FROM THE PRESIDENT

Two years have passed since I was designated the president of IAVCEI. In these two years, several international meetings sponsored by IAVCEI were held, including the Science Assembly in Iceland, which we called the General Assembly, and the Cities on Volcanoes conference in Japan. IAVCEI provided travel grants for young students and scientists of developing countries who attended these meetings. The IAVCEI commissions organized some of the meetings as part of their activities. This sort of activity is the engine of IAVCEI. Presently IAVCEI includes about 25 commissions, a large number by comparison with other associations of IUGG. Though the large number itself is not a problem, some commissions have been inactive for a long time. Since the end of 2007, the Secretary General, Joan Martí, has repeatedly asked all commissions to present their annual activity reports. Twelve commissions responded and presented their reports. The commissions have been organized independently in different disciplines, with distinct research targets, and addressing diverse volcanic phenomena. Some commissions are formed as inter-associational (joint) commissions. Inter-associational activity should be encouraged in order to expand volcano science and related subjects across the boundaries between IAVCEI and other associations. The activities of these joint commissions are, however, less visible to IAVCEI members, except for the Electromagnetic Study with IAGA, IASPEI. Other joint commissions include the Tsunami Commission with IAPSO and IASPEI, the Volcano Seismology Commission with IASPEI, and so on.

The present EC is preparing new rules for the commissions. The existence of a large number of commissions may imply either that small numbers participate in some commissions, or that many individuals participate in multiple, potentially overlapping, commissions. Although participation of individuals in multiple commissions should not be discouraged, their participation in too many commissions may dilute the power of commissions to focus on different science targets. The previous Executive Committee of IAVCEI had already discussed these problems, and had almost reached the conclusion that a commission's lifetime is 8 years (double association-terms) unless it is particularly vigorous. WOVO and some database groups can be considered separately from the commissions. For these units, the umbrella of IAVCEI is important for their presences in the social interface or in gathering global-scale information and data.

The Executive Committee of IUGG, comprising the officers and presidents of 8 associations, is discussing how to encourage inter-associational activities. Increasing the activity of the existing joint committees indicated above is one of the ways. One argument in the EC-IUGG is that IUGG projects a less-visible face for geoscientists, compared with AGU, EGU, AOGS, etc., which hold large annual meetings. The face was also less visible to the IAVCEI members. The Science Assemblage (SA) of our association has been held during two General Assemblages (GA’s) of IUGG. The proportion of IUGG attendees listed as affiliated with IAVCEI at an IUGG GA becomes the calculation basis IUGG's provision of funding to IAVCEI for the following four years. The formal name of assembly meeting of the association, held between two IUGG General Assemblies, is “Scientific Assembly” according to the IUGG definition. Formal decisions related to IAVCEI organization and administration are made in the General Assembly rather than in the Science Assembly. The numbers of attendees of last two IAVCEI Science Assemblies (Iceland 2008, Pucón 2004) were more than 900, whereas of the number of attendees from IAVCEI in the last two IUGG General Assemblies (Perugia 2007, Sapporo 2003) was less than 400. An absence of formal IUGG excursions may be one of the reasons for reduced attendance of the Perugia meeting; as a result of low IUGG attendance by IAVCEI members, the annual income to IAVCEI from IUGG has been small. I would like to strongly encourage IAVCEI members to participate in IUGG General Assemblies and, for the 2011 Melbourne GA, to organize sessions or excursions to help boost IAVCEI visibility and funding.
Dear Colleagues,

IAVCEI will hold its next Scientific Assembly as part of the 2011 International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) General Assembly in July 2011, in Melbourne, Australia. The Organising Committee, on behalf of the Australian and New Zealand scientific communities, invites researchers world-wide to Melbourne, Australia in 2011, to participate in an exciting, multi-disciplinary conference of cutting edge research.

IAVCEI consists of eight scientific associations, including IAVCEI, but also including the disciplines of seismology, geodesy, atmospheric science, oceanographic science, cryospheric science, geomagnetism and hydrology. Each association will organise its own comprehensive program of symposia, as well as co-organising inter-disciplinary symposia on topical themes. So come to the IAVCEI conference-within-a-conference to experience the latest volcanological research, as well as science on other fascinating global issues.

The conference will be marked by a scientific program of outstanding plenary and keynote speakers, a comprehensive program of symposia on state of the art themes organised by each IUGG association, and a highlight of IUGG conferences, a program of inter-disciplinary, inter-association symposia addressing major scientific issues of global and regional significance and concern. Planning for the IAVCEI program of symposia has commenced. IAVCEI Secretary-General Joan Marti and I would like to hear in particular from the leaders of IAVCEI commissions and working groups for ideas about symposia themes they would like to see on the program.

The theme for IUGG2011 will be: “Earth on the Edge: Science for a Sustainable Planet”

The conference will span the weeks of 28 June - 7 July 2011, but the IAVCEI program will be in the second week. Both one week and two-week registration fees will be available, as well as a scheme whereby post-graduate students and for scientists from developing countries can apply for funding support,

The conference will be held entirely in the new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. The convention centre is located on the banks of the scenic Yarra River in the CBD of Melbourne, and is within walking distance, or a short tram, bus or underground ride from accommodation ranging from back-packers and hotels of all standards.

The new Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, completed in June 2009, is the world's most modern convention centre

There will also be a comprehensive program of pre- and post-conference IAVCEI fieldtrips and workshops including trips in the Philippines, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand and Vanuatu.

IUGG 2011, Melbourne, Australia


Dear Colleagues,

The annual budget of IAVCEI has not previously been visible to the members, but it is not confidential. The budget is detailed in a table in this issue of the Newsletter. Simply holding money in the bank is not the present aim of IAVCEI, so we have to consider how to most effectively return the association's financial proceeds to the members. Therefore, in addition to disclosing the association budget, we have initiated a grant fund and invite you to apply for IAVCEI grants to support research projects related to the IAVCEI activity; the maximum funding for one project is 20,000 Euros. These are different grants from those that support the holding of international meetings of IAVCEI or workshops or student travel grants, and we believe this research support will act very effectively to encourage projects that are in keeping with the missions of IAVCEI. Details of the proposed plan are provided elsewhere in this newsletter, and the deadline for application is October 1 of this year. I hope that this new resource to support your activities in various fields related to volcanology will result in direct and indirect benefits to our communities.
The city of Melbourne is one of the most liveable cities in the world and hosts a diverse and dynamic scientific research community. Melbourne has numerous beautiful parks, and is located within 2 kms of the beaches and beach suburbs of Port Phillip Bay. In addition, the area around Melbourne is ideal for day or two day touring or sight-seeing including spectacular coastal scenery and beaches, vineyards, snow skiing, native forests and national parks, a young intraplate volcanic province, and nature reserves with Australia’s exotic fauna and flora.

In addition, Australia and New Zealand are fantastic destinations for holidays and tourism, offering exotic touring opportunities. The indigenous Aboriginal culture of Australia and the Maori culture of New Zealand are unique in the world.

We look forward to sharing with you the rich scientific program we are planning for the IAVCEI General Assembly during IUGG2011 in Melbourne, as well as the unique and exotic recreational opportunities Australia and New Zealand offer to participants and their families.

For further information please periodically consult the IUGG2011 website, which will be regularly updated: http://www.iugg2011.com

Ray Cas
Chairman,
Joint Australia and New Zealand Organising Committee,
IAVCEI and IUGG 2011 Melbourne

BULLETIN OF VOLCANOLOGY

The Bulletin of Volcanology aims to publish high-quality research papers which have broad interest to the volcanological community. Currently we are handling about 90 papers which are in the review system. In 2008, the average time between submission and final proofs was 365 days – exactly one year. The acceptance rate of papers in 2008 was 61%. The impact factor of the journal, as measured by the ISI Web of Knowledge, has consistently been above 2 for the last several years, a respectable figure for this type of journal.

As BV authors are well aware, we have resisted the trend towards all-electronic submission and reviewing for BV. Instead, we rely upon a mixed electronic-paper approach, with initial submissions and final manuscripts transmitted electronically. The principal reason that we have not gone all-electronic is because we feel that the review process is adversely affected by a purely electronic approach. In the electronic world, I feel that reviewers are less inclined to carefully annotate manuscripts for authors, despite the fact that annotation is a crucially important element of the review process for reviewers, authors, and editors alike. So we are staying with the current system, which seems to be working well for us. I would like to get feedback, positive or negative, on this important topic.

We try to limit manuscripts in terms of length. Some authors have experienced the return of their manuscripts for some shortening at the submission stage. This is for two reasons. First, we encourage and value conciseness and clarity in presenting research results. A second, more practical reason is that we are trying to reduce the time between electronic publication which occurs quickly after the proof stage, and print publication which occurs several months later. For cost reasons, BV is given a certain number of printed pages each year. Because of this constraint, many lengthy papers would increase the delay between electronic and print publication.

Some people have questioned the utility of a print journal in this electronic age. I think it is important to have both. BV serves the needs of many researchers. For scientists at certain volcano observatories, the print version is their only access to BV, either because of subscription problems or slow or non-existent Internet service. Furthermore, a print archive of BV in the library of a volcano observatory is an invaluable resource to many people at the observatory and beyond.

BV generally doesn’t do many special issues, but we actually have two in the system currently, the first on Cerro Galan and the second on volcanic gases. As Editor, I am always open to topical and timely subjects which could merit a special issue.

There are some things that we could do better. We have a category of articles, entitled “Review Papers”, which we have used so far in a responsive fashion, i.e., for submitted papers which meet the
Following the footsteps of the 2IMC, the 3IMC was supported phreatomagmatism in general in the evolution of such fields. Researchers working together on understanding the role of phreatomagmatism in the evolution of monogenetic volcanic fields, and the relative role of phreatomagmatic volcanoes discovered recently in the back of these vast monogenetic fields. In spite of the fact, that Argentina has several largely unknown zones of maar volcanoes in Central Europe. The main theme of the 3IMC conference was around the understanding of the role of phreatomagmatism in the evolution of volcanic fields. This theme was pre-determined by the location of the conference, nearby major back-arc monogenetic volcanic fields; the Llancanello and Payunia Volcanic Fields. These two volcanic fields host more than 800 volcanoes with superbly preserved architecture. The majority of these volcanoes are scoria cones, but interestingly few of them represent tuff rings and tuff cones. These tuff rings and tuff cones are clearly demonstrating that even in a volcanic field dominated by scoria cones (formed by magmatic fragmentation triggered eruptions) magma and water interaction-triggered eruptions can take place, and form their typical landforms of tuff rings and/or tuff cones (Risso et al. 2008). The questions of why and how perhaps the frontline subjects of scientific works today on volcanic fields, and the location in Argentina perfectly set the tone of the 3IMC. As a result of this, the submitted presentations represented a huge array of researches tackling these questions today.

The 3IMC originally offered four field trips; to the Puna, to Chubut, and two in the nearby Llancanello and Payunia Volcanic Fields. Unfortunately the first two offers had to be cancelled due to low number of registrants, while the other two trips went very well. However, a field guide from the Chubut diatreme fields has been prepared and available on the conference CD. The pre-congress field trip to Malacara tuff cone and Carapacho tuff ring was a great success. These two volcanoes represent the rare phreatomagmatic volcanoes discovered recently in the
Llancanello volcanic field. While Malacara tuff cone is a complex, fairly large volcano, it represents a transitional type of volcano with an almost fully exposed pyroclastic succession showing gradual shift of magma and water interaction to a more magmatic fragmentation-dominated explosive eruption style in its final eruptive stage. The Malacara tuff cone also represents an important site, which gradually became a major attraction in the region, and due to the intensive volcanological researches on it, by today it is one of the major attraction of the Llancanello volcanic fields. This process demonstrates well the original plan to develop Llancanello Volcanic Field a major geoconservation site, a potential geopark (Risso et al. 2006).

The Carapacho tuff ring is a more typical tuff ring, with clear evidences of deeper excavated zones, and thick tuff breccia successions with associated bases surge and phreatomagmatic fall deposits. This volcano is fairly well-preserved and it represents a rare example of purely phreatomagmatic volcano of the Llancanello Volcanic Field. During the pre-congress field trip a very mind opening discussion was possible to initiate among the participants.

During the conference an intra-congress field trip was offered, included in the registration fee, following earlier maar conference traditions, as being workshop style meeting. The intra-congress trip gave an opportunity to every participant to see the true rural Argentina, its vast land, semiarid environment with unusual vegetation and fauna, and perhaps a great range of volcanic features from monogenetic volcanic fields to trachytic calderas, domes, and lava coulees of the Payun Matru caldera. The field trip concentrated on major questions such as how monogenetic volcanic fields evolve, how and why they associated with central volcanoes. The trip also explained a greater aspect of the reasoning of monogenetic volcanism in southern Mendoza and across Patagonia.

The conference consisted of three full days of oral and poster presentations. There were no parallel sessions, a great idea adopted from the 2IMC to allow to maintain the interdisciplinary aspect of the congress. It is a great opportunity to have experts attend in a session normally they would cross out in case other parallel session would have been on which are closer to their direct expertise. Maar volcanoes are such complex volcanic features that study of them can be approached from many different and seemingly distant subjects, including experimental volcanology, clastic sedimentology, limnology, palinology or climate studies. The maar conference series in this respect are unique, and this value intended to be maintained in future meetings.

The conference presented four significant plenary lectures. Prof Volker Lorenz (Würzburg) presented a talk entitled “The maar-diatreme volcano: the peculiar volcano type that largely prefers to work underground”. In this presentation Prof Lorenz summarized his experiences on maar-diatreme volcanism from physical volcanology point of view, and made an excellent summary pointing out major research directions we may need to follow in the coming years such as understanding the diatreme formation, role of phreatomagmatism in composite volcanoes, and link between Kimberlite volcanism and normal basaltic monogenetic volcanism. Dr Guido Giordano (Rome) gave another very valuable plenary talk on “The hydrogeological conditions to maar formation”. This presentation had very important message to bring together hydrogeologists, hydrologist, sedimentologists and volcanologists to understand how phreatomagmatism and maar formation take place in continental settings. As water exists in the majority of sedimentary basins in continental settings, the understanding of the behaviour of this water in regard to its movement, recharge, and depletion processes would hugely advance our knowledge on magma and water interaction. In other hand Dr Giordano highlighted many facts on the magma rheology, migration, rise and fragmentation that need to be reconsidered to see clearly the feasibility of magma and water interactions in various “real world” crustal scenarios. He suggested that during the next maar conference, the hydrogeological aspects of phreatomagmatism may be the major focus. A plenary lecture gave a very comprehensive overview of the back arc monogenetic volcanism in Mendoza, and Northern Patagonia, presented by Prof Victor Ramos (Buenos Aires). His presentation “Payenia Volcanic Province: an exceptional Quaternary tectonic setting?” was a very fortunate lecture for the audience to help them to understand why monogenetic volcanic fields exist hundreds of kilometres behind the active subduction front, ranging in few millions of years ages to present day, very young eruptions. This lecture provided a good overview and supplement to the two field trip run to this nearby volcanic fields. Prof Greg Valentine (Buffalo) presentation entitled as “Processes and problems in intraplate volcanic fields - Source to eruption, and hazards”, gave a complete framework to the conference to highlight the major researches completed lately, and what need to be done in the near future to develop our understanding of
monogenetic volcanic field evolution. His presentation concentrated on the deep processes and the shallow manifestation (e.g. time and space distribution of volcanoes) of those. He highlighted the need to make more detailed and complex, well-targeted studies on monogenetic volcanoes of any type including volcanic petrology, sedimentology, modelling, and geomorphological works on small-volume volcanoes. According to him such combined effort on small-volume volcanoes can pick up signatures maybe possible to amalgamate into a general model.

The 3IMC finally had 78 presentations submitted and published in the conference volume as an extended abstract (Abstracts of the 3rd International Maar Conference, Malargüe-Argentina April 14-17, 2009, Asociación Geológica Argentina Publicaciones Especiales – Resúmenes y Eventos Serie D Nº 12 ISSN 0328-2767, Edited by Miguel J Haller and Gabriela I Massaferro, pp. 1-145). Due to the global economy crisis the total number of registered participants was lower than expected, but the organising committee was able to manage the conference to run smoothly with a very exciting scientific and social program.

During the 3IMC there were many very important presentations covered a wide range of subjects such as experimental volcanology, diatreme and root zone studies, maar lake climate archives, sedimentary processes of primary pyroclastic deposit forming eruptions of maars and other phreatomagmatic volcanoes, paleontology, palinology, geotourism and geoconservation. Argentina as a host country for the 3IMC was also the host of one of the very recent International Continental Drilling Projects, called the PASADO, aiming to understand the crater lakes accumulated in the Potrok Aike Maar lake in the Pali Aike Volcanic Field, in Santa Cruz Province in southern Argentina. Prof Bernd Zolitschka (Bremen) and his co-workers presented a very detailed update on the major outcomes of the Potrok Aike maar drillings. While this project was primarily planned work on the maar lake sediments, some off-spring researches targeted the primary pyroclastic successions accumulated around maar lakes in the Pali Aike Volcanic Field. Researches led by Dr. Pierre-Simon Ross (Quebec), Prof Miguel Haller (Puerto Madryn), Dr Hugo Corbella (La Plata) and Dr Karoly Nemeth (Palmerston North) demonstrated that the broad maars with shallow maar basins formed in the combination of the influence of strikingly different aquifers the rising magma encountered and being involved in phreatomagmatic explosions. The 3IMC also welcomed the first Chinese presenters in the maar conference histories. Prof Chu (Beijing) presentation on the maar lake sediments in the Longgang Volcanic Field, China as well as Prof Liu (Beijing) talk on the paleoclimate studies on maar lake sediments of the Aershan-Chaihe Maar Volcanic Field in East Inn Mongolia, China showed the emerging research fields in Asia, and its huge future potentials via collaborative works among sedimentologists and volcanologists. As a representation of such collaboration Prof Mingram (Potsdam) and his co-workers presentation on the potential of correlating chronomarkers in varved maar lake sediments is again confirmed that study of maar lake sediments is a powerful tool to understand climatic variations and changes. Other presentations of the 3IMC focused more on the primary processes. The formation of base surges, pyroclastic density currents and associated syn- and post-volcanic secondary sedimentary processes in association with maar and other phreatomagmatic volcanoes is relatively well understood, but the diverse case studies from many different regions such as US, Germany, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Costa Rica, Chile, Argentina, Mexico, Czech Republic, Hungary and Italy certainly provided an important snapshot what, where and how others doing in these days in the global map. Large scale analogue experiments in combination with subsequent numerical modelling presented by Dr Sulpizio (Bari) gave a very new research direction on pyroclastic density current formations. With this presentation Dr. Sulpizio and his co-workers were granted by the Jim Luhr Award funded by the 3IMC as a major award given to research presentations during the International Maar Conference event.

Overall the quality of the presentations was high, and many new research directions became evident for the participants which was nicely presented in the opening key note speech by Prof Volker Lorenz (Würzburg). There is an unquestionable tendency of dramatic increase in the number of publications associated with
monogenetic volcanism, many of them centred by the multidisciplinary researches on maar volcanoes in the past 10 years. This tendency is marked by the year 2000 by the 1IMC. By now, having the 3IMC completed, it is sure that this tendency will further develop. A multidisciplinary research volume as a Special Issue for a major international specialist journal will be edited by Prof Miguel Haller and Dr Karoly Nemeth. In the end of the 3IMC, the participants, in accordance with the given bids, have decided to have the Fourth International Maar Conference: as an interdisciplinary congress on monogenetic volcanism (4IMC) in 5-12 February 2012, in Auckland New Zealand.

We hope that the majority of the 3IMC participants will be able to join to the 4IMC in Auckland, and many new faces will bring their researches on this peculiar type of volcanoes, maars and associated features.

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Publications of the 3IMC

Publications of the 3IMC will be available via the IAVCEI library. Alternatively you can request a CD with electronic version of the Abstracts and Field Guides via email order to Prof Miguel J Haller () or Prof Corina Risso (corinarisso@fibertel.com.ar).


2008 COLLAPSE CALDERAS WORKSHOP

LA MURALLA, QUERÉTARO, MEXICO
OCTOBER 19-25, 2008

The Collapse Caldera Commission of IAVCEI convened this second workshop with the title of “Reconstructing the Evolution of Collapse Calderas: Magma Storage, Mobilization and Eruption” to further the understanding of the processes that lead to the formation and destruction of large calderas as well as to facilitate communication between scientists working in this field. This workshop follows the Commission’s first working meeting held in Tenerife, Spain in 2005. It aimed to seek a wider participation and focus on other related disciplines, such as magma physics, geophysical techniques, hazard and risk evaluation, economic and mining aspects, geothermal assessments, as well as process modeling. The workshop was convened by the Commission’s president, Joachim Gottsmann, and organized by Gerardo J. Aguirre of the Univ. Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM) in Querétaro.

The workshop was held at the Hotel Misión La Muralla, centrally located among numerous calderas that form the Central Mexican Volcanic Belt, near the city of Querétaro, a 2 hour’s drive northwest of Mexico City. During the 1910 Mexican Revolution, the La Muralla hacienda dating back to Spanish colonial times was occupied by revolutionaries: today the hacienda is a 4-star hosteria, rebuilt and carrying on with old traditions. Accordingly, as the workshop participants arrived by car at La Muralla, they were challenged and scrutinized by bearded revolutionary troops dressed in ponchos and sombreros and armed with rifles and bandoleers. Fortunately our group didn’t look like counter-revolutionaries!!

The Workshop had two full-day sessions characterized by keynote talks, poster sessions, and panel discussions following each thematic session. Each poster was introduced by a 5 minute talk by the author. The principal sessions dealt with the geological studies of calderas, petrologic investigations, case studies of caldera collapses, geophysical investigations, examples of caldera monitoring, and also modeling of caldera processes. Abstracts were published by IOP and are available at http://www.iop.org/EJ/toc/1755-1315/3/1.
The first field trip visited the Pliocene Dongunyó-Huichapan caldera complex and its interior Hualtepec lava dome; the Huichapan Tuff. The second field trip took us to nearby Amealco caldera and its intra-caldera lava domes, generally covered by younger deposits; however, good outcrops of the last lithic lag breccias and the Amealco Tuff were examined in the area. The complexity of the tectonic setting of the Central Mexican Volcanic Belt became apparent as we crossed the Acambay Graben, observed evidence of considerable regional faulting, and noted the fault-related distribution of the many volcanic centers.

The day’s end found us touring Los Azufres geothermal field, which generates about 190 Mw of electricity. On the third field trip we examined the pumice fall deposits from the late Miocene Amazcala caldera which with the help of water re-working developed a 30 m-thick stratified deposit which is being actively mined. At the town of Colon we studied a lithic- and crystal-poor ignimbrite from this caldera which is either poorly-welded or weakly-cemented by vapor phase crystallization.

Unfortunately the meeting was attended by only half of the participants for which the meeting was designed, undoubtedly related to the high cost of air transportation this year as well as that of this meeting.
CVS MAAR-DIATREME WORKSHOP

CVS Workshop on Maar-Diatreme Volcanism
(James DL White, trip leader)

From October 24th to 29th a small group of volcanologists and geologists examined the superbly exposed nephelinite-/monchiquite maar-diatreme volcanoes at Hopi Buttes in central Arizona. The field workshop brought together a diverse group of geologists from university, industry and government interested in phreatomagmatic volcanism and the evolution of these volcanoes. The main aim was to examine the volcanic and volcano-sedimentary deposits and discuss interpretations of the processes that formed these deposits. An important central theme of discussion throughout the workshop was the exchange of views on how observations at Hopi Buttes were relevant for understanding maar-diatreme volcanism in other volcanic fields, and in ‘non-basaltic’ kimberlite magmatic systems. The workshop was sponsored by IAVCEI via the Commission on Volcanogenic Sediments and led by James White of the University of Otago.

The Hopi Buttes volcanic field lies in an arid region with little vegetation, nor thick soils to obscure the geology. These igneous rocks are young in age (Neogence, ca. 7 Ma) and have not been metamorphosed or structurally modified. More importantly, however, there is a ~100 m change in relief across the volcanic field from northeast to southwest which enables different structural levels of these maar-diatreme volcanoes to be viewed. This variation in erosion allows for the examination of thin distal eruptive products within sedimentary units and maar crater rim and maar-filling deposits, along with excellent exposures of lower crater zone/upper diatreme zone and diatreme zone deposits, and lower diatreme zone/root zone and root zone rocks.

A variety of localities were visited, including the sedimentary succession that hosts the Hopi Buttes volcanic rocks, lower root zone rocks at Castle Butte and Flying Butte, crater rim, crater in-filling deposits and distal pyroclastic units in the Greasewood area and at Teshim, diatreme zone rocks at Black Rock, and upper diatreme zone to crater zone rocks at Hoskietso Butte and Round Butte. The great diversity of the superb exposures of volcanic and volcano-sedimentary rocks led to numerous excellent outcrop discussions. A wide variety of concepts and ideas were considered at length, including the paleodepositional environment ~7 million years ago (Standing surface water? Arid with ephemeral streams? Groundwater availability?) with respect to the potential for explosive magma – water interaction; the multiple distinct rock units with dominantly vertical contact features common to the diatreme zone; evidence for and against subsidence of crater in-filling deposits; sediment - magma interaction in root zone hypabyssal rocks, and; the wide variation in depth to the root zone at adjacent volcanic complexes.

Based on the variety of discussions over the course of 6 days, a simple conclusion from the field workshop is that while general concepts about small volume basaltic phreatomagmatic volcanism are fairly well understood, in detail, there is still much to be learned. This is suggested to be in part due to the typically limited overall exposures that can be observed e.g., road cuts or open pit mines, at one phreatomagmatic center. In this regard, the superb outcrops at Hopi Buttes provide a compelling field area that should provide future insight to understanding the details of phreatomagmatic volcanism.

by Bruce Kjarsgaard, Geological Survey of Canada
Tom Simkin, 75, a great friend of volcanologists and vulcanology worldwide, passed away on June 10. His sudden death from sepsis was an especially rough surprise as he appeared to be successfully battling esophageal cancer. But he left much for us to remember.

Tom’s college nickname, “Bear,” stemmed from a spectator’s exclamation as he cleared the high jump bar in the Penn Relays, and from his sturdy stature and speed as offensive fullback and defensive tackle for Swarthmore’s Class of 1955 – and was reinforced by his informality and personal warmth. He stayed fit through a life of field work and bicycling to work through rain or shine (estimated total ride: 200,000 km). After a 2-year stint with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey off Alaska, he returned to school and shifted from engineering to geology during an exciting time at Princeton, where he finished his PhD in 1960.

Tom was a curator and founding director of the Smithsonian’s Global Volcanism Program which, over the course of more than 3 decades, has grown from a fledgling information clearinghouse to be a global authority on volcanism. Volcanoes of the World and the underlying database were pioneers in an information era and are the authoritative sources on Holocene and historical volcanism, while the Global Volcanism Network and its Bulletin are the primary clearinghouse for information on current volcanism. Part of Tom’s strategy for making the Smithsonian’s compilations authoritative was to invite specialists from each region to visit the Museum for weeks or months, and often to stay in his home so discussions could continue over drinks and good food graciously prepared by his wife, Sharon. Requests for information were always balanced with fair trades!

His own fieldwork was mostly in Scotland and the Galapagos, and those places and their people remained dear to Tom for life. He brought museum exhibits alive with modern volcanism, and reconstructed classic eruptions such as Krakatau (with Dick Fiske) and Paricutin (with Jim Luhr) with consummate scholarship. Though he officially retired from the Smithsonian in 2003, he remained active and was the lead author of a masterful and now interactive map, This Dynamic Planet, revised in 2006.

Tom was a perfectionist scholar, with great respect for history and infinite attention to detail. Some of his collaborators experienced delays while yet another fact required checking, but in the end, whatever he published was very likely to be right. I don’t think Tom would ever say “100% sure” but he left no uncertainty unchecked or unflagged. If there was a potential artifact in data, Tom would find it. His field notes – and even his notes of daily conversations – are models of detail.

Many of us will remember long, inspiring talks with Tom, on matters ranging from science to politics to philosophies of life. He was a deeply thoughtful man who would pause before every answer, consider every side of every argument, and debate with himself before others. Some of Tom’s skill at listening, respect for individuals, and disdain for elitists and grandstanders no doubt came from his parents, who followed the Quaker traditions of service and respect for every man.

While respecting all who would contribute new information, however modest, Tom had little tolerance for those who would abuse or bias information for their personal gain. If your motives were for personal fame or fortune, you slipped in Tom’s book, and if your science was also suspect, Tom agonized over your case. While some would say “If a person wants to make of fool of himself, let ‘em,” Tom would say, “No, that’s not right and we’d be shirking our responsibility to those at risk.”

He was an unrushed mentor and model for many, whether for the 6 year old child of a friend, a 26 year old graduate student or new employee, a 46 year old pausing to chart a new course at midlife, or a 66 year old retiree and grandparent. He set high expectations for his children Shona and Adam but loved them unconditionally, and took great pleasure in their successes and his two grandchildren. Tom also enjoyed playing the banjo, the music of such artists as Richard Thompson and Jerry Garcia, eating and drinking well, travel, and all other parts of a well-rounded life.

In recognition of his deep concerns for individuals and humanity, and his work to internationalize volcanology and connect individuals and information needed for the safety of those who lived and worked near volcanoes, Tom was the first recipient of IAVCEI’s Krafft Award in 2004. In recognition of his science and his mentoring, he was further awarded the Virginia Museum of Natural History’s Jefferson Medal in 2009.

Tom is survived by Sharon, his wife of nearly 44 years, by their two children Shona and Adam, and their families.

It’s always sad to say goodbye, but we say goodbye to Tom with great respect and thanks for making our community and world better for his passing through.

Chris Newhall

I AMCEI News 2009 No. 1 Page 10
IAVCEI RESEARCH GRANTS

Call for Applications to IAVCEI Research Project Fund
Joan Martí, Secretary General

On behalf of the IAVCEI Executive Committee, I am pleased to inform you of the call for applications to the IAVCEI Research Project Fund.

The maximum funding for each research project is 20,000 Euros.

Research proposals should be targeted for the themes fulfilling the IAVCEI main objectives. In particular, we encourage applications for collaborative researches between IAVCEI members from different world regions. The IAVCEI research project fund can be a part of the whole budget of the project; rather, we encourage the projects which will be carried out with additional financial supports.

The application form is available in the IAVCEI Members page of the website. The applications must arrive by 1 October 2009. All applications must be submitted by email to joan.marti@ija.csic.es. Only the electronic application with the form of the website is acceptable. This funding is reserved for the IAVCEI members, and applications from non-members are not valid.

All items in the application form are requested to be filled, such as roles of the applicants and research partners in the project, the research plan, financial program including the IAVCEI fund, and so on.

For further information on the IAVCEI research project fund, please check the IAVCEI website (www.iavcei.org).

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Table 1. Provisional budget of IAVCEI in 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incomes:</th>
<th>(in Euros)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Memberships</td>
<td>13,422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual allocation from IUGG</td>
<td>14,735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance in December 2008</td>
<td>86,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>114,342</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditures:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Server (maintenance and software licence)</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SG travel and accommodation at IUGG EC meeting (Oct 2009)</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumables</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial supports:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings/workshops</td>
<td>12,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IAVCEI research projects</td>
<td>40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reserve forward (provisional)</td>
<td>51,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>114,342</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Newsletter compiled by James White
University of Otago, New Zealand