



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

**IUGG Tsunami Commission Business Meeting**

The IUGG tsunami commission business meeting was held 18:00-19:30 on Thursday July 12, 2007, in room 11 of the Law School, University of Perugia, following the tsunami session of the IUGG XXIV General Assembly. Commission members that attended the meeting were: Abe, Bernard, Cherniawsky (new member), Cummins (new member), Downes, Dunbar (new member), Fujima, Greenslade (new member), Gusiakov, Imamura, Kanoglu, Kong (new member), Matsutomi, Pelinovsky, Power (new member), Rabinovich, Satake, Stephenson, Tinti, and Titov. Participants of the IUGG General Assembly also attended as observers.

The meeting was announced on the Tsunami Bulletin Board on July 3, 2007, with a preliminary agenda.

**1. Report of activities**

Satake reported on the following activities of the Commission in the last two years.

The Commission co-organized the Workshop “Tsunami Hazard Mitigation and Risk Assessment” with the International Coordination Group of the Tsunami Warning System for the Pacific (ICG/ITSU) and ONEMI. The workshop was held in Santiago, Chile on September 29 and 30, 2005. Twenty papers were presented, ranging from overviews of local and regional vulnerability to tsunami to case studies of several of the largest tsunamis in the Pacific and the Indian oceans. Thirty registrants from more than 10 countries attended the Workshop; many of them were international delegates attending the ICG/ITSU-XX Session held in Valparaiso, Chile from 3 to 7 October 2005.

The Commission published a topical issue “Tsunami and Its Hazards in the Indian and Pacific Oceans” in *Pure and Applied Geophysics* (volume 164, Numbers 2-3). The editors were Satake, Okal and Borrero. The topical issue includes 20 papers, mostly presented at the 2005 International Tsunami Symposium. The topical issue is also reprinted as a book from Springer- Birkhäuser (ISBN: 978-3-7643-8363-3)

For the IUGG XXIV General Assembly (July 2007), the Inter-association Joint Session (JSS02) “Tsunami: Generation and Hazard” with a topical workshop on sea-level measurements was organized. The conveners were Satake, Pelinovsky, Dunbar, Papadopoulos and Imamura. Because more than 100 abstracts were submitted but only two days for the oral presentations were given to the session, the conveners needed to assign

many poster presentations and to strictly limit one oral presentation for each participant. The number of papers actually presented was: 43 posters and 45 oral. In addition, the chair (Satake) presented a Union Lecture in the morning of July 13 on behalf of the Tsunami Commission.

The Commission is organizing a Workshop “New Insights in Tsunami Research and Tsunami Preparedness, Warning and Mitigation” with Ecuador’s Instituto Oceanográfico de la Armada (INOCAR), co-sponsored by UNESCO IOC ICG/PTWS. The workshop will be held in Guayaquil, Ecuador on 14-15 September 2007, the week before the XXII Session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission’s Intergovernmental Co-ordination Group for the Pacific Tsunami Warning and Mitigation System (IOC ICG/PTWS). A field trip along the Ecuadorian coast will take place on 15 September for those scientists interested in learning about the geology and tectonics of this active subduction zone.

The activities of three Working Groups (field survey data, tide gauge data and satellite data of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami) formed at the previous business meeting (2005) were reported.

For the WG on field survey data of the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, Gusiakov and Fujima reported on their collected data. Fujima also made a presentation in the scientific session about his compiled data, displayed with the Google Earth system. Because both datasets need to be merged and the formats need to be unified, it was agreed that the WG will continue.

For the instrumental data, Rabinovich published a paper in the Pageoph topical issue on the records in the Indian Ocean, and made a presentation during the scientific session about the records in the Atlantic Ocean. Because the WG needs to collect tide gauge data from the Pacific Ocean, it was requested and approved that the WG continue its activity with Diana Greenslade (Australia) and Yuichiro Tanioka (Japan) as new members. The data archive was also discussed and NGDC proposed to archive the data collected by the WG.

For the WG on satellite data, Titov reported that all the relevant data are available through the website, <http://rads.tudelft.nl/rads/index.shtml> which is linked to from <http://nctr.pmel.noaa.gov/>. The task of the WG is basically completed, hence the WG was terminated.

## **2. Nomination and Election of New Members**

Eddie Bernard (USA) nominated Paula Dunbar (NOAA/NGDC) and Laura Kong (NOAA/ITIC) as new members from USA. Gaye Downes (New Zealand) submitted her resignation and nominated William Power as a new member from New Zealand. Downes also nominated Phil Cummins as a member from Australia. Vasily Titov (USA) also nominated Diana Greenslade as another member from Australia. Fred Stephenson (Canada) nominated Josef Cherniawsky as a new member from Canada.

The above nominations were all approved, and the following is a list of new members.

Paula Dunbar (USA)  
Laura Kong (USA)  
William Power (NZ)  
Josef Cherniawsky (Canada)  
Phil Cummins (Australia)  
Diana Greenslade (Australia)

### **3. Election of New Officers**

The following people were nominated and approved for the next term (2007-2011).

Chair:	Kenji Satake (Japan)
Vice Chairs:	Gerassimos Papadopoulos (Greece) Vasily Titov (USA)
Secretary:	Paula Dunbar (USA)

### **4. Publication of 2007 Proceedings volume**

Whether we will publish the selected papers presented at the IUGG GA as a proceeding volume was discussed. It was suggested that multiple volumes should be published, due to the large number of papers (88) that were presented. The possible division of volumes may be (1) Case studies, (2) Tsunami measurements and modeling, and (3) Hazard and risk assessment. Springer (the former Kluwer) and Birkhauser (Pageoph topical issue) may be considered as publishers.

Cummins, Kong and Satake were selected as editors of the proceedings. They will contact and negotiate with the possible publishers and notify the participants of the meeting. Approximate schedule is as follows. The paper submission deadline is at the end of 2007, after the review and editorial process, the final manuscripts will be submitted to the publishers by the end of 2008, and the volume will be published before 2009 ITS.

### **5. Tsunami Commission Website**

It was agreed that the Commission should maintain its website. It was informed that NGDC/NOAA can host the Commission website, if the Commission requests it in writing. It was agreed that the Commission will formally request to NOAA/NGDC for hosting the website.

### **6 . Relation with ICG (Intergovernmental Coordination Groups)**

Stephenson (Chair of ICG for Pacific) mentioned that ICGs are mostly composed of operational personnel, not researchers, hence interaction with the research community

(IUGG Tsunami Commission) is needed. In the past, ICG/ITSU and IUGG TC have co-sponsored Workshops. With three more ICGs, it is not easy for the chair to handle all the ICGs. Therefore, the following Commission members were identified as liaisons.

ICG for Pacific (Cherniawsky)  
ICG for Indian Ocean (Greenslade)  
ICG for Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (Mercado)  
ICG for Northeastern Atlantic, Mediterranean and connected seas (Yalciner)

IOC committee for Global Oceans (Bernard)

Webmaster Site for 2009 International Tsunami Symposium  
(Novosibirsk)

## **7. Working Group for Tsunami Terminology**

Gaye Downes reiterated her presentation at the scientific session that we need to speak the same language. Some definitions, such as runup height or tsunami heights, seem to have different definitions depending on the background of the users.

The following members were nominated and approved as members of this WG.

William Power, Imamura, Rabinovich, Kelly Stroker (NOAA/NGDC), and Lori Dengler (Humboldt State Univ.)

## **8. Site for the next ITS in 2009**

For the 2009 International Tsunami Symposium, two invitations were submitted to the chair. One was from Novosibirsk (Gusiakov) and the other was from Puerto Rico (Mercado).

Gusiakov made a short presentation about Novosibirsk. Similar to the last meeting in 1989, they hope to combine the ITS with other meeting(s). Satake read an invitation letter from the Chancellor of the University of Puerto Rico.

A vote was taken with the Commission members. The result was: 10 for Novosibirsk, 6 for Puerto Rico, and 3 for abstention. It was decided that the 2009 ITS meeting will be held in Novosibirsk (Akademgorodok—science center of SDRAS).

## **9. Announcement of other meetings**

(1) Sixth International Tsunami Workshop (joint with ICG/PTWS)

14-15 September 2007, Guayaquil, Ecuador  
(field trip on 15th)

Deadline for preliminary registration: 30 July 2007

Deadline for abstract submission: 15 August 2007

(2) IASPEI General Assembly

January 10-16, 2009, Cape Town

The LOC requested that the Tsunami Commission host a session on Tsunamis in Africa. Africa faces possible tsunamis from the Indian Ocean, Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea.

It was decided that Rabinovich and Tinti will convene the above session.

**END**