof. Dr Jan Seibert, President
IAMAS Dr Christopher Hoyle
IAVCEI Prof. Dr Peter Ulmer
IPA Dr Marcia Phillips

Committee members absent

IAGA Prof. Dr Peter Wurz

President Jan Seibert opens the meeting and welcomes the committee members present. The necessary quorum required by the bylaws is **not** attained. *Comment:*

1. Acceptance of the agenda

Adapt sub entries 4 and add 5 Nomination of Swiss IUGG Council Delegate 2015-2019.

2. Minutes of the annual committee meeting in Fribourg, 20 November 2014

The minutes are accepted with thanks to SNC-IUGG secretary C. Fierz.

3. Communications

Send or let send invoices to personal address: Secretary SNC-IUGG, c/o C. Fierz, Gadenstattweg 4, 7276 Davos Frauenkirch

4. Reports of the members with particular focus on the XXVI IUGG GA 2015

4.1. IUGG GA Delegates and / or Association correspondents

IUGG

- *The Swiss National Committee for IUGG supported the nomination of Prof. Michael Sideris for the position of IUGG President 2015-2019 as well as the nomination of Prof. Chris Rizos and Dr Isabelle Ansorge as members of the IUGG Bureau 2015-2019. All three were elected.*
- *Andreas Fichtner (seismology; ETHZ) and Matthias Huss (glaciology; UniFR/ETHZ), both IUGG Early Career Scientists awardees delivered lectures during a special Symposium*
- *Introduction of permanent Council Delegates*
- *Introduction of Individual Membership at Association level. Current solution fits well with Swiss feedback to IUGG*
- *2019 in Montréal*

IACS (attended)

- *IUGG about 200 – 300 cryospheric scientists present, x from CH (good turnover); IACS sessions well attended, including business sections. Many IACS partners present (IPA, UNESCO-IHP, CliC, APECS, etc.)*
- *Individual membership to be introduced by IACS in near future*
- *IACS presented its first Early Career Scientist Prize to Mathieu Morlighem*
- *The newly created Swiss Chapter of APECS organized the IACS sponsored Workshop, ~ 100 attendees, younger and older, very lively*
- *CH applied for observer status in Arctic Council: decision postponed. CH researchers more active in IASC and SCAR, in particular topic snow*
- *Evaluation GTN-G 2014 (WGMS): letter to MeteoSwiss*
- *Global Cryosphere Watch, cross-cutting WMO initiative, one of seven WMO priorities (Cg-XVII, attended by C. Fierz) => Swiss CryoNet station and site Weissfluhjoch-Davos*
- *IPCC: IACS regrets non-nomination of Th. Stocker but IACS still well represented by V. Masson-Delmotte*

IAG (attended)

The SGC produced a quadrennial report to IAG that can be found under
<http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#national>

Annual report tabled and attached

IAGA (attended)

- 7 scientists from ETH took part in IAGA part of 26th IUGG General Assembly
- Equipping geomagnetic observatory at Valentia (Ireland) with instruments for electric field measurements, 2 – 7 May (1 scientist from ETH);
- Participation in ESA Swarm data quality meeting, Paris, France, 7-10 September (2 scientists from ETH)

IAHS (attended)

T. Jonas elected President-Elect of ICSIH

IAMAS (attended)

Remember anything important: The answer is no - except of course of the elections

IAPSO

No correspondent

IASPEI (attended)

IAVCEI

IPA (attended)

- MP was at the IUGG meeting in Prague (permafrost session co-convenor).

Thank you to IUGG-CH for the financial support! IPA president Antoni Lewkowicz was also present.

- Jeannette Nötzli (PERMOS office 50%) is now based at SLF in Davos. The PERMOS Office headquarters are at the University of Fribourg, as is the other 50% part of the position.

- The permafrost researchers at SLF will be going to the XI International Conference on Permafrost in Potsdam (June 2016) - with MP as session co-convenor, field trip co-organiser and with various talks and posters.

- MP has been asked by the IPA to collaborate on the revised permafrost glossary (However there are no current updates on this project at present...)

- The summer 2015 heatwave had some very interesting effects on mountain permafrost in the Swiss Alps (e.g. increased rock fall activity and some increased active layer thicknesses - but NO increases in Active Layer thickness in ice-rich substrates).

4.2. Request for nominations for three IUGG Committees (2015-12-31)

- Capacity Building and Education Committee
- Honours and Recognition Committee
- Statutes and By-Laws Committee

5. Nomination of the Swiss IUGG Council Delegate 2015-2019

see letter Alik

Each Council Delegate, normally the President of the relevant IUGG National Committee, is expected to serve until the beginning of the first session of the subsequent Council meeting. appoint a Council Delegate with the authority to vote from 1 Dec 2015 until the beginning of the next meeting of the Council in 2019.

6. Treasurer's report

The treasurer tables his report for the. The report displays an income of CHF 7 002.15 and expenditures of CHF 6 687.60 of which CHF 290.80 is the surplus 2013 returned to SCNAT. The bank account balance on 31 December 2014 amounted to CHF 2 463.80.

Note: surplus 2014 to be returned: CHF 2414.-

~~The report is accepted by the members present with thanks to the treasurer.~~

7. Budget 2016

2016

Our requests for Union Lecture, travel assistance, and expenses allotted at Platform level.

[Kürzung CHF 60.-]. The allotted budget is pending acceptance by the Executive Council of SCNAT.

8. Web page

*Secretary C. Fierz should update the committee page on the SCNAT portal ☺
[Portals Naturwissenschaften Schweiz www.naturwissenschaften.ch]
Zukünftig nur noch Minutes publizieren sowie Liste aktiver IUGG CH-Forscher*

9. Union Lecture

2015

Dr Gupta (see SGM program). Mainly decided by SGM LOC

2016

More involvement sought from Committee?

10. Activities 2016

Presence at various meetings. Polar sciences in CH.

11. Varia

POLAR2018 Davos: preparation advancing well.

12. Next Meeting

Something to be changed?

18 November 2016 in Zürich (SGM 2016), time to be announced.

2015-12-01 / C. Fierz

Annual Report 2015 of the Swiss Geodetic Commission (SGC) to the Swiss National Committee for the IUGG (SNC-IUGG)

1. Swiss Geodetic Commission meetings

The International Association of Geodesy (IAG) is represented in Switzerland by the Swiss Geodetic Commission (SGC), a commission of the “Platform Geosciences” of the Swiss Academy of Sciences SCNAT. Members of SGC are scientists from universities, governmental services and private companies working in the field of Geodesy. The commission met twice for its biannual spring and autumn meetings.

- 27.03.2015: 193rd meeting of the SGC at the Institute of Geodesy and Photogrammetry, ETH Zürich (<http://www.igp.ethz.ch/en/>), Geosensors and Engineering Geodesy (GSEG; Prof. A. Wieser). Presentations of activities and projects of GSEG (“Ground based Radar Interferometry” and “Geodesy meets Archaeology”). Visit of the geodetic calibration laboratory.
Ordinary spring meeting of the commission.
- 06.11.2014: 194th meeting of the SGC at the Federal Office of Topography swisstopo, Wabern. Presentations and reports of all member organizations on their activities and projects during 2015.

The minutes of the two annual meetings of the Swiss Geodetic Commission, including summaries of the activity-reports, are published in the “Procès-Verbaux”: (<http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#verbaux>).

In this report, the attended conferences and meetings related to the IAG are mentioned. Apart from those, many members of the SGC participated and contributed to conferences, which are not directly sponsored by IAG. However, these contacts help as well to represent the geodetic community in different disciplines of geosciences and navigation. The larger meetings were:

- European Geosciences Union EGU, 12.4. - 17. 04. 2015 in Vienna;
- FIG Working Week, 17.-21. 05. 2015 in Sofia;
- ICC2015 - 27th International Cartographic Conference, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 23.-28. 08. 2015;
- ION GNSS+ 2015, 14.-18. 09. 2015 in Tampa, Florida;
- EUREF Analysis Center workshop, 14.-15. 10. 2015 in Bern, Switzerland;
- IAIN World Congress 2015, 20.-23. 10. 2015 in Prague, Czech Republic
- IGS Bias Workshop 5.-6. 11. 2015 in Bern, Switzerland;

2. EUREF 2015 Symposium; 03. - 05.06.2015 in Leipzig, Germany

EUREF is the IAG Reference Frame Subcommission for Europe. The Swiss Geodetic Commission was represented at the EUREF 2015 Symposium by E. Brockmann (swisstopo) and by R. Dach (AIUB).

Session #1: SYSTEMS: ETRS89, EVRS

Session #2: NETWORKS: EPN, UELN, DENSIFICATION

Session #3: TECHNIQUES: GNSS, LEVELLING, COMBINATION

Session #4: APPLICATIONS: EARTH SCIENCES, GEO-INFORMATION

Session #5: INITIATIVES FOR PRECISE POSITIONING IN EUROPE

Session #6: NATIONAL REPORTS

Session #7: CLOSING SESSION

For more information please visit the website:

→ <http://igs.bkg.bund.de/eurefsym2015>.

3. 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-iag.net/euref_twg_info.html. Representative for Switzerland is E. Brockmann (swisstopo).

In 2015 the TWG met three times:

- Warsaw (Poland), 23.-24.03.2015
- Leipzig (Germany), 01.-02.06.2015
- Bern (Switzerland), 13.10.2015

For more information please visit the website:

→ http://www.euref-iag.net/euref_twg_meetings.html

4. XXVI. IUGG / IAG General Assembly, 22.06. - 02.07.2015 in Prague, Czech Republic

Regarding the activities in context with the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) the year 2015 was dominated by the activities for the IUGG/IAG XXV General Assembly, hold from June 22 to July 2 in Prague, Czech Republic (<http://www.iugg2015prague.com/>). The meeting was characterized by the central theme: "Earth and Environmental Sciences for Future Generation". Members of the Swiss Geodetic Commission attending the Symposium were: Prof. G. Beutler, Dr. R. Dach, Dr. U. Hugentobler, Dr. A. Jäggi, Dr. U. Marti, Prof. M. Rothacher, Dr. J. Skaloud, Mr. A. Wiget. The SNC-IUGG was represented at the IAG official meetings by Adrian Wiget.

In cooperation with the Swiss National Committee for IUGG the SGC and the National Correspondent to IAG supported the nomination of Prof. Michael Sideris for the position of IUGG President 2015-2019 and the nomination of Prof. Chris Rizos as a member of the IUGG Bureau 2015-2019.

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 Prague it was decided that the next IAG Scientific Assembly shall be organized from 30 July till 04 August 2017 in Kobe, Japan and the next IUGG / IAG General Assembly in 2019 in Montreal, Canada.

5. Bicentenaire de la Scnat, „recherche live“, tournée, 30.09-3.10, Lausanne

En collaboration avec la commission géodésique, le laboratoire de topométrie (TOPO) de l'EPFL a participé à l'étape de Lausanne de la tournée du bicentenaire de la SCNAT. Le laboratoire TOPO a présenté une animation intitulée un super œil pour observer l'environnement (http://www.sciencesnaturelles.ch/service/spare_time/43803-un-super-oeil-pour-observer-l-environnement)

6. Gesellschaft für die Geschichte der Geodäsie in der Schweiz (GGGS): Fachtagung „Geodäsie in der Schweiz - Aus der Vergangenheit in die Gegenwart und Zukunft“, 9. 11. 2015 in Aarau

Die ganztägige Fachveranstaltung zum Thema "Geodäsie in der Schweiz - Aus der Vergangenheit in die Gegenwart und Zukunft" fand im Stadtmuseum Aarau statt. Sie wurde von der GGGs in Zusammenarbeit mit dem Stadtmuseum Aarau / Sammlung Kern, der Schweizerischen Geodätischen Kommission (SGK) und dem Institut für Vermessung und Geoinformation der FHNW organisiert. Über 100 Teilnehmer/innen, unter Ihnen erfreulicherweise auch viele Studenten/innen, nahmen daran teil.

In drei Vortragsblöcken wurden Referate zum Tagungsthema gehalten. Als Tagungsband diente die November Ausgabe der Zeitschrift "Geomatik Schweiz". Darin sind die Referate als Artikel enthalten:

- [Editorial](#) (K. Rössler, R. Gottwald)
- [De l'importance du passé pour l'avenir](#) (B. Simos-Rapin)
- [Die Sammlung Kern im Stadtmuseum Aarau](#) (K. Rössler)
- [Vermessung langer Tunnel von der Antike bis zum 20. Jahrhundert](#) (B. Witte)
- [Vom Armental zum High-Precision Valley – die Wilde Geschichte des Alpenrheintals](#) (E. Voit)
- [Meilensteine der Geschichte und Entwicklung der Schweizerischen Landesvermessung](#) (D. Schneider, E. Gubler, A. Wiget)
- [Auch der Weg der geodätischen Erkenntnis ist mit Unsicherheit gepflastert](#) (A. Geiger)

Nach dem Mittagessen (und vor den Vorträgen am Nachmittag) hatten die Teilnehmer in Gruppen Gelegenheit für einen Rundgang im Museum. Dabei erhielten sie Einblicke in:

- das Stadtmuseum Aarau,
- die Studiensammlung Kern,
- eine kleine Ausstellung historischer Instrumente der Landesvermessung,
- die Epochen der Landesvermessung anhand einer PowerPoint-Präsentation.

7. AHORN 2015 – der Alpenraum und seine Herausforderungen im Bereich Orientierung, Navigation und Informationsaustausch, 26./27. 11. 2015 in Wildhaus

Das Schweizerische Institut für Navigation (ION-CH) organisierte gemeinsam mit seinen Partnervereinen aus Österreich, dem Österreichischen Verein für Navigation (ÖVN) und aus Deutschland, der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Ortung und Navigation (DGON) am 26. und 27. November 2014 in Wildhaus die Dreiländertagung AHORN 2015 - Der Alpenraum und seine Herausforderungen im Bereich Orientierung, Navigation und Informationsaustausch. Schwerpunkte der Tagung waren:

Session 1: Infrastruktur, Verkehr und Luftrettung

Session 2: Snow Management, Sicherheits- und Informationsdienste

Session 3: Geomonitoring

Session 4: Drohnen

Die wesentliche Zielsetzung dieser Tagung war wie jedes Jahr die Zusammenführung von Know-how-Trägern, Entwicklern und Nutzern von Navigations-, Erdbeobachtungs- und Kommunikationstechnologien mit dem Ziel, spezifische Probleme des Alpenraums besser lösen zu können. Die in der SGK vertretenen Institutionen waren durch Prof. A Geiger (ETHZ, GGL), Prof. B. Merminod und P.Y. Gilliéron (EPFL), M. Scaramuzza (skyguide) und U. Wild (swisstopo) vertreten.

For more information please visit the website:

→ <http://www.ion-ch.ch>

8. Swiss Geoscience Meeting 2015 at the University of Basel, 20. - 21. 11. 2015

The theme of the 13th Swiss Geoscience Meeting was "Modelling the earth" (→ <http://geoscience-meeting.ch/sgm2015/>). The Swiss Geodetic Commission was supporting and co-organizing two sessions at the SGM 2015:

Session 17: Earth Observation addressing key Earth System processes
Convenors: Stefan Wunderle, Brigitte Buchmann, Mathias Kneubühler, Alain Geiger

Session 18: Geoscience and Geoinformation – From data acquisition to modelling and visualization
Convenors: Nils Oesterling, Adrian Wiget, Massimiliano Cannata, Michael Sinreich

9. Publications

The minutes of the meetings of the SGC are published in the "Procès-Verbaux" (<http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#verbaux>).

The members of the Swiss Geodetic Commission are publishing scientific articles and reports as well as general publications related to their working field on a regular basis. The following reports are in press in 2014 in the SGC-series called „Geodätisch-geophysikalische Arbeiten in der Schweiz“:

(<http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications.html#geodgeophys>)

Nr. 93: Krzysztof Jakub Sosnica: Determination of Precise Satellite Orbits and Geodetic Parameters using Satellite Laser Ranging

As mentioned in chapter 4, the Swiss Geodetic Commission published the four-year national report 2011-2015, which is publically available on the Website of the SGC:

<http://www.sgc.ethz.ch/publications#national>

10. Miscellaneous

Members of SGC are coordinating the project "European Gravity Service for Improved Emergency Management (EGSIEM)" of the Horizon 2020 EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

Members of SGC are actively involved in the following COST actions:

- TU1302 SaPPART - Satellite Positioning Performance Assessment for Road Transport.
Meetings 10.-11. 03. 2015 in Sofia and 22.-23. 09. 2015 in Bucharest/Bukarest
(P.-Y. Gilliéron).

30.11.2015, A. Wiget, Member of the SNC-IUGG, representing IAG
and national correspondent and delegate to IAG

This (2015) year 7 scientists from ETH took part in IAGA part of 26 IUGG General Assembly, Prague. Note that at IAGA Conference of Delegates at the Prague IUGG Assembly a motion was passed (unanimously) to create a new Division VI on electromagnetic induction studies in IAGA from a corresponding working group. This, in particular, means that Swiss scientists working on geo-electromagnetism are now more visible than before in this society structure.

Other IAGA related activity:

- 1). Equipping geomagnetic observatory at Valentia (Ireland) with instruments for electric field measurements, 2 – 7 May (1 scientist from ETH);
- 2). Participation in ESA Swarm data quality meeting, Paris, France, 7-10 September (2 scientists from ETH)

2015 Annual Report – SNC-IASPEI

John Clinton, Swiss Seismological Service (SED), ETH Zurich
Swiss Correspondent for IASPEI

Activities 2015

- **IUGG, Prague (June/July):** Around 20 Seismologists from Swiss Institutions participated in this meeting, organizing 3 Sessions and contributing to over 30 presentations

Union Lectures:

Andreas Fichtner: Early Career Scientist
John Clinton: GeoMonitoring in 21st Century

FDSN Leadership for defining standards / best practice / open data for seismology

- **ETHZ leadership in EU project EPOS:** The European Plate Observing System (EPOS) aims to build a sustainable base for European Research Infrastructures in Earth Science, and will develop a novel IT framework to coordinate multidisciplinary access to data and derived products. A new ~Euro18m 4 year Implementation Phase began in 2015. ETH coordinates Seismology.
- **ETHZ develops Seismic Service for Mars InSight Mission** (landing Sept 2016)
- **ETHZ develops QuakeMI2.0:** the latest version of community standard for earthquake description in XML format (*endorsed by IASPEI resolution*)
- **2016 IASPEI ESC meeting in Trieste: strong participation by Swiss Scientists planned**

Key Swiss involvement in IASPEI

Prof. Dominco Giardini, SEG, ETHZ	IASPEI Chair until 2015
Dr. John Clinton, SED, ETHZ	SNC IASPEI Correspondent
Dr. Florian Haslinger, SED, ETHZ	Chair FDSN WG: CTBT Coordination, President EMSC, EPOS WP 8 leader
Prof Stefan Wiemer, SED, ETHZ	Swiss Representative at ISC
Prof Donat Faeh, SED, ETHZ	(request nomination as Swiss Titular Member for ESC)