

IACS (International Association of Cryospheric Sciences)

Activities' Report - Year 2018

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1. Introduction

The International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS) is the youngest associations inside IUGG. In 2007 during the General Assembly in Prague, IACS became the eighth IUGG association replacing the former International Commission on Snow and Ice of IAHS.

One of the main IACS objectives is to support the cryospheric sciences promoting and sponsoring workshops and symposia organized by its divisions, working groups, as well as other organizations.

NEWS: In February 2019 the new IACS website was opened: <https://cryosphericsscience.org/>

Furthermore, the IACS Bureau will post, even if on an irregular basis, a "IACS NEWSLETTER", which will report the activities of the IACS and will be downloadable in pdf format from the site itself.

2. Main activities carried on by (Union name) during 2018 relevant for Italy and for CNR

The activities carried out by the IACS in 2018 are those relating to the preparation of the XXVII IUGG General Assembly to be held in Montréal, Canada, in July 2019. The undersigned is convener of one of the IACS symposia, of which she relates in point 3. In 2018 the undersigned has been proposed as a member of the nomination panel for the positions of the "bureau" for 2019-2023, which is reported in point 3. Both of these activities see the participation of an Italian researcher for the first time.

3. Activities carried on by (Italian Delegate name) within the Union during 2018 and impact on the Italian scientific community

Also in 2018 the information related to IUGG / IACS and the possibilities of support from IUGG and IACS were sent to the Italian glaciological scientific community (Italian Glaciological Committee). The IACS newsletters have been forwarded to the Italian glaciological community. On these occasions the possibility of individually enrolling in the IACS has been renewed.

Moreover, as already mentioned above, there are two main activities completed in 2018. The first was to propose an IACS symposium at the XXVII IUGG General Assembly. The symposium entitled C06 - "New frontiers in paleoclimate reconstructions and proxy interpretations from ice cores" (<http://iugg2019montreal.com/c.html>), which sees the undersigned as convener and Anais Orsi (France), Nancy Bertler (New Zealand) and T.J. Fudge (USA) as co-conveners, was approved as part of the IACS symposia proposed to the IUGG. The second activity was to participate in the nomination panel for the positions to be filled within the IACS bureau for the period 2019-2023. The nomination panel, composed of Ralf Greve, Samuel Morin and the undersigned, evaluated the proposals received and selected a list of candidates for the positions of President Elect, General Secretary, Vice Presidents, and Division Heads. This list will be presented to the IACS Plenary Administrative Meeting in Montreal in July 2019.

Both of these activities, which see the participation of an Italian researcher for the first time, certainly give international visibility to the Italian scientific community, which has been dealing for several years now with research related to the cryosphere. The repercussions are essentially linked to the possibility for the Italian scientific community to highlight its expertise and to create new international collaborations.

4. Evaluation of the participation in terms of benefits and membership cost

As I have already observed in previous reports, the involvement and sponsorship of events by the IACS, as happened in 2017, is of fundamental importance to enhance the activities of the Italian scientific community at an international level.

5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement

The possibility of registering for free at the IACS starting from February 2017 has certainly brought about greater involvement of the Italian scientific community. The presentation of a symposium by an Italian convener will certainly lead to greater participation of the Italian glaciological community at the XXVII IUGG General Assembly with the possibility of financing, at least in part, young researchers for their participation in the General Assembly in Canada.

The creation of new working groups within one of the five divisions currently existing, or the participation in existing ones, which at the moment do not see the presence of Italians, could increase the involvement of the scientific community.

6. Italian experts with important roles within the Union or within related Commissions and Programs (if known)

There are no Italian experts with apical roles inside the IACS but there are experts in other related programmes as reported in the following: Carlo Barbante, Delegate CNR in IASC (International Arctic Science Committee) and Giovanni Macelloni, Alternate Italian Delegate in IACS/IUGG and Member of the Italian Scientific National Commission of Antarctica (CSNA) and member of the Cryonet Team of the Global Cryosphere Watch - of WMO (GCW-WMO).

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7. If Union with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2018 CNR Commission activities

The undersigned has participated by email in the various activities and requests by the CNR-IUGG Commission, including support for the candidacy of two Italian researchers for the award of the "Early Career Scientist Award (ECSA)" and for the awarding of the "Gold Medal" in relation to IUGG Calls.


8. Notes

None

9. Conclusions

The possibility to register for free at the IACS and the launch of a new website and a newsletter, which shows the main activities of the IACS as well as the possibility of supporting young researchers, will certainly lead to a greater involvement of the Italian scientific community.

Signature



Venezia, 19/06/2019