



International Union for Quaternary Research

<http://www.inqua.org>

Summary of activities for 2015

OVERALL OBJECTIVES

The International Union for Quaternary Science (INQUA) was established in 1928 and exists to encourage and facilitate the research of Quaternary scientists in all disciplines. To this end:

- Five Commissions (Coastal & Marine Processes; Humans & the Biosphere; Palaeoclimates; Stratigraphy & Chronology; Terrestrial Processes, Deposits & History) provide leadership in different spheres of research, and are responsible for ensuring that INQUA scientists remain at the forefront of their fields.
- INQUA is committed to promoting collaborations among scientists around the world. It places special emphasis on assisting early career and developing country researchers to become involved in international projects.
- The Executive awards grants for running meetings to assist in planning such projects.
- INQUA continues to encourage Quaternary associations around the world to join its more than 50 national and regional Members in an on-going bid to be all-inclusive.

ORGANIZATION

- *Members (national/geographic members)*
- *International Council (comprising one delegate from each Member, meets at the Congress every four years)*
- *General Assembly (meets at the Congress every four years)*

- *Executive Committee (meet annually with the Commission Presidents. Beginning year officers and their mid-year replacements are listed.*

President: Dr Margaret Avery(R.S.A.)/Dr Allan Ashworth(U.S.A.)
 Secretary-General: Dr Julius Lejju (Uganda) /Dr Brian Chase (France)
 Treasurer: Dr Marie-France Loutre (Belgium)/ continuing
 Vice-Presidents: Dr Fabrizio Antonioli (Italy) /Dr. Thijs van Kolfschoten (Holland)
 Dr Franck Audemard (Venezuela)/ continuing
 Professor John Lowe (U.K.)/Dr. Ashok Singhvi (India)
 Professor Koji Okumura (Japan)/ Dr Guo Zhengtang(China)
 Past-President: Professor Allan Chivas (Australia)/ Dr Margaret Avery (R.S.A.)

- *Commissions Presidents (meet annually with members of the Executive Committee)*

Coastal and Marine Processes (CMP) Roland Gehrels (U.K.)/Craig Sloss (Australia)
 Humans and the Biosphere (HABCOM) Nicki Whitehouse (U.K.)
 Palaeoclimate (PALCOMM) Sandy Harrison (U.K.) /Atte Korhola (Finland)
 Stratigraphy and Chronology (SACCOM) Phil Gibbard (U.K.) /Mauro Coltorti (Italy)
 Terrestrial Processes, Deposits and History (TERPRO) Alessandro Michetti (Italy)

FINANCES

Summary Treasurer's Report 31st December 2015

	EXPENDITURE	INCOME
	EUR	EUR
Opening balance 1 Jan 2015		375931.45
Membership fees 2015		132956.72
Membership fees 2014		12704.99
Membership fees 2013		2585.44
Quaternary International (Elsevier)		107722.07
Meeting ExecComm – Nagoya 2015	18637.94	
Meeting ExCom – Cape Town 2015	17,869.37	
Meeting ExCom – Washington 2016	1620.08	

Attendance at other meetings	342.98	
XIX INQUA Congress (grants)	318895.13	
INQUA membership of ICSU	3497.00	
Project funding	76779.68.49	
Bank costs / interest	5959.59	1337.87
Others	4105.82	
Balance at 31st Dec 2015		194334.93

PROJECTS FUNDED FOR 2015

Project No.	Title	Leader(s)
CMP		
1203P	MEDFLOOD: MEDiterranean sea level change and projection for future FLOODing	Rovere et al.
1301F	PALSEA2 (PALeo-constraints on SEA-level rise2)	Long et al.
HABCOM		
1402P	African Large Carnivores: impacts on ecosystems and humans interactions	Mwebi & Brugal
1403P	Modeling human settlement, fauna and flora dynamics in Europe during the Mid-Pleistocene Revolution (1.2 to 0.4 Ma).	Rodríguez et al.
1404P	Cultural and palaeoenvironmental changes in Late Glacial to Middle Holocene Europe: gradual or sudden?	Robinson & Riede
1406P	Palaeoanthropological Perspectives on Past Vegetation Using Phytoliths at Prehistoric Sites in South India and Sri Lanka	Akhilesh et al.
1501P	Evolution of ground squirrels (<i>Spermophilus</i>) and the Late-Mid Quaternary Environment of the Northern Black Sea Area: ground squirrels on the march	Popova
1502P	Reconstructing hunter-gatherer mobility: building new inter-disciplinary frameworks in the Quaternary.	Sykes et al.

1503S	Quaternary palaeo-environment and Archaeology in Uganda. Enhancing Skills and Local Capacity.	Lejju & Kyazike
PALCOMM		
302P	SHAPE: Southern Hemisphere Assessment of PalaeoEnvironments	Lorrey & Phipps
1303P	Holocene Global Peatland Carbon Dynamics: Community-Wide Data Synthesis and Modeling Initiatives	Yu et al.
1408F	Investigating Past Ocean Dynamics (IPODS)	Skinner et al
1504S	Summer School in Speleothem Science	Kaushal & Owen
TERPRO		
1216P	RAISIN: Rates of soil forming processes obtained from soils and paleosols in well-defined settings	Sauer et al
1217P	AEOMED: Loess occurrences and dust additions to current surface soils and paleosols in Mediterranean climate	Amit et al
1226F	Hazards and humans	Leroy
1228F	Palaeoseismology and active tectonics (PALACTE)	Silva et al
1309F	G@GPS: Groundwater and Global Palaeoclimate Signals	Chen, Haldorsen et al
1311P	SAQUINT	Kröhling
SKILLS ENHANCEMENT		
1506S	Advance preparation for Summer School and ECR Conference on Using observations and modeling to understand past climate changes	Harrison & Singarayer

SUMMARY OF 2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The highly successful XIX International Congress was held in Nagoya, Japan, from 26th July to 2nd August under the chairmanship of Yoshiki Saito. There were 1789 registered participants from 68 countries, which is the highest number ever. A highlight of the Congress was the much appreciated presence at the Opening Ceremony of Their Imperial Majesties, the Emperor and Empress of Japan.

The Sir Nicholas Shackleton Medal was awarded to Robert Kopp and the The Liu Tungsheng Medal Distinguished Career Medal to Ann Wintle. The new INQUA Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to Nat Rutter.

- After a close-fought bidding process the International Council voted in favour of Dublin as the venue for the XX Congress, which will take place in 2019.
- During the congress new officers were elected. On the Executive Committee, Allan Ashworth replaces Margaret Avery as president. Margaret continues as past president. Brian Chase replaces Julius Lejju as secretary-general. Marie-France Loutre continues as Treasurer. Of the vice-presidents, John Lowe, Fabrizio Antonioli, and Koji Okumura were replaced by Thijs van Kolfshoten, Ashok Singhvi and Guo Zhengtang. Franck Audemard continues for a second term as vice-president. There was also turnover in the commissions with Craig Sloss replacing Roland Gehrels in CMP, Atte Korhola replacing Sandy Harrison in PALCOM, and Mauro Coltorti replacing Phil Gibbard in SACCOM. Nicki Whitehouse and Alessandro Michetti continue to serve HABCOM and TERPRO, respectively
- As a Full Scientific Union Member of ICSU, INQUA is making an increasing contribution to this body through its membership of the GeoUnions sub-group. It is making plans to become involved in the Future Earth programme, to which it can make important contributions. Allan Ashworth is currently the Vice-Chair of the GeoUnions
- The five INQUA Commissions (<http://www.inqua.org/aboutCommissions.html>) are extremely active, setting research priorities, and encouraging and overseeing the submission of applications for INQUA funding. For more information contact the INQUA Commission Presidents directly or the Secretary General, Dr Brian Chase (brian.chase@univ-montp2.fr)
- There are three categories of funded grants. The original category, Projects, supports researchers working on a single topic to meet. The second category helps support the work of International Focus Groups, which cover a broader area of science than do individual Projects. Skills Enhancement grants reflect a commitment by INQUA to support Early Career and Developing Nation Researchers. Additionally, projects can be approved by INQUA but receive no funding.
- The website (<http://www.inqua.org/>) is regularly updated and plans are underway for major revision. It contains information on all aspects of the Union, including the INQUA brochure, names

of all office bearers and National Members as well as INQUA's newsletter (*Quaternary Perspectives*) and links to the journal (*Quaternary International*), Commission activities and INQUA projects. The INQUA website also includes information about INQUA meetings and aims to be a useful tool for all scientists that work within the different INQUA bodies. The Commissions have separate Home Pages, which are linked to the central INQUA Home Page.

- The Early Career Researchers Committee (<http://www.inqua.org/ecr.html>) was formally recognized as an INQUA component by the International Council at its meeting in Nagoya. In future, the ECR Committee Chairman will meet annually with the Executive. The Committee has the aim of representing the ECR community and promoting the joint interests of this community and of INQUA. The Committee comprises members from each Commission and was chaired by Jenn Marlon until mid-year when Sallie Burrough took over. The ECRC has been very active in developing contact with young researchers and proved its importance in forming a link between ECRs and the Executive. ECR group members have taken over editorship of *Quaternary Perspectives* under the guidance of an appointed member of the Executive.
- A regular briefing is sent to the National and Regional delegates of the International Council to keep them updated on business and proposals emanating from the work of the INQUA Executive Committee. These newly introduced briefings are intended to ensure that delegates are familiar with topics to be discussed at meetings of the International Council and to provide a conduit for delegates to raise important matters with the INQUA Executive Committee.

PUBLICATIONS

Quaternary International (QI)

Editor in Chief: Min-Te Chen, INQUA Executive liason: Vice-President Thijs van Kolfschoten

A new editorial team was appointed to take over from mid-year upon the retirement of Norm Catto.

This comprises Editor-in-Chief Mi-Te Chen and Associate Editors Barbara Mauz (Coastal & Marine Processes), Florent Rivals (Humans & Biosphere), Zhonghui Liu (Palaeoclimates), Alessandra Negri (Stratigraphy & Chronology) and Asfawossen Asrat (Terrestrial processes, Deposits & History).

Quaternary International (<http://www.journals.elsevier.com/quaternary-international/>), published jointly by Elsevier and INQUA, provides service to the global Quaternary community. In 2015, the

journal published 36 volumes with a total of 733 papers (including editorials, discussion/reply pieces, short notes, etc.). The current impact factor (IF) is 2,062 (5-year, 2.481).

Quaternary Perspectives (QP)

Editor: Editor: Koji Okumura (to mid-year); Margaret Avery (from mid-year). Associate Editors: Lyudmila (Lucy) Shumilovskikh and Lorna Linch. INQUA's popular newsletter is published twice a year online and is available at <http://www.inqua.org/publicationsQuatPersp.html>.



Margaret Avery

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