



NEWSLETTER

Commission
on Climatology

N° 7

November 2009

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I have had the honor of being the Chair of the Commission on Climatology for the past one year. Unfortunately, due to personal problems, I have not been able to participate in the Commission's work recently and I apologize for that. However, I would like to reassure you that from this point on, I will provide the leadership that is expected of me.

I believe that the presence as well as the work of the Commission within the International Geographical Union is of an utmost importance, especially in light of the global conversation on climate change, extreme weather phenomena, and the man-climate relationship. I am very pleased that the Commission exists, despite a number of difficulties, and I do hope that it will be able to actively promote good practices in climatology and geography. I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank all current Members and Chairs for their diligent work. I wish to express special thanks to the former Chair of the Commission, Prof. Annick Douguédroit, for her commitment and all her efforts designed to make the Commission's work effective. There is a lot of work ahead of us. It is my hope that we will be able to face new challenges and I am counting on your help, especially those of you who are current Members. I am asking for your help, new ideas and suggestions, as well as new initiatives in your respective countries.

At this point, I would also like to express my deepest thanks to Prof. Arie Bitan and Dr. Hadas Saaroni for preparing the program for the Conference, which is to take place in Tel-Aviv. This will be the biggest CoC event next year. I am convinced that the Tel-Aviv Conference will be a very important and productive climatology conference.

The internet will be our main means of communication. Please send e-mail to my address or Dr. Agnieszka Wypych – one of my team members. I would like to thank Dr. Wypych for running the website and helping me with administrative matters. The CoC Newsletter will continue to be published and distributed in electronic format twice a year (spring and autumn).

Truly Yours,

Zbigniew Ustrnul

CoC Chair

Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland

Contents:

1. Membership
2. IGU Regional Conference Tel-Aviv 2010
3. Future plans

1. MEMBERSHIP

Full Members

Chair:**Zbigniew Ustrnul**

Department of Climatology,
Institute of Geography and Spatial Management,
Jagiellonian University,
Gronostajowa 7, 30-387 Krakow,
Poland
ph: +48 12 6645324, Fax: +48 126645385
e-mail: zbigniew.ustrnul@uj.edu.pl

Secretary:**Kristina Blennow**

S. Swedish Forest Research Centre
Swedish Univ. of Agric. Sciences,
P.O. Box 49, SE-230 53 Alnarp,
Sweden
ph: +46 40 415230 Fax: +46 40 462325
e-mail: Kristina.Blennow@ess.slu.se

Arieh Bitan

Department of Geography,
Tel Aviv University,
P.O. Box 39040,
69978 Tel Aviv, Israel
ph: +972 3 6414148, 6405162
fax: +972 3 6406243,
e-mail: bitana@post.tau.ac.il

Latifa Henia

Faculté des Sciences Humaines et
Sociales,
Université de Tunis94,
bd du 9 avril 1938, 1007 Tunis,
Tunisie
ph : +216 98 529 466
fax: +216 71 567 551
e-mail: latifa.henia@fshst.rnu.tn

Jun Matsumoto

Department of Geography,
Tokyo Metropolitan University,
Minami-Ohsawa 1-1,
Hachioji-shi, 192-0397 Tokyo,
Japan
ph: +81 42 677 2596,
fax: +81 42 677 2589,
e-mail: jun@center.tmu.ac.jp

Francisco Mendonça

Federal University of Paraná
Dep Geografia Centro Politecnico
Jd. Américas
81531-970 Curitiba Brasil
ph : +55 41 3361 3458
e-mail: chico@ufpr.br

Ana Monteiro

Department of Geography, Porto
Universty,
Via Panorâmica s/nº,
4150 Porto, Portugal
ph: +351 919698402
e-mail: anamt@letras.up.pt

Roger S. Pulwarty

National Oceanic and
Atmospheric Administration
and University of Colorado,
Climate Diagnostics Center,
325 Broadway, R/CDC1,
Boulder Colorado 80305,
USA
ph: +1 303 497 4425
e-mail:
roger.pulwarty@noaa.gov

Nigel Tapper

Department of Geography and
Environmental Science,
Monash University, Victoria,
Australia
ph: +61 3 99052931
fax: +61 3 99052948
e-mail:
nigel.tapper@arts.monash.edu.au

Elena Voskresenskaya

Marine Hydrophysical Institute, 2
Kapitanskaya St.,
99011 Sevastopol,
Ukraine
ph. +380 692 545400
fax +380 692 544358
e-mail: elena_voskr@mail.ru

Alain A. Viau

Département des sciences
géomatiques,
Faculté de foresterie et de
géomatique,
Pavillon Louis, Jacques-Casault,
local 3731,
Québec (Québec) G1K 7P4,
Canada
ph: +1 418 656 2072
fax: +1 418 656 5837,
e-mail: alain.viau@scg.ulaval.ca

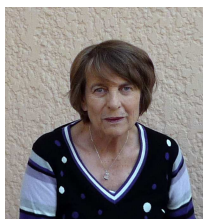
Honorary & Senior Members

S. Gregory (U. K.), M. Yoshino (Japan), M. Domroes (Germany), L. Nkendirim (Canada),

A. Douguédroit (France), A. Bitan (Israel), R. Brazdil (Czech Republic), T. Mikami (Japan).

SENIOR MEMBER (short biography)

Annick Douguédroit



Climatologist, “émérite” professor of the University of Provence, in Aix-en-Provence (France). She is the former chair of the IGU Commission

on Climatology (2004-2008). She has been before member of the Commission on Climatology chaired by Prof. M.M. Yoshino and L. Nkendirim (1988-1996) and of the IGU Working Groups on Climate change chaired by Prof. S. Gregory (1988-1992) and on Topoclimatology chaired by Prof. J. Paszynski (1980-1988). She has also been, with the chairman and other members of the Commission on Climatology, one of the editors of the book *Climates and Societies: A Climatological Perspective* (1997). She is member of the Steering Committee of the MRP (Mediterranean Renaissance Programme) which is a special project of the IGU, initiated in 2005 by its past President, Prof. Adalberto Vallega.

Her international scientific relations allowed Annick Douguédroit to lay in Aix-en-Provence in 1988 the foundation of the "AIC" (Association Internationale de Climatologie) bringing together French-speaking climatologists who meet once a year, alternatively in France and outside France. She pursued all her academic career in Aix en Provence after graduating in geography at the Sorbonne in Paris. Her first researches mostly concerned biogeography and bioclimatology. They were applied to the Southern Alps which were the topic of her doctorate thesis (1972) and gave rise to a book on the same subject (*Les paysages forestiers de Haute Provence et des Alpes Maritimes*). She turned to climatology when she get her tenure at the Institute of Geography in Aix-en-Provence where she has created undergraduate and postgraduate courses

in climatology and has become responsible for postgraduate studies in physical geography. She has been head of the French research team "Environnement climatique" (1982-1993). She belongs now to the research team "ESPACE".

Her research which has mostly been based on the use of statistical modeling focused on the Mediterranean Basin region. As in the Mediterranean climate, precipitation and drought are basic climatic phenomena, which have a great influence on human beings and societies, their modeling, diagnosis, recent evolution and impacts represent the key to her research. She carried out research on Mediterranean drought length modeling, precipitation extremes and circulation (types of circulation and weather types) and on two main aspects of climate impacts. One concerns drought influence on vegetation as fuel of Mediterranean forest fires interpreted with the help of remote-sensing; it has been supported by three successive European projects. The second aspect is related to climate impacts in agriculture. It has been applied to yields in Mediterranean semi-arid areas, particularly in Morocco and Tunisia. She has supervised two French projects, one in collaboration with the University of Rabat which results have been published in a special issue of the review "Méditerranée" and a second with the Romanian Academy of Sciences and the University of Constanza giving way to PhD co-supervising. Her recent works were concerned with climate change impacts on Mediterranean precipitation and related atmospheric circulation and on vineyards of the South of France. She has also participated to the WG2 and two syntheses of the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report (AR4) released in 2007.

Abstracts will be loaded onto the conference website once the program has been finalized and registration fees have been received from the presenting author. If you do not wish to have your abstract appear on the website, please indicate this on your abstract.

Detailed Programme of the Commission of Climatology sessions will be discussed while receiving the abstracts. Certainly the meeting of Commission on Climatology Steering Committee is also planned so hopefully looking forward to Tel Aviv 2010.

3. Future plans

As it was written in CoC Report 2004–2008 the most Commission activities should concentrate upon 6 sub-themes. It should help all activities and enable better exchange of results and findings. It should also ensure better efficiency of the entire Commission. The all mentioned sub-groups are as follows:

- Climate change and variability
- Topoclimatology
- Tropical climatology
- Physical climatology
- Environmental climatology
- Urban climatology

The main work plans anticipate intense work in the frame of each subgroups. The results will consist of the recent findings resulting from the work of 6 thematic subgroups. Due to the differentiated involvement of members from the different continents, the anticipated results should reflect the regional aspects and provide the global state of knowledge in all issues concerned. Cooperation with commissions and organizations, other than IGU, where the results of climatologic examinations and tests seem applicable, are of crucial significance. The seven main scientific issues/problems mentioned above do not eliminate the possibilities of tackling the other important phenomena.

The forth-coming year is maybe the best time to try to make these plans effective and then the general exchange of findings will be discussed at the broad forum of IGU Tel Aviv 2010 Conference.

As the role of Commission web-page should be considerably extended please visit the new CoC website: <http://www.klimat.geo.uj.edu.pl/CoC.htm>

The current state of the website is only the draft – accessible solely for CoC members. Please do not hesitate to give your comments and suggestions to improve its image and essential contents.