

Report of the President over 4/2014-6/2015

Since the Last Bureau meeting in Dublin during the Dooge-Nash symposium, there have been many developments. The most important landmark is that we signed an agreement with Copernicus on the future organisation of our symposia and the online open access publication of Red Books. The digital follow-up of the Red Books is the Journal "Proceedings of the International Association of Hydrological Sciences" PIAHS, which already has eight volumes on line, including the Prague HS symposia: <http://www.proceedings-international-association-of-hydrological-sciences.net/index.html>.

This also means that future meetings and workshops will be organised according to the new arrangement with Copernicus, where registration, abstract handling and open access publication of proceedings are part and parcel of a standard professional system. This is an important break with the traditional practice where every local organising committee has to re-invent the 'wheel' of convening sessions, selecting abstracts and publishing scientific proceedings. This arrangement has also led to a complete overhaul of the IAHS publications office. As a result of the retirement of Jill Gash, the resignation of Penny Perrins and the planned retirement of Cate Gardner, the IAHS office has dramatically reduced in size. Frances Watkins continues to work as Editorial Manager for the Journal of Hydrological Sciences, but the large task of providing Red Books is now almost entirely done by Copernicus. We have recently hired Claire Lupton as our Executive Secretary to support the administration of the Association and to manage our office in Wallingford.

As a result of the reduction of the size of the IAHS office, we also decided to reduce the size of the IAHS Ltd. Board. I have asked Des Walling to remain the Chair until the next IAHS Ltd. meeting in February 2016, when Cate Gardner will take over as Chair of IAHS Ltd. I have asked Mike Acreman to continue as Secretary of the Board, but John Rodda and Gwyn Rees, who served on the Board for many years, Gwyn being responsible for issues related with personnel health and safety, have retired from the Board. The Association owes them a lot of thanks for the service and dedication that they have given the Association and for their loyal support of our office staff. We are happy that we can continue to count on them as supporters of the Association.

Another important issue was to change the IUGG constitution to allow individual membership, irrespective of whether the scientist is from an IUGG member country or not. The IAHS position is that we should serve the entire hydrological community world-wide and that this should also include hydrologists living in non-member countries. Of course we would like all countries to become member of IUGG, but until that is the case, we want to be an inclusive organisation for all hydrologists. During the special IUGG meeting in Vienna, there was a lot of support for this idea, which was very strongly put forward by Ray Cas of IAVCEI. During the Prague meeting a decision on this matter is on the IUGG agenda. If the motion is adopted then IAHS will be in the position to change its statutes and bylaws accordingly.

Finally, under the leadership of Alberto Montanari, Panta Rhei has gained substantial momentum during this second year. For the second biennium we have found Hilary McMillan willing to take over the challenge of bringing Panta Rhei to full bloom. During the Assembly in Prague we shall nominate the other officers of Panta Rhei who will support Hilary during her two years as Panta Rhei Chair.

During the past year I have given many lectures and presentations all over the world, representing IAHS and emphasising the importance and first achievements of Panta Rhei. These include the following events:

- From 24-25 April I attended the Dooge-Nash symposium, which was combined with a Bureau meeting and the awarding of the Dooge and Volker medals.
- From 27 April to 4 May I attended the EGU meeting in Vienna, which had several IAHS-co-convened sessions, especially on Panta Rhei.
- From 12 May to 18 May I attended a meeting convened by Liliang Ren (VP) at Hohai University, and also presented Panta Rhei at the University of Wuhan invited by Xia Jun.
- Alberto Montanari organised the biennial symposium of ICWRS on Integrated Water Resources Management, especially dedicated to Panta Rhei in Bologna, from 4-6 June, leading to the PIAHS red book Volume 364.
- From 18 June to 19 June I attended the Kovacs symposium in Paris, where Panta Rhei was presented, leading to the PIAHS red book Volume 366 on "Hydrological Sciences and Water Security: Past, Present and Future"
- From 4-22 September, in China, I gave presentations at the University of Lanzhou, the North-West University in Xi'An, Tsinghua University in Beijing, and at the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences
- From 23-26 September I attended the Chapman conference in Luxemburg.
- From 6-9 October I gave an invited lecture at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, Canada.
- From 29 October until 1 November I attended the WaterNet symposium in Lilongwe, Malawi, where I presented Panta Rhei and attended a meeting convened by Dominic Mazvimavi (target leader Panta Rhei)
- From 15-20 December I attended the AGU meeting in San Francisco, where there were several Panta-Rhei related presentations.
- From 26-27 January I attended the meeting of the ICSU Committee on Scientific Planning and Review, of which I am a member.
- On 2 February I attended the annual IAHS Ltd. Board in Wallingford
- From 11-18 April I attended the EGU meeting in Vienna, where there were several Panta Rhei related activities.
- On 18 April I attended a special IUGG Bureau meeting in Vienna on Individual Membership.
- From 2 May until 1 June I was in China, giving presentations on matters of hydrology and on Panta Rhei at: Wuhan University with Xia Jun, Sun Yat-Sen University in GuangZhou with Yangbo Chen (ICRS), East China Normal University, Hohai University, Beijing Normal University, and the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

We have again had an eventful year. In Prague there are a number of important issues to consider, which we shall report on later. We look forward to the IAHS assembly in Durban in 2017 and we wish Hilary much success in the next Panta Rhei biennium.

Hubert Savenije
President IAHS