



EGU TODAY

DAILY NEWSLETTER From the General Assembly

TUESDAY
15th of April
2008

International Polar Year



The 4th International Polar Year started on the 1st of March 2007.

It provides an international framework for understanding Earth's high latitudes. 170 research projects are executed by more than 10,000 scientists from 60 nations. The first research results will be presented during this assembly. This IPY will put, quite literally, the poles on the map. CR1 Tuesday 17.30-19.30, Room 13, Convener Marco Tedesco.



Ocean Acidification: New trouble ahead?

Ocean acidification is a drama as big as global warming. The oceans become acid due to the increased uptake of anthropogenic CO₂ from the atmosphere.

It might have a dramatic

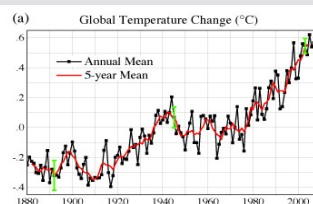
Great Debates

How to Solve the Climate Problem?

Further global warming could be limited to 1-2°C if major investments were pursued sooner rather than later. One could potentially invest in renewable energy sources, carbon capture and sequestration, and energy efficiency. The multi-disciplinary panel discusses scientific and institutional obstacles that must be overcome. GB2 Tuesday 13:30-15:00, Room D, Convener Hermann Held

Will Climate Engineering do more harm than good?

Two teams of internationally recognised experts will debate one of the most pressing dilemmas facing Mankind. It is evident that the world is warming but what can be done about it? Can efficient energy use and reductions of greenhouse gas emissions prevent catastrophe? Will attempts to engineer a solution only aggravate the problem? Will political, economic and societal obstacles impede conventional solutions and should we consider geo-engineering solutions? GB1 Tuesday 17:30-19:00, Room D, Convener Nick Arndt.



effect on marine organisms and ecosystems. The shells from shellfish become thinner due to calcium shortages. Ocean acidification will undoubtedly be one of the biggest challenges for global change research in the future. In this lecture Jean-Pierre Gattuso will

briefly review what is known to date. Richard Tol will explain the socio-economic impacts and Carol Turley displays the economical damage and the urge to communicate with policy makers. US2 Tuesday 15:30-17:00, Room D, Convener Jelle Bijma.

Townhall Meetings

European Cooperation in Geosciences

European and interdisciplinary cooperation has become essential in Geosciences. Five short, stimulating talks will give examples of recent activities within the European Science Foundation and COST frameworks. One example is scientific cooperation on the issue of Ocean Acidification. TM3 Tuesday 19:00-20:00, Room 5, Convener Bernard Avril.

Three Frenchmen in white

In 1957 twelve nations joined efforts to initiate a research programme to penetrate the mysteries of Antarctica. The movie 'Trapped voluntarily under the Antarctic Ice' tells the story of three French scientists who spent a year in Antarctica. The film is made by Djamel Tahiri and commented by Roland Schlich. TM7 Tuesday 12:15-13:15, Room 12, Convener Carmen de Jong.

Meet the scientists...

of the Integrated Ocean Drilling Program

Come and meet European scientists involved in expeditions to the North Pole and Tahiti. Gilbert Camoin, Benoît Ildefonse and Henk Brinkhuis will share with you their fascinating stories. Tuesday 12:00-13:30, IOPD, Booth 57.

www.ecord.org

Geosciences is responsibility

**The point of view of...
Carsten Riedel.
Alfred-Wegener-Institut
für Polar- und Meeres-
forschung Bremerhaven.**

In a globalised world the impact of technological progress and ideas about nature affect the entire world. We urgently need

to understand the processes governing the world we live in. We need sustainable development to keep those processes alive and minimize the natural disaster rate. Geoscience is there to help understand and monitor these processes and prevent the worst case scenario.



Changing geopolitics of space activities

Space sciences are evolving rapidly. New actors, opportunities and challenges have caused a political transition in space sciences and exploration. This session considers current political developments of major space actors and their future plans. TM9 Tuesday 17:30-19:00, Room 12, Convener Nicolas Peter.

Climate, Water and Health

The relationship between climate, water and health is a great concern to scientists, governments, policy makers and international organisations focussing on the

environment and population health. Human health is affected both by climate and water related issues, such as natural disasters, global warming and worldwide

water shortages. These, and other important examples will be reviewed during today's lecture.
IS22 Tuesday 8:30-15:00, Room 29, Convener George Christakos.



Geo-engineering and Mitigation: a possible response to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions?

Geo-engineering might become an attractive option in the future to prevent climate change from catastrophically impacting life on Earth. However, do we have the tools and knowledge to effectively counteract global warming? What research is needed to properly estimate the side effects? This session provides an overview of the scientific basis for Geo-engineering and presents the latest research results.
CL4 Tuesday 10:30-12:00, Room D, Convener Simone Tilmes.

Rosalind E.M. Rickaby
Outstanding Young Scientist
Lecture. 08:30, Room 20.

John H. Woodhouse
Benno Gutenberg Medal Lecture. 19:00, Room 31.

John H. Simpson
Fridtjof Nansen Medal Lecture. 10:30, Room 4.

Kelin X. Whipple
Ralph Alger Bagnold Medal. 13:30, Room 19.

Franz Theodor Fürsich
Jean Baptiste Lamarck Medal Lecture. 19:00, Room 3.

J. Brian Evans
Louis Néel Medal Lecture. 19:00, Room 30,

Victor A. Sergeev
Julius Bartels Medal Lecture. 10:30, Room 15.

Richard J. O'Connell
Augustus Love Medal Lecture. 19:00, Room 24.

Dominique Raynaud
Hans Oeschger Medal Lecture. 10:30, Room 13.

Mike J. Kirkby
John Dalton Medal Lecture. 18:30, Room 29.

Carl-Christian Tscherning
Vening Meinesz Medal Lecture. 19:00, Room 6.

Christophe Sotin
Runcorn-Florensky Medal. Lecture 19:00, Room 15.

A more alkaline Glacial Southern Ocean?

Glaciations are triggered by removal of CO₂ from the atmosphere into the oceans. But in what way do the oceans take-up carbon dioxide and where does it reside afterwards?

Rosalind Rickaby used trace element contents from benthic foraminifera (800 kyr record) to investigate how the biogeochemistry of the Southern Ocean has evolved during Pleistocene glacial-interglacial cycles. Results

indicate that increased alkalinity (high CO₃⁻) of deep ocean water accounts for significant CO₂ drawdown during glacial periods. ML7 Outstanding Young Scientist Lecture, Tuesday 08:30 – 09:00, Room 20.

Public Event

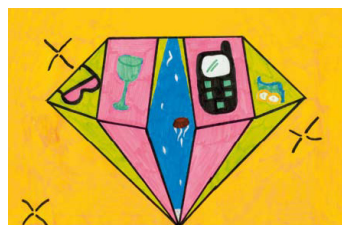
To get young people involved in geology the Austrian National Committee of Geosciences organised a drawing competition among youngsters between 10 and 18 years old. The contest was to bring together 'everyday life', 'mineral resources' and 'geology'. The winner of this contest is 13-year old Bianca Nemeth. Her drawing can be seen all around Vienna and Austria and on postcards.

Today, Bianca will receive her prize. The ceremony will be accompanied by various lectures about the necessity of mineral resources in our daily life. EGU President Gerald Ganssen gives patronage to this event.

Public Event Tuesday 17:00-19:00, Aula of the Österreichische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Wollzeile 27 A, Wien. U3, station Stubentor.

Wildfire effects on forest soils

Wildfire is a major concern in many regions where land management and climate change are modifying natural fire regimes. This causes increasingly damaging fires. Soil, the primary layer of the ecosystem, can be strongly affected by fire. In this session: the latest findings on this topic. SSS4 Tuesday, 13:30-17:00, Room 16, Convener Jorge Mataix-Solera.



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

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Vienna by Night

Riesenrad

Seen enough of the Earth? Visit Das Wiener Riesenrad (ferris wheel) and look at the globe from a different angle!
www.wienerriesenrad.com

Opera

The one thing Vienna is definitely famous for are the operas. On this week's programme: The Flying Dutchman, Manon and The Swan Lake. www.staatsoper.at

Jazz

Enjoy two jazz concerts in Porgy & Bess tonight. Ticket reservation: www.porgy.or.at

COLOPHON

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