



Report to IAHS Bureau, Prague, June 2015

Covers period April 2014–June 2015

INTRODUCTION

This report reviews the activities of, and publications produced (*Hydrological Sciences Journal* – *HSJ*, plus six books) by, IAHS Press since the April 2014 Dublin meeting, and the associated finance.

Of particular note are the September 2014 signing 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 by Copernicus; the resignation of Penny Perrins (to take up another publishing post) and use of freelance staff to cover the staffing gap; discussion and arrangements with Taylor and Francis (T&F) to deal with the *HSJ* backlog; and the appointment of Claire Lupton as IAHS Executive Secretary to succeed Cate Gardner, who is retiring.

IAHS OFFICE

For most of the reporting period the IAHS Press team comprised: Cate Gardner (CG) Manager and Frances Watkins (FW) *HSJ* Editorial Manager. Penny Perrins (PP) Editor/Website Administrator left IAHS in July 2014. Her work was covered by two people working freelance one-day per week: Claire Lupton (website/membership administration), and Gwyneth Cole (copyediting for *HSJ*). In addition, Jill Gash who formerly worked for IAHS, has helped with book sales on an *ad hoc* basis. The team continued to support the IAHS membership and Bureau in addition to conducting the book/journal publications business.

With the new arrangements for publishing the IAHS Proceedings (Red Books), and publication of the last conventional ones in May, responsibilities have changed. Accordingly, a new post of IAHS Executive Secretary was defined and advertised. Claire Lupton (CL) was appointed as of 1 June so as to overlap with CG until 30 June 2015. CL will be responsible for the IAHS office at Wallingford, the website and membership, book sales and distribution, and also available to support the Secretary General/President and other Association activities.

HYDROLOGICAL SCIENCES JOURNAL

The partnership with Taylor and Francis continues to work well, and the expertise and professionalism of the T&F team is appreciated. With the 5-year Publishing Agreement for 2014–2018 in place, the first 12-issue volume was published in 2014.

The *HSJ* page on the T&F Online (TFO) web platform generally operates well. T&F reported at least 167 450 full text downloads in 2014 (cf. 110 873 in 2012, 149 264 in 2013). Promotion of *HSJ* by “featured articles” continues; details are disseminated by T&F in press releases and via social media. Featured articles and Tison Award papers are free to view on a dedicated page. Supplementary materials (e.g. datasets) to papers are also free to view—attracting more citations. All papers in volumes more than two years old automatically become open access. Authors have the option to pay a one-off Article Publishing Charge to T&F to make their paper open access (Gold Open Access) immediately. The impact factor improved in 2014.

Table 1 Current and 5-year impact factors in 2014 and recent years.

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

ScholarOne Manuscripts (S1M)

Table 2 details submission/review statistics of papers on S1M handled since 2010, to end May 2015.

Table 2 Statistics for submission/review of papers.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
New submissions	382	378	474	517	571	238
Revised papers	128	246	233	292	331	85
Accepted papers	–	128	109	176*	173*	160*
Rejected papers	–	264	293	395*	397*	387*
Acceptance rate	35%	48.5%	37%	44.6%*	43.6%*	41.3%*
Submission to first decision	120 d	108 d	78 d	81 d*	81 d*	86 d*

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

Seven new associate editors were invited to serve *HSJ* from the beginning of 2015; there are now 38 in total, with the annual total increasing by one to 42 over the next four years. Seven papers in French were published in 2014 (vol. 59) and five in the first six issues of 2015 (vol. 60); all English papers have a French title, abstract and key words. The French checking and abstract translation is processed prior to final publication and is done by Pierre Hubert and a team of “francophone” colleagues.

Production

Most author manuscripts are published online with a DOI immediately after acceptance. Production is undertaken subsequently. When they are ready for publication, final papers are typeset by T&F and published on TFO as *Latest articles*, i.e. prior to their assignment to an issue. At year-end the backlog of accepted papers awaiting production amounted to about 170, and there was approx. 12 months delay between acceptance and publication. Volume 59 (2014) included three special issues (45 invited papers), which contributed to this. The journal increase to 12 issues in 2014, with a 20% page-length increase (from 1880 to 2256 pp), enabled us to publish 144 papers, but the acceptance rate remained high. In an attempt to help reduce the workload at IAHS and the time between acceptance and publication, a new production stage was introduced in July 2014, whereby T&F runs all accepted manuscripts through a pre-edit process, including reference checks, prior to sending them back to IAHS for copy-editing.

In May 2015 it was agreed that T&F will assist in reducing the backlog of papers awaiting production by providing copy-editing services, and T&F are now dealing with the first papers allocated to them. The eventual goal is to reduce the time between acceptance and publication in an issue to less than three months. Table 3 summarises the number of scientific papers published annually in *HSJ* since 2008, and the page length of each volume. Numbers for the first six issues of vol. 60 (71 papers; 1172 pp) are comparable to vol. 59.

Table 3 Summary of number of papers published and extents of *HSJ* (2008–2014).

	IAHS format, 6 issues: 2008 (vol. 53)		T&F format, 8 issues: 2010 (vol. 55)			T&F format, 12 issues: 2014 (vol. 59)	
	2009 (vol. 54)	2010 (vol. 55)	2011 (vol. 56)	2012 (vol. 57)	2013 (vol. 58)	2014 (vol. 59)	
Papers	89	80	104	109	112	121	144
Total pp.	1300 + I	1142 + lxxi	1456* + xxxix	1666* + xxv	1696* + xvii	1823 + xxi	2222 + xxi

* 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

Two special issues of invited papers were published in 2014: *Hydrological Science for Environmental Flows* (guest-edited by Mike Acreman), was published as vol. 59, nos 3 and 4 (March and April 2014), and *Weather Radar and Hydrology* (Exeter, UK, April 2011; guest-edited by Bob Moore) was published as vol. 59, no. 7 (July 2014). In 2015, *Evaluation of Water Resources with SWAT* (Toulouse, France, October 2013; guest-editors: Valentina Krysanova and Mike White) has just been published as vol. 60, no. 5 (May 2015); and *Modelling Temporally-variable Catchments* (Gothenburg 2013 Workshop HW15; Guillaume Thirel) is in press as vol. 60, nos 7 and 8 (July/August 2015).

Several special issues are in progress for publication in 2015 and beyond:

- *African Hydrology Research* (invited; D. Hughes and G. Mahé): 13 papers of which 10 accepted; provisionally assigned to vol. 60, no. 11 (November 2015);
- *Hydrology and Peace in the Middle East* (invited; K. Aggestam and R. Berndtsson): 7 papers of which 4 accepted and 3 in revision/under review/pending decision;
- *Facets of Uncertainty* (Kos October 2013; A. Carsteanu, E. Eris, S. Weijs and E. Volpi): approx.17 papers; 8 accepted.

IAHS BOOK SERIES

Red books transition to PIAHS

After the Dublin 2014 Bureau, the practicalities of the newly approved proposal for IAHS to work with Copernicus regarding IAHS conference organisation, and development of the Red Book series as an online open-access proceedings journal, were pursued with Copernicus, including: details of the Copernicus–IAHS Agreement, the *PIAHS* website, the article format, the transition arrangements, and arrangements for dealing with IUGG2015 symposia. Christophe Cudennec (*PIAHS* Editor-in-Chief), Des Walling and Hubert Savenije were consulted as necessary. The IAHS–Copernicus agreement was signed at the start of September. The *PIAHS* website was launched in September and the first online volume, vol. 364 (the ICWRS Bologna proceedings), was uploaded as PDFs, each with a DOI, to give *PIAHS* some content. Volumes 365 and 367 were uploaded in March 2015, and then 366 in April and 368 in May. These five volumes were produced by IAHS and are available as conventional Red Books as well as online.

The logistics of Copernicus producing the three volumes of *PIAHS* for the IAHS symposia at IUGG2015 were set up with Copernicus and the conveners/editors of those symposia/volumes informed how to proceed. Inevitably there have been some unforeseen issues, but Copernicus staff have been quick to respond and help resolve them, and overall the collaboration is working well. Persons requiring print copy of *PIAHS* volumes 369 onward can order direct from Copernicus who have a print-on-demand arrangement.

Note that IAHS has 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 has been charged by Copernicus.

Table 4 lists the planned/proposed *PIAHS* volumes for 2015 and beyond.

Table 4 Forthcoming volumes of *PIAHS*.

<i>PIAHS</i> vol.	Working title	Editors / Organizers	Place of meeting	Date of meeting	Pre/Post public'	Progress
369	IUGG JS1	C. Cudennec	Prague, Czech Re	June 2015	Pre-publication	Ready to publish
370	IUGG HS1	G. Bloeschl	Prague, Czech Re	June 2015	Pre-publication	Ready to publish
371	IUGG HS2	Jai Vaze	Prague, Czech Rep	June 2015	Pre-publication	Ready to publish
372 Nov 2015	9th International Symposium on Land Subsidence (NISOLS)	Devin Galloway/ Kenji Daido	Nagoya Japan	November 2015	Pre-publication	In progress
2015/2016	MODSIM 2015 –UNESCO session	Ai Sugiura	Gold Coast, Australia	December 2015		To be confirmed
2016	ICWRS 2016 meeting	Andreas Schumann	Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA	May 2016	Pre-publication	To be confirmed

Red Books, Blue Books and Benchmark volumes

The six Red Books published since April 2014 are summarised in Table 5. Publication of the FRIEND-Water 2014 proceedings (Publ. 363) was delayed to coincide with the re-scheduled meeting held in Montpellier in October 2014. Further titles have been added to the library of older Red Books at the IAHS website. It now includes the titles published before 2009 (Publs 1–325), plus Publs 343–348, and CL is uploading more recent volumes. The intention is to continue this process so that eventually all volumes unavailable as *PIAHS* volumes can be accessed at the IAHS website.

No new Blue Books (Special Publications) have been published and no proposals for further titles in this series are under consideration. Sales of Special Publs 9 and 10 continue steadily.

Whilst the Benchmark volumes have been well received, the appetite for such collections in hard copy form has diminished. Volume 9 in the series (*Palaeohydrology*) is the last in print form. Any further Benchmark collections will be produced online. The proposed *Water Management* benchmark collection co-edited by Alberto Montanari and Peter van der Zaag has not progressed as yet.

Table 5 Titles published April 2014–June 2015; 364–368 are available as *PIAHS* volumes.

Publ	Date	Title	Editors	Proceedings	Pages	Price
363	Oct 2014	Hydrology in a Changing World: Environmental and Human Dimensions	Trevor Daniell et al.	FRIEND-Water proc.	478 + xii	£105
364	Jun 2014	Evolving Water Resources Systems: Understanding, Predicting and Managing Water–Society Interactions	Attilio Castellarin et al.	ICWRS proc.	548 + xii	£118
365	Dec 2014	Complex Interfaces under Change: Sea–River–Groundwater–Lake	Christophe Cudennec et al.	Gothenburg proc.	100 + viii	£36
366	Apr 2015	Hydrological Science and Water Security: Past, Present and Future	Christophe Cudennec et al.	Kovacs Colloquium	204 + xii	£60
367	Dec 2014	Sediment Dynamics From the Summit to the Sea	Y. Jun Xu et al.	ICCE2014	470 + x	£105
368	May 2015	Remote Sensing and GIS for Hydrology and Water Resources	Yangbo Chen et al.	RSHS14 and ICGRHWE14	484+xii	£110

BOOK SALES and INCOME

As anticipated, book sales income in 2014 was down on previous years and has continued to decline. Table 6 shows the breakdown of book income to IAHS Ltd in 2014, and earlier, according to: 1. participant copies/sponsorship, 2. standing order sales, 3. direct sales, and 4. colour printing charges income. There were good receipts for conference participant copies: from UNESCO (second payment for the FRIEND volume, Publ. 363); from the ICWRS2014 organisers (Publ. 364); and from the ICCE2014 organisers (Publ. 367). These volumes were large and priced at £105 or more, and so the standing-order income from them was good too. However, direct sales figures were low. The IUGG sponsorship for Publ. 366, the Kovacs volume, was paid direct to IAHS Inc.

Table 6 Annual income (£) to IAHS from book sales (excludes N. American sales and income).

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
1 Partic. copies sponsorship	46769	18824	26419	25011	35895	45715	23495	45499	44286	52563	13207	22955
2 Standing orders	30120	36354	39721	46336	46305	28819	41993	28154	30092	34691	25835	16793
3 Direct sales	34577	36344	40291	42715	41679	44023	47170	46457	47377	33672	*26552	10143
4 Col printing								9600	8750	6150	3582	4400
Total sales	111466	91522	106431	114062	123879	118557	112658	129556	130205	127077	69176	54291
No. sold direct	860	874	946	1027	880	917	1213	905	862	685	511	159

*Includes all income for participant copies of the Gothenburg Assembly volumes which were ordered from IAHS Ltd.

Book Sales in North America

Dollar-priced IAHS publications have been available at Amazon.com, and from Baker & Taylor and Barnes & Noble, the two major academic library suppliers in N. America, since January 2012. While IAHS is not making large sums from sales through our N. American distributor, our books are reaching a larger audience. However, as only two new books will be published in 2015, and once the open-access availability of the Red Books in *PIAHS* becomes widely known, sales are likely to diminish. The arrangements with our N. American partners have been adapted to reflect that no further print books will be published, but there is likely to be an ongoing requirement for IAHS volumes for some time yet.

SUPPORT TO IAHS

Website

Since Penny Perrins' departure, CL has been running the website, initially with CG's assistance. A new generic email address, info@iahs.co.uk, has been set up for enquiries. There is collaboration with Christophe Cudennec (CC) regarding content, particularly with respect to calendar and news items, and the homepage, news and calendar sections are frequently refreshed with CC's approval. The history and links sections are still under development. Current news is emailed to all/relevant IAHS members as a news item, or as a Newsletter of combined news items. The online bookshop provides a secure method for anyone (bookshops, libraries, members) worldwide to order IAHS publications and pay by credit/debit card.

General promotion of IAHS

Flyers/catalogues and sample books were provided for display at many IAHS sponsored conferences, and IAHS had stands at the Kovacs Colloquium in June 2014 and EGU 2015 in Vienna. At the end of each event, unsold display materials were given to students and developing country members. There was collaboration with T&F regarding marketing opportunities.

Membership

There were 6247 members at the end of December 2014, of which 36% were located in financially-disadvantaged countries (Table 7). Note that our membership database includes details of members who are no longer active in the sense that their email addresses are invalid. It is inevitable that there is a turnover in the membership list, but it is frustrating that few members contact us to say they have moved/are no longer interested in IAHS. 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	May-15	6458	2350	36.4
Dec-08	4914	2239	45.6				

The membership list was used to raise funds: electronic mailings were made in January and November 2014, and June 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* by logging in to the Member Area of the IAHS website. There is a special 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.

FINANCE

The focus on reducing costs to balance the limited income expected paid off in 2014; the staff input changes helped and also a move to a smaller office and so reduction of the office services fees, to reflect that we are distributing fewer books and have fewer staff. There was a small cash surplus (~£7000) at year end as planned. Income from *HSJ* grew due to the size increase of the journal in 2014, 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 past year has seen major changes within IAHS Press, some planned, and others that required quick adaptation. Now that IAHS's regular publishing (of proceedings and *HSJ*) is contracted out, a smaller staff with greater focus on serving IAHS is feasible. Whilst from one perspective the changes may appear to have diminished IAHS Press, they have oriented the Association's publishing output to

what hydrologists require today, i.e. online, and, except for the most recent *HSJ* articles, all open-access. *PIAHS* is a major development for the 90-year old, 368-volume Red Book series, but one that should ensure its continuing place in international hydrology. The partnership with Copernicus looks to work very well for the future. The arrangements with T&F to reduce the *HSJ* backlog is welcome, and will in time feed through to much reduced acceptance-to-publication times, a major requirement of authors today. IAHS will have funds to run the new slim-line IAHS office for as long as *HSJ* succeeds. The running of the IAHS website and membership will be an important part of supporting IAHS as a whole, but there is potential for further developments and innovation which should be realised.

June 2015