



## Newsletter 02 – May 2009

### IGU Commission *Mountain Response to Global Change*

#### Editorial

Dear Colleagues,

welcome back to the second edition of our newsletter. Let me start with one Commission announcement: Prof. Dr. Yolanda Jiménez Olivencia (Institute for Regional Development, University of Granada) has joined the Steering Committee, representing our colleagues from Spain. Therefore, members of the Steering Committee until 2012 are:

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In order to keep this newsletter interesting and up to date, please feel free to send us information on upcoming events, recent publications, organisations, networks, or research projects that you would like to be announced (email to [rpape@uni-bonn.de](mailto:rpape@uni-bonn.de)). Please also visit the Commission's homepage on [www.giub.uni-bonn.de/igu-mountains.de](http://www.giub.uni-bonn.de/igu-mountains.de).

Yours,

Jörg Löffler

## ***Forthcoming Events***

### **Call for Abstracts**

Contact: Robert Anderson, University of Bedfordshire, UK (<mailto:robert.anderson@beds.ac.uk>)  
European mountains and mountain issues are becoming increasingly important as the global climate changes. Sustainability of water resources, habitat, leisure activities and tourism all impact on finely balanced eco systems in their own particular way. Following the first world conference on mountains which took place in Muscat, Oman during February 2008, the University of Bedfordshire, UK proposes to bring together a multi-discipline European group for a 1-day conference to investigate and converge the diversity of disciplines engaged in mountain research. Issues relating to mountain climbing accidents as a result of the affects of singular heat-stress due to global warming, dehydration and physical fatigue on higher cognitive functioning would be of particular interest. The initial deadline for abstracts, to register interest or for further information is the 31st May 2009.

### **“Lauer-Lecture” in Bonn, 3 July 2009 (in German)**

The Wilhelm Lauer-Foundation invites to the 1. Lauer-Lecture 2009 which will be given by Prof. Dr. Georg Grabherr (Vienna) on “Alpine Biota im Klimawandel – ein globaler Vergleich”. See also <http://www.giub.uni-bonn.de/loeffler/news/Lauer-Lecture.pdf>

### **5<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on the Tibetan Plateau / The 24<sup>th</sup> Himalaya-Karakorum-Tibet Workshop**

11 – 14 August 2009, Beijing, China. See also [http://www.itpcas.ac.cn/5istp\\_24hkt](http://www.itpcas.ac.cn/5istp_24hkt)

### **Ecology and Management of Alien Plant Invasions (EMAPi) Conference on 23-27 Aug 2009 in Stellenbosch, South Africa**

The Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN) will chair a session on plant invasions in mountains. See also <http://www.emapi2009.co.za/>



### **Poster Session “High Elevations Science”**

During the “Sixth International Scientific Conference on the Global Energy and Water Cycle” and the “Second Integrated Land Ecosystem-Atmosphere Study (iLEAPS) held on August 24-28, 2009 in Melbourne (Australia), undertaken in the framework of the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) Global Energy and Water Cycle Experiment (GEWEX) ([http://www.gewex.org/2009gewex\\_ileaps\\_conf.html](http://www.gewex.org/2009gewex_ileaps_conf.html)), a special Poster Session dedicated to the High Elevations Science will be held. This event would be carried out within the High Elevations initiative (<http://www.ceop-he.org>).

Scientific discussion would be focused on hydrology, climatology, glaciology, atmospheric composition and long range pollutant transport, limnology and palaeolimnology, and biodiversity in high elevation areas.

### **4. Internationales Symposium der Forschung in Schutzgebieten**

17 – 19 September 2009, Kaprun, Nationalpark Hohe Tauern, Austria. See also <http://de.alparc.org/nachrichten/neuigkeiten-des-netzwerks-alparc/4.-internationales-symposium-zur-forschung-in-den-schutzgebieten>

### **International School on “Alpine Ecology and Global Change”**

4 - 8 October 2009, University Center Obergurgl, Austria

The School will consist of 21 lectures on aquatic and terrestrial Alpine Ecology by members of the Alpine Ecology Research Focus from the University of Innsbruck and guest scientists from abroad.

Further information: <http://c719-71-22.uibk.ac.at/ecoschool/>

### **Sustainable Development and Bioclimate – Human activities in the context of bioclimate factors 5-8 October 2009, The High Tatras - Stará Lesná, Slovakia**

Contact: Prof. Dr. Štefan Luby - President of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS) (mailto: [bioklima2009@ta3.sk](mailto:bioklima2009@ta3.sk))

One session of the conference addresses „Mountain Climate and bioclimate” including

- Long-term changes and variability of mountain climate and bioclimate;
- Scenarios for future mountain climate in different geographical areas;
- Effect of mountain environment on human health;
- Extreme weather events in the mountains;
- Methodology of weather forecasts and warning systems in the mountains;
- Modeling of meteorological processes in mountain areas;
- Hydrological regime in mountains;



- Snow conditions in context of new ski resorts development;
  - Geographical representation of meteorological and environmental parameters in mountains.
- See also <http://www.ta3.sk/bioklima2009/ENindex.html>

### **Diversitas OSC 2**

Biodiversity and Society: understanding connections, adapting to change. 13 - 16 October 2009, Cape Town. See also [http://www.diversitas-osc.org/index.php?page=oral\\_papers](http://www.diversitas-osc.org/index.php?page=oral_papers)

### **September 9-15, 2009, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic:**

- o International Young Scientists School on Environmental Studies at High Elevations (**September 9-10, 2009**; working language is Russian)
- o International Workshop on Climatic, Environmental, Land Cover-Land Use Change Studies at High Elevations and a Regional NEESPI Science Team Research Workshop discussing results of existing projects and developing new research within mountain regions of the NEESPI domain (**September 11-15, 2009**). <http://neespi.org/> For further information, please contact: Pavel Groisman [Pasha.Groisman@noaa.gov](mailto:Pasha.Groisman@noaa.gov), Vladimir Aizen [aizen@uidaho.edu](mailto:aizen@uidaho.edu) and Cholpon Akulueva [ch.akulueva@caiaig.kg](mailto:ch.akulueva@caiaig.kg)

### **Glacier Hazards, Permafrost Hazards and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs) in Mountain Areas: Processes, Assessment, Prevention, Mitigation**

10 - 13 November 2009, Vienna, Austria. Organizers: IACS/IPA working group on Glacier and Permafrost Hazards in Mountains (GAPHAZ); IAG BOKU, Institute of Applied Geology, BOKU University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna; Mountain Research Initiative (MRI). The purpose of this workshop is to:

- Review and enhance state-of-the-art methods for glacial and permafrost hazard assessments,
- identify current research gaps,
- provide an overview of the current and likely future situation of glacial and permafrost hazards in mountainous regions,
- outline ongoing and expected impacts from climate change,
- facilitate the exchange between the scientific community, and implementing and decision-making agencies.

See also <http://www.geo.uio.no/remotesensing/gaphaz/home.html>

**CIRMOUNT's biennial mountain-climate conference, MtnClim 2010**, will be held June 7 - 10, 2010, at the HJ Andrews Experimental Forest (HJAF), Blue River, Oregon, USA. See also <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/cirmount/>



## **Global Change and the World's Mountains (27 September – 1 October 2010)**

MRI and the Centre for Mountain Studies at Perth College UHI are planning a conference on Global Change and the World's Mountains, as a follow-up to the 2005 Open Science Conference "Global Change in Mountain Regions". The aims of the conference are to:

- present, evaluate and synthesise progress in our understanding of global change in relation to mountain regions since 2005;
- evaluate progress with regard to the implementation and impacts of the GLOCHAMORE Research Strategy, especially in mountain biosphere reserves;
- work proactively on a global agenda for research and action relating to global change and mountain regions, taking into consideration global assessment and policy processes such as those relating to the IPCC, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity.

For more information, see <http://www.perth.uhi.ac.uk/mountainstudies/2010>

### ***Recent Publications***

Baron, J., T. Schmidt, M. Hartman (2009) Climate-induced changes in high elevation stream nitrate dynamics. *Global Change Biology*, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2009.01847.x.

Brunetti, M., G. Lentini, M. Maugeri, T. Nanni, I. Auer, R. Böhm, W. Schöner (2009) Climate variability and change in the Greater Alpine Region over the last two centuries based on multi-variable analysis. *International Journal of Climatology*, doi: 10.1002/joc.1857. <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/121673988/PDFSTART>

Buytaert, W., R. Celleri, L. Timbe (2009) Predicting climate change impacts on water resources in the tropical Andes: the effects of GCM uncertainty. *Geophysical Research Letters* 36, L07406. <http://www.paramo.be/publications.html>

deJong, C., D. Lawler, R. Essery (eds) (2009) *Mountain Hydroclimatology and Snow Seasonality. Hydrological Processes, Special Issue, 23 (7): 955-1103, March 2009.* <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122218971/issue>

Grabherr, G., L. Nagy (2009) *The Biology of Alpine Habitats.* Oxford: Oxford University Press.

MRI News – Newsletter of the Mountain Research Initiative no. 2, April 2009: [http://mri.scnatweb.ch/dmdocuments/MRI\\_News\\_no2-April2009.pdf](http://mri.scnatweb.ch/dmdocuments/MRI_News_no2-April2009.pdf)

The French translation of Martin Beniston's book from 2004 (*Climatic change and impacts- Changements climatiques et impacts*) has just come off the press with the Presses Polytechniques et Universitaires Romandes at EPF-Lausanne. The translation is updated to incorporate amongst other things some of the recent findings of the IPCC, etc. <http://www.ppur.info/climat.html>