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eGY News No. 27

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eGY General Meeting, Boulder, Colorado, March 5-6

The *e*GY 2008 general meeting will be at the NCAR Mesa Laboratory on March 5-6. Maps, including a hotel locator, are at: <u>http://www.ucar.edu/org/bouldermap.shtml</u>.

eGY has made a substantial difference energizing activity all over the world. To ensure we capitalize on the enthusiasm, capabilities and commitment of the eGY community, I encourage you to attend.

A draft agenda is on the *e*GY web site (<u>www.egy.org</u>). Receptions are planned for the evenings of March 4 and 5. If you are planning on attending the meeting and/or receptions please notify <u>Bill.Peterson@lasp.colorado.edu</u>.

Received from bill.peterson@lasp.colorado.edu

eGY Activities in Houston

The SEG and IYPE sponsored a VIP Breakfast on Oct 26 to discuss and brain-bust for the Geophysical Years, including the Electronic Geophysical Year: http://bairdpetro.com/egy/VIP.htm

The results of the VIP Breakfast were additional networking and an October 2008 GSA meeting to be held in Houston. eGY participants are encouraged to get involved and help plan this event.

 $Received \ from \ ralph@bairdpetro.com$

IGARSS 2008 Abstract Submission Open

Abstracts are now being accepted for the International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium 2008. IGARSS'08 will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, on July 6-11, 2008. The Abstract deadline is January 7, 2008. Abstracts are encouraged from all aspects of geoscience and remote sensing including sensor technology development, phenomenological understanding, algorithm development and earth science applications. In particular, submissions are sought in the following list of topics: land use and cover mapping, wetlands, ocean color and water quality, atmospheric profiling and chemistry, cryospheric sensing, image analysis methods, data assimilation and data mining techniques, urban and coastal monitoring, microwave and optical radiative transfer modeling, microwave and optical sensor designs, UAV platforms, data management and education and policy in remote sensing. See the website (www.igarss08.org) for more details.

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Digital Library of Seismic Software

SPICE (Seismic wave Propagation and Imaging in Complex media: a European network) is a library comprising a wide range of seismological codes (wave and rupture simulation, analytical solutions, processing, visualization, and so forth), training materials, and benchmarking exercises in the field of wave and rupture propagation modeling.

SPICE is coordinated by the Geophysics Section, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich.

More information is available at: <u>http://www.spice-rtn.org/</u>.

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eGY Demonstrations at the Fall AGU Meeting

The *e*GY booth this year featured the initial releases of NASA's new Heliophysics virtual observatories, descriptions of the Global Change Master Directory, the standards-based interoperability tool, and a quick look system for displaying geospace data in KML (i.e. Google Earth) format. There was quite a bit of interaction between people involved in the various demonstrations.

Three of the presenting teams have made available standalone demonstrations that we now have on the *e*GY demonstration page (<u>http://egy.org/demoproj.php</u>):

- Using Geobrowsers for Science: Dagik: A Quick Look System of the Geospace Data in KML format, D. Yoshida, *A. Saito
- Building Community and Governance of Metadata and Ontologies within the Marine Community
- NASA's Global Change Master Directory (GCMD) illustrates *e*GY Principles

All of these are well done and informative.

Contributions to the *e*GY demonstration page are always welcome. For more information, contact Bill Peterson (bill.peterson@lasp.colorado.edu) or Peter Fox (pfox@ucar.edu).

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New Endorsements of the *e*GY Declaration

At the Fall Meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco, 15 individuals endorsed the eGY Declaration. A copy of the declaration in English, Italian, and Japanese is available at:

http://www.egy.org/declaration.php.

If you would like to add your name to the growing list of endorsees, click on the link at the bottom of the endorsements page: <u>http://www.egy.org/endorsements.php</u>.

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International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) Considers Forming a Union Commission for Data and Information

IUGG has formed a committee to consider the need for a Union Commission (or some other entity) to deal with data and information issues and liaise with similar bodies in other agencies and Unions—for example, IUGS's Commission for the Management and Application of Geoscience Information (CGI: <u>http://www.cgi-iugs.org/</u>). The committee is comprised of representatives from the IUGG associations. The committee will deliver an initial report to the IUGG Executive Committee on February 8, 2008.

Peter Fox is Chair of the Committee. Peter is a founding member of *e*GY, and is on the committees of several related bodies—AGU's Earth and Space Science Informatics group (website), EGU's nascent equivalent ESSI group, and ICSU's Scientific Committee for Information & Data (website). For more information, contact Peter at pfox@ucar.edu.

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Abstracts for AGU 2008 Joint Assembly

The 2008 Joint Assembly is being held 27–30 May 2008 at the Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center, located at 1950 Eisenhower Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The Program Committee is developing a Union-wide science program that will cover topics in all areas of geophysical sciences. Located in sunny Florida, the Joint Assembly is sure to offer exciting sessions and a relaxing atmosphere. Visa applicants from many countries must now apply at least 3 months in advance of their travel date.

There are 7 Informatics sessions to choose from.

Abstract Submission Deadline: 5 March, 2359 UT

http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja08/?content=program

 $Received \ from \ pfox@ucar.edu$

eGY Web Site

The WIKI software we installed to allow editing of the eGY website had a flaw that was exploited. We have turned off this feature so that now when you try to edit a page you get a blank screen. Until we can find more reliable WIKI software, if you have a meeting you want to put on the eGY calendar, or other item you want to add to the eGY web site, please send your inputs to Bill.Peterson@lasp.colorado.edu.

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Selected VOiG 2007 Papers to Appear in First Issue of New Springer Journal: Earth Science Informatics

The first Virtual Observatories in Geosciences conference was held in Denver, CO, in June 2007. Motivated by eGY, and sponsored by NASA, USGS, eGY, NCAR and NSF, the conference attracted over 70 participants from nine countries. Six selected articles, clustered in the area of heliophysics (a topic promoted by IHY) will appear in the very first issue of the Earth Science Informatics journal, published by Springer, in February 2008. Watch for this issue at the publication website.

Received from pfox@ucar.edu

eGY-Africa

eGY-Africa is an eGY activity to use advocacy to secure better cyberinfrastructure (Internet access) for universities and other research, education, and training institutions in Africa. The first formal eGY-Africa planning meeting took place during the IUGG General Assembly in Perugia, Italy, in July 2007. Dr. Charles Barton represented eGY at the IHY Space Weather Science and Education Workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in November. At that meeting, plans for an *e*GY-Africa initiative were enthusiastically received and further developed. The current status of the *e*GY-Africa working group is outlined on the *e*GY web site at: <u>http://www.egy.org/egyafrica.php</u>.

Professor Alem Mebrathu, Secretary of the *e*GY-Africa Working Group, is planning on attending the *e*GY General Meeting in Boulder where further plans will be made.

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*e*GY Sponsored Session at the Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting (WPGM)

In the next few weeks, AGU will announce the program of the WPGM to be held in Cairns, Australia, from 29 July to 1 August 2008. Brian Fraser, Peter Fox, Lesley Wyborn and Charles Barton are convening a session entitled "U01 Earth and Space Science Informatics Developments for the 21^{st} Century." More information about the WPGM meeting and this session will appear on the AGU website soon. *e*GY participants are encouraged to submit papers and participate in this session.

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