



EGU TODAY

DAILY NEWSLETTER From the General Assembly

THURSDAY
17th of April
2008

Future needs in scientific drilling - a discussion

Scientific drilling is a key tool to investigate system Earth. The Integrated Ocean Drilling Program (IODP) and the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP) have a complementary approach in addressing key questions in Earth Sciences. Today, they will summarize major outcomes of recent field operations. Everyone is invited to join in over a beverage, to discuss ideas and to develop future plans.

This will be essential to make convincing strategies to secure long-term funding in these drilling programmes.
TM8 Thursday 19.00-20.00,
Room 1. Convener Catherine Mevel.



Outstanding Young Scientist Lectures

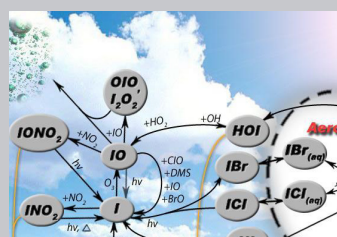
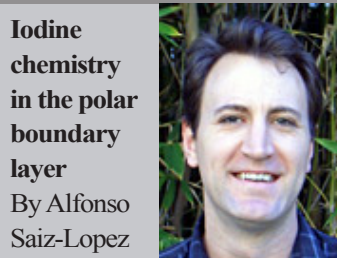


The Early History of the Silicate Earth
By Maud Boyet

Radiogenic isotopes can be used as tracers to understand the evolution of planetary bodies like the Earth. The detection of excess ^{142}Nd caused by the decay of 103 Ma half-life ^{146}Sm in all terrestrial rocks compared to chondrites suggests that the silicate earth experienced an early differentiation event during the first 50 Myr of the solar system history. Since this event, the outer portion of the Earth would be slightly depleted in incompatible lithophile elements compared to chondritic estimates. Events occurring shortly after planet formation have a dominant effect on the geochemical and geodynamic evolution of the Earth. ML4 Outstanding Young Scientist Lecture, Thursday 08:30-09:00, Room 7.

Iodine chemistry in the polar boundary layer
By Alfonso Saiz-Lopez

Tropospheric iodine in polar regions may have a dramatic impact on the climate. The role of iodine chemistry, however, has so far remained virtually unconsidered. Only recently, high iodine concentrations over vast sea-ice covered areas of the Southern Ocean and around coastal Antarctica. A novel mechanism for biologically-induced iodine release from sea-ice surfaces might explain these exceptionally high iodine concentrations. ML8 Outstanding Young Scientist Lecture, Thursday 13:30-14:00, Room 1.



Tsunamis

Interest in tsunamis has grown incredibly after the big catastrophe of the Indian Ocean of 2004. This session presents the latest results in tsunami research. This embraces the assessment of tsunami sources like earthquakes, tsunami modelling, computation of tsunami impacts and the analysis of associated risks. Special focus will be given to the Euro-Mediterranean region where tsunamis can be very destructive due to the intense development of the coastal zone. Tsunami sources are often located close to the shore in these regions, implying that they may attack the coast in a very short time. NH6.1 Thursday 08:30-15:00, Room 25, Convener Stefano Tinti.

Union Service Awards

During the medal ceremony on Wednesday two scientists received a Union Service Award in recognition of their outstanding service to the EGU.

Fausto Guzzetti received this award in recognition of his outstanding leadership services for the EGU in general and especially for the Division on Natural Hazards.

Denis-Didier Rousseau has been honoured with this award in name of his contributions to the acceptance of the EGU publishing philosophy at international funding agencies.

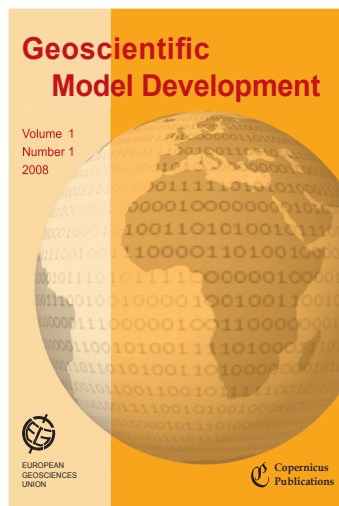
Geosciences is responsibility

The point of view of... Richard Black, Environment Correspondent BBC News.

‘Many journalists would say that scientists have a duty to communicate their findings to ordinary people. I would disagree. There’s a large element of self-interest in that view - what journalists are basically saying is “make my life easy”. What I want from geosci-

entists is that they do good science - that’s all. I think their responsibilities are to be scrupulous, imaginative, and vigorous. There is no reason why someone who is good at science should also be a good communicator - if they are, that’s a bonus, but I don’t think it is automatically part of the job description. Why does society need good earth science? Fundamentally - and this is from the perspective of someone

whose daily working life largely consists of plotting the multifaceted path of environmental decline across our planet - it is because we have just the one inhabitable world, and humanity is changing it faster than it can stand. Science needs to measure what we are doing, what impacts it has, how the Earth may respond, and what we can do about it. Its importance is hard to overstate.’



Keynote Lecture - new EGU journal

Are you having difficulties publishing your numerical model descriptions in existing journals? Are you using model versions which have never been properly documented or published? Come and hear about the new journal from the EGU, explicitly aimed at the rigorous peer-reviewed publication of model descriptions: "Introducing Geoscientific Model Development: The innovative new EGU journal for modellers of the Earth System". KL2 Thursday 12:15-13:15, Room 24, Convener Dan Lunt.

EGU in the Media

Science journalists have been working hard. The first news about the EGU Assembly has been on air, in print and online. See our website: www.egu-media.net. If you have interesting results, new ideas or great projects that may interest the general public, meet the journalists at the Press Centre, Blue Level.

COLOPHON

EGU Press Office

Dick van der Wateren
Jacobijn Zeijlemaker
Thomas Kruijer
Anne Martens

EGU Medal Lectures

*Rickard N.A. Lundin
Hannes Alfvén Medal.
17:30, Room 15.*

*Hubert H.G. Savenije
Henry Darcy Medal.
18:30, Room 29.*

*Alain Ruellan
Philippe Duchaufour
Medal.
10:30, Room 16.*

*Horst Uwe Keller
Christiaan Huygens Medal.
19:00, Room D.*

*Neil D. Opdyke
Petrus Peregrinus Medal.
19:00, Room 31.*

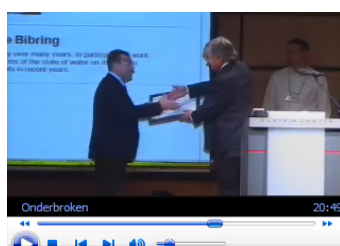
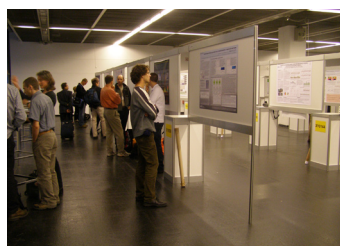
*Edward F. DeLong
Vladimir Ivanovich Vernadsky Medal.
08:30, Room 20.*

Complex systems in geosciences: What's at stake?

What have catchment hydrology, the Seveso accident, the Chernobyl fallout and multiple particle production in high energy nuclear collisions in common? These are not only complicated systems with numerous interact-

ing components, but contain additional complexities as each component is non-trivial. Correctly quantifying these complex systems is necessary to properly manage our planet and to avoid disasters due to incorrect reasoning. US5 Thursday 15:30-17:00, Room D, Convener Daniel Schertzer.

EGU impressions



Vienna by Night

A piece of cake

You cannot leave Vienna without eating a piece of the world famous Sacher-Torte. Visit Café Sacher, Philharmonikerstrasse 4, open 8:00-24:00.

Austrian Dinner Show Ensemble

Have a delicious dinner and enjoy an Austrian Show between each dinner course. You will be entertained by talented musicians, singers and dancers, who appear in colourful local costumes. Book a table at: www.classictic.com.

Mozart

The 'Mozart Ensemble' plays Mozart, Schubert and Haydn tonight in the Mozart House, Singerstrasse 7, 19:30. Ticket reservation: www.viennaconcerts.com.

You can reach us at the Press Centre of the Austria Center Vienna. Any comments or contributions are more than welcome.

Telephone: +31 (0)6 54604741

E-mail: egu-press@landforms.org

