



# EGU TODAY

## Daily newsletter from the General Assembly

Tuesday

4 May 2010

### Today's Medal Lectures

Milutin Milankovic Medal  
James D. Hays  
**ML7, 13:45–14:30, Room 15**

Louis Agassiz Medal  
Hajo Eicken  
**ML9, 19:00–20:00, Room 5**

Augustus Love Medal  
Philip England  
**ML11, 19:00–19:55, Room 31**

Christiaan Huygens Medal  
Jean-Loup Bertaux  
**ML12, 19:00–20:00, Room 39**

Ralph Alger Bagnold Medal  
Friedhelm von Blanckenburg  
**ML13, 19:00–20:00, Room 14**

John Dalton Medal  
Martinus Th. van Genuchten  
**ML15, 18:30–19:30, Room 33**

Louis Néel Medal  
Teng-Fong Wong  
**ML17, 19:00–20:00, Room 42**

Lewis Fry Richardson Medal  
Klaus Fraedrich  
**ML21, 16:30–17:15, Room 17**

Fridtjof Nansen Medal  
Michael J. McPhaden  
**ML22, 16:15–17:00, Room D**

Beno Gutenberg Medal  
Jean Paul Montagner  
**ML25, 16:00–16:45, Room 28**

Julius Bartels Medal  
Karl-Heinz Glassmeier  
**ML29, 15:45–16:30, Room 27**

Stephan Mueller Medal  
Seth Stein  
**ML30, 17:30–18:30, Room 30**

### The EGU is Multilogue

Official blog:  
<http://egu2010.wordpress.com>.  
Twitter feed: @egu2010. Please use #egu2010 in your tweets.

### To What Extent Do Humans Impact the Earth's Climate?

The aim of this Great Debate is to answer some basic questions about the role of science in policy making. The general public is currently confounded by the disagreements between scientists, and the often personal and non-scientific attacks within the climate community. This Great Debate will consider whether scientists can give meaningful answers to problems affecting all of us, the use of scientists in the political decision making process, and how the public, policy makers, and scientists deal with uncertainties and risks.  
**GDG2, 12:15 – 13:15, Room D, Conveners: Gerald M. Ganssen, Frederick M. van der Wateren, Dennis-Didier Rousseau, Bruce D. Malamud. Debate leader: John Ludden.**



Photo: author unknown

### Splinter Meetings

Reminder: Public  
Splinter meetings are open to everyone. For "Splinter Meetings" see online meeting programme.

### Division Business Meetings

Division business meetings for ESSI, GD, SM on 12:15-13:15. See Meeting Programme Online (near bottom) for location. Everyone is encouraged to come and participate in any business meeting, particularly young scientists. Sandwiches and drinks are available (first come, first serve).

### Meet EGU

Put a face to the name at one of the meet-and-greet sessions during this year's Assembly.

Meet the EGU Division President of Energy, Resources and the Environment (ERE).  
**EGU9, 12:00 – 13:00, Room EGU Booth, Convener: Michael Kühn.**

Meet the EGU Division President of Geodesy (G).  
**EGU14, 12:00 – 13:00, Room EGU Booth, Convener: Markku Poutanen**

### Latest news on the Icelandic Volcano

Tonight, volcanologists, aviation experts and economists will discuss the latest news from the 15 April Eyjafjallajökull event in this last-minute session. Points of interest are the volcanological setting, atmospheric transport and use of predictive modelling of the ash plume, and the palaeorecord of Icelandic eruptions affecting Europe's climate and economy. In addition to an hour of experts speaking, there will be a panel discussion on "Europe's vulnerability to volcanic events".

**US7, Oral programme: Tue & Thu, 18:30-20:00, Room 36. Poster programme: Wed, 08:00-19:30, Hall A. Convener: Euan G. Nisbet**

### Science under Fire

*From science to understanding*

*In principle, it's the same; it doesn't really matter whether we say, "it's probably getting a few degrees warmer over the next century," or whether we tell a person overlooking an Arctic fjord, "This kind of view will most likely disappear from our planet. This glistening whiteness of sea ice and snow and glaciers will soon no longer exist in the way you see it now. You might like to start saying farewell to this landscape."*

*In principle, it's the same. Both statements are backed up by the best science we know today and both are equally likely to be true. Both statements are objective and hence, by definition, free of any political agenda. And yet, the second one feels so very different. It feels different because it's a translation of the first statement into something tangible. It's a translation that allows the listener to make a more informed decision, because its wording is more accessible to the non-specialist.*

*More than ever, such objective, unbiased translation is required to maintain (or to rebuild) the credibility of our scientific findings for the general public. And it's required for our findings to have the decisive impact they realistically deserve. It's that easy. And yet so very, very difficult.*

**Dirk Notz**  
*Climate scientist, Max Planck Institute*



Illustration: Lies Kindt

## An International Geoscience Initiative

This meeting will be the final of a series of meetings: GSA and AGU in 2009, UNESCO in spring 2010 and finally EGU 2010. The aim is to mobilise the geosciences community, and specifically the Earth scientists, behind a series of world-class integrated science projects. The objective of this Townhall Meeting is to present this initiative (sponsored by BGS, GSL, GSA & AGI), which seems to have gathered significant momentum over the past several months. **TMI, 17:30–19:00, Room D, Convener: John Ludden.**

### Valerio Lucarini to Receive Outstanding Young Scientist Award.

Prof Valerio Lucarini has been awarded the Outstanding Young Scientist Award for his influential contributions to many facets of meteorology. The 33-year-old Professor is already the author of more than thirty peer-reviewed articles, published in journals ranging from the highly theoretical, those devoted to applying theory and numerical modelling to climate and meteorology, to those concerned with very practical applications. Lucarini already enjoys an international reputation, collaborating with many well-known scientists. **ML32, 13:55 – 14:25, Room 17, Convener: Henk A. Dijkstra.**

### The INSPIRE European Directive

Since May 2007, INSPIRE has been creating an infrastructure for spatial information in Europe to support community environmental policies. This meeting will present the INSPIRE European Directive and the opportunities raised by it for the geosciences community. The aim is to mobilise the geosciences community, and specifically the Earth scientists, to contribute to this specification activity either as experts or stakeholders. Discover the geosciences facet of INSPIRE and discuss how the EGU can be involved. **TM2, 19:00 – 20:00, Room 6, Convener: Stefano Nativi.**

#### COLOPHON

**EGU Press Office**  
Dick van der Wateren  
Anne Martens  
Armand van Wijck  
Andrew Gilman

### Job and education market:

Looking for a change in career? Interested in new opportunities? Drop by one of the presentations at this year's Job and Education Market.

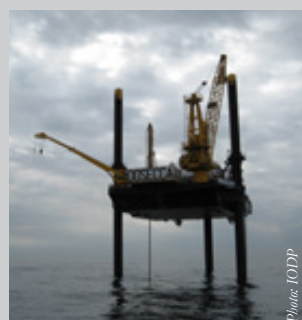
**ExxonMobil:** Global Graduate Careers Opportunities with ExxonMobil (presented by a member of the Global Recruitment Team). **JEM 1, 15:30–17:00**

**This is Schlumberger.** **JEM 4, 17:30–19:00**

**The Geological Surveys of Europe:** opportunities and Functioning - The Case of the French Geological Survey and the OneGeology-Europe project (presented by Agnes Tellez-Arena and Luca Demicheli). **JEM5, 10:30–11:15**

**INSU:** Study of the ozone layer and its recovery by measurements from the Network for the Determination of Atmospheric Composition Changes (presented by Sophie Godin-Beekmann). **JEM8, 12:15–13:15**

### Joint IODP and ICDP Townhall Meeting



Research in geosciences depends significantly on information recorded in subsurface layers. Two major and complementary international programmes undertake drilling for the scientific community in oceanic and continental environments. At this Townhall meeting, The IODP (Integrated Ocean Drilling Program) and ICDP (International Continental Scientific Drilling Program) will share their views on exciting challenges for a better understanding of the Earth system and its changing environment. **TM5, 19:00 – 20:00, Room 1, Conveners: Catherine Mevel, Ulrich Harms.**

### Keynote Lecture: Earth Observation from Space

GEOTECHNOLOGIEN is a geoscientific research and development programme funded by the German Federal Ministry for Education and Research and the German Research Foundation. Earth observation from space is one current theme within the programme. During this lecture, Dr Robert Meisner will talk about the European Space Agency's earth observation missions. In addition, partners, referees and guests of GEOTECHNOLOGIEN can meet and discuss new co-operations and programme ideas. **KL3, 17:30 - 19:00, Room 12, Convener: Ute Münch.**

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

**Telephone: +31 6 54604741**  
**E-mail: egu-press@landforms.org**



### Early Earth and Early Biosphere

This Union Session will present the latest understanding we have of the early Earth, covering aspects of biogeosciences, palaeontology, geochemistry, paleoceanography, mantle dynamics, atmospheric dynamics, planetary science and paleomagnetism. New observations and models will be discussed, and in particular the interaction and possible feedbacks between the changes seen in the Earth's interior and those at the surface. **US5, 13:15 – 15:00, Room D, Convener: Emmanuelle J. Javaux.**

### In Today's Geocinema:

*ICE, The historian of the Earth* (27')  
10:00–10:30

*The 2002-2003 Stromboli eruption* (18')  
*Lilli Freda and Piorgiorgio Scarlato*  
10:30–11:00

*PEAT News Network 1-5* (30')  
11:00–11:30

*20 Thousand Years – The history of the Earth's last great natural climate change* (29')  
12:15–12:45

*IODP Expedition 2* (10')  
13:00–13:15

*Science@ESA, Episode 8: The Sun, our Local Star* (25')  
13:30–14:00

*The 2007 Stromboli eruption* (15')  
*Lilli Freda and Piorgiorgio Scarlato*  
15:00–15:30

*The Venus Theory* (52')  
*Pasi Toivainen*  
15:30–17:00