



International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG)
IAPSO/IASPEI/IAVCEI
Joint Tsunami Commission

2013 Report of the IUGG Tsunami Commission

Introduction

The IUGG Tsunami Commission (IUGG/TC) is an Inter-Association Commission responsible for international coordination of tsunami related meetings, research, and publications. It is jointly sponsored by IASPEI, IAPSO and IAVCEI and was established at the 12th General Assembly of IUGG in Helsinki, Finland in 1960 to promote the exchange of scientific and technical information about tsunamis. The IUGG/TC membership comprises an international group of scientists concerned with various aspects of tsunamis, including an improved understanding of the dynamics of generation, propagation and coastal run-up and the consequences to society of the tsunami hazard.

The IUGG/TC administrative affairs are handled by a Chair, two Vice Chairs, and a Secretary - currently Vasily Titov (USA), Fumihiko Imamura (Japan), Ahmet Yalciner (Turkey) and Phil Cummins (Australia), respectively. IUGG/TC activities include a biennial International Tsunami Symposium (ITS, held every four years as a session of the IUGG General Assembly), and organization of an ITS proceedings volume publication. In addition, IUGG/TC organizes and dispatches an International Tsunami Survey Team following important tsunami events, and forms working groups as needed to promote research activity or support outreach of research results.

2013 Activities

During the past year IUGG/TC organized publication of two volumes of a special issue of *Pure and Applied Geophysics*, "Historical and Recent Catastrophic Tsunamis in the World" (PAGEOPH Vol. 170, Nos. 6-10, eds. K. Satake, A. Rabinovich, D. Dominey-Howes, and J. Borrero), comprising 39 papers arising from the 2011 ITS held at the IUGG General Assembly in Melbourne Australia.

The 26th ITS was also held 25-27 September in Gocek, Turkey. Over 150 scientists participated, presenting the latest advances in the tsunami research. The number and the quality of papers reflected grown awareness of the tsunami problem and significant progress in the science of tsunami after the series of catastrophic events of the last decade. For the first time, the number of papers presented required the ITS to be held in 2 parallel sessions, reflecting the dramatic growth in tsunami research over the past decade. Seven new members were nominated to the IUGG/TC during the business meeting held at the 2013 ITS.

Future Activities

The next ITS will be held in 2015 in Prague, Czech Republic, as part of the IUGG General Assembly. During 2015, the ITS will organize publication of the proceedings of the 2013 ITS as a Topical Issue of Pure and Applied Geophysics journal (PAGEOPH), with working title “The 2004 Tsunami: Ten Years After”, with Jose Borrero, Hermann Fritz, Eric Geist and Alexandar Rabinovich as editors.