The International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans

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IAPSO is one of eight associations of the International Union of Geophysics (IUGG), which is constituted within the International Council for Science (ICSU)

Beyond 100:
The next century in Earth and Space Science

The 27th IUGG General Assembly will be held July 8-18, 2019 at the Palais des Congrès in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

This is a special opportunity for participants from Canada and from around the world to come together and share their science and culture.

2019 marks the 100th anniversary of IUGG; we will look back on the accomplishments of the previous century of Earth and space science research, and forward to the next century of scientific advancement. Join us for a host of scientific activities, including special public lectures, keynote Union lectures and a wide variety of themed sessions.

Website:
http://www.iugg2019montreal.com/

The next IAPSO-IAMAS-IACS Joint Assembly will be held in Busan, South Korea in 2021.
Objectives

IAPSO has the prime goal of promoting the study of scientific problems relating to the ocean and the interactions taking place at the sea floor and the coastal and atmospheric boundaries, chiefly insofar as such study may be carried out by the aid of mathematics, physics and chemistry.

IAPSO has addressed this goal through four fundamental objectives:

- Supporting formal and informal international forums permitting ready means of communication amongst ocean scientists throughout the world.
- Establishing commissions and subcommittees and organizing workshops to encourage, stimulate and co-ordinate new and advanced international research activities.
- Providing basic services significant to the conduct of physical oceanography.
- Publishing proceedings of symposia, meetings and workshops, and fundamental references on the current state of the art and knowledge of physical sciences of the oceans.

Activities

The General Assembly of IAPSO is held every other year. In the interim periods the IAPSO co-sponsored Working Groups organize meetings. IAPSO also assists in organizing, co-sponsoring and conducting symposia with other associations where there is mutual interest.

IAPSO maintains formal liaison with other scientific commissions and committees, including ICSU’s Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research (SCOR) and UNESCO’s Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC).

The Prince Albert I Medal

At the General Assemblies, IAPSO awards the Albert I Medal to a prominent scientist within the field. This award was established in 2001 by Prince Rainer of Monaco in honour of Prince Albert I, who organized the Oceanographic Section of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics in 1919. The medalists so far were Drs. Munk (2001), Wyrtki (2003), Schott (2005), Davis (2007), Bryden (2009), McDougall (2011), Gordon (2013), Yamagata (2015), Talley (2017).

The Eugene LaFond Medal

At the General Assemblies, IAPSO awards the Eugene LaFond Medal to an ocean scientist from a developing country. The selection of the award winner is based on the clarity and quality of the presentation and the significance of the research. The medalists so far were Drs. Chikina (2003), Grados (2005), Domínguez (2007), Sow (2009), Rashid (2011), Halo (2013), Ben Ismail (2015) and Durgadoor (2017).

IAPSO Commissions, Working Groups and Services

- Commission on Mean Sea Level and Tides
- Joint Committee on the Properties of Seawater (with SCOR and IAPWS)
- Tsunami Commission (Joint with IASPEI and IAVCEI)
- Permanent Service for Mean Sea Level
- IAPSO Standard Seawater Service with IUGG
- Commission on Climatic and Environmental Changes
- Commission on Mathematical Geophysics
- Commission on Geophysical Risk and Sustainability
- Commission for Data and Information
- Working Group on History

Recent SCOR/IAPSO Working Groups

- Climatic Importance of the Greater Aghulhas System
- OceanScope
- Thermodynamics and Equation of State of Seawater
- Deep Ocean Exchanges with the Shelf

See the IAPSO website for more information about IAPSO activities (http://iapso.iugg.org)