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ISSUE 7

Newsletter



AUGUST 2008

President's Message

Dear members of the IAMAS community,

I was very glad to meet Hans Volkert, the IAMAS SG, during the IUGG Executive Committee in Karlsruhe, Germany, from 5-6, August. One year has passed since the new IAMAS Bureau was elected during the IUGG Assembly in Perugia. The transition from the old bureau to the new one has been smooth and constructive. The bureau members have been in close contact and working hard to serve the IAMAS community, perfectly echoing Hans' motto "co-co-co" (cooperation, communication and continuity). Both of us were pleased to find that most of the ten IAMAS commissions have been active during the past year. In particular, ICAE, ICCL, ICCP, IOC and IRC have held large conferences. ICCL and ICCP received some direct financial support for their conferences from IUGG, which was mainly used to support young scientists from developing countries. I noticed that ICAE published two newsletters this year, and I believe other commissions have done so or are planning to do so. I would like to encourage all commissions to publish an e-newsletter at least once a year. These newsletters can be made accessible not only on commission websites but also on the IAMAS web-

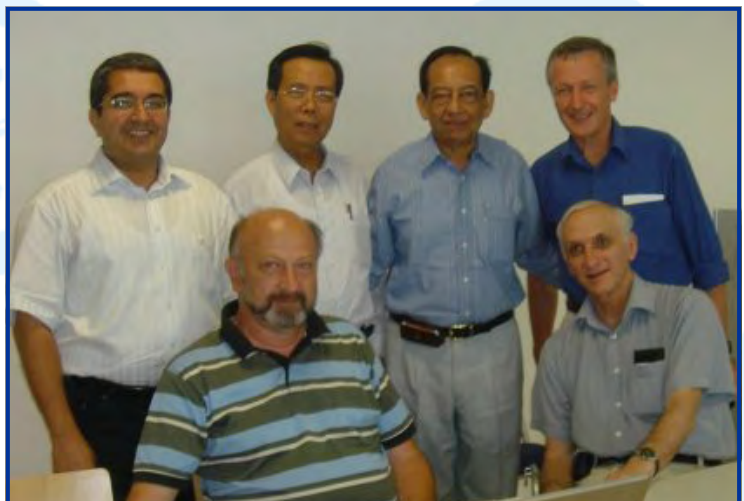
IAMAS President and SG cooperating with the IUGG Bureau in Karlsruhe, Germany; seated from left: Aksel W. Hansen (IUGG treasurer), Tom Beer (IUGG president); standing from left: Alik Ismail-Zadeh (IUGG SG), Guoxiong Wu (IAMAS president), Harsh Gupta (IUGG vice president), Hans Volkert (IAMAS SG).

site. In this way we can enhance a sense of community and increase the visibility of both the commissions and IAMAS altogether. Moreover, newsletters provide a basic method to record the activities of IAMAS and its commissions. It's always nice to look back, maybe once a year, and take stock of what we have achieved or what needs to be tackled in the future.

Hans and I, as a team, represented IAMAS at the IUGG EC meeting (see photograph below). We reported about IAMAS activities, in particular commission activities and the preparation for MOCA-09, based on the reports submitted by commission presidents or secretaries in late July.

The planning of the joint assembly MOCA-09 in Montréal, Canada is going well thanks to the great help from our Canadian hosts and the strenuous efforts from SGs of three associations. Hans went to Montreal last November to personally inspect the venue and meet the other SGs and the members of the Canadian organizing committee. In addition, he and John Turner joined several tele-conferences on the planning of MOCA-09. If MOCA-09 is successful, which I'm sure it will be, we will have demonstrated that the three IUGG associations for atmosphere, ocean and ice are closely inter-related.

Guoxiong Wu
President, IAMAS



IAMAS-IAPSO-IACS Joint Assembly

MOCA-09

<http://www.moca-09.org/>

**Deadline for submission of abstracts:
23 January 2009**



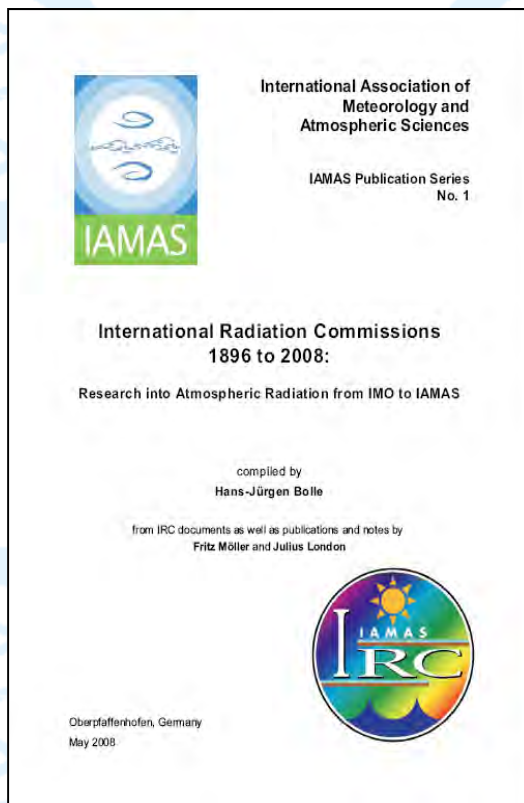
IAMAS Symposia

- M01: Middle Atmosphere Science
- M02: Climate Processes in the Upper Troposphere and Stratosphere
- M03: The Impact of Solar Variability on Earth
- M04: Solar UV Radiation
- M05: Stratosphere-Troposphere-Ocean Coupling in Climate — Top Down or Bottom Up?
- M06: Theoretical Advances in Dynamics
- M07: Towards Seamless Probabilistic Forecasting
- M08: Dynamics and Predictability of High-impact Weather
- M09: Topographic Effects on Weather and Climate
- M10: Tropical Waves and Circulations and Tropical-Midlatitude Interactions
- M11: Dynamical Implications of Aerosol-Cloud-Climate Interactions
- M12: Relations Between Aerosols and Ice Formation in Clouds: Measurements and Modelling
- M13: Aerosol-Cloud-Radiation-Precipitation Interactions
- M14: 3D Radiative Transfer in the Atmosphere
- M15: Atmospheric Composition Change: Air Pollution in the Global Environment
- M16: Thunderstorms and their Manifestation on Local, Regional and Global Scales
- M17: Lightning: Characteristics, Physics and Hazard Mitigation
- M18: Comparative Atmospheres of the Giant Planets and their Satellites

Joint Symposia

- J01: Observations of High Latitude Climate Change
- J02: Polar Regional Weather and Climate Modelling (and Global Relevancy)
- J03: International Polar Year — Early Results
- J04: The Contribution of Greenland and Antarctica to Fresh Water Input to the Ocean and Sea Level Change
- J05: Arctic Ocean Circulation and Sea Ice: Present and Future
- J06: Abrupt Changes in the Climate System
- J07: Comparison of Projected Future Climate Change to Warm Intervals in Earth History
- J08: Ice Cores in Paleoclimate
- J09: Interannual and Interdecadal Climate Variability and Predictability
- J10: Climate Sensitivity, Climate Feedbacks and Regional Responses to Global Forcing
- J11: Climate Model Intercomparison
- J12: Regional Climate Modelling
- J13: Biogeochemistry and Climate
- J14: Ocean-Ice-Atmosphere Boundary Layers and Interactions
- J15: High Latitude Terrestrial Processes, Hydrology and Interactions with the Atmosphere
- J16: Remote Sensing — Use of Products in Cryospheric, Atmospheric and Oceanographic Investigations
- J17: Monsoon Observations, Modelling and Prediction
- J18: Natural Hazards (Atmosphere, Ocean and Ice)
- J19: Tropical Cyclones
- J20: Atmospheres and Ice of Terrestrial Planets
- J21: Advances in Data Assimilation for Earth System Science

IAMAS Publication Series



Hans-Jürgen Bolle, former President of the International Radiation Commission of IAMAS. (1979-1983) and President of IAMAS (1983-1987), has compiled a detailed report entitled "International Radiation Commissions 1896 to 2008: Research into atmospheric radiation from IMO to IAMAS". Based on the minutes of numerous meetings and personal notes he has succeeded in putting together background material illustrating the astounding development from individual measurements of solar radiation to satellite programmes of global relevance. Many photographs of the acting persons and several appendices provide both a flavour of the family-type atmosphere often present in IAMAS groupings, and a complete directory of who was acting, where and when. Also, the power of international cooperation on a voluntary basis becomes evident.

The 150-page volume stands as no. 1 of the IAMAS Publication Series, which was started to encourage similar accounts of sufficient general interest about the association or one of its ten commissions. It is listed as ISBN 978-3-00-02466-1 and can be requested in print from the IAMAS Secretariat (Email: Hans.Volkert@dlr.de).

Electronic access to the 34-MB-pdf-file is possible via the IAMAS home page:

<http://www.IAMAS.org/>

The 15th International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation

The 15th International Conference on Clouds and Precipitation was held in Cancun Mexico, between 7 and 11 July, 2008. The conference was organized by the ICCP (International Commission on Clouds and Precipitation, a commission of IAMAS) and it was co-sponsored by the IUGG, IAMAS and the WMO (World Meteorological Organization). Financial support for students and young scientists from less developed countries was partially provided by the WMO, the IUGG, IAMAS and the ICCP. The local organizing committee was headed by Prof. Graciela Raga, from the University of Mexico. The scientific and program committee was headed by Prof. Zev Levin, President of the ICCP.

About 400 scientists, including 80 students, attended the conference, presenting about 550 papers in oral and poster presentations (out of about 600 papers that were submitted). The presentations covered a wide range of topics on the formation of clouds and precipitation, the interactions of aerosols and clouds, the effects of clouds on climate, new instrumenta-

tion for measuring various processes in clouds and many more. Special sessions were devoted to reports on results from RICO (Rain in Cumulus Over the Ocean), a field campaign that took place in the Western Caribbean, November 2004 to January 2005, and to reports from the ice nucleation comparison workshop (AIDA) that took place in Karlsruhe Germany, September 2007.

During the conference, Prof. Roland List of the University of Toronto, the former Secretary General of IAMAS, was elected as an honorary member of the International Commission on Clouds and Precipitation in recognition of his many years of outstanding scientific contributions and his unselfish service to the international cloud physics community.

The ICCP selected Leipzig, Germany, as the venue for the next conference in 2012.

Zac Levin
President, ICCP

Brief Commission Reports

IRC

1) The International Radiation Symposium 2008 was held in Iguacu, Brazil during 3-8 August: 506 abstracts were submitted and more than 300 colleagues attended the IRS. The symposium marked the 60th anniversary of the of IAMAS-IRC in its present form. Some 130 IRS participants obtained a copy IAMAS Publ. Ser. No. 1 describing roots and development of the commission (cf. p. 3). Dr. Graeme Stephens was awarded the IRC Gold Medal, while Dr. David Tobin and Dr. Ilan Koren received Young Scientists Awards.

2) IRC will organize the following sessions for MOCA-09:

M07: Link of aerosol-cloud-radiation-precipitation (IRC, ICCP, ICACGP)

M17: The impact of solar variability on Earth (ICMA, IAGA, IRC)

M22: 3-D Radiative Transfer in the atmosphere (IRC)

M24: Solar UV radiation (IRC)

ICAE

We successfully held the 13th International Conference on Atmospheric Electricity in Beijing last August with the attendance of IAMAS President, Prof. Wu. These days there are more peoples (especially from developing countries) showing interest in mitigation of the lightning hazard, so our ICAE mailing list has been nearly doubled from the August of 2007.

ICCL

Updating IUGG on developments in the field of climate (e.g. conferences, workshops, publications, significant breakthroughs) is not a task we wish to take on. The IPCC report provides a fairly recent update of the state of the field. Subsequent to IPCC there have been some developments of course - sea level and ice

sheet grounding line instability certainly come to mind.

The \$2k of IUGG support received this year was used to enable a few young developing-country scientists to attend the very successful "Effects of Climate Change on the World's Ocean" symposium in Gijon, Spain, in May (http://www.pices.int/meetings/international_symposia/2008_symposia/Climate_change/climate_support.aspx).

Looking to the future, IUGG can be informed that ICCL continues to prepare for good integrated IAPSO/IAMAS/IACS sessions in Montréal and requests \$5k in financial support from IUGG and/or IAMAS to support ICCL activities in preparation for and during the Montréal congress.

Finally, the Marquis upcoming climate related events shortly after Montréal, which ICCL will be targeting with any relevant message for policy world, are the "World Climate Conference III, at WMO in Geneva the first week of September 2009, and the UNFCCC COP in Copenhagen the first two weeks of December.

ICMA

ICMA co-sponsored some symposia at the 37th COSPAR Scientific Assembly, July 13-20, 2008 in Montréal, Canada:

C23 "Variability of the Middle Atmosphere and Lower Ionosphere in Composition and Dynamics Induced by External Forcing from Space"

C22 "Multi-Scale Wave Coupling and Energetics from the Troposphere to the Ionosphere"

ICMA will co-sponsor the 5th IAGA/ICMA/CAWSES Workshop on Long-Term Changes and Trends in the Atmosphere, September 8-12th 2008 in St.Petersburg, Russia.

ICMA opened its new webpage at (new URL) <http://www.icma-iamas.org/>

Upcoming Meetings

American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting:
San Francisco, USA, 15-19th December, 2008

9th International Conference on Southern Hemisphere Meteorology and Oceanography:
Melbourne, Australia, 9-13th February, 2009

7th International Conference on Air Quality—Science and Application:
Istanbul, Turkey, 24-27th March, 2009

European Geosciences Union General Assembly:
Vienna, Austria, 19-24th April, 2009

The IAMAS Newsletter

The newsletter editor welcomes short reports from the individual IAMAS Commissions at any time.

Gareth Marshall (gjma@bas.ac.uk)
Editor IAMAS newsletter