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Meeting Report from Brian Fraser

I attended the Assembly of Society Officers of the American Institute of Physics on 7 April 2005 in Washington, D.C., and gave a verbal, five minute presentation on the eGY (cribbed from the presentations on the www.egy.org site). Two of the participants looked me up after the session and wanted more details. Fred Spilhaus, AGU Executive Director, was there and again expressed his keen interest in developing a lasting eGY-AGU partnership.

Received from Brian.Fraser@newcastle.edu.au

**eGY Activities in New Orleans, 24 May 2005:
Learn More About eGY and What it Can Do for You**

Sessions:

eGY will be sponsoring a Union Session on Tuesday, 24 May at the Joint Assembly in New Orleans. The session is entitled “eGY: e-Science for Geoscience.” Oral papers will be presented at 10:30 in room CC 243. Poster papers will be presented in the afternoon. Invited speakers are:

- C. Barton: The eGY
- E. de Mulder: Cooperation between Planet Earth and the other International Years
- S.J. Cox: Geospatial Services Standards
- E. CoBabe-Ammann: Connecting Virtual Observatories to Teachers, World Wide
- B.J. Thompson: Virtual Observatories and the eGY
- R. Baird: Personal Reflections

General Business Meeting:

There will be an eGY Meeting starting at 4:30 PM in the Balcony J Room of the Marriott Hotel. At this meeting, we

will review the current status and plans for eGY, including our participation in the IPY, and plans for a broad solicitation for participation in eGY. The final agenda will be distributed later.

EPO Lunch:

There will be a working lunch to discuss EPO plans for eGY and IHY, Tuesday, 24 May, 12:15-1:15, in the Education and Student Lounge, which is located next to the Career Center, in the back of the Convention Center Exhibit Hall (Level 1, Exhibit Hall B).

Received from Bill.Peterson@LASP.Colorado.edu

Connecting the Virtual Observatories to Teachers

Part of the eGY educational program involves a web portal that connects teachers (in a controlled way) to the data of the VOs. We are looking for three Virtual Observatories that are interested in partnering in this effort and are particularly interested in those whose intellectual theme parallels those of any of the I*Ys.

Received from ecobabe@lasp.colorado.edu

Recent UNESCO Actions

It is my pleasure to inform you about an important step taken towards UN proclamation of the International Year of Planet Earth. On April 28th, 2005 the 171st meeting of UNESCO’s Executive Board adopted nem.con. (with no vote against) a Draft Resolution, tabled by the Permanent Delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania. This Draft Resolution invites UNESCO’s Director General to support all efforts leading to the United Nations General Assembly

to declare 2007 the International Year of Planet Earth. In that meeting fourteen nations (Tanzania, Brazil, China, Ukraine, Algeria, Morocco, Russian Federation, Mozambique, Germany, Swaziland, Rwanda, Senegal, Mauritius, and Canada) voiced their full support to this initiative.

The next step will follow soon by tabling the International Year of Planet Earth on the Agenda of UNESCO's General Conference for October 2005 and by tabling a Draft Resolution for the UN General Assembly.

Eduardo F.J. de Mulder
Chairman of the Management Team of the International Year of Planet Earth

Received from e.demulder@planet.nl

["eGY for IPY" Solicited Presentation to the EGU Session on IPY \(Vienna, 4/27\)](#)

As all of you know, eGY was invited to give a presentation at the 2005 European Geosciences Union Assembly Session US5 "The International Polar Year 2007-2008," on April 27, 2005, in Vienna, Austria. The presentation, entitled "e-Science for Geoscience: Preparing for the International Polar Year (2007-2008) with the 'Electronic Geophysical Year' Initiative," was authored by V. Papitashvili, D. Baker, C. Barton, W. Peterson, and the eGY Team.

The presentation went very well, with an interesting comment made from the audience by a very young person. "Sir, doesn't your VO software look like a music-sharing, peer-to-peer network called Napster?" I happily confirmed, "Yes, it does... but to share scientific data."

Marissa Rusinek has put the (actually presented) PPT file on the www.egy.org site. Please feel free to download it from the "Presentations" page.

Received from papita@umich.edu

[IPY Joint Committee Presentation by Mark Parsons](#)

Mark Parsons gave an overview presentation of eGY and its relationship with the IPY at the IPY Open Consultative Forum on 11 March 2005. The presentation is available for download on the eGY website on the "Presentations" page.

Received from parsonsm@nsidc.org

[Are you getting multiple copies of the eGY Newsletter?](#)

The reason is because you are signed up for more than one of the three Tiers of the eGY e-mail lists. The three-tiered nature of the eGY e-mail distribution lists is explained on the eGY web site (<http://www.egy.org/maillist.html>). Basically if you want to rapidly distribute messages to members of one of the e-mail tiers, you have to be signed up for that tier. If you do not regularly post to these e-mail lists, you should sign up for only one. Your choices are:

Tier 1: for those who wish to receive general business correspondence, all notices, and all newsletters (e.g., Task Group/Executive)

Tier 2: for those who wish to receive copies of main items of communication, and all notices and newsletters.

Tier 3: for those who wish to receive only the main notices and newsletters.

Received from Bill.Peterson@LASP.Colorado.edu

[eGY Fliers](#)

We now have 500 eGY fliers printed in color on high quality paper. These are available to hand out at meetings. Contact Bill.Peterson@lasp.colorado.edu if you would like to distribute them at meetings you attend.

Received from Bill.Peterson@LASP.Colorado.edu

[IEOS Public Engagement Workshop, Washington DC, 9-10 May 2005](#)

An Integrated Earth Observation Systems (IEOS) is being developed as the US contribution to the Global Earth Observing System of Systems (GEOSS). The strategic plan for IEOS (see <http://iwgeo.ssc.nasa.gov>) was developed by an Inter-agency Working Group comprising 17 US Federal agencies. The purpose of the Public Engagement Workshop is to engage the broader community in the implementation of IEOS. C. Barton and V. Papitashvili will attend to represent eGY and IUGG interests. A report on the outcomes will appear in the next newsletter.

Received from charles.barton@anu.edu.au

Editor: Marissa.Rusinek@lasp.colorado.edu; 2005-05-05