

## **Summary of CL business meeting**

(Division Business Meeting for Climate: Past, Present & Future (CL))

Tuesday, 21 Apr 2009, Austria Centre Vienna: Room 13, 12:15-13:15

An agenda had been widely circulated before the meeting. The outgoing president Gerrit Lohmann (GL), opened the meeting by welcoming those attending, and by introducing the newly elected division president, Denis Didier Rousseau (DDR). The outgoing (Gerald Ganssen, GG) and incoming (Tuija Pulkinen, TP) presidents of the Union were also present.

### 1) YSOPP-Awardees 2008

YSOPP: GL congratulated the winners of the Young Scientists Outstanding Poster Prizes (YSOPP) from the 2008 meeting, (Thomas Gouriou for the poster entitled: Tide Gauge Records On The Charente-Maritime French Atlantic Coast Back To The Middle Of The 19th Century; Seong-Joong Kim for the poster entitled: Glacial Ocean Circulation and Property Changes in the North Pacific; Julia Pongratz for the poster entitled: Biogeophysical Effects of Anthropogenic Land Cover Change During the Last Millennium) and presented to those who were present. He reminded attendees of the procedure for choosing the awardees: convenors nominate the best eligible poster from their session (out of the list of 76 posters sent around), and all convenors then vote for the best one. Following procedure will take place: All convenors send a pdf or jpeg version of their session's best poster to [Andrea.Bleyer@awi.de](mailto:Andrea.Bleyer@awi.de) until 15th May, 2009. In case of conflict of interest, i. e. if a convenor is co-author of a poster, the convenor may appoint another person (i. e. a co-convenor) to make the choice. These posters will be presented on a website, and until 27rd May, 2009 the convenors can choose the three best posters. The convenors are not allowed to choose the poster from their own session. The best three posters will thus be determined for the Union Young Scientists' Outstanding Poster Paper (YSOPP) Award 2009.

### 2) Sessions for the 2009 meeting

2009 meeting: This year the CL division had around 1500 abstracts, a big increase on the 1000 last year. This was due partly to new sessions, and partly due to the entry of new disciplines within the climate sphere. There would be an open call for new sessions for 2010 in September 2009.

### 3) Inside EGU

GL informed the meeting of a significant disagreement within the EGU Council over links with Exxon. The issue concerns the advertising on the EGU web pages of a course run by Exxon but held outside the conference venue. GG and TP outlined their view of the situation, emphasising that in some other divisions, Exxon was a major potential employer, that there was no actual or implied endorsement of Exxon by EGU, and that they saw the making of links with companies (including Exxon) as beneficial for EGU's young scientists. GL reported that Council had not discussed the matter. Instead the soft Earth divisions of the EGU (AS, CL, OS, plus ERE) made very clear that any association of the EGU with Exxon is

not acceptable and votable since the politics of disinformation about climate change of these companies undermine the scientific progress. Similar disagreement in this issue was already documented 2 years ago when Exxon offered sponsorship. After that discussion, the EGU set up a procedure for EGU sponsorship (published in eggs, 26 October 2007,

<http://the-eggs.org/news.php?id=464&typeid=1>). A similar procedure is suggested, instead of voting on the EGU-Exxon linkage. GL and the president of the Atmospheric Sciences (AS) division of the EGU, Charlotte Hasager, complained about not adequate procedure within Council.

Most of the interventions from the floor were hostile to any link with Exxon; a particularly important issue was that Exxon appeared to have funded lobby groups that spread misinformation about science and scientists, and should not be humoured until it was clear that they had stopped such behaviour. While there was no agreement, two practical suggestions were discussed. Firstly the possibility of having a Union position statement about climate change, akin to the one on ocean acidification, could be considered. Secondly one might consider a great debate about the misinformation campaigns, including major oil companies, at the next EGU Congress.

#### 4) Journal: Climate of the Past (CP)

DDR presented information and statistics about the journal. CP is clearly becoming recognised as a significant journal in the field. The 2007 impact factor of 1.45 is expected to rise to at least 2 in 2008. DDR emphasised the strong international range of authors, and the special issues, including the several medallist papers. Submissions from France and Germany were especially high, perhaps because of the deals with CNRS and MPI to pay page charges for their authors. The editorial team was changing as of now with Martin Claussen stepping down as a chief editor; Hugues Goosse covers his area and will be the chief of chiefs for the next year. Gerald Ganssen will step down in a years' time, and Council have agreed to Thorsten Kiefer becoming a Chief editor to shadow him until he leaves. A couple of issues were raised from the floor: the importance of open access publishing; the issue of whether EGU should have a journal covering future climate as well as the past; and the need to get CP papers listed in Google Scholar. DDR said he would ask the Copernicus team to investigate the last of these.

#### 5) Other business

Before the meeting closed, GL reported that the idea of an EGU climate change meeting in 2010 (discussed last year) is on hold. Also under discussion is a new journal Earth System Dynamics (ESD) with a focus on recent and future climate, including uncertainties, seasonal forecasts, and processes in the climate system. Persons already expressed their interests.

Contact: joeckel@mpch-mainz.mpg.de