

Summary of CL business meeting

(Division Business Meeting for Climate: Past, Present & Future (CL))

Wednesday, 5 May 2010, Austria Centre Vienna: Room 13, 12:15-13:30

The meeting was attended by around 35 people, and was chaired by the division president, Denis Didier Rousseau (DDR). The meeting began with a minute's silence in memory of CL members who had died in the last year. Much of the meeting consisted of the president's report, with comments from members.

1. Thanks: DDR conveyed first the division's thanks to Gerald Ganssen, who has served as CL division president, EGU Chair, and founding Co-Chief-Editor of Climate of the Past (CP). Gerald is now stepping down from any of these roles, and we owe him a lot for developing the Union and Division.
2. Structure of the CL Division: In the last year, DDR has restructured the sessions and would like to restructure the division in the same way, as 4 parts (a) Past Climate, (b) Present Climate, (c) Future Climate, (d) Tools for Climate Studies. He would welcome volunteers to work with him in each of these areas, as well as people to develop the divisional website and its outreach activities. Contact him at denis.rousseau@lmd.ens.fr to volunteer. There will also need to be new chairs of the award committees, replacing André Berger for the Milankovitch committee and Jean Jouzel for the Oeschger committee (a candidate has been approached for the latter but has not yet agreed).
3. Awards: Rachel Pike and Katerina Goubanova had won the Young Scientist Outstanding Poster Prizes, but they did not attend the business meeting. Diplomas will be mailed by the EGU executive secretary
4. Meeting statistics: Out of a total of 13928 abstracts submitted to EGU 2010, 1140 (8.2%) were in sessions led by CL (and a further 329 in co-organised sessions led by other divisions. CL was involved in 53 sessions (of a total 543). CL is the fourth largest division in these respects (after NH, HS, AS), and the continued strength of CL is welcome. Attendance shows a pleasing breadth of nationalities, with 95 countries represented.

Within the CL-led sessions, 354 presentations (31%) were oral (compared to 32% for the General Assembly as a whole). Most sessions had just a single (6-talk) oral slot, and it was also possible to have poster-only sessions for the first time. Such option should be encouraged in the next meetings

Apart from the statistics highlighted above, DDR also pointed out:

- (a) The new organisation of the programme into 4 subsections, held in 4 rooms together on the ground floor. He had received positive feedback about this, and especially about the greater clarity of the 4-subsection programme.
- (b) The Great Debate about human influence on climate had been extremely

well-attended and well-managed. It was webstreamed, hence available for others to see.

(c) A special session on trapped gases in ice cores had been held to honour the memory of Jean Marc Barnola.

(d) CL had participated in the GIFT programme for teachers.

5. General Assembly and Union issues: New this year had been the geocinema, a blog, and a presence on twitter and Facebook, and the attempt to reserve the fifth time block each day for posters only. A web address for complaints and suggestions about the assembly is available (<http://tinyurl.com/EGU2010Feedback>). The newly elected EGU president is Don Dingwell, with Hans Thybo re-elected as general secretary. A new office is being set up in Munich, and Mary Gagen will take up the role of Executive secretary there in the summer. New webpages are online or being constructed, run by Copernicus. Finally, while the next Assembly (2010) is in Vienna, a decision will be made later in the week whether the following ones should be at Vienna or Copenhagen. It was voted the following Friday during the second council meeting that EGU will remain in Vienna until 2014
6. EGU 2011: DDR would welcome ideas for the skeleton CL programme for 2011 as soon as possible. He will then include them in a skeleton programme before the general session call goes out. An email was sent to all conveners and co-conveners.
7. Nominations for medals and awards: A call is out for nominations for the Oeschger and Milankovitch medals (deadline June 15th). (Note for information: the 2010 winners were Jim Hays (Milankovitch) and Françoise Gasse (Oeschger)). The division may also nominate one candidate for an outstanding young scientist award (rule, obtained Ph D within last 5 years and be 35 years or younger). From next year, the Union will choose 3 of these nominations to receive Union Young Scientist awards, and the remainder will receive divisional awards. Before nominating people please check the rules and procedures on the EGU web pages, and then nominate for senior medals to awards.medals@egu.eu, or for the young scientists to DDR (denis.rousseau@lmd.ens.fr).
8. CP report presented by Hugues Goosse as chief among the Chief Editors for the last year. Thorsten Kiefer will be the new chief for the next year. CP covers a wide range of topics, where past climate is involved. The number of papers in both CPD (discussion papers) and CP (peer reviewed final papers) had increased in 2009. Ideas for special issues are welcome (contact any Chief Editor), especially for the sessions organized in EGU Vienna. We expect an excellent impact factor to be announced in the next few weeks, putting CP among the top journals in its topic area. A question was asked about central payment of page charges: this has been arranged by some funding agencies (especially in Germany and France), and it would be excellent if further arrangements could be made.

9. Election of CP President: Candidates may be nominated by 20th August 2010, with an election in November 2010. DDR will stand for a second term, but of course other nominations are welcome. There is also a call for nominations for EGU General Treasurer.
10. EGU topical conferences: These are a new opportunity for the divisions to develop scientific activities. Those agreed will receive 5000 Euros from EGU as seed money for organisation.
11. Comments from members: The new structure of CL sessions was praised. An opinion was expressed that we should try to get more sessions covering deeper time periods. There was a discussion about the oral/poster split. There did not seem to be a huge problem, but if the size of the meeting increases still further, there will be pressure on poster space as well. The possibility of poster introduction sessions was discussed, though there was no universal support for these.
12. DDR closed the meeting by thanking members for attending, and hoping to see everyone at EGU 2011 in Vienna, probably in the first week of April 2011.

Notes taken by Eric Wolff (University of Cambridge)