



COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

International Earth and Space Sciences

International CIP Newsletter

volume 1, no. 1 (2009)

Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of the International CIP electronic Newsletter of the Committee on International Participation (CIP) of the American Geophysical Union (AGU). The electronic newsletter will serve as a vehicle to distribute and share information primarily on, but not limited to, international activities of AGU and other national, regional and international societies, and to provide a forum for presentation and discussion on topics of interest and relevant to the membership and the Union. AGU membership encompasses more than 52,000 individuals from over 135 countries. CIP recognizes the value and need to maintain contact with the membership and the usefulness of the electronic facilities such

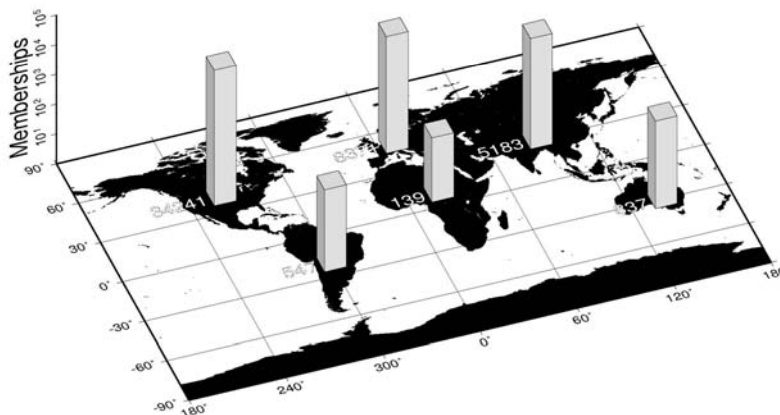
as the web and internet. The newsletter is developed in this context along with other initiatives.

We invite members to provide comments and input for this newsletter addressed to cipnewsletter@agu.org

AGU is an international scientific society with a *Vision* to advance, through unselfish cooperation in research, our understanding of the Earth and space sciences that is used for the benefit of humanity.

The Union's scientific mission transcends national boundaries. Individual scientists worldwide are equals in all AGU activities. Cooperative activities with partner societies of all sizes worldwide enhance the resources of all, increase the visibility of the Earth and space sciences, and serve individual scientists and students.

AGU 2008 Membership Distribution

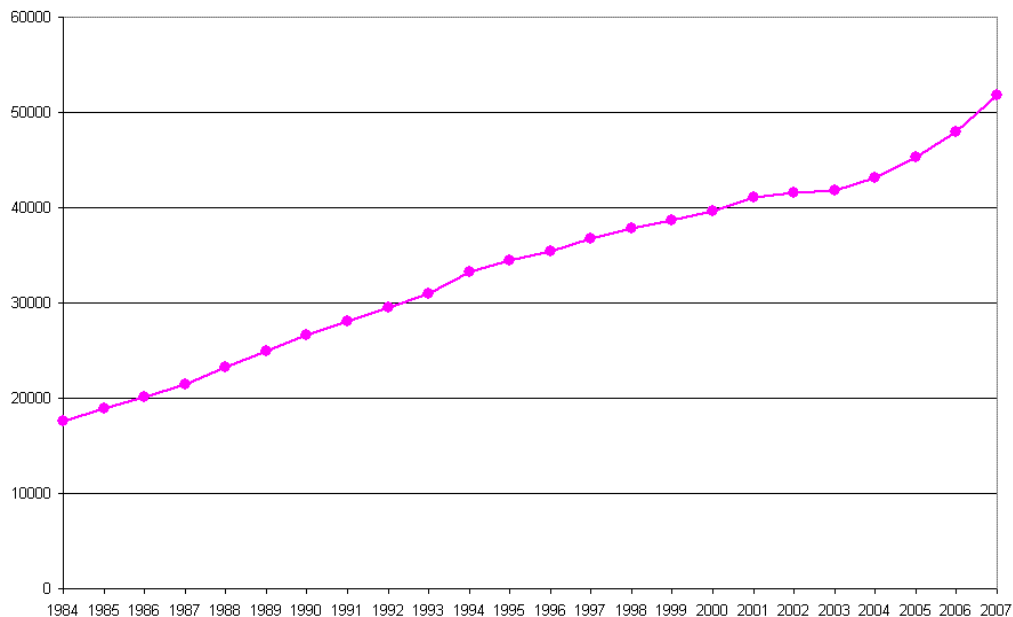


In the past years, membership has continued to increase being more than 52,000 members. More than 36 % of the membership comes from outside the US and with a wide geographic distribution. The goal of AGU membership is to unite Earth, atmospheric, oceanic, hydrologic, space, and planetary scientists by providing a dynamic forum for the geophysical community through scientific journals, meetings, electronic mail, a weekly newspaper, scientific and technical committee activities, and several online data and information services.

AGU publishes the weekly transactions EOS, which is distributed to the entire membership, as well as thirteen of the top high-impact journals in Earth and space sciences, including the Journal of Geophysical Research with its seven disciplinary sections.

The AGU meetings program includes the Fall Meeting, which in December 2008 had over 16,000 participants, the Meeting of the Americas, Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting, Ocean Sciences and Chapman Conferences.

Recent AGU Membership Growth



Graph displaying recent membership growth (between 1984 to 2007)

Committee on International Participation

The Committee on International Participation is focused on AGU's activities and efforts to promote and facilitate scientific cooperation in Earth and space science on an international scale. With more than 36 % of the membership from over 135 countries, beyond North America, it is important to develop programs and activities regardless of geographic constraints and

to work cooperatively with the other national, regional and international scientific societies in which members participate.

CIP provides advice and support to Council and AGU committees regarding international involvements and perspectives for their activities. The committee works to develop partnerships with societies and relationships with individuals that are productive for our science. Pressing problems in Earth system sciences like global change,

natural hazards and resource limitation can be successfully considered only by adopting an international perspective. AGU supports and collaborates in international programs such as the International Year of Planet Earth and the electronic-Geophysical Year.

Near-Term Objectives and Actions

- Develop programs and actions that facilitate and promote participation of international members in AGU programs, committees and activities
- provide advise and input to AGU committees on international activities
- continue to develop collaboration and partnerships with other societies in joint activities
- develop partnerships and ensure effective participation of AGU in international programs
- organizing a one-stop website that has input from society contributors that want to help distribute information on society activities
- a face book facility solely for Earth, atmosphere, ocean and space scientists;

Interim Report on Activities (Fall Meeting, December 2008)

Please note that only some activities are here mentioned, while an updated report is being prepared.

Collaboration and Partnership with Other Societies

We have established contact and develop joint activities with other societies. This includes the organization of the Joint Assemblies 2007 and 2008, with participation of societies from Latin American countries, Canada and US, and which has become the Meeting of the Americas. In 2007 there were 12 societies sponsoring the meeting, and in 2008

- preparing statements on the current state of scientific knowledge in selected areas relevant to society, so that the final statements can be used by the scientific community worldwide.

CIP continues to interact with other societies to support the growth of students in a variety of environments so that they become an active part of the international community, and thus enhance the flow of excellence into the ranks of our science. CIP will evaluate the Berkner Grant applications helping international students to attend the Union's Joint Assembly meetings, as an action to provide motivation opportunities to attract and keep best students in Earth and space sciences.

The Union needs to find ways to better serve its members from countries with low-speed internet facilities and other inadequate infrastructure.

CIP will help AGU to better cooperate and partner with other societies on getting policy makers worldwide to use the best available science.

there were 13 sponsor societies. AGU has been asked to sponsor meetings of other societies, as part of the international collaboration.

The Meeting of the Americas will be held in Toronto, Canada in 2009 and in Iguassu Falls, Brazil in 2010. Both meetings will continue to have strong participation of societies across the Americas.

Meeting with Presidents and Council Representatives of other societies was held during the 2007 Joint Assembly in Acapulco. Societies participating include all those sponsoring the meeting, as well as 3 other societies. A second meeting on international collaboration was held during the Western Pacific Meeting in

Cairns, Australia in July 2008. The WPGM provided the opportunity to meet with society representatives and members from Asia and Oceania.

A follow-up expanded meeting was held in the 2008 Fall Meeting. Participant societies included the European Geosciences Union (EGU), Brazilian Geophysical Society (BGfS), Mexican Geophysical Union (UGM) and many others.

Recent Policy Statements adopted by Council have been shared with other societies, for their possible use or adoption in their countries. These include, e.g., Human Impacts on Climate, Meeting the Challenges of Natural Hazards, Biological Evolution and the History of the Earth Are Foundations of Science, and Capability to Monitor the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.

International Programs

AGU members have been active participants in the international programs and serve in various capacities in the organization and executive committees. The Union as a partner in the international initiatives provides an organizational umbrella and financial support. Programs include the International Polar Year (IPY), International Heliospheric Year (IHY), electronic-Geophysical Year (eGY), and International Year of Planet Earth (IYPE). Several activities have been developed, including organization of special sessions during the meetings.

AGU became an international partner of the International Year of Planet Earth in mid 2007. Meetings with IYPE Executive Director and other Board Members have been conducted to develop activities within the program and ensure an effective participation. A special session on IYPE was organized for the 2007 Fall Meeting. A working/discussion meeting with IYPE Board of Directors Chairman and US National Committee President on future 2009 collaboration and participation in the program was held this

week in the 2008 Fall Meeting. Contacts with national committees have also been made, and we had collaboration with the US national committee and committees in South America.

Students and Young Scientists

Students and young scientists are of particular interest to CIP. Promoting and facilitating their participation in AGU activities and programs are critical aspects. Within this context, CIP evaluated the Berkner Fellowship applications and also met with Berkner fellows at the Joint Assembly.

Internet Facilities

An important aspect for international members is related to internet and electronic facilities, including web site, internet access, etc. One of the plans is organizing a one-stop website that has input from society contributors that want to help distribute information. Other plan includes construction of a face book facility solely for Earth, atmosphere, ocean and space scientists.

Honors and Recognitions

It has been noted that relatively few international members are nominated for Fellowship and other recognitions. This has been discussed at committee meetings and actions to promote participation are being developed, including translation of nomination instructions, e-mails to membership inviting to participate and advise in preparing nomination packages.

AGU International Award

The new International Award has been presented in 2007 and 2008. The first was presented to Prof. Uppugunduri Aswathanarayana from the International Center for Water Resources Management in India at the Acapulco Joint Assembly. The 2008 Award was presented to Prof. Laike Asfaw from Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia at the Ft. Lauderdale Joint Assembly.

2008 Fall Meeting

During the meeting we had several events and activities, including the CIP committee meeting, meeting with Presidents and Council Representatives from other societies, and meeting on international activities and constructing the electronic international website and face book facilities on Earth and space sciences. This was the first meeting of the new CIP appointed for 2008-2010.

Union Sessions and Meetings on International Participation and Collaboration

As part of the actions to promote participation of international members in AGU activities and AGU involvement in international collaboration, several special sessions and discussion meetings have been organized for the Fall Meeting and Joint Assembly and Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting.

Special union sessions were organized for the Fall Meeting (2007), Joint Assemblies (2006 and 2007) and Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting (2008). Activities related to international programs such as the Electronic Geophysical Year and the International Year of Planet Earth have been completed in the past two years. Specific actions include: special session 2007 Fall Meeting on IYPE (organized with participation from IYPE and national committees), and e-GY sessions for the Joint Assemblies.

Geophysical Year Meetings Calendar

Meeting organizers may submit events for consideration for inclusion to the calendar by using the [on-line Meeting Submission Form](#).

Full information and contents of the GYC is in www.agu.org/cgi-bin/gycal

Meetings on specific themes have been conducted with other organizations such as the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) at 2007 TWAS Assembly (on organization of topical conferences in less developing countries and collaboration strategies in African countries) and 2008 TWAS Assembly (topical conferences and collaboration activities in South America). Other activities include discussions to support student participation at international meetings with the Academies of Sciences of Mexico and Brazil.

AGU CANADA



2009 AGU and AGU Sponsored Meetings

24 – 27 March 2009

[AGU Chapman Conference on Arsenic in Groundwater of Southern Asia](#)

Siem Reap, Cambodia

13 – 17 April 2009

[International Conference on Water, Environment and Health Sciences: The Challenges of Climate Change](#)

Cholula, Puebla, Mexico

10 – 15 May 2009

[AGU Chapman Conference on Effects of Thunderstorms and Lightning in the Upper Atmosphere](#)

University Park, Pa., U.S.A.

24 – 27 May 2009

[The Meeting of the Americas: 2009 Joint Assembly](#)

Toronto, Canada

15 – 19 June 2009

[AGU Chapman Conference on Abrupt Climate Control](#)

Columbus, Ohio, U.S.A.

1 – 4 September 2009

[AGU Chapman Conference on the Biological Carbon Pump of the Oceans](#)

Brockenburs,, Hampshire, England

5 – 9 October 2009

[AGU Chapman Conference on Examining Ecohydrological Feedbacks of Landscape Change along Elevation Gradients in Semiarid Regions](#)

Sun Valley, Idaho, U.S.A

14 – 18 December 2009

[2009 AGU Fall Meeting](#)

San Francisco, Calif., U.S.A.

Committee on International Participation

2008–2010 Term

Chair

Jaime Urrutia Fucugauchi,
Universidad Nacional, Mexico City,
Mexico

Members

Laike Asfaw, Addis Ababa University,
Ethiopia
Fumihiko Imamura, Tohoku University,
Sendai, Japan
Alik Ismail Zadeh, Universitat Karlsruhe,
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