



**International
Association of
Geodesy**
Newsletter

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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

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General Announcements

Michael Sideris is elected Vice President of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics

Dr. Michael G. Sideris, professor of geodesy in the Department of Geomatics Engineering, is the new Vice President of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG, www.iugg.org) for the period 2011-2015. Prof. Sideris was elected to this prestigious position by the 69-country-member Council of IUGG at the XXV IUGG General Assembly, which took place in Melbourne, Australia, from June 28 to July 7, 2011. IUGG is an international organization dedicated to advancing, promoting, and communicating knowledge of the Earth system, its space environment, and the dynamical processes causing change. IUGG is a member of the International Council for Science (ICSU, www.icsu.org) and comprises the International Associations of:

- Cryospheric Sciences (IACS)
- Geodesy (IAG)
- Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA)
- Hydrological Sciences (IAHS)
- Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences (IAMAS)
- Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO)
- Seismology and Physics of the Earth's Interior (IASPEI)
- Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior (IAVCEI)

Prof. Sideris completed this month his 2007-2011 term as President of the International Association of Geodesy. As the Vice President of the IUGG, Prof. Sideris will be a member of its Bureau and its Executive Committee, and will be responsible for many administrative and scientific tasks, including the supervision of the Union's five Commissions, which serve the Union and the international geophysical community by promoting the study of particular interdisciplinary problems. These bodies, which are chartered by the IUGG Executive Committee to conduct inter-association science, are:

- Geophysical Risk and Sustainability (GEORISK)
- Mathematical Geophysics (CMG)
- Study of the Earth's Deep Interior (SEDI)
- Data and Information (UCDI)
- Climatic and Environmental Change (CCEC)

IAG COB

Meeting Announcements

International workshop on GNSS Remote Sensing for Future Missions and Sciences

August 7-9, 2011, Shanghai, China

<http://www.shao.ac.cn/gnss>

The Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) has been widely used in navigation, positioning and geoscience applications. Recently, the versatile refracted, reflected and scattered signals of GNSS have been successfully demonstrated to sound the atmosphere and ionosphere, ocean, land surfaces (including soil moisture) and the cryosphere as a new remote sensing tool. With the further improvement of the next generation multi-frequency GNSS systems and receivers and new space-based instruments utilizing GNSS reflections and refractions, new scientific applications of GNSS are expected in various environment remote sensing fields in the near future.

The international workshop on *GNSS Remote Sensing for Future Missions and Sciences* will be a forum for assessing current ability and presenting recent results and future developments as well as looking for new collaboration opportunities, joint nanosatellite experiments and missions using GNSS refractometry, reflectometry and scatterometry, e.g., atmospheric and ionospheric sounding using ground and space-borne GPS measurements (CHAMP, GRACE, COSMIC, MetOp, TerraSAR-X, OceanSat-2), GNSS reflectometry (GNSS-

R) in ocean altimetry, and soil moisture and ice/snow status as well as geohazards monitoring/warning (e.g., Hurricane, Typhoon, Tsunami and Earthquake).

SANDRA VERHAGEN

Modern Height Reference Systems at AGU Fall Meeting 2011

The upcoming AGU Fall meeting, 5-9 December 2011, includes the Session G12: Modern Height Reference Systems. Please consider contributing to this important topic. The deadline for abstract submission is **4 August 2011**. The Session Description follows. See also: <http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/scientific-program/session-search/313>.

Description: Hurricanes, earthquakes, and tsunamis wreak havoc with the geodetic control needed to re-build, assess damage, and mitigate the destruction from future events. Other natural and anthropogenic surface deformations demand frequent updates in control. Rapidly re-establishing vertical control relative to the geoid requires an accurate gravity model. Ongoing infrastructure modernization in the U.S. and worldwide is challenged by these problems at the cm level. The focus is on new methods to define, realize, and maintain precision in vertical datums, including new paradigms that eliminate tide gauge references, and that address the needs for civil and scientific applications. Datum unification and continuity with previous definitions are additional topics of interest.

CHRISTOPHER JEKELI

IAG Sponsored Meetings

International workshop on GNSS Remote Sensing for Future Missions and Sciences

August 7-9, 2011, Shanghai, China

URL: <http://www.shao.ac.cn/gnss>

SIRGAS General Meeting 2011

August 8-10, 2011, Heredia, Costa Rica

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

3rd International Colloquium - Scientific and Fundamental Aspects of the Galileo Programme

August 31 - September 2, 2011 in Copenhagen, Denmark

More information and online abstract submission is available on the Colloquium web site: <http://www.congrex.nl/11A12/>.

Joint International Symposium on Deformation Monitoring

November 2-4, 2011, Hong Kong, China

URL: <http://dma.lsgu.polyu.edu.hk/>

IAG Related Meetings

AOGS 2011 Conference

August 8-12, 2011, Taipei, Taiwan

There will be sessions related to geodesy on topics such as “New technological developments in space geodesy and applications on atmospheric and geodynamical research”, Solid Earth, Natural Hazards, and Atmosphere.

URL: <http://www.asiaoceania.org/aogs2011>

XXX URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium

August 13-20, 2011, Istanbul, Turkey

URL: <http://www.ursigass2011.org/>

ISDE7

August 23-25, 2011, Perth, Australia

The 7th International Symposium on Digital Earth (ISDE7) with the theme of the Knowledge Generation will be held in Perth, Australia from 23-25, August 2011 in conjunction with the Western Australian Land Information System (WALIS) Forum and the State Natural Resources Management (NRM) Conference.

URL: <http://www.isde7.net/>

Unified Analysis Workshop

September 16-17, 2011, Zurich, Switzerland

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

Journées 'Systèmes de référence spatio-temporels' 2011

September 19-21, 2011, Vienna, Austria

URL: <http://info.tuwien.ac.at/hg/meetings/journees11/index.html>

SMOS Science Workshop

September 27-29, 2011, Arles, France

URL: <http://www.smos2011.org/>

Intergeo 2011

September 27-29, 2011, Nürnberg, Germany

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

ISPRS - PIA11 Photogrammetric Images Analysis

October 5-7, 2011, Munich, Germany

URL: <http://www.pia11.tum.de/>

IRI Workshop 2011

October 10-14, 2011, Hermanus, South Africa

URL: <http://iri2011.hmo.ac.za/>

5th Coastal Altimetry Workshop

October 16-18, 2011, San Diego, USA

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

SX5 - Scientific Service Support Based on Galileo E5 Receivers

October 18, 2011, Neubiberg/Munich, Germany

URL: <http://ifen.bauv.unibw.de/sx5/workshop.html>

OSTST Meeting

October 19-21, 2011, San Diego, USA

URL: <http://www.aviso.oceanobs.com/en/courses/sci-teams/index.html>

Modern Technologies, Education & Professional Practice in Geodesy and Related Fields

November 10-11, 2011, Sofia, Bulgaria

Contact: milev@bas.bg

10th International E-VLBI Workshop

November 13-16, 2011, Broederstroom, South Africa

URL: <http://www.hartrao.ac.za/e-vlbi2011/e-vlbi2011.html>

UGI 2011 Regional Geographic Conference

November 14-18, 2011, Santiago, Chile

URL: <http://www.ugi2011.cl/>

AGU Fall Meeting

December 5-9, 2011, San Francisco, USA

URL: <http://www.agu.org/meetings/>

2nd International School on Least Squares Approach to Modeling the Geoid

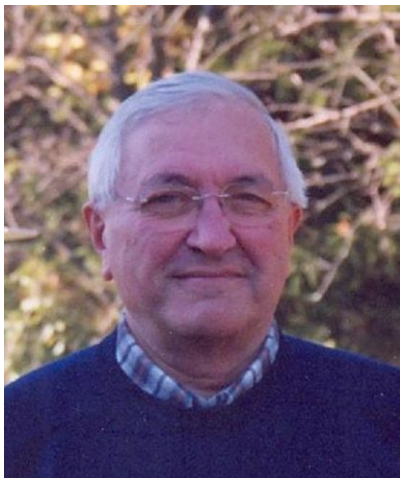
February 27- March 2, 2012, Johor Bahru, Malaysia

Theoretical lectures in the mornings are followed by practical computer exercises in the afternoons.

URL: <http://www.infra.kth.se/geo/events/IGS-2012.pdf>

Obituary

Dr. István Fejes (1939-2011)



Shortly before his 72nd birthday, following a long fight with a serious illness, Prof. Dr. István Fejes passed away on 11 June 2011. He had been working for three decades at the Institute of Geodesy, Cartography and Remote Sensing, Satellite Geodetic Observatory (SGO), and he was the head of the observatory from 1990 until his retirement in 2003.

István Fejes graduated in mathematics and physics at the Loránd Eötvös University of Sciences (Budapest, Hungary) in 1965. He earned his scientific degrees (PhD and DSc) in radio astronomy topics (The distribution of the interstellar neutral hydrogen in the Virgo region; Observations of SS433 with VLBI).

He joined the SGO at the time of its foundation in 1973. During his professional career he made significant contributions to a broad range of disciplines. As a radio astronomer, he established a successful research group working on the astrophysical and geodetic applications of Very long Baseline Interferometry (VLBI) and he also contributed to the development of the Space VLBI technique. Concerning the microwave satellite positioning techniques, in the mid-eighties he worked on the Doppler interferometry technology, a precursor to the present-day Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) analysis approach. He became the head of the observatory in 1990, a difficult but exciting period in Hungary's recent history. Relying on the existing broad international collaborations, he was one of the initiators of the biennial "GPS in Central Europe" seminar series that connected researchers in Western and Eastern Europe. He played a key role in adopting the GPS technique in Hungary. This activity was honoured by the Academic Prize of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1993. He was one of the initiators of the establishment of the Hungarian GPS Geodynamic Reference Network in the late 1980's. He was also one of the founders of the Central European GPS Geodynamic Reference Network in 1994. Both programmes are still running successfully. Later his interest was slightly changed from the most precise GPS applications to the real-time GNSS positioning services. He joined among the firsts to the European Position Determination System (EUPOS) initiative and contributed to the activities of the EUPOS ISC (International Steering Committee) until he was able to work.

He placed special emphasis on international scientific collaboration. He himself also spent long time in foreign research institutions, mainly in The Netherlands and Germany. As a university lecturer and PhD supervisor, he was engaged with educating the younger generation. The scientific topics he advocated still form the backbone of the research structure at the SGO.

As it is impossible to list all the committees he served in, only the most relevant ones are mentioned: member of the Hungarian Space Research Council; several bodies of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences; Committee on Radio Astronomy Frequencies (CRAF); member of the International Astronomical Union (IAU), the International Association of Geodesy (IAG), and the International Union of Radio Science (URSI).

His colleagues and friends will miss him very much as an inventive researcher, a leader who supported young scientists, and a determined colleague. His memory and the many accomplishments he achieved will remain with us.

SÁNDOR FREY