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The *IAG Newsletter* is under the editorial responsibility of the *Communication and Outreach Branch* (COB) of the IAG.

It is an open forum and contributors are welcome to send material (preferably in electronic form) to the IAG COB (newsletter@iag-aig.org). These contributions should complement information sent by IAG officials or by IAG symposia organizers (reports and announcements). The *IAG Newsletter* is published monthly. It is available in different formats from the IAG new internet site: <http://www.iag-aig.org>

Each *IAG Newsletter* includes several of the following topics:

- I. news from the Bureau Members
- II. general information
- III. reports of IAG symposia
- IV. reports by commissions, special commissions or study groups
- V. symposia announcements
- VI. book reviews
- VII. fast bibliography

General Announcements

Publications of the IAG Symposia series

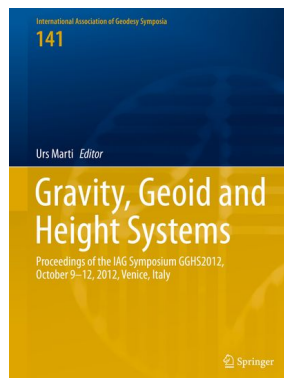
IAG Symp. 140

Following the First International Workshop on the Quality of Geodetic Observation and Monitoring Systems (QuGOMS'11), held in Garching/Munich, Germany from April 13-15, 2011, 24 articles were accepted for publication. Main Editors are Hansjörg Kutterer, Florian Seitz, Hamza Alkhatib, and Michael Schmidt. Volume is now published online at (<http://rd.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-319-10828-5>). It contains 183 pages and 109 illustrations. Volume is also available in print.



IAG Symp. 141

Following the International Symposium on Gravity, Geoid and Height Systems (GGHS 2012) held in Venice, Italy from October 9-12, 2012, 42 manuscripts were accepted. Main editor is Urs Marti. Associate editors are Riccardo Barzaghi, Oliver Baur, Carla Braitenberg, Jianliang Huang, Shuanggen Jin, Isabelle Panet, Laura Sánchez, Herbert Wilmes. Volume is now available online at (<http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/geophysics/book/978-3-319-10836-0>). It contains 346 pages and includes 249 illustrations. Volume should be available in print in mid March 2015.



IAG Symp. 142

Following the VIIIth Hotine-Marussi, held in Rome, Italy, June 17-21, 2013, 41 manuscripts were accepted. Main Editors are Nico Sneeuw, Pavel Novák, Mattia Crespi, Fernando Sansò. Associate editors are A. Dermanis, Robert Čunderlík, Richard Gross, Thomas Hobiger, Wieslaw Kosek, Eric Pottier, Michael Schmidt, Matthias Weigelt. Volume is currently under production and should be published in Spring 2015 (<http://rd.springer.com/bookseries/1345>).

IAG Symp. 143

Following the IAG Scientific Assembly held in Potsdam, Germany from September 1-6, 2013, 99 manuscripts were accepted. Main editors are Chris Rizos, Pascal Willis. Associate editors are Hussein Abdelmotaal, Zuheir Altamimi, Xiaoli Deng, Annette Eicker, Jeff Freymueller, Dorota Grejner-Brzezinska, Manabu Hashimoto, Jianliang Huang, Urs Hugentobler, Allison Kealy, Hansjoerg Kutterer, Urs Marti, Roland Pail, Richard Gross, Laura Sanchez, Joao Agria Torres, Tonie van Dam, Pawel Wielgosz. Volume is expected to be published in Spring 2015 (<http://rd.springer.com/bookseries/1345>).

IAG Symp. 144 (number to be confirmed)

Following the 3rd International Gravity Field Service (IGFS) General Assembly (IGFS2014), held in Shanghai, China, from 30 June to 6 July 2014 (<http://202.127.29.4/meetings/igfs2014/proceeding.html>), a new proceeding

is in preparation. Main editor is Shuanggen Jin. Associate editors are Riccardo Barzaghi, Rene Forsberg, Urs Marti, Roland Pail. Review is currently in process.

IAG Symp. 145 (number to be confirmed)

Following the International Symposium on Geodesy for Earthquake and Natural Hazards (GENAH2014), held in Matsushima, Miyagi, Japan from July 22 to 26 2014 (<http://genah2014.jpn.org>), a new proceeding is in preparation. Main editor is Manabu Hashimoto. Associate editors are Jeff Freymueller, Richard Gross, Shuanggen Jin, Cecile Lasserre, Simon McClusky, Yusaku Ohta, Tim Wright. Review is currently in process.

IAG Symp. 146 (number to be confirmed)

Following the REFAG 2014 symposium (Reference Frames for Applications in Geosciences), held in Luxemburg from 14 to 17 October 2014 by the IAG Commission 1, a new proceeding is in preparation. Main Editor is Tonie van Dam. Associate editors are Zuheir Altamimi, Johannes Boehm, Tom Herring, Mikael Lilje, Richard Wonnacott. Deadline for submission was extended to the end of February 2015. Manuscripts need to be submitted using the Springer Web site: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/iags/default.asp>.

CHRIS RIZOS (Editor)
PASCAL WILLIS (assistant Editor-in-Chief)

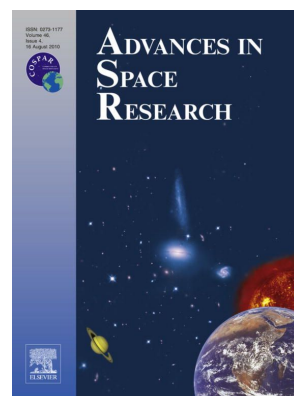
Advances in Space Research

Dear colleagues,

for your information, issue 55(1) of *Advances in Space Research* (COSPAR official journal) published on paper in January 1, 2015, will remain available free-of-charge without any paid subscription to this journal for a complete year, courtesy of Elsevier, at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02731177/55/1>.

In particular, the articles below could be of scientific interest to the geodetic community.

I remind you that *ASR* publishes 24 issues per year (2 per month), that accepted papers appear online with a DOI in “accepted proofs” only a couple of days after acceptance and that this journal accepts electronic supplements and supports OpenAccess. Published articles are referenced in ISI Web of Science, Scopus and many other scientific databases. This journal also accepts Special Issues. Its Impact Factor has been steadily increasing in the past few years and is now 1.238.



Submissions can be done electronically at any time using the EES System (<http://ees.elsevier.com/asr>).

Published articles can be found online at <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/02731177>

Seasons Greetings

Pascal Willis

Editor-in-Chief

Advances in Space Research.

Invited Reviews

Alexandre Couhert, Luca Cerri, Jean-François Legeais, Michael Ablain, Nikita P. Zelensky, Bruce J. Haines, Frank G. Lemoine, William I. Bertiger, Shailen D. Desai, Michiel Otten (2015) Towards the 1 mm/y stability of the radial orbit error at regional scales, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 2–23, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.06.041
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.06.041>

Claude Boucher, Mike Pearlman, Pierguido Sarti (2015) Global geodetic observatories, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 24–39, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.011
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.011>

Earth Sciences

Robert Tenzer, Wenjin Chen, Zhouren Ye (2015) Empirical model of the gravitational field generated by the oceanic lithosphere, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 72–82, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.023
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.023>

Lifeng Bao, Peng Gao, Hailong Peng, Yongjun Jia, C.K. Shum, Minseng Lin, Qi Guo (2015) First accuracy assessment of the HY-2A altimeter sea surface height observations: Cross-calibration results, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 90–105, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.034
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.09.034>

Min Wang, Hongzhou Cai, Zongpeng Pan (2015) BDS/GPS relative positioning for long baseline with undifferenced observations, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 113–124, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.001
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.001>

Laurent Morel, Eric Pottiaux, Frédéric Durand, François Fund, Karen Boniface, Paulo Sergio de Oliveira Junior, Joël Van Baelen (2015) Validity and behaviour of tropospheric gradients estimated by GPS in Corsica, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 135–149, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.004
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.004>

Min Li, Wenwen Li, Chuang Shi, Qile Zhao, Xing Su, Lizhong Qu, Zhizhao Liu (2015) Assessment of precipitable water vapor derived from ground-based BeiDou observations with Precise Point Positioning, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 150–162, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.010
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.10.010>

Astrodynamic And Space Debris

Peter Steigenberger, Urs Hugentobler, Sylvain Loyer, Felix Perosanz, Lars Prange, Rolf Dach, Maik Uhlemann, Gerd Gendt, Oliver Montenbruck (2015) Galileo orbit and clock quality of the IGS Multi-GNSS Experiment, *Adv. Space Res.*, 55(1), 269–281, DOI : 10.1016/j.asr.2014.06.030
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.asr.2014.06.030>

Meeting Announcements

geo-Q International Autumn School
Bad Honnef, Germany, October 4-9, 2015

Save the Date for:

geo-Q International Autumn School: **Global gravity field modeling from Satellite-to-Satellite Tracking data**, Physikzentrum Bad Honnef, Germany, 4-9 October 2015

Organized by geo-Q

URL: <http://www.geoq.uni-hannover.de/autumnschool.html>

Gravity Field Recovery (GFR) field is one of the main research fields of the collaborative research center geo-Q. The aim of this autumn school is to teach different approaches for recovering the Earth's gravity field from satellite-to-satellite tracking data with a specific emphasis on those methods including the variation approach, the energy balance approach, and the acceleration approach. The school is intended for graduate students in geodetic science as well as for postdocs and scientists with basic background in geodesy and who are looking for more intensive study of the topic. The program includes both lectures and exercises given and lead by international experts covering both theoretical and experimental topics of this research field. Hands-on experiences of numerical implementations of the methods will complement the exercise. The program also includes brief discussion on including new future modeling techniques based on a combined data set consisting of the data from ground gravimetry measurements using atom interferometry, optical clock data, and classical instruments.

Lectures

- Srinivas V. Bettadpur (The University of Texas at Austin, USA)
- Jakob Flury (Leibniz Universität Hannover, Germany)
- Torsten Mayer-Gürr, (Graz University of Technology, Austria)
- Gerhard Heinzel (Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics, Germany)
- Adrian Jäggi (University of Bern)
- Christopher Jekeli (The Ohio State University, USA)
- Jürgen Kusche (Institute of Geodesy and Geoinformation, Germany)
- Claus Lämmerzahl (ZARM, University of Bremen, Germany)
- Reiner Rummel (IAPG, Technische Universität München, Germany)
- Matthias Weigelt (University of Luxembourg, Luxembourg)

(A detailed program will follow soon)

Registration starts in April 2015 and the deadline is in July 2015.

Interested colleagues should contact Petra Heldt-Bertrand (office@geoq.uni-hannover.de), at geo-Q office.

MAJID NAEIMI

Meetings Calendar

18. Internationale Geodaetische Woche Obergurgl

February 8 – 14, 2015, Obergurgl, Austria

URL: <http://www.mplusm.at/ifg/>

GEOProcessing 2015

February 22 – 27, 2015, Lisbon, Portugal

URL: <http://www.iaria.org/conferences2015/GEOProcessing15.html>

WCDRR

March 14 – 18, 2015, Sendai, Japan

UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction

URL: <http://www.wcdrr.org/>

Mapping Water Bodies from Space (MWBS 2015)

March 18 – 19, 2015, Frascati, Italy

URL: <http://due.esrin.esa.int/mwbs2015/>

Munich Satellite Navigation Summit 2015

March 24 – 26, 2015, Munich, Germany

URL: <http://www.munich-satellite-navigation-summit.org>

European Navigation Conference ENC 2015

April 7 – 10, 2015, Bordeaux, France

URL: <http://www.enc2015.eu/>

IFCS-EFTF 2015

April 12 – 16, 2015, Denver, Colorado, USA

Joint Conference of the IEEE International Frequency Control Symposium & European Frequency and Time Forum

URL: <http://ifcs-eftf2015.org/>

European Geosciences Union General Assembly 2015

April 12 – 17, 2015, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu.eu>

SPACOMM 2015

April 19 – 24, 2015, Barcelona, Spain

URL: <http://www.iaia.org/conferences2015/SPACOMM15.html>

RESENS 2015

April 19 – 24, 2015, Barcelona, Spain

URL: <http://www.iaia.org/conferences2015/RESENS.html>

Eighth IVS Technical Operations Workshop (TOW 2015)

May 4 – 7, 2015, Westford, Massachusetts, USA

URL: <http://ivscc.gsfc.nasa.gov/meetings/tow2015/>

36th International Symposium of Remote Sensing of Environment (ISRSE)

May 11 – 15, 2015, Berlin, Germany

URL: <http://www.isrse36.org/>

8th Workshop on GNSS Reflectometry (GNSS+R 2015)

May 11 – 13, 2015, Potsdam, Germany

URL: <http://www.gnssr2015.org/>

22nd Meeting of the European VLBI Group for Geodesy and Astrometry (EVGA)

May 17 – 21, 2015, Ponta Delgada, Azores, Portugal

URL: <http://evga2015.raege.net/>

FIG Working Week 2015

May 17 – 21, 2015, Sofia, Bulgaria

URL: <http://www.fig.net/fig2015/>

GIA Modeling 2015

May 26-29, 2015, Fairbanks, Alaska

URL: <http://www.gia2015.org/>

Ilulissat Climate Days 2015

June 2-5, 2015, Ilulissat, Greenland

URL: <http://www.polar.dtu.dk/english/Ilulissat-Climate-Days>

Sentinel-3 for Science Workshop

June 2-5, 2015, Venice, Italy

URL: <http://seom.esa.int/S3forScience2015>

EUREF Symposium 2015

June 3-5, 2015, Leipzig, Germany

URL: http://www.euref.eu/euref_symposia.html

TransNav 2015

June 17 – 19, 2015, Gdynia, Poland

URL: <http://transnav2015.am.gdynia.pl>

XXVI IUGG General Assembly

June 22 – July 2, 2015, Prague, Czech Republic

Information about registration and accommodation will be available from June 2014. Call for abstracts will be open during summer 2014. **Deadline for abstract submission is January 31, 2015.**

URL: www.iugg2015prague.com

EVN TOG Meeting

June 26, 2015, Robledo, Spain

URL: <http://iag.dgfi.badw.de/index.php?id=291>

AOGS 2015

August 2 – 7, 2015, Singapore

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2015/>

XXIXth IAU General Assembly

August 3 – 14, 2015, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

URL: http://www.iau.org/science/meetings/future/general_assemblies/1024/

2015 APSG International Symposium

August 24 – 28, 2015, Moscow, Russia

Geodesic Datum and Regional and Terrestrial Reference Frame Realization

URL: <http://apsg2015.inasan.ru>

ION GNSS+ 2015

September 14 – 18, 2015, Tampa, Florida, USA

URL: <http://www.ion.org/gnss/index.cfm>

INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche

September 15 – 17, 2015, Stuttgart, Germany

URL: <http://www.intergeo.de/>

geo-Q International Autumn School

October, 4-9 2015, Bad Honnef, Germany

Global gravity field modeling from Satellite-to-Satellite Tracking data

URL: <http://www.geoq.uni-hannover.de/autumnschool.html>

ISDE 2015

October 6 – 10, 2015, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

URL: <http://digitalearth2015.ca/>

Earth Observation for Water Cycle Science 2015

October 10 – 23, 2015, ESA-ESRIN, Frascati, Italy

URL: <http://www.eo4water2015.info/>

2nd Symposium of COSPAR: Water and Life in the Universe

November 9 – 13, 2015, Foz do Iguacu, Brazil

URL: <http://cosparbrazil2015.org/>

AGU 2015 Fall Meeting

December 14 – 18, 2015, San Francisco, California, USA

URL: <http://fallmeeting.agu.org/2015/>

EGU General Assembly 2016

April 17 – 22, 2016, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://www.egu2016.eu/>

FIG Working Week 2016

May 2 – 6, 2016, Christchurch, New Zealand

URL: <http://www.fig.net/fig2016/>

18th Geodynamics and Earth Tide Symposium 2016

June 6 – 9, 2016, Trieste, Italy

URL: <http://www.lithoflex.org/g-et/>

41st COSPAR Scientific Assembly

July 30 – August 7, 2016, Istanbul, Turkey

URL: <http://www.cospar-assembly.org/>

INTERGEO, Geodätische Woche

October 11 – 13, 2015, Hamburg, Germany

URL: <http://www.intergeo.de/>

AGU 2016 Fall Meeting

December 12 – 16, 2016, San Francisco, California, USA

URL: <http://meetings.agu.org/upcoming-meetings/>

Reports

International DORIS Service Workshop 2014

Konstanz, Germany, October 27 - 28, 2014

The International DORIS Service (IDS) is a service of the International Association of Geodesy that supports geodetic and geophysical research activities through data and derived products of the [DORIS](#) (Doppler Orbitography and Radiopositioning Integrated by Satellite) system for satellite orbit determination and precise ground positioning. The Service organises every two years a workshop to provide a forum to review the progress in the DORIS technique, present recent scientific developments and achievements, and prepare for future activities.

The most recent IDS Workshop was held in Konstanz, Germany, 27-28 October 2014, in conjunction with the Ocean Surface Topography Science Team (OSTST) meeting and a SARAL/Altika workshop (<http://www.ostst-altimetry-2014.com/>). The participants included representatives of the six IDS Analysis Centres and of the IDS Combination Centre, people involved in the DORIS system management, and scientific groups interested in the DORIS data/products. The organisers were pleased to welcome some new users and potential partners with promising results and perspectives.

A session was devoted to the data analysis performed for the IDS contribution to the next realisation of the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF). All Analysis Centres had analysed the entire period of archived DORIS data for 1993-2013. The Combination Centre has submitted the DORIS contribution to the new ITRF to the International Earth and Reference Systems Service (IERS). It was also shown that the new instruments DGXX (on the Jason-2, Cryosat-2, HY-2A, Saral satellites), as well as the improvements to the data analysis and the modelling has led to a significant gain in the quality of the DORIS solution compared to that which was available for the past realisation ITRF2008.

Among the topics addressed in other sessions were:

- Two satellites equipped with a DORIS receiver will be launched in 2015: Jason-3 and Sentinel-3a.
- The first ground antennas benefiting from a new approach to consolidated manufacturing to ensure accurate radio frequency characterisation are being deployed.
- Radio frequency compatibility tests of DORIS-VLBI were performed at NASA's Goddard Geophysical and Astronomical Observatory.
- The future version of the DORIS navigator (DIODE) on-board Jason-3 and the subsequent satellite missions will be able to provide pole coordinates estimations within two hours; making this contribution potentially interesting for publication in the IERS Bulletin A.
- It was demonstrated that including DORIS data in GNSS-derived vertical total electron content (VTEC) models has a positive impact; and suggests some new promising applications.

PDF versions of both presentations and posters are available for download from the IDS website at:

<http://ids-doris.org/report/meeting-presentations/ids-workshop-2014.html>

In addition, following the workshop, the IDS Governing Board held a meeting, and provided the opportunity to confirm the results of the IDS autumn 2014 elections. The seat of Frank Lemoine (NASA/GSFC) who served as Analysis Coordinator since 2005 will be occupied for 2015-2018 by the pair Hugues Capdeville (CLS) and

Jean-Michel Lemoine (CNES), sharing the responsibility and work of this position. Marek Ziebart (UCL) was also elected by the IDS Associates. He will succeed John Ries (UTexas/CSR) as a member-at-large for the next four year term, starting 1 January 2015. The IDS welcomed new members and paid tribute to Frank and John for their valuable contribution to the IDS.

Website: <http://ids-doris.org>



Some participants at the IDS Workshop

CHRIS RIZOS

Report on the SIRGAS School on Reference Systems and the Symposium SIRGAS 2014 La Paz, Bolivia, November 20 - 26, 2014

The Geocentric Reference System for the Americas (SIRGAS) is the fundamental layer for all kind of positioning and geo-information in science and praxis in Latin America from Mexico to Tierra de Fuego. Nearly all South and Central American countries have adopted it as their official reference system for scientific and practical applications. Besides the establishment and maintenance of the geocentric reference frame for the region, SIRGAS is responsible for the definition and realisation of a gravity-field related vertical reference system that guarantees consistency and reliability continent-wide (heights with the same accuracy everywhere) and a long-term stability (heights with the same order of accuracy at any time).

The current activities, advances, and new challenges of SIRGAS are reported, discussed, and re-oriented (if required) in the annual SIRGAS Meetings, which have been held since 1993. In this series, the Symposium SIRGAS 2014 took place in La Paz, Bolivia from November 24 to 26, 2014. In the days prior to the Symposium (November 20 - 22), a SIRGAS School on Vertical Reference Systems was held. Both events were hosted by the Instituto Geográfico Militar of Bolivia.

The SIRGAS School was attended by 34 participants from 13 countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. The thematic of the school concentrated on the continental adjustment of the first order national vertical networks based on geopotential numbers. This included a capacitation on height systems, least squares adjustment, and processing of gravity and vertical networks. Attendees were provided with computation software, so the theory lectures were complemented by practical exercises.

The Symposium SIRGAS 2014 was attended by 260 participants from 19 countries (in addition to the School participants, Dominican Republic, Germany, Honduras, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and USA). In 39 oral presentations

and 24 posters, the following topics were presented: Gravity and geoid modelling in the SIRGAS region, developments related to vertical reference systems and frames, geodetic estimation of geophysical parameters, report of the SIRGAS reference frame analysis centres, national reference frames and related applications, geodetic modelling of the Earth's crust deformations (in particular in the Andean orogeny), and practical usability of the SIRGAS reference frame. Presentations and extended abstracts of the contributions are available at the SIRGAS web site (www.sirgas.org).

Thanks to the support of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG), the International Association of Geodesy (IAG) and the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH), it was possible to provide 19 SIRGAS colleagues from 8 countries with partial travel grants. SIRGAS deeply acknowledges this support.

CLAUDIO BRUNINI, Sirgas President
LAURA SÁNCHEZ, SIRGAS Vicepresident



Attendees of the SIRGAS School on Vertical Reference Systems.
La Paz, Bolivia, November 20-22, 2014.



Attendees of the Symposium SIRGAS2014.
La Paz, Bolivia, November 24-26, 2014.

Report of 44th IGS Governing Board Meeting San Francisco, California, December 14, 2014

The IGS Governing Board held its 44th Meeting on December 14, 2014, in San Francisco. The Board elected Gary Johnston from Geoscience Australia to a four year term as Chair, starting on January 1, 2015. The election of Dr.-Ing. Rolf Dach (University of Bern, Switzerland) as Analysis Center Representative and Dr. Carine Bruyninx (Royal Observatory of Belgium, Brussels) as Network Representative by the IGS Associate Members was unanimously confirmed.

At the 44th Meeting a number of important issues were discussed, including:

- The updated Terms of Reference were approved by the Governing Board by email vote on October 15, 2014. The Terms of Reference include an updated mission statement, install the Real-time Analysis Coordinator as a voting member of the Governing Board, and establish the position of a Chair-elect. Loukis Agrotis from ESOC/ESA, our current Real-time Analysis Coordinator, was welcomed to the Board.
- A RINEX3 transition plan was endorsed by the Governing Board. The plan defines the steps required for a transition to long filenames for RINEX3 files, in order to merge the MGEX data archive with the current IGS data archive. This is a prerequisite for the transition of the multi-GNSS IGS activities into routine operations. More information on the planned changes will be provided to the users and station operators.
- The Governing Board welcomed a proposal to install a global Data Center at the GNSS Research Center of Wuhan University, China. The IGS would in particular be interested in access to tracking data from additional regional sites. The Governing Board considers an IGS Data Center in China to be an opportunity to allow improved data exchange, to reach a broader community of researchers in China, and to engage more research groups as future partners in the IGS.
- Gary Johnston and Chris Rizos presented Sydney, Australia as the location for the next IGS Workshop. The 2016 workshop will be hosted by University of New South Wales (UNSW) and will take place early in the first quarter of 2016. This marks the first time in twenty years that the IGS Workshop will take place in both the Eastern and Southern hemispheres.

As outgoing Chair, I would like to thank all those associated with the IGS for their continuing effort and support. The IGS is an impressive organization, comprised of a large number of individuals from many institutions all over the world, devoting their expertise and valuable time in an exemplary spirit of cooperation. New challenges and opportunities are ahead, and I wish the Governing Board and the new Chair all the best and much success in leading the IGS into an exciting future.

URS HUGENTOBLER