

GEO EGU NEWS

Results of the EGU Autumn 2013 elections

The EGU election for the next EGU President/Vice-President and General Secretary closed on 1 December.

Hans Thybo was elected as the EGU President/Vice-President for the term 2014–2018. He will be inaugurated during the EGU Plenary Meeting on 28 April 2014 in Vienna, Austria. The elected candidate will serve as Vice-President (President-Elect) for the first year, then as the Union President for the next two years and finally as Vice-President (Past-President) for the fourth year, with the terms starting and ending at the General Assembly Plenary Meeting.

Mioara Mandea was re-elected as the EGU General Secretary for the term 2014-2016. She will also be inaugurated during the EGU Plenary Meeting in Vienna.

In total, we received 1272 ballot papers. The EGU is grateful to all those who used their voting right. Active participation in elections



ensures continuation of the well-established bottom-up structure of our Union!

An earlier version of this article was published on the EGU website.

Communicate Your Science Video Competition

Want to communicate your research to a wider audience and try your hand at video production? Now's your chance! Young scientists pre-registered for the EGU 2014 General Assembly are invited to take part in the EGU's first ever Communicate Your Science Video Competition!

What we're looking for

The aim is to produce a video up-to-three-minutes long to share your research with the general public. Your video can include scenes of you out in the field and explaining an outcrop, or at the lab bench showing how to work out water chemistry; entries can also be cartoons, animations (including stop motion), or music videos - you name it! As long as you're explaining concepts in the Earth, planetary and space sciences in a language suitable for a general audience, you can be as creative as you like.

How to enter

Video files should be sent to Sara Mynott (mynott@egu.eu) by Friday 21 March 2014, together with proof of online pre-registration to EGU 2014. Videos must be submitted in one of the file formats supported by YouTube (.MOV, .MPEG4, .AVI, .WMV, .MPEGPS .FLV, 3GPP and WebM) and be no longer than 3 minutes. The aim is to be creative, concise, and to communicate geoscience effectively.

Selecting finalists

The judging panel will select up to 10 shortlisted videos which will be showcased on the EGU YouTube Channel for public voting in April 2014. In the run up to the General Assembly and during the conference, viewers can vote for their favourite film by clicking on the video's 'like' button. The winning video will be the one with the most likes by the end of the General Assembly.

What you can win

The winning entry will be announced during the conference and the winner will receive a free registration to the General Assembly

What are you waiting for? Take the chance to showcase your research and spread great geoscientific facts with the world!

This information was originally published on the EGU website.

Welcome to a new Imaggeo!

The EGU's open access geoscience image repository has a new and improved home at imaggeo.egu.eu. We have redesigned the website to give the database a more modern, image-based layout and have implemented a fully responsive page design. This means the new website adapts to the visitor's screen size and looks good on any device (smartphones, tablets, laptops or desktops).

But it is not only the new design that makes Imaggeo look great. The database draws from all geoscientists and photographers who have submitted incredible images (and, more recently, short videos) to Imaggeo over the years. We encourage everyone to upload their own geoscience images to the website to make the database even richer

As it was the case in the past, all Imaggeo material is copyrighted under a Creative Commons licence, meaning it is owned by the individual creators who originally uploaded it to the database. In the new website, users interested in submitting photographs or videos will be able to choose from a variety of attribution licences. Users can now also connect to Imaggeo through their social media accounts (Twitter, Facebook, Google Plus and LinkedIn).

Despite extensive testing, as with any newly launched website, the new Imaggeo is bound to have some bugs and glitches. If you find any problems, please report them to the EGU Webmaster and System Administrator Robert Barsch at webmaster@egu.eu.

Imaggeo Photo Competition

From 1 February until 23:59 on 1 March, pre-registered participants to the Assembly can submit photos and moving images to the annual Imaggeo Photo Competition. The finalist images will soon be selected by a panel of judges and will be exhibited at the EGU 2014 General Assembly. Each participant of the Assembly can then vote for up to three of their favourite exhibited photos using voting terminals set up next to the exhibition area. The public voting takes place from 8 am on Monday to midnight on Thursday. The votes are counted automatically and the three photographs with the highest number of votes are the winners. The winning photos are awarded during the lunch break on Friday.

An earlier version of this article was published on the EGU website.



The new Imaggeo website has a responsive design, which adapts to the visitor's screen size. (Credit: André Roquette)

More information

Imaggeo is the EGU's online open access geosciences image repository. All geoscientists (and others) can submit their photographs and videos to this repository and, since it is open access, these images can be used for free by scientists for their presentations or publications, by educators and the general public, and some images can even be used freely for commercial purposes.

All the material in this database is copyrighted under a Creative Commons Attribution licence, which means that Imaggeo content is owned by the individual creators and that they must always be credited when their content is used. People interested in submitting material to Imaggeo can also choose a more restrictive licence, such as Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial ShareAlike licence.

The EGU would like to thank Konstantinos Kourtidis for coming up with the idea for Imaggeo and for designing and coordinating the database from 2007–2013. We also thank André Roquette for designing the new website and Robert Barsch for implementing it.

New EGU journal SOIL to be launched at the 2014 General Assembly

SOIL (www.soil-journal.net), the newest interactive and open access journal of the EGU, is dedicated to the publication and discussion of high-quality research in the field of soil system sciences. It will open for submissions in May 2014, following the journal's official launch at the EGU 2014 General Assembly.

SOIL is at the interface between the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere. It publishes scientific research that contributes to understanding the soil system and its interaction with humans and the entire Earth system. The scope of the journal includes all topics that fall within the study of soil science as a



discipline, with emphasis on studies that integrate soil science with other sciences (such as hydrology, agronomy, socio-economics, health sciences and atmospheric sciences).

"We're really looking forward to launching SOIL because it will provide a unique platform for the publication of soil work within a broad and multi-disciplinary context. We are also particularly excited about EGU's two-stage open access and discussion process, which allows for a dynamic and interactive peer-review and publication process," says Managing Editor Johan Six. "We are grateful for the support provided by Copernicus Publications and the EGU Publications Committee."

With SOIL, the EGU now publishes a suite of 16 peer-reviewed open access journals through Copernicus Publications. Like the majority of these journals, SOIL is an interactive two-stage journal with public peer-review and interactive public discussion. The discussion and peer-review of submitted papers are handled in an open access discussion forum (SOIL Discussions, SOILD), while final papers, upon acceptance, will appear in SOIL.

The journal will be officially launched at the EGU General Assembly, taking place in Vienna, Austria from 27 April to 2 May 2014.

An earlier version of this article was published on the EGU website.

Earth System Dynamics indexed in the Science Citation Index Expanded

Thomson Reuters has announced that they will include the EGU-Copernicus journal Earth System Dynamics (ESD) in their Web of Science/ISI listings following the completion of their assessment of the quality, characteristics and flow of papers published in the journal since its launch in 2010. This is terrific news that highlights the tremendous work of the editorial board and, more importantly, the trust of the scientific community to submit excellent articles to ESD.

Thomson Reuters will include all issues of the journal in their databases and will announce ESD's first impact factor in June 2014. The journal's chief editors are grateful to all authors, referees, editors and Copernicus Publications for helping make the journal a success.

An earlier version of this article was published on the ESD website.

Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics becomes interactive

Nonlinear Processes in Geophysics (NPG), an EGU–Copernicus publication, is transitioning from an open access journal with a traditional review process into an interactive open access journal applying the public peer-review and interactive public discussion concept.

Since its launch in 1994, NPG followed the traditional single stage publication process. From 2014 on, all new submissions will undergo a two-stage publication process with the publication of an

access-reviewed discussion paper (NPG Discussions) as the first stage and a final-revised journal article publication in NPG as the second stage. Only papers that successfully pass the open discussion involving publicly accessible reviewer comments will finally be published in NPG.

An earlier version of this article was published on the NPG website.

GIFT teachers and EGU scientists: apply now to take part in I'm a Geoscientist, Get me out of here!

The EGU are funding a European-wide educational project to provide school students with the opportunity to meet and interact with real scientists.

Imagine a talent show where contestants get voted off depending on their skills in their area of choice. Then imagine that this talent show is populated by scientists with school students voting them off based on the scientist's ability to communicate their research well. This is the basis of the EGU's new educational initiative to launch in June 2014.

The EGU have entered into a collaboration with Gallomanor, a UK company that runs the events I'm a Scientist (Get me out of here) and I'm an Engineer (Get me out of here). The EGU are now funding a European-wide sister project called I'm a Geoscientist (Get me out of here) where we provide school students with the opportunity to meet and interact with real geoscientists!

The event takes the form of an online chat forum using an innovative online platform designed especially for this event. School students log on and post questions to the scientists taking part, ranging from questions about their research to their favourite music. The scientists then log on and answer those questions. Based on their answers, students get to vote out scientists until there is one left – the best scientific communicator – who wins €500 for a new publicengagement project of their choice.

The primary objective of the event is to change students' attitudes to the geosciences and make them feel it's something they can relate to and discuss in a rapidly changing world. Students have fun, but also get beyond stereotypes, learn about how science relates to real life, develop their thinking and discussion skills and make connections with real scientists. Giving students some real power (deciding where the prize money goes) also makes the event more real for them. The student who interacts the most with scientists and asks the most insightful questions will also win a €20 gift voucher.

Our launch event is taking place from the 16th to 27th June 2014. If you would like to apply as a teacher or a scientist see the details below – the **deadline for all applications is 17th March 2014**.

Teachers

To apply to take part in the event go to imageoscientist.eu/teachers and fill in the simple online form for teachers. Applications are open to all teachers who have taken part in a GIFT event (at any time). Successful teachers will be notified by the 24th March. You will need to use some class time before the event to prepare your students, but we have flexible lesson plans already prepared to help you keep the class time used to a minimum.

To take part you need to be able to devote at least 2 hours (it doesn't matter when, and the maximum you will need is 5 hours) for those

two weeks to ready your students for interacting with the scientists and take part in some online discussion – and of course you will have to have reliable internet access. The entire event will be conducted in English, so you and your class will also need a basic understanding of and ability to write questions to scientists in English. Why not team up with your school's English department and use the event as a language learning exercise as well? If you choose to do this, make sure that the teacher who has been involved with GIFT in the past is the one who formally registers.

Scientists

For scientists, this is a unique opportunity to get involved with some public engagement from the comfort of your own home or lab computer, in your own time. You can build up your skills in talking about your research to varied audiences, tick the box for public engagement in your funding proposals, gain an understanding of how the public relate to research and, importantly, help inspire the next generation about the geosciences.

The potential of winning the €500 prize for further public engagement is also attractive. A public engagement activity could involve: buying equipment to allow a research oceanography vessel to communicate with school students during expeditions, funding an open day for communities living in a disaster area to find out about natural hazards research and get advice, giving the money to a school in Uganda to pay for science kits and a projector to watch science films on or buying a quadcopter to film inside the rim of a volcano and help school children understand their local natural environment.

To apply to take part in the event go to imageoscientist.eu/geoscientists and fill in the simple online form for scientists. Applications are open to all EGU members (if you are not a member you can register on the EGU website) from across Europe. Once applications close, we will ask the registered school classes to judge the scientist applications and chose the final 5 scientists who will get to take part in the final event. Successful scientists will be notified by the 7th April.

To take part you need to be able to devote around an hour a day (it doesn't matter when, but if you can devote more time that is always better) for those two weeks to answer the questions posed by the students – and of course you will have to have reliable internet access. The entire event will be conducted in English, so you will also need to be able to confidently understand and communicate in English.

If you have any other questions about the event email Jane Robb at robb@egu.eu or info@egu.eu.

An earlier version of this article was published on the EGU blog.