



## International Association of Geomorphologists

*Association Internationale des Géomorphologues*

**IAG/AIG Newsletter No. 25 (4 /2009)**

### From the Editor's Desk

Dear Geomorphologists

I am very much thankful to all of you for your kind help and co-operation for enabling me to publish the newsletter in time. In this issue, special emphasis has been given to the IAG Senior Fellows, Tricart Scholar and comments of Young Geomorphologists on 7<sup>th</sup> ICG. I would request you to continue this co-operation to publish the future issues of the newsletter in time.

**Sunil Kumar De**

[desunil@yahoo.com](mailto:desunil@yahoo.com)

### **1. IAG/AIG Honorary Senior Fellows**

**Professor Paul Williams**, of the University of Auckland in New Zealand, is one of the world leading Karst geomorphologists and hydrologists, and also has a strong interest in Quaternary palaeoclimates. With degrees from Durham, Dublin and Cambridge, he has conducted research in many parts of the world, including China and he is the co-author with Derek Ford of the book "Karst Hydrogeology and Geomorphology" that is widely regarded as the bible of the discipline. He has been a long time supporter of the IAG/AIG and has been a member of the Executive Committee.



**Professor John Chappell**, Emeritus Professor of Geomorphology and Quaternary Research at the Research School of Earth Sciences at the Australian National University in Canberra, obtained his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees across the Tasman Sea at the University of Auckland. His publications are prolific and his research is widespread. He is most noted for fundamental work on the influence of global climate on fluctuations in sea-levels.

**Professor Takasuke Suzuki**, Professor Emeritus of Chuó University in Tokyo, Japan, is one of Japan's leading Geomorphologists. He has been Editor in Chief of the Transactions of the Japanese Geomorphological Union, President of the JGU, Publication Officer of IAG/AIG (1989-1993) and was the organizer of the notably successful 5th International Conference on Geomorphology held in Tokyo 2001. However, we also honour him for his work on a wide range of geomorphological processes, for his seminal work on the role of rock properties in geomorphology and for the work he has done on the borders of Engineering and Geomorphology.



**Professor Olav Slaymaker**, Professor Emeritus of Geography in the University of British Columbia, Canada, was educated at the University of Cambridge and holds a D.Sc. honoris causa from the University of Wales. He has been a wonderful servant of the IAG/AIG, attended all our International Conferences, and was President of the IAG/AIG from 1997-2001. However, along with the British Society for Geomorphology, which awarded him its Linton medal, we honour the breadth and quality of his research, particularly in cold and mountainous regions. Ever productive and forward looking he is co-editor of an IAG/AIG book on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Landscapes.

## 2. TRICART Scholar

In order to honour the achievements and spirit of the French Geomorphologist Jean TRICART, the *French Geomorphology Group (GFG)*, in agreement with IAG, nominated a young geomorphologist as the TRICART SCHOLAR during the International Conference in Melbourne. The TRICART SCHOLAR 2009 - who was supposed to come from a country of Africa, Asia and Latin America where Jean Tricart was very active - is Bianca CARVALHO VIEIRA (Brasil).

It is planned to award (nominate) a TRICART Scholar every four years in occasion of the IAG/AIG International Conferences on Geomorphology.

**Bianca Carvalho** Vieira did her Bachelor and M.Sc. degrees (Geography) from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil). She is Professor in the Department of Geography - University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil since 2005. She teaches courses on "Geomorphology" (Graduation) and "Mass Movement: concepts, conditioning factors and preview methods" (Post-Graduation).

She obtained her PhD in Geography from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro on the 'Prediction of shallow landslides in Serra do Mar (SP) from physically based models'. From 2002 to 2003 she was Researcher in the Instituto de Pesquisas Tecnológicas do Estado de São Paulo (IPT) and worked with landslides diagnosis and prediction on the urban areas and mapping of risk areas in the São Paulo city and from 2003 - 2005 she was Professor at the Department of Geography - University of São Paulo (UNESP). She is Member of the Executive Committee of Brazilian Geomorphological Union (UGB), since 2004.



Her main research interests are methods currently used in the spatial and temporal prediction of shallow landslides at basin scale, analysis of the role of the topography in the distribution of erosive forms and identification of risk areas of landslides and floods in urban areas.

## 3. IAG/AIG Young Geomorphologists Grants

In occasion of the 7th International Conference on Geomorphology "Ancient Landscapes - Modern Perspectives", Melbourne, Australia, 6-11 July 2009, the International Association of Geomorphologists awarded with grants 13 outstanding Young Geomorphologists from 11 different countries, who were selected among 33 eligible candidates.

The grants were offered to young scientists (below 35 years old) from i) less-favoured countries worldwide (with a Purchasing Power Parity below 13,000 international dollars, according to the World Development Indicators database, World Bank); ii) countries of south-east Asia and Oceania.

The IAG grants have been awarded to Shahrazad ABU GHAZLEH (Jordan), Biswajit BERA (India), Mohammad BHUIYAN (Bangladesh), José BUSNELLI (Argentina), Bianca CARVALHO VIEIRA (Brasil), Alastair CLEMENT (New Zealand), Muh Aris MARFAI (Indonesia), Janneli Lea SORIA (Philippines), Danang SRI HADMOKO (Indonesia), Xianyan WANG (China), Dilya WOODWARD (Kazakhstan), Jibin XUE (China).

The amount of the grants was related to the country of origin of the grant recipients and on possible co-funding that they received from other sources.

During the Melbourne Conference, a meeting of the IAG/AIG grant recipients and the Executive Committee of IAG/AIG was held in order to discuss and exchange ideas on how IAG/AIG may support young scientists in the future.

An Intensive Course for Young Geomorphologists was also provided by the organizing committee of the Conference.

**Mauro Soldati,**  
*IAG/AIG Training Officer*



From left to right: Shahrazad ABU GHAZLEH, Saima SIDDIQUI, Xianyan WANG, Mohammad BHUIYAN, Biswajit BERA, Bianca CARVALHO VIEIRA, Jibin XUE, Andrew GOUDIE (IAG President), Alastair CLEMENT, Janneli Lea SORIA, Dilya WOODWARD, José BUSNELLI, Muh Aris MARFAI, Danang SRI HADMOKO.

### **Comments of Young Geomorphologists on 7<sup>TH</sup> ICG and IAG/AIG**

#### **i. Alastair J.H. CLEMENT (NEW ZEALAND)**

Receipt of an IAG/AIG Travel Grant enabled me, first and foremost, to present an oral paper, *Late Quaternary geomorphic evolution of the lower Manawatu River valley, North Island, New Zealand*, and a poster, *Reconstructing Holocene eustatic sea-level change in New Zealand*, under the Coastal Geomorphology and Management theme.

I received encouraging and informative feedback on both the paper and poster. This is particularly useful, as both these works represent pieces of my ongoing PhD research.

I met Lieven Claessens (Wageningen University) during the coastal poster sessions. This was a particularly beneficial meeting for me, as Lieven had recently published some research on tectonic movements in the upper North Island, New Zealand, that had not come to my attention, but which I can now use to inform my own study of eustatic sea-level change in the same area. It was also extremely helpful to be able to discuss with Lieven the wider tectonic situation in the area, and get a perspective on previous work from someone outside New Zealand.

I also met Adam Switzer (Earth Observatory of Singapore) at the coastal poster session, and he gave me encouraging feedback on my sea-level poster. This was another beneficial meeting, as Adam discussed with me his recently published research on mid-Holocene sea-levels in southeastern Australia. We also had a very informative discussion about universities and research institutions in Hong Kong and Singapore.

I received positive feedback from Nicola Litchfield (GNS Science) on my oral paper. Nicola and I discussed evidence for tectonic uplift and subsidence in my study area, and evidence for sea-level change along that coast. Again, this was a very beneficial meeting, as after the conference Nicola introduced me to several colleagues at GNS Science who were able to provide me with data to inform several other aspects of my PhD research.

I also was able to reconnect with a fellow PhD student from Spain, Aingeru Soria, who I had met previously when he was in New Zealand. It was really good to be able to compare notes on our PhDs, and gain an insight into PhD research in Spain and Europe, as well as funding and job prospects.

I met a number of other student and early-career researchers at the ANZGG meeting which took place within the conference. It was particularly useful to be able to discuss with them what research was like at their institutions, and the directions they saw their careers progressing in. It was also really useful to be able to talk to new post-

docs and a number of private consultants from Australia, to get a feel for what their jobs were like, and what the prospects for jobs were in the next few years.

Outside of the coastal session the two themes that I found most interesting and enjoyable were the tsunamis session, and the theme on terrestrial laser scanning. The former was particularly interesting, as it featured a lot of discussion and scientific argument, which as a PhD student, is something that I hadn't really seen or experienced before.

Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to the IAG/AIG for their generous travel grant to attend the 7th International Conference on Geomorphology; I am very much grateful to all of them.

## **ii. Bianca CARVALHO VIEIRA (BRAZIL)**

My participation can be considered as extremely productive one. The opportunity was undoubtedly an important moment in my career as a teacher and researcher. Not only the exchange of experiences with other researchers from different countries, but also the recognition of research developed by me through the award JEAN TRICART. During the conference I attended the technical sessions (oral and poster) of my interest ("Hillslope and Mass Movement", "Geomorphological Hazards", "Applied Geomorphological Mapping" and "Human Impact on the Landscape") and the plenary lectures of Prof. Andrew Goudie, Prof. Monique Fort, Prof. Jon Nott and Prof. John Chappell.

In this conference I presented 5 scientific papers relating to my fields of interest. The papers were sought by researchers with interests, in the erosion and mass movements, and in the methodological procedures used in research. Through intensive discussion with the leading researchers and senior Geomorphologists I have gathered many new ideas to improve my future research works.

Other important point was my participation in discussions with national delegates of IAG/AIG during the meetings. It was very much effective for me to get in touch with delegates of different National Associations, to know their concerns, difficulties and positives aspects in the respective national committees. I had the opportunity to exchange important information for the improvement of the Brazilian Geomorphology Union (UGB), in which I have been working as an Executive Committee Member since August 2004.

Another very important aspect of my participation in this event was my insertion in the IAG/AIG Executive Committee as a co-opted member. I believe it is an important step in my career.

The field work and Intensive Course of Geomorphology were important opportunities to me to see the landscapes and related geomorphological processes from the experienced researchers on the area concerned. It was felt meaning to me to see some of the decent landscapes of Australia, specifically the state of Victoria, the venue of the intensive course.

I would again like to mention that my participation in the Conference, as a whole, was successful and have given me a chance to collect a strong knowledge base for further development of my research works.

I deeply acknowledge the opportunity offered by IAG/AIG, their endeavor for ensuring the continuity of research and giving more attention towards young Geomorphologists.

## **iii. Biswajit BERA (INDIA)**

It was really a dream to me to participate any International Conference on Geomorphology before leaving India for Melbourne Conference (7<sup>th</sup> ICG).

After receiving the message from Dr. Sunil Kumar De during the 21<sup>st</sup> Indian Institute of Geomorphologists Conference (which was held in Tripura University during November, 2008) and through several mails from him I have boosted up to submit an abstract and to apply for IAG/AIG Young Geomorphologists Scholarship. I was very much fortunate that my abstract was accepted and also qualified for the Scholarship. I am deeply indebted to the Session Chairs for accepting my paper, the Organizers for waiving my registration fee and the Judges of the IAG/AIG Selection Committee for selecting me for the IAG/AIG Grant. I would also heartily like to mention the name of Prof. Mauro Soldati, the key man for encouraging young generation, for his kind and sincere cooperation to make my dream true.

After presenting my paper on "Comparative Study Between LSI And BIS For Micro landslide Hazard Zonation Mapping Of Gangtok, India" for the first time in an International gathering, I have learned so many things those will help me to upgrade my research activities at International standard. Through the interactions from such an experienced international audience as well as the Session Chair, I have received the direction of my future research works.

Apart from the session and my paper, I am overwhelmed to meet the renowned Geomorphologists, whose books and publications are the sources of knowledge since my student life. It was a great opportunity to me to establish academic contacts with several researchers who are working in similar field in different parts of the globe.

To my mind, International Association of Geomorphologists is playing a great role in motivating and encouraging the young Geomorphologists like me. I hope and believe that the dimension of the subject Geomorphology will take such a new shape to play a key role in the society.

Again I gratefully acknowledge all individuals of the Conference and the IAG/AIG to give me such a chance to participate the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology, Melbourne.

#### **iv. Danang SRI HADMOKO (INDONESIA)**

First of all, I would like to thank to International Association of Geomorphologists who forwarded me a grant and an opportunity to participate this conference. Special thank is addressed to Prof. Mauro Soldati and Prof. Francisco Gutierrez who are very active in encouraging the young Geomorphologists to participate this conference. As a young Geomorphologist who is still on the beginning of career, I was motivated to join this scientific communication in order to enrich, to develop, to exchange knowledge and experiences that will be useful for my present and future career.

The themes provided on this conference were relevant to my field of study. Recent developments in geomorphology both in concepts and practices such as natural hazards, coastal geomorphology, and particularly landslide hazards provided the basis and applied knowledge and enriched my experience. Interesting papers and posters have also be presented and discussed by participants from various universities and governmental agencies from around the globe working in all branches of discipline gave me new perspectives on the current issues.

The last conference provided me social and human experiences, and opportunities for forming networks with whom I could carry on meaningful conversations. I met experts from different themes of geomorphology from different countries of the globe. New contacts would be also useful for developing scientific cooperation within the members of IAG/AIG. I had also an opportunity to do fieldtrips in order to discover different parts of host countries with interesting landscapes.

In addition, several meetings with young Geomorphologists allowed me to share our experiences and learn what they are doing in their country and on their disciplines. Support from IAG/AIG is very useful to young Geomorphologists to develop networks in their own country. As one of delegations from Indonesian Geomorphologists, we feel honored that the proposition of Indonesian Association of Geomorphologists has been approved as a branch of IAG/AIG. Hopefully, we can develop Indonesian Geomorphologists to actively participate and involve in our organization.

#### **v. Dilya WOODWARD (KAZAKHSTAN)**

My participation in the 7<sup>th</sup> International conference on geomorphology "Ancient Landscapes – Modern Perspectives" was my first experience in such a large scale conference with more than 600 participants from many different countries and was truly an eye opening experience in terms of advances in geomorphologic research and state of the art technologies used by scientists to study the relief of the earth.

I would like to structure my report by three strands: reflections from the conference; benefits of my participation in the conference to my personal development as a researcher and to the development of geomorphology in Kazakhstan and perspectives for integration of Kazakhstani geomorphology into international scientific research in the field of geomorphology.

My reflections from attending the conference are very positive and wide. They not only include such highlights as presentations of renowned Geomorphologists Professor Goudie and Professor Fort, but also visiting Melbourne, one of the 10 best cities in the world, attending the very first conference in a 6-star convention centre and finally, being in Australia, the most eco-friendly continent in the world.

The benefits of my participation in the conference to the personal development as a researcher include: learning about the most current and advanced geomorphological research methods, comparing the level of conducted research in Australia and New Zealand, Europe, the Americas and Asia; implementing research tools and techniques into my further research and disseminating the acquired knowledge among my colleagues in Kazakhstan.

Tourism research is currently at the initial stage in Kazakhstan, that's why learning the methodologies used by colleagues for the assessment of geomorphosite in Switzerland, Italy, Australia, Taiwan etc. are very important and should not be underestimated. Research on landslides and rockslides is also of particular importance in the mountains of Ile and Zhetysu Alatau of Southern Kazakhstan. For that reason, dendro-morphological techniques

presented by Professor Corominas and prediction of rockslides presented by Professor Suwa can certainly find their application in Kazakhstan.

Geomorphology in Kazakhstan is relatively young, it was founded in the early 50s as a sector of geomorphology and quaternary geology at the Institute of Geology named after academician Satpayev. Perspectives of the development of geomorphology in Kazakhstan can be best described as “overcoming an information crisis caused by the huge volume of accumulated geomorphological data, not fully analyzed and not always in demand” (Proletkin I.V.). I anticipate that further steps in the development of geomorphology in Kazakhstan will be geared towards research of a highly diverse relief of Kazakhstan and to the transition of geomorphology to the new qualitative level of research in line with the needs of the modern society.

I strongly believe that attending and presenting at the 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Geomorphology was a first step into integration of Kazakhstani geomorphology to the world scientific community of Geomorphologists. The goals set by this valuable experience for the future work are: foundation of the Kazakhstan Association of Geomorphologists, possibly attracting researchers from Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan (Central Asian Association of Geomorphologists?); finding out about the possibilities of inclusion of a geomorphosite, Charyn National Park, into the UNESCO world heritage list, building links with young Geomorphologists who also participated in the conference and finding possibilities for collaborative geomorphological research with scientists from other countries.

I am grateful to the IAG/AIG for providing me with such a great opportunity and such a unique experience that transformed my perception of geomorphological research, enriched me with the knowledge of new methods and techniques and determined areas for my future research.

#### **vi. Janneli Lea SORIA (PHILIPPINES)**

##### *Comprehensive and Informative*

If the number of papers and the variety of topics are good indicators of a successful scientific conference .....I was overwhelmed by the variety of interesting papers, and it was difficult for me to choose which session I should attend to. Despite the hectic schedule, I made it sure that I attended sessions on several themes like coastal, fluvial, geohazards, large rivers, sediment budget, tectonics, and volcanoes among others. All the sessions are very informative, and at some point provided me ideas of possible research venues in the Philippines.

##### *Words of Wisdom from the Respected Geomorphologists*

Meeting big names like John Chappel, Andrew Goudie, Mike Crozier, and Jon Nott (to name a few) in person, was a great experience. Listening to the words of wisdom they shared during plenary talks was even more inspiring. Their achievements in their respective fields of expertise evoked admiration and respect. Though they look intimidating to me at some degree, the not-so formal setting of the conference made friendly interaction with them possible. For instance, after the very educational and inspiring talk of John Nott, I approached him, had a short conversation, and made him sign his published paper that I just read recently. I also admire them for devoting their time to the younger geomorphologists up until the post-conference intensive course.

Two important thoughts from them are the call for us to pursue scientific excellence and at the same time to be socially responsible scientists. They challenged us to engage ourselves into scientific endeavors that have social relevance and share our knowledge to the community. This is a big encouragement for me to continue my involvement to such endeavors in the Philippines, which already started 6 years ago.

##### *The “Land down under” Experience*

I really love travelling. This is the part of my work as a geologist that I really enjoy. I look forward to every trip that I took both domestic and abroad. Each travel for me is a learning experience as I go out from my comfort zone to see different places, landscapes, and meet with people from different cultural backgrounds.

This trip to Australia was a big dream came true for me. It was my first step to this wonderful country. ....The majestic landscapes such as the Twelve Apostles, Mt. Arapiles, the Grampians, the little Desert to name a few, along with the amazing flora and fauna (koalas, wallabies, and emus) were indeed great treasures. Then at night across the southern sky, which was so unfamiliar to me I saw the Southern Cross and the Milky Way--- that was just awesome! ,

As a scientist, the trip left me always in awe in the vastness of knowledge that has been etched in the landforms that surrounds us. It made me appreciate more the value of understanding the surface processes that has formed and has been continuously shaping our landscapes today.

But I'd like to say that the trip could never been happier, more enjoyable, and fulfilling, without the company of the other young geomorphologists. During the trip, I did not only meet other colleagues but most importantly I gained new friends along the way.

For all of these, I would like to express my gratitude to the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG/AIG) for choosing me as one of the recipients of the travel grant. It could have been impossible for me to attend the Conference if not for their financial support. May this endeavor continue to provide opportunities and inspirations to young geomorphologists. I look forward to participate again in the next conference. And I also hope that by then there would be more delegates from the Philippines.



**The Young Geomorphologists at the Grampians during the post-Conference Intensive Course**

#### **vii. Jibin XUE (CHINA)**

The 7th International Conference on Geomorphology was held in Melbourne in July 2009 with the theme 'Ancient Landscapes - Modern perspectives'. Fortunately, I was selected and awarded one of the IAG/AIG Grants which enabled me to take part in this conference. It was my first time to attend an international conference outside of my own country, and the first time to go to the Southern Hemisphere, to a beautiful and ancient continent. During this conference, I attended actively each of the agendas recommended by the committee, such as the First and Second general assembly, the Yarra Valley field trip, several keynote presentations and many oral or poster presentations.

I have greatly enjoyed this travel to Melbourne and benefited much from this conference, both of them really gave me many sweet memories. I am very grateful to the IAG/AIG, and the local organizing committee, the conference organizers as well. Thanks must be given to Professor Mauro for his great helps and timely messages.

It was really a successful conference, and I think it is a very good stage for Geomorphologists to show their works and advancements of geomorphology. In addition, I believe it is quite an important and valuable work to grant the young Geomorphologists to attend this kind of conference, and this might accelerate the growth of the young people in their science experience. I also hope that the conference would be held in China in the future.

Thanks!

#### **viii. José BUSNELLI (ARGENTINA)**

The International Conferences on Geomorphology are the most important and popular events related to the scientific area I am interested in, Geomorphology. So that, having been granted by an IAG/AIG (International

Association of Geomorphologists) grant was a great pleasure for me.....I had also got a grant for attending the Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology in Zaragoza, Spain in September, 2005..... For me it was a great opportunity for updating information related to my research activities, knowing more about new technologies and new trends of researches and contact people from other part of the World and interchange ideas and points of views.

I was very much lucky to meet Prof. Monique Fort, Prof. Francisco Gutierrez ,Prof. Mike Crozier, Prof. Mauro Soldati, Prof. Olav Slaymaker and many others. That was a good opportunity for me to exchange the scientific ideas with them. After long patience, I had got the chance to meet Prof. A. Goudie, who is one of the most impressive geomorphologist around the world..... This was also a good chance for me to exchange ideas with other young geomorphologists around the world.

The main sessions I was interested in and I liked them were: Fluvial Geomorphology and Fluvial Processes, Geomorphology and Global Environmental Change (the one I was presenting my oral speech), Geomorphological Hazards, Human Impact on the Landscape, Hillslopes and Mass Movements, Land Degradation: Adaptation to Climatic Change, and River Management. Some other Symposia that were surprising for me were: Planetary Geomorphology, Biogeomorphology and Geomorphology and Geoarchaeology.

In general, I am really happy to get the chance of attending the 7<sup>th</sup> ICG. I would like to put some comments about the conference. 1. I was really missing a printed copy of the Abstract Volume, because it is a good souvenir as well as easy to see a particular abstract of interest without the help of a computer. 2. There was no other souvenir of the Conference (like Zaragoza) for purchase ( either t-shirt or brief case) to remember the Conference for a long time.. 3. Finally, abstracts on the CD rom do not have any contact information of the author for future communication.....Still the Conference was really important for me, not only related to my professional career, but also to remember the glimpses of the conference for a long time.

#### **ix. Mohammad Amir Hossain BHUIYAN (BANGLADESH)**

On the occasion of the 7th International Conference on Geomorphology held in Melbourne from 6-11 July 2009, it was my opportunity to meet the international community of geomorphology and exchange my views and ideas on geomorphology and global landscape changes. First of all I would like to acknowledge the authority of IAG/AIG who awarded me as Young geomorphologists 2009 and invited me to participate the conference in Melbourne. I am so much pleased to IAG/AIG for their grant award for the young Geomorphologists.

This is the first time to me for attending the International Conference on Geomorphology held in Melbourne's ..... that are new to me in the program.

I was very much happy to hear the plenary speech from world famous Geomorphologists on different important issues about the ancient and modern landscape in the world. I have learned a lot from the valuable lectures of Prof Andrew Goudie, President of the IAG/AIG..... Prof Jon Nott, James Cook University of North..... Prof Monique Fort, Université Paris Diderot.... Prof John Chappell, Australian National University.....the distinguished Geomorphologists presented in the closing ceremony that heard my speech with patient and assured to keep an eye to Young Geomorphologists for future research and collaboration with the respective fields under the working group of IAG/AIG.....I hope The IAG/AIG will give more attention to the researcher of developing and least developing countries in the world.

My sincere graduate to Prof. Mauro Soldati, the IAG/AIG Training Officer, for his continuous help and guidance for making my dream come true as well as the dinner in honour of Young Geomorphologists in Melbourne along with Prof. Francisco Gutierrez, the Treasurer of IAG/AIG.

#### **x. Muh Aris MARFAI (INDONESIA)**

The International Conference on Geomorphology in Melbourne was one of the biggest conferences that I have attended. It was very important event not only for me personally, but also for our institution in Indonesia (Geomorphology working group, Faculty of Geography, Gadjah Mada University). The event was very important to develop the international networking, especially for our institution, since we are now developing the new international master course on watershed and coastal management. During the conference I have made communication, interaction and sharing information with the other participant (especially also with the young geomorphologists), and I do believe that in the future we can develop further cooperation on the geomorphological research and activities. On this report, allow me to thank to International Association of Geomorphologists who forwarded me a grant and an opportunity to participate this conference. I should thank also to Prof. Mauro Soldati and Prof. Francisco Gutierrez who are very active in encouraging the young geomorphologists to participate to this event.....I have earned lots of experiences not only on the term of



geomorphological issues but also on the intercultural relationship. Communication, interaction and discussion with many people from different background and culture, really gave me the “international atmosphere experience”.

The other interesting event was the fieldtrip. It was very good opportunity for me to know and to observe the landscapes so closely that I never met before. I have visited several attractive and interesting geomorphological features and landscape along the Great Ocean Road, something that I would never forget.

The conference was very important for us (the Indonesian geomorphology society), since our proposal to be a member of the IAG/AIG was accepted by the IAG/AIG Board. Really it was very good moment for us. We hope that it will be the good start point for us. We do believe that in the future we can easily communicate, develop networking and cooperation with the international geomorphology society. Once I have arrived in Indonesia, I have reported the acceptance of our membership to the coordinator of the Indonesian Geomorphology Association (Dr. Junun Sartohadi) and he was really happy to know it.

Moreover, meeting with young geomorphologists allowed me to learn different activities and researches from various regions. As a whole, the conference was a very important event for me.

#### **xi. Saima SIDDIQUI (PAKISTAN)**

The IAG/AIG awarded grants to 13 young geomorphologists from all over the world for participating 7<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Geomorphology in Melbourne. Being one of the grant holder I would like to express my impression of gratitude to the conference organizers for their financial support that provided me the opportunity to participate in this prestigious event. Because from being a developing country (Pakistan) it is almost impossible to take part in such kind of big international events by our own.

Here I would also like to thank Prof. Mauro Soldati and Prof. Francisco Gutiérrez for hosting a nice dinner for the young geomorphologists award winners. It gives us an opportunity to socialize and share the research interests

and scientific experiences. We had a wonderful scientific discussion with Prof. Soldati and Prof. Gutiérrez about the ongoing and the possible future research in the wide field of geomorphology. I would like to pay my special thank Prof. Mauro Soldati for his continuous efforts from the selection of the deserving candidates for the IAG grant and his cooperation and guidance throughout the conference.

Last but not the least I would like to congratulate the conference organizers and IAG/AIG for the excellent organization of the conference and the presentation of valuable scientific contents. It broaden our vision and open the new horizons of geomorphic research for us. I am very much interested to present our Geomorphology Group from Pakistan as soon as possible on IAG international forum. It will be a nice experience to learn and promote the scientific research in Geomorphology by mutual collaboration.

With best wishes for the progress and prosperity of IAG/AIG.



IAG grant holders (Young Geomorphologists) of the 7th International Conference on Geomorphology, 6 - 11 July 2009, Melbourne, Australia with Prof. Mauro Soldati and Prof. Francisco Gutiérrez on the dinner meeting.

#### **xii. Shahrazad ABU GHAZLEH (JORDAN)**

Fist of all I would like to thank the International Association of Geomorphology (IAG/AIG) for providing me a travel grant to participate in the Seventh International Conference on Geomorphology. Actually, it was very difficult to join such a conference without this grant.

The conference was well organized and very fruitful for me. It was a unique occasion to meet a large number of scientists from all around the world in different fields of geomorphology. This allowed several discussions and talks with scientists and experts that helped to build up some bases for future scientific cooperation.

It was also a good opportunity to be acquainted with new research topics and methods in different fields of geomorphology. Moreover, I got to know new implications of geomorphology such as: Tsunami Geomorphology, Planetary Geomorphology, Modelling Landscapes, and Fire Effects on Geomorphology. This helped to enrich my

scientific knowledge and research experience, get better understanding of different fields of geomorphology, and recognize the important role of geomorphology in solving environmental problems on our planet.

I would like also to thank the president and members of IAG/AIG for their continuous support to young researchers and PhD students during the whole time of the conference. The meeting between the young researchers, PhD students and IAG/AIG members was very important and successful. We have discussed new ideas in how to enhance scientific cooperation and experience exchange between young scientists and their institutions as well as between them and the IAG/AIG. Furthermore, we discussed the possibility of establishing national or regional groups of geomorphology that may initiate the base for an effective international cooperation. We also discussed different problems facing young researchers with respect to establishing these groups. The association also organized special scientific and social events for the PhD students and young scientists that enhanced their scientific knowledge and social experience. Furthermore, the conference provided me with new experience in discussion, presentation, and communication with scientists from different places in the world.

Apart from the rich scientific experience that I got from the conference, I have also the opportunity to visit Australia, the ancient piece of Gondwanaland, to learn about its geology, see its unique geomorphology and natural life, get to know its historical sights, culture, and people as well as enjoying its beautiful nature and mild climate.

Finally, I am very grateful for all members of the IAG/AIG and the organizing committee of the conference for their help and support, as well as, for their great efforts that made the 7<sup>th</sup> international conference very successful and fruitful event. Special thanks to Prof. Mauro Soldati for his kindness, patience and support before, during and after the conference. I hope that I could be able to participate in the next geomorphological events and meet all of you again.

I wish the IAG/AIG all the success in its efforts and future activities.

### **xiii. Xianyan WANG (CHINA)**

I am thankful to the Organizers of the 7<sup>th</sup> ICG and the selectors of the IAG/AIG to give me this great chance and support to participate the conference in Melbourne. It was a really a great chance to me to visit the beautiful landscape of the southern hemisphere, to meet the famous Geomorphologists of the globe and to listen their valuable lectures.

Most of the time I was attending the Fluvial Geomorphology and Fluvial Processes session, where I had a poster presentation on "Distribution and forming model of fluvial terrace in Huangshui catchment and its tectonic indication, at northeastern Tibetan". I have received many constructive comments and suggestions on my presentation from different experiences Geomorphologists including Prof. Ian Rutherford and Prof. Chen Zhongyuan, the Chairpersons of the session. Based on these comments, I have completed two papers related to evolution of fluvial geomorphology, its relation to the global climatic changes and the tectonic movement.... I have joined the discussion in the sessions of Tectonics and Geomorphology, Advances in Geochronology: Shedding New Light on Landscape Evolution and the session of the large rivers, too. In these sessions, I have learned the latest and most important scientific issues and technical advances in geomorphological studies. During the meeting, I have discussed with some researchers about the possibility of future collaborative research.

I also took part in the field trip of the conference on "Urban Geology and Geomorphology of the City and Suburbs of Melbourne", through which I have learned the detailed geological and geomorphological background of inner Melbourne and the eastern coast of Port Phillip Bay as well as the establishment of the Melbourne city along a particular section of the Yarra River, how its subsequent 19th and 20th century.

Above all, this great conference gives me a great chance to meet the famous scientists, understand the scientific advance of the geomorphology of the world and exchange ideas with the researchers from different parts of the world. These experiences gave me a key to broaden my horizons, which is very important not only for me now but also for my future study. Thanks very much again!

### **Grants / Scholarships for Young Geomorphologists**

**Name of the selected candidate for Grants for participating the BSG Postgraduate Training Workshop, Windsor, UK, 14-17 December 2009.**

The IAG/AIG GRANT of 500 (five-hundred) euros intended to favour participation in the Workshop have been awarded to a PhD student in Geomorphology from Europe.

**Winner : Alena LABUNOVÁ PETRVALSKÁ (Slovakia).**

20 applications have been submitted (against 11 of last year) for the one grant available (500 euros). 18 applications are ELIGIBLE and 2 non-eligible due to the nationality of the applicants (China and Iran). The eligible applications come from 10 different European countries (10 men and 8 women).

**Mauro Soldati**, IAG/AIG Training Officer

### **5 scholarships for Symposium in Egypt**

In the framework of the International Colloquium on Geoarchaeology organised by the IFAO, the CEREGE (UMR 6635 CNRS) and the CFEETK (USR 3172 CNRS) and titled "LANDSCAPE ARCHAEOLOGY: EGYPT AND THE MEDITERRANEAN WORLD", with the partnership of the IAG/AIG Working Group on Geoarchaeology five scholarships (registration free) will be granted to doctoral students after evaluation of the scientific file of candidates. We invite doctoral students interested to send their abstract accompanied with curriculum vitae and recommendation letter from their research director as soon as possible. Matthieu Ghilardi in the name of the Organizing Committee [[ghilardi@cerege.fr](mailto:ghilardi@cerege.fr)]

**Eric Fouache**, Vice President, IAG/AIG [[eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr](mailto:eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr)]

## **4. Minutes of the IAG/AIG Executive Committee Meetings during 7<sup>th</sup> ICG**

### **MINUTES OF THE IAG/AIG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON SATURDAY 11 JULY 2009; 11:40-12:40 MELBOURNE CONVENTION CENTRE; ROOM 101**

#### **1. Apologies**

None received

#### **2. Welcome and congratulations**

**Mike Crozier** (newly elected President) welcomed and congratulated the newly elected members: **Eric Fouache** (Vice President), **Piotr Migon** (Vice President), **David Dunkerley** (Vice President) and **Sunil Kumar De** (Publications officer)

#### **3. Constitution of Executive Committee**

Mike Crozier stressed the need to keep administration costs as low as possible with the aim of not increasing the proportion of the IAG budget spent on administration. This needed to be kept in mind in establishing the mode of operation and the number of members ultimately appointed to the Executive Committee.

Two possible models were considered. First having a small EC or, second, having a larger, more representative EC that would meet on a few occasions.

It was decided to form a more representative EC which would meet face-to-face as a whole group on a reduced number of occasions. This would mean resorting more to electronic communication.

It is possible that two small management groups might meet more frequently, depending on the need: *Small Group A*: President and Vice Presidents; and/or *Small Group B*: President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer.

#### **4. IAG Meetings, Regional Conferences and International Conference**

It was thought desirable to reduce the number and /or time involved with IAG business meetings during the Regional and International Conferences. Such meetings are indeed difficult to schedule at conferences without disrupting the scientific program. However, a minimum of business meetings is stipulated by the IAG-Constitution (Council-Meeting, two General Assemblies).

#### **5. Primary portfolios**

It was considered that every EC member should have a portfolio with definite activities. The following important portfolios have been identified to promote the IAG activities widely.

- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Working Groups
- Young Geomorphologists: training programs and award
- Website

- Publications and Newsletter
- Linkage/liaison with other organisations: IUG, IGU, EGU/AGU, IUCN...
- Conferences/meetings: liaison and protocols
- Membership promotion
- Media and communications
- Strategic direction planning

## 6. Co-option and responsibilities/portfolios

The elected members agreed to co-opt the following members. Responsibilities/ Portfolios are also listed.

**Morgan De Dapper:** Secretary

**Francisco Gutiérrez:** Treasurer

**Bianca Carvalho Vieira:** Latin America and early career geomorphologists; assist Young Geomorphologists Training Officer

**David Higgitt:** Media Officer and liaison with Webmaster

**Lothar Schrott:** German speaking countries; Linkage /liaison with other organisations: IUG, IGU, EGU/AGU, IUCN,...

**Mauro Soldati:** Young Geomorphologists Training Officer

**Yoshimasa Kurashige:** Japan: to be defined

**Xiaoping Yang:** China: to be defined

**Zbigniew Zwolinski:** Webmaster

Following responsibilities/portfolios are assigned to the elected members:

**Piotr Migon:** Working Groups

**David Dunkerley:** Strategic planning, special projects, raising profile of geomorphology

**Eric Fouache:** Conference Policy/ protocol; liaison organisers of International Geomorphology Conference 2013 – Paris; membership promotion (liaise with David Dunkerley)

**Sunil Kumar De:** Publications and Newsletter

## 8. Other issues to be addressed

- Engaging with emerging countries with prospect of new membership or re-contact/ re-invigoration (Russia?)
- Consider co-opting from Africa
- Stimulation of bids for future Regional and International Conferences
- Succession planning for IAG Executive
- Consider a statement on benefit of Joining fee

## 9. Next EC meeting

To be notified; but possibly in 2010 in Austria, at or near the time of the General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union (EGU) which takes place in Vienna from 02–07 May. This would be a full EC meeting.

*Please note:* Wherever possible, please try to find institutional funding for attendance at EC Meetings.

## 10. EC-Members contacts

Bianca CARVALHO VIEIRA: [biancacv@usp.br](mailto:biancacv@usp.br); [biancausp@gmail.com](mailto:biancausp@gmail.com)

Mike CROZIER: [Michael.Crozier@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Michael.Crozier@vuw.ac.nz)

Sunil Kumar DE: [desunil@yahoo.com](mailto:desunil@yahoo.com)

Morgan DE DAPPER: [morgan.dedapper@UGent.be](mailto:morgan.dedapper@UGent.be)

David DUNKERLEY: [david.dunkerley@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:david.dunkerley@arts.monash.edu.au)

Eric FOUACHE: [eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr](mailto:eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr)

Francisco GUTTIEREZ: [fquiter@unizar.es](mailto:fquiter@unizar.es)

David HIGGITT: [geodlh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:geodlh@nus.edu.sg)

Yoshimasa KURASHIGE: [kurashig@ses.usp.ac.jp](mailto:kurashig@ses.usp.ac.jp)

Piotr MIGON: [pmigon@yahoo.com](mailto:pmigon@yahoo.com)

Lothar SCHROTT: [lothar.schrott@sbg.ac.at](mailto:lothar.schrott@sbg.ac.at)

Mauro SOLDATI: [soldati@unimore.it](mailto:soldati@unimore.it)

Xiaoping YANG: [xpyang@263.net.cn](mailto:xpyang@263.net.cn); [xpyang@mail.igcas.ac.cn](mailto:xpyang@mail.igcas.ac.cn)

Zibi ZWOLINSKI: [zbzw@amu.edu.pl](mailto:zbzw@amu.edu.pl)

**Mike CROZIER, *President***

**Morgan DE DAPPER, *Secretary General***

## 5. National Conference Reports

### XXII National Conference of Indian Institute of Geomorphologists (IGI) on 'Man Environment Relations: A Vision Plan for Green Earth' (October 29 - 31, 2009)

*Venue:* Department of Geography, University of Allahabad, Allahabad – 211 002, Uttar Pradesh, India

22<sup>nd</sup> National Conference of the Indian Institute of Geomorphologists (IGI) on the focal theme of "Man Environment Relations: A Vision Plan for Green Earth" began with great fan fare on Oct. 29, 2009. The conference was inaugurated in the historic Senate Hall of the University of Allahabad by Prof. D. P. Singh, Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi and was presided by Prof. V. C. Jha of Vishvabharti University, Shantiniketan. More than 400 delegates from states of the country representing universities and academic institutions assembled for Three-day deliberations on various issues pertaining to man- environment symbiosis, problems related to deteriorating global environment and to find out ways and means to improve the sustainability of the geo-environment and make the earth a healthy place for present and future generations. More than 190 papers were presented in 16 technical sessions covering the subthemes on Geomorphology of Humid Environment, Geomorphology of Semi - Arid Environment, Geomorphology of Arid Environment, Geomorphology of Glacial Environment, Geomorphology of Coastal Environment, Structural Geomorphology and Environment, Environmental Geomorphology, Regional Geomorphology, Applied Geomorphology, Geomorphic Hazards and Disasters and Use of Remote Sensing & GIS in Geomorphology. The highlight of the Conference was the felicitation of the Founder and Secretary of IGI Prof. Savindra Singh on attaining superannuation and release of the felicitation volume entitled "Geomorphology In India". From such three-day academic deliberations and brain storming sessions the conference took some resolutions and recommendations.

*Reported by:*  
**Prof. Alok Dubey, Organizing Secretary, 22<sup>nd</sup> IGI**

## 6. Upcoming Seminars/Conferences/Workshops/Trainings Programmes

1. EGU General Assembly in Vienna, 2-7 May 2010
2. Workshop on Relations between Physical Erosion and Chemical Weathering, Potsdam, Germany, 1.- 4. July 2010 (Contact: Friedhelm von Blanckenburg (GFZ Potsdam, [fvb@gfz-potsdam.de](mailto:fvb@gfz-potsdam.de))
3. **Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu, India (July 21-23, 2010)**  
4th Session of the IAG/AIG Working Group on Geomorphological Hazards (IAGEOMHAZ) & **International Workshop on Geomorphological Hazards**, (Contact: Prof. N. Chandrasekhar, Centre for Geo-Technology, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli – 627 012. Tamil Nadu, India. E-mail: [geohazardsmsu@gmail.com](mailto:geohazardsmsu@gmail.com). Website: <http://www.geohazardsmsu.co.nr/>)  
The Convener is appealing to all IAG/AIG EC members to motivate some Geomorphologists to participate and to make the workshop successful.
4. **Tel-Aviv (July, 2010)**  
IGU Regional Conference, (Contact for details: Professor Hanoch Lavee, President, Mobile: 972-50-2153839, E-mail: [lavee.igu@kinneret.ac.il](mailto:lavee.igu@kinneret.ac.il))
5. **Thessaloniki, Greece (23-26 September 2010)**  
**19th Congress of the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association (CBGA 2010)**. Deadline for receipt of manuscripts of full paper is November 30, 2009 (for details log on to: <http://www.cbga2010.org>)
6. **8° National Symposium on Geomorphology/Ibero-American Meeting on Geomorphology**. Recife City, Pernambuco, Brazil, 12-16 September, 2010. *Brazilian Geomorphological Union*. Deadline for receipt of manuscripts of full paper is May 5, 2010. **Informations:** [www.uqb.org.br](http://www.uqb.org.br) or [viiisinageo@gmail.com](mailto:viiisinageo@gmail.com)
7. **Landscape and Archaeology in Egypt and the Mediterranean World**, IFA, Working group on Geoarchaeology (IAG) Cairo (Egypt), 19-21 September 2010

**Editor's Note**

The success of the IAG/AIG Newsletter depends upon the contributions that we receive. On behalf of IAG/AIG I would request you to assist us by supplying information related to the forthcoming activities and innovations in geomorphology in your respective countries (commentaries, reviews of regional or national meetings and field trips, summaries of issues pertinent to geomorphology and announcements of future meetings and workshops. Your contributions should be forwarded to the IAG/AIG Publications Officer.

*Published by*

**Sunil Kumar De**, IAG/AIG Publications Officer

Department of Geography and Disaster Management, Tripura University (A Central University), Suryamaninagar - 799130, Tripura(West), India. Ph. (mobile): +91-98620 09202, Fax: +91-381-2374802, E-mail: [desunil@yahoo.com](mailto:desunil@yahoo.com)

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GEOMORPHOLOGISTS (IAG/AIG)**

**PRESIDENT**

**Michael CROZIER**

Victoria University of Wellington, Institute of Geography, Wellington, New Zealand. Ph: +64 (0)4 463 5279, [Michael.Crozier@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Michael.Crozier@vuw.ac.nz)

**VICE-PRESIDENTS**

**Eric FOUACHE**

Géographie Physique, Géoarchéologie, Département de Géographie, Université de Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense (Paris 10), 200 avenue de la République 92001 Nanterre Cedex. mobile : 00 33 6 70 34 19 38. [eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr](mailto:eric.g.fouache@wanadoo.fr)

**David DUNKERLEY**

School of Geography and Environmental Science, Building 11, Clayton Campus, Monash University, Victoria 3800 Australia. office 61 3 9905 2914, FAX 61 3 9905 2948, mobile 0428 300 391 [david.dunkerley@arts.monash.edu.au](mailto:david.dunkerley@arts.monash.edu.au)

**Piotr MIGON**

Department of Geography and Regional Development, University of Wroclaw, Pl. Uniwersytecki 1, 50-137 Wroclaw, Poland. Tel.: +48-71 3752295, Fax: +48-71 3435184; [migon@geogr.uni.wroc.pl](mailto:migon@geogr.uni.wroc.pl)

**SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Morgan DE DAPPER**

Ghent University, Department of Geography, Research Unit 'Regional Geomorphology and Geo-archaeology, Krijgslaan, 281 (S8), B-9000 - GENT, Belgium. Ph. +32 9 264 4690, FAX: +32 9 264 4982 [morgan.dedapper@UGent.be](mailto:morgan.dedapper@UGent.be)

IAG/AIG Account Number : **IBAN ES79 0128 0409 7101 0000 1961**  
SWIFT code: **BKBKESMM**

Visit the IAG/AIG Website at : <http://www.geomorph.org>