



Report to IAHS Bureau, Paris, June 2016

Covers period June 2015–May 2016

INTRODUCTION

This report reviews the activities of, and publications produced (*Hydrological Sciences Journal* – *HSJ*, plus four *PIAHS* volumes) by, IAHS since the June 2015 Prague IUGG meeting, and the associated finance.

Of particular note are the retirement of Des Walling as Chair of IAHS Ltd, who has served the IAHS Ltd Board since 1992 and been a strong, guiding influence in the company. Cate Gardner (CG) took over as Chair of the Board in February 2016. Claire Lupton commenced as IAHS Executive Secretary in June 2015.

An agreement was made with T&F in May/June 2015 to increase the size of the journal from 12 to 16 issues per year commencing with vol. 61 (2016). This, together with support from T&F with copy-editing, is helping to reduce the backlog of accepted papers.

2015 was the start of the agreement between IAHS and Copernicus for conference registration services and online open-access publication of *Proceedings of IAHS (PIAHS)* as a successor to the Red Books, and subsequent arrangements for production of the three Prague Assembly volumes and the NISOLS volume.

IAHS OFFICE

For most of the reporting period the IAHS Press team comprised: Claire Lupton, IAHS Executive Secretary and Frances Watkins (FW) *HSJ* Editorial Manager. The team continued to support the IAHS membership and Bureau in addition to conducting the book/journal publications business.

Claire Lupton (CL) was appointed part-time as of 1 June 2015 so as to overlap with Cate Gardner (CG) until 30 June 2015. CL is responsible for the IAHS office and finance at Wallingford, the website and membership, book sales and distribution, and also available to support the Secretary General/President and other Association activities. FW continues to manage the *HSJ* Editorial process.

HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES JOURNAL

The partnership with Taylor and Francis (T&F) continues to work well, and the expertise and professionalism of the T&F team is appreciated. An agreement was made with T&F in May/June 2015 to increase the size of the journal from 12 to 16 issues per year commencing with vol. 61 (2016). This, together with support from T&F with copy-editing, is now helping to reduce the backlog of accepted papers. The eventual goal is to reduce the time between acceptance and publication in an issue to less than three months. With some exceptions – potentially high-impact papers were ‘fast-tracked’ to issues 1–4 of vol.61, and some poorer papers delayed while authors responded to queries – the average time from acceptance to publication of the final Version of Record online has already been reduced to 50 weeks. Opinion papers and other types of ‘rapid communication’ are always given priority so that they are published in a much shorter time.

Final papers are published on the T&F Online (TFO) web platform prior to being assigned to an issue. Authors have the option to pay a one-off Article Publishing Charge (APC) to T&F to make their paper open access immediately (Gold Open Access); otherwise access is via subscription or pay per view. All papers in volumes more than two years old automatically become open access.

Usage is increasing, T&F reported 340 941 full text downloads in 2015 (cf. 149 264 in 2013, 167 450 in 2014). Promotion by free to view “featured articles” continues, with details disseminated in press releases and via IAHS social media. Tison Award papers are free to view, as are supplementary materials (e.g. datasets) to papers—attracting more citations. There was another increase in impact factor (IF) reported in June 2015 (Table 1).

Table 1 Current and 5-year impact factors in 2015 and recent years.

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Impact factor	1.216	1.418	1.447	1.541	1.114	1.252	1.549
Five-year IF	1.876	1.914	1.891	1.934	1.720	1.937	1.864

ScholarOne Manuscripts (S1M)

After the retirement of Zbyszek Kundzewicz as co-editor in April 2015, the appointment of Atillio Castellarin as the new co-editor, alongside Demetris Koutsoyiannis and Mike Acreman, was approved by the Bureau in June 2015 with immediate effect. Six new associate editors were invited to serve *HSJ* from the beginning of 2016; there are now 39 in total, with the annual total increasing by one to 42 over the next three years. About 15% of papers submitted in 2015 were rejected by FW as ‘inappropriate’ based on the result of an originality check (using CrossCheck – since July this is done routinely on each submission), or due to poor language, without assigning to a co-editor (CE), thus effectively reducing the workload of CEs and AEs. This is reflected in the acceptance rate; nevertheless, the linguistic quality of some papers accepted during 2015 was still rather poor and many others required attention to house style/presentation.

Table 2 details submission/review statistics of papers on S1M handled since 2010, to end May 2016.

Table 2 Statistics for submission/review of papers.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
New submissions	382	378	474	517	571	510	215
Revised papers	128	246	233	292	331	248	71
Accepted papers	–	128	109	176*	173*	114*	122*
Rejected papers	–	264	293	395*	397*	320*	394*
Acceptance rate	35%	48.5%	37%	44.6%*	43.6%*	35.6%*	23.6%*
Submission to first decision	120 d	108 d	78 d	81 d*	81 d*	78 d*	60 d*

* 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 statistics for Acc/Rej, Acc rate and time to first decision are for 12 months to 9 Jan. 2014, 2 Jan 2015, 5 Jan 2016 and 31 May 2016, respectively.

Production

Most author manuscripts are published online with a digital object identifier (DOI) immediately after acceptance – as the DOI remains the same throughout the production process to final publication it may be used to cite the paper. Copy-editing and typesetting is undertaken subsequently and, after proof checking at IAHS, final typeset papers are published on TFO as Latest articles prior to their assignment to an issue. The 12 issues published in 2015 comprised 145 papers (and met the target of 2256 pages); four contained special themed issues.

Table 3 summarizes the number of scientific papers published annually in *HSJ* since 2010, and the page length of each volume.

Table 3 Summary of number of papers published and extents of *HSJ* (2008–2015).

	T&F format, 8 issues:				T&F format, 12 issues:	
	2010 (vol. 55)	2011 (vol. 56)	2012 (vol. 57)	2013 (vol. 58)	2014 (vol. 59)	2015 (vol. 60)
Papers	104	109	112	121	144	145
Total pp.	1456* + xxxix	1666* + xxv	1696* + xvii	1823 + xxi	2222 + xxi	2218 + xxxii

* Note: American A4 format of *HSJ* introduced in 2010, more papers are fitted into fewer pages than previously. Thus, total pp. for 2010, 2011 and 2012 is equivalent to 1672, 1900 and 1950 pp., respectively, in the old format. The content has increased by more than 1/3 since 2009.

Special issues

Three special issues of invited papers were published in 2015: Evaluation of Water Resources with SWAT (Toulouse, France, October 2013; guest-editors: Valentina Krysanova and Mike White) was published as vol. 60, no. 5 (May 2015); Modelling Temporally-variable Catchments (Gothenburg 2013 Workshop HW15; Guillaume Thirel) as vol. 60, nos 7 and 8 (July/August 2015); and African Hydrology Research (invited; D. Hughes and G. Maha) as vol. 60, no. 11 (November 2015).

Two special issues are in progress for publication in 2016:

– Hydrology and Peace in the Middle East (invited; Aggestam and R. Berndtsson): 6 papers in vol. 61(7)

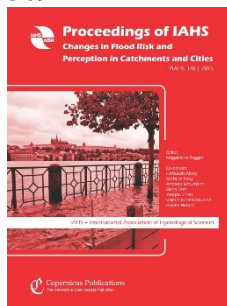
–Facets of Uncertainty (Kos October 2013), E. Eris, S. Weijs and E. Volpi): 14 papers in vol. 61(9)

A special series of opinion papers directly linked to the IAHS "Panta Rhei" initiative was launched in HSJ, coordinated by associate editor Heidi Kreibich. The papers will be made clearly identifiable by the Panta Rhei logo, both in print and at TFO. It is planned eventually to group them within a Virtual Special Issue at the HSJ web page, to be promoted by T&F and the papers made free to view for a time. As opinion papers these will be given priority both during peer review and post-acceptance production.

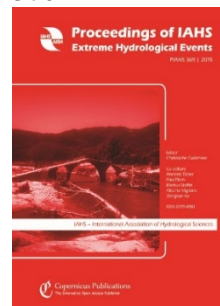
IAHS BOOK SERIES

Four online open-access journals (PIAHS) have been produced by Copernicus in 2015 in association with IAHS. Three volumes (369 to 371) for three symposia at IUGG2015 were published in time for the conference with a few printed copies available for sale, and volume 372 for the NISOLS conference in Japan.

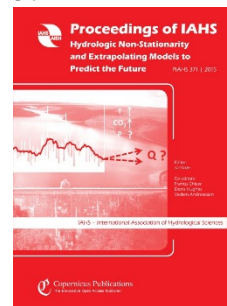
IUGG2015
369



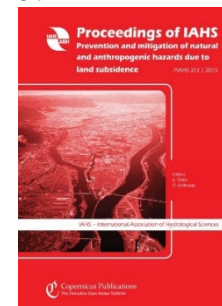
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NISOLS
372



The logistics of Copernicus producing the three volumes of PIAHS for the IAHS symposia at IUGG2015 generally went well with Copernicus quick to respond to unforeseen issues. Overall the collaboration was deemed to be very successful. Note that IAHS subsidised the production of vols 369-371 by €60 per paper to encourage contributions from authors (usually the author fee for six pages would have been €180 but only €120 was charged). The cost from Copernicus was £6041. The NISOLS conference organisers liaised directly with Copernicus regarding vol. 372.

Whilst no further print copies of Red Books are to be printed, they continue to be promoted and sold through IAHS Ltd. The pdfs of the papers are being added to the IAHS website. Full papers from titles up to 328 are fully available, along with 338-348. Other papers are being uploaded on an ongoing basis along with repairs to broken links.

Table 4 lists the planned/proposed PIAHS volumes for 2016 and beyond.

Table 4 IAHS Conferences with possible publications.

Conference	Date	Location	Publication
International Conference Water Resources Assessment And Seasonal Prediction	13-16 October 2015	Koblenz Germany	PIAHS
7th International Water Resources Management Conference of ICWRS	18-20 May 2016	Bochum, Germany	PIAHS
Kovacs	15 June 2016	UNESCO, Paris	PIAHS
2016 ICCE Symposium	11-15 July 2016	Rothamsted Research, Exeter, UK	No conf publication
Groundwater Quality Conference (GQ16)	24-28 July 2016	SUSTech, Shenzhen, China	?
HIC 2016	21-26 August 2016	Songdo Convensia, Incheon, Korea	?

BOOK SALES and INCOME

As anticipated, book sales income in 2015 was down on previous years and has continued to decline.

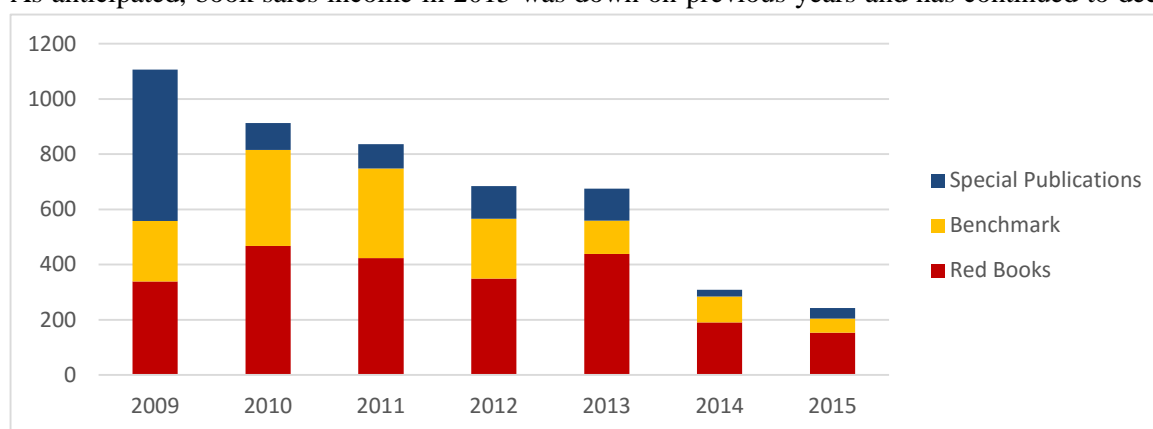


Figure 1 shows the number of books sold directly (i.e. excluding participant copy and standing order sales). The number of books sold is expected to continue to decline as the volumes available get older.

Income from book sales from the UK, including standing orders was £31,003 but this includes a figure of £14,541 for Publ. 368 which was invoiced to China but paid to IAHS Inc. Standing order sales were £2,678 for Publ. 366 and £4,909 for Publ. 368 (51 issues of each). Without the production of new books there will be no further standing order income.

Table 5 IAHS income (£) from book sales (excludes N American sales)

	2013	2014	2015
Participant copies/sponsorship	13207	22955	14541
Standing Orders	25835	16793	7587
Direct Sales	26552	10143	7918
Col printing	3582	4400	-
Total Sales	69176	54291	31003
No. sold direct	511	159	133

Book Sales in North America

Dollar-priced IAHS publications are available at Amazon.com and also from Baker & Taylor and Barnes & Noble. The IAHS Treasurer, Charles Onstad, handled the associated dollar payments and receipts on behalf of IAHS Ltd. (IAHS Inc. has US bank accounts and is IRS registered in the USA). The contract for warehousing and distribution with Publishers Storage and Shipping Corporation (PSSC, Fitchburg, Massachusetts) has continued through the year unchanged. However the contract with Princeton Selling

Group (PSG, Wayne, Pennsylvania) for sales and marketing representation has changed significantly. For the first six months we continued our original \$800 pm but this was reduced by 50% for the second half of the year as a result of the lack of new books. We terminated the agreement at the end of December.

Table 6 IAHS Inc. income and expenses for North American book sales in 2015 (£ equivalent using 1£:1.5\$)

2015	Sales	Costs			Total 2015	2014	2013
		PSG	PSSC	Distribution			
Income	8,518				8,518	9,337	9,804
Expenses		4,871	2,032	168	7,072	8,451	8,958
Balance					1,446	886	1,206

The reduction in expenses to PSG enabled us to make a small surplus at the end of the year. However, without new books to generate income the sales are likely to diminish further.

GENERAL MARKETING AND PROMOTION OF IAHS

Flyers and catalogues along with sample books were provided for display at EGU and IUGG2015 as well as a Young Hydrologist meeting in Montpellier. At the end of each event any unsold books were given to students or deserving cases. IAHS staff were available throughout both EGU and IUGG2015 to take book orders and promote the Association.

The IAHS website provides an online bookshop for the publications with payment through Paypal though this is little used and we should consider giving it a higher focus.

SUPPORT TO IAHS

Website

The new email addresses created (info@iahs.co.uk and claire@iahs.co.uk) have been specifically created without the 'demon' in the name so that we can consider a new service provider in the future.

Website content has been provided by CL in collaboration with the Secretary General (CC). The news and calendar continue to be regularly updated. The Commissions area has been extended to enable all Commissions and Working parties access to their own pages to improve continuity of data. Currently ICCLAS and ICSIH are the most active contributors. All data from the PUB decade was made available on the website by summer 2015 and the Panta Rhei Working Group had the first Biennium data installed (with the help of Alberto Montanari) and the second Biennium is now being managed on the site by Hilary McMillan. The MOXXI pages are also now functional and managed by Flavia Tauro.

IAHS Red Book full paper pdfs continue to be uploaded to the site. E-news items are regularly sent out. The social media IAHS links are being used to promote the newly uploaded Red Books, the open and free access papers on *HSJ* and more light-hearted activities such as the Frisbee match at IUGG2015.

Membership

There were 7000 members at the end of May 2016, of which 38% were located in financially-disadvantaged countries (Table 7). Our database does include several hundred addresses which are not active as the email addresses are invalid. Moving to a paying membership should ensure that members are more engaged and likely to inform us of any email changes. Installing a paid membership system will require work on the website interface once IAHS agree new statutes and a relevant pricing structure.

Note that UK and European data protection legislation is complied with in managing the membership database.

Table 7 Change in IAHS membership numbers with time.

Date	Total	In poorer countries	% in poorer countries	Date	Total	In poorer countries	% in poorer countries
Jun-98	~2000			Dec-09	5112	1485	29.0
Jun-01	3110			Dec-10	5033	1570	31.2
Jun-03	3723			Dec-11	5127	1600	31.2
Jan-05	4022	1655	41.2	Dec-12	5350	1756	32.8
Nov-05	4260	1799	42.2	Jan-14	~5500	~2000	~36
Nov-06	4551	2060	45.3	Dec-14	6247	2237	35.8
Dec-07	4631	2086	45.0	Dec-15	6800	2475	36.4
Dec-08	4914	2239	45.6	May-16	7000	2663	38.0

The membership list was used to raise funds: electronic mailings were made in June and December 2015, on behalf of Aquatic Informatics (the emails state that IAHS held no liability for and did not specifically endorse their products).

Benefits to IAHS Members

All IAHS Members in poorer countries can get free access to *HSJ* and up to 80% discount on book prices by logging in to the Member Area of the IAHS website. There is a special *HSJ* subscription price for other members who also receive 25% discount on book prices. Fifty libraries (TFDC addresses) in developing countries have full online-plus-print subscriptions to *HSJ* free of charge. T&F are participants in the OARE initiative, which means that many more libraries in developing countries may access *HSJ* online free of charge.

T&F provided monies to support the annual Tison Award and to use for promotional activities such as contributing to costs of the IAHS dinner in Prague.

FINANCE

The focus on reducing costs to balance the limited income expected paid off in 2015; the staff input changes helped and also a move to a smaller office and so reduction of the office services fees. There was a small cash surplus (~£18000) at year end as planned (provisional). Annual accounts have been provided to Wenn Townsend, the IAHS Ltd accountants, for preparation of final reports to the Charities Commission and Companies House. Income from *HSJ* grew due to the size increase of the journal in 2015, but book sale income has declined further, as anticipated.

For the future, IAHS Ltd will have sufficient funds, earned as royalties from publishing *HSJ*, for staffing to run the office, look after the membership, support the Secretary General, and provide the necessary editorial support for the Editors, Associate Editors and authors of *HSJ*. For the immediate future, books will continue to be sold from the office and provide additional income, but in the absence of new titles, sales will decline, though with a long tail.

OUTLOOK

The IAHS commitment to publishing print volumes of proceedings concluded with the publication of Publ. 368. Going forward all proceedings will be produced by Copernicus as online open-access. Our publishing activities will therefore focus on *HSJ*.

Staff changes in 2015 have meant a different focus for IAHS Ltd and going forward we will investigate the change to a paying membership.

IAHS Ltd will be available to provide assistance in the organisation of the IAHS Assembly in Port Elizabeth in July 2017.

May 2016