

January 2011 Newsletter of the AGU Near-Surface Focus Group

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Recent announcements of interest to the NS community (conferences, academic positions, graduate student opportunities etc.) can be found at the AGU NS-Focus Group Web Page: <http://nsg.agu.org>

AGU NS Membership as of January 2011:

Primary affiliation: 740 members; Secondary: 2591 members

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1. NS activities at the 2010 Fall AGU Meeting (from Louise Pellerin)

It was a great meeting in San Francisco. We had ~150 NS presentations (oral & poster), and about 90 folks attending the NSFG luncheon. Students were sponsored at the luncheon by Geometrics, Sensors & Software, Zonge and Green Engineering – many thanks! The NSFG continues to mature with ~750 primary members and ~2600 secondary members. AGU awarded travel grants to three NS students: Audrey Mohr, *University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire*, Kisa Mwakanyamale, *Rutgers University* and Leonardo Salayandia, *University of Texas at El Paso*. Congratulations to all. With the new governance structure we have equal representation on the AGU Council, and will be voting for our officers in the spring. In the past NS FG officers were appointed and we had had no input to AGU governance. More on the new governance structure below. As we grow we need our members to be more involved through activities such as nominations for AGU Fellows and Awards, contributions to EOS, and organizing technical sessions for the fall meeting. The NS FG will increase collaboration with other focus groups and sections within AGU and the broader NS community with EEGS and SEG.

Happy New Year!

Louise Pellerin

2. Report from the Fall AGU Council Meeting AND request for member input (from George Tsofilias)

The first meeting of the 2010-2012 AGU Council took place on 12 December 2010, in San Francisco, CA. The AGU is now operating under a new governance structure. AGU's governance consists of the Board of Directors, responsible for business affairs (16-member board chaired by the President of the AGU), the Council, responsible for scientific affairs (59-member assembly chaired by the President-Elect and made up from section and focus group leadership, committee chairs, early career scientists and student representatives, AGU's President, the Executive Director), and the Executive Director.

The Council is tasked with aligning AGU's science in support of AGU's new mission and strategic plan. During the day-long Council meeting in San Francisco members worked on the Mission: Alignment Project (M:AP), which over the next year and half will answer the following strategic question: "Given our strategic plan, stakeholder expectations of AGU, and what is being asked of science and our members - How does our science need to be organized, recognized and rewarded, disseminated and promoted?"

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The M:AP is now in the information gathering and dialogue phase. At the Fall meeting, in addition to the council meeting, AGU held four member group discussions (two for section & focus group members, one for international members, one for students). If you did not have the opportunity to give your input at the meeting, we encourage you to participate online at <https://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/2d34g485cc> or go to AGU's main page <http://www.agu.org/> and select the link "Voice your opinion about the future of Earth and space science". This is an opportunity for AGU members to shape its future direction and for the Near Surface Focus Group to play an active role in the new AGU and represent our community.

3. 2011 AGU Awards nomination deadline: 15 January 2011

Dear AGU members:

AGU has a diverse program for recognizing members and others who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the geophysical sciences, to the service of the community, and to the public's understanding of science. The 2011 AGU Awards nomination is ongoing! The [submission site](#) opened 15 October 2010, and will close on 15 January 2011. Don't miss the opportunity to nominate a colleague for the recognition of a lifetime. A [full list of Union Awards](#) is available on the AGU website. Nominators should review these awards prior to submitting nominations. Visit the [website](#) for details on how to submit nominations online. You may also send queries via email to unionawards@agu.org, or contact Beth Paredes eparedes@agu.org (202) 777-7500, or Leah Bland lbland@agu.org (202) 777-7389.

I encourage your suggestions and recommendations to make sure that the program is operating maximally for the achievement of the Union's goals as laid out in AGU's new strategic plan.

Thank you for your dedication, efforts and continued support of AGU's mission.

Sincerely,

Rana Fine

Chair, Honors and Recognition Committee

4. Call for abstracts: SAGEEP 2011, April 10-14th Charleston, South Carolina, extended abstracts January 14th (from John Bradford)

The conference website: <http://www.eegs.org/sageep/index.html>

Abstract submission website: <http://www.xcdsystem.com/sageep2011/>

Important Dates:

Jan.14, 2011: Deadline for extended abstracts (these are now optional)
April 10-14: SAGEEP - Charleston

Dear Colleagues,

For the first time, SEG will be co-sponsoring sessions at the upcoming Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Environmental and Engineering Problems (SAGEEP) April 10 - 14 in Charleston, NC. I invite you to submit an abstract to one of the three SEG sponsored sessions listed below. Deadline for extended abstracts is January 14. More information about SAGEEP and submission details can be found at <http://www.eegs.org/sageep/index.html>.

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5. European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly 2011, April 3-8th Vienna, Austria; abstracts January 10th (from Niklas Linde)

The EGU General Assembly 2011 will bring together geoscientists from all over the world into one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, Planetary and Space Sciences. Especially for young scientists the EGU appeals to provide a forum to present their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geosciences. The EGU is looking forward to cordially welcome you in Vienna!

Abstract Submission (10 January 2011): <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2011/>

Sessions of interest include:

HS8.1.2

Hydrogeophysics in subsurface hydrology

Convener: Harry Vereecken | Co-Conveners: Ugur Yaramanci, Ty Ferre

SM3.6/SSP2.4/SSS5.8/TS4.5

Imaging the shallow subsurface with seismic and GPR methods (co-organized)

Convener: Lars Nielsen | Co-Conveners: Klaus Holliger, Hansruedi Maurer, Matthew Yedlin

SM3.1

Seismic Imaging of the Earth's Interior: Theoretical and Methodological Achievements in Seismic imaging

Convener: Edi Kissling | Co-Conveners: Jean-Xavier Dessa, Ivan Koulakov, Stefan Buske

SM3.4/TS1.7

Noise Interferometry: What can we learn from noise? (co-organized)

Convener: Antonio Villaseñor | Co-Conveners: Florent Brenguier, Laurent Stehly, Martin Schimmel

SM3.5/GD2.13/TS8.5

Active seismic investigations of the Earth's crust (co-organized)

Convener: Alireza Malehmir | Co-Convener: Stefan Buske

SM3.7

Multi-dimensional electromagnetic modelling and inversion

Convener: Marion Miensopust | Co-Conveners: Pilar Queralt, Colin Farquharson

ERE2.3/SM3.10

Geophysical methods applied to geological storage of CO₂ (co-organized)

Convener: Christopher Juhlin | Co-Conveners: Stefan Buske, Roman Pevzner

6. Call for papers: IWAGPR2011; paper submission January 28th

The International Workshop on Advanced Ground Penetrating Radar is a biannual series of international scientific symposia devoted to the advancements in GPR techniques and applications. The conference is aimed at presenting a wide range of scientific and technical information of high standard to scientists, engineers and end-users of GPR technology. The goal of the workshop is to spread knowledge about GPR technology and its use, as well as, to provide a unique possibility to participants to exchange ideas about the advances in their work and discuss their results. All papers presented at the conference will be published in the workshop proceedings. The official language of the conference is English.

Paper Submission:

Authors are invited to directly submit full camera-ready papers of between 4-6 pages.

The Technical Review Panel will review submissions and corresponding authors will be notified on the acceptance or rejection of the paper.

Deadline for papers: January 28th, 2011

Notification of Acceptance: March 18th, 2011

For questions please contact: Jan van der Kruk (j.van.der.kruk@fz-juelich.de)

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More information can be found at: www.fz-juelich.de/iwagpr2011

7. Open positions:

7.1. PhD position at research center Juelich

The Transregional Collaborative Research Center TR32 and the Agrosphere Institute at the Forschungs Zentrum Jülich, Germany, invite applications for 1 PhD Graduate Research Assistantship. In the focus of the TR32, Patterns in Soil-Vegetation-Atmosphere Systems: Monitoring, Modeling, and Data, the following project is open: Soil moisture content estimation by inverting surface and borehole ground penetrating radar data. We are looking for highly motivated individuals with a strong background in geophysics, physics or electrical engineering and a keen interest in applying and improving numerical and computational methods. We expect strong interest in the fields of hydrogeophysics and inversion methods. Experience in FORTRAN and matlab programming is highly desirable. We offer a competitive position, excellent benefits, a productive, interdisciplinary working atmosphere including comprehensive supervision. The PhD student will be part of the newly established Graduate School of the TR32. Interested candidates should send a complete application package (CV; cover letter describing background, training and research interests; certificates; contact information of two references) as a single PDF to Jan van der

Kruk (j.van.der.kruk@fz-juelich.de). The position is expected to commence January, 2011. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position has been filled.

For more information please contact

Prof. Dr. Jan van der Kruk (j.van.der.kruk@fz-juelich.de)

Agrosphere (IBG-3)

Forschungszentrum Jülich, D-52425 Jülich, Germany

<http://www.fz-juelich.de/icg/icg-iv>

www.tr32.de

To contribute material to the NS-letter send an e-mail to:

Xavier Comas xcomas@fau.edu

DEADLINE: Material must be received 2 full business days prior to the first of each month.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS: All members are welcome to submit content of interest to the NS community.

Please keep messages brief and provide contact information and (if available) a web address for additional information. AGU requests formatting of e-mail messages to be as simple as possible (no bold characters (use ALL CAPS instead), no color font, or other special formatting of text and paragraphs). E-mail attachments cannot be distributed