

Letter From the President,

Jan van der Kruk

After this long and cold winter, spring is coming and several conferences are on the Horizon. SAGEEP will be held April 11-15, 2009 in Key Stone, Colorado. The General Assembly 2010 (EGU) will be held May 2-7 in Vienna, Austria. The Ground Penetrating Radar conference will be held June 21-25 in Lecce, Italy. This year, the meeting of the Americas (AGU) will be held August 8-13 in Foz do Iguassu, Brazil and as usual will have multiple Near Surface Geophysics technical sessions. We are looking forward to good participation at these events.

The 80th SEG Annual Meeting, Colorado, takes place in Denver from 17-22 October and the submission system is already open. Xianhuai Zhu and Klaus Holliger are the Technical Chairmen this year for the Near Surface Geophysics part of the SEG annual meeting. They are looking forward to organizing high quality sessions. This year we will have in addition to the regular sessions three special sessions: 1) Hydrogeophysics, 2) Geohazards and Public Safety and 3) Geophysics at the Community Scale. We are looking forward to a great Technical Program and hope that you can contribute to it by submitting your expanded abstract before the submission deadline of 7 April 2010.

I would encourage all undergraduates and graduate students with interest in near-surface related problems to join the NSG Section. Your participation and involvement is very important. Student membership is free and travel grants of \$500 are available to support students attending the SEG annual meeting. We greatly appreciate the funding from the sponsors! Without your help the student funding and event organization are not possible. If you like to contribute to the student scholarship or SEG annual meeting events please contact me or Larry.

Best wishes and I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming meetings.

Sincerely,

Jan van der Kruk

President, Near Surface Geophysics Section of SEG

SAGEEP Business Meeting

Date: Sunday April 11

Time: 3:30 - 5:30 pm

Where: Castle Peak I, Second floor of the Keystone Conference Center

The business meeting affords an opportunity to talk with fellow NSGS members and to discuss goals for the NSGS.

Call for Papers

ICEEG2010 Abstracts

Due date: March 31, 2010

A geohazard is a kind of natural hazard. In recent years, geohazards have occurred frequently in China and caused serious damage to people's lives and property. As a branch of geophysics, near-surface geophysics is mainly applied in the detection and assessment of rock-soil slopes, ground deformation, mine disasters, and water resource deterioration. The geophysical techniques used are non-intrusive, non-destructive, cost-effective, large-scale or small-scale, and can remotely acquire three-dimensional, and even four-dimensional representations of underground media. Due to broad applications of geophysical techniques in the environmental and engineering fields, they are of great significance for the sustainable development of the human society.

We are pleased to be hosting the 4th International Conference on Environment and Engineering Geophysics in Chengdu, China, on **June 14-17, 2010**. It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in this exciting event and to enjoy the hospitality of the city of Chengdu.

More information can be found at: <http://www.iceeg.cn/>

TLE Special Section on: Shallow Hazards

Due date: April 16, 2010

Shallow geohazards are found across a wide range of geologic settings, with varying degrees and types of risk to life and property. The number and type of geohazards are as vast and diverse as the different geologic provinces that span the globe. As we utilize some of the most challenging of these areas for economic development, habitation, recreation, energy, and transportation, so comes the need to characterize the risks and ensure that controls are put in place to properly understand and reduce the risks in these environments.

Near-surface geoscientists have been developing and using geophysics as a frontline tool for many years to evaluate potential subsurface instabilities and the

associated threats that these shallow hazards pose to surface habitation and invasive development. This area of study and practice includes an enormous range of continuously changing and evolving applications and geophysical tools. Topics solicited include everything from slope stability in alpine regions to monitoring surface structures that harness nature to overpressured zones associated with gas hydrates. We expect this special section to have broad society interest and contributions.

Please check the [TLE editorial calendar](#) for submission information. **Due date for papers is April 16.**

Guest Editors: Rick Miller and Jeff Deere

JEEG Special Issue on: Dam Safety

Due Date: May 30, 2010

The Journal of Environmental and Engineering Geophysics (JEEG) announces a Call for Papers for a special issue on geophysics for dam safety. The Dam Safety issue is scheduled for publication in March 2011. The special issue editor is Dr. Michael H. Powers, U.S. Geological Survey, Denver, CO. Sponsorship of this issue is still open. Papers describing the successful use of one or more geophysical surveys to understand engineering issues of concern for dam safety risk assessment and/or remediation are sought. The issues can include foundation and/or embankment property measurements, fault analyses for earthquake hazard potential, basin studies to better understand hydrological risks, or other safety concerns. Preference will be given for papers with supporting information to substantiate the geophysical models. International contributions are encouraged. The final special issue can only accommodate a maximum of seven or eight papers, but all accepted papers will be considered for publication in other JEEG issues. Papers can be submitted through the JEEG submission site, <http://jeeg.allentrack.net>. Indicate in the cover letter that the paper is for consideration in the Dam Safety special issue.

The deadline for submissions is May 30, 2010.

Questions may be directed to:

Special Issue Editor—Michael H. Powers, mhpowers@usgs.gov

JEEG Editor—Janet Simms, Janet.E.Simms@usace.army.mil

TLE Special Section on: Near-surface

Due date: October 16, 2010

Publication date: February, 2011

Look for more information on this special section in the next newsletter.

Upcoming Courses & Conferences

Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Environmental and Engineering Problems (SAGEEP)

April 11 - 15, 2010

Keystone, Colorado

An NSGS business meeting will be held sometime during the conference (time/place TBA). All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. More information on the conference can be found at <http://www.eegs.org/>.

2010 Conferences of Interest

| Conference | Date | Location | Website |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| EAGE/EAGO/SEG 4th International Conference & Exhibition | 5 – 8 April | Saint Petersburg, Russia | http://www.eage.org/events/index.php?evp=2812&ActiveMenu=2 |
| EGM 2010 International Workshop, "The added value of electromagnetic, gravity and magnetic methods for exploration" | 11 – 14 April | Capri, Italy | http://www2.ogs.trieste.it/egm/ |
| ASSW 2010 — Arctic Science Summit Week | 15 – 19 April | Nuuk, Greenland | http://www.assw2010.org/index.php?id=7 |
| EGU General Assembly | 02 – 07 May | Vienna, Austria | http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2010/ |
| Advanced Conference on Seismic Risk Mitigation and Sustainable Development | 10 - 14 May | Trieste, Italy | http://cadsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?smr=0&ida=a09145 |
| GEOCanada 2010 | 10 – 14 May | Calgary, Alberta | http://www.geocanada2010.ca/ |
| International Symposium on Sea Ice | 31 May – 4 June | Tromso, Norway | http://www.igsoc.org/symposia/2010/Tromso/ |
| 28th IUGG Conference on Mathematical Geophysics | 7 – 11 June | Pisa, Italy | http://cmg2010.pi.ingv.it/ |
| International Polar Year - The IPY Oslo Science Conference | 8 - 12 June | Oslo, Norway | http://www.ipy-osc.no/ |
| Third European Conference on Permafrost | 13 - 17 June | Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway | http://www.eucop2010.no/ |
| Near Surface Geophysics Workshop, Preceding ICEEG 2010 | 14 – 17 June | Chengdu, China | http://www.iceeg.cn/ |
| 4th International Conference on Environmental and Engineering Geophysics (ICEEG) | 14 – 17 June | Chengdu, China | http://www.iceeg.cn/ |
| 72nd EAGE Conference & Exhibition incorporating SPE EUROPEC 2010 | 14 – 17 June | Barcelona, Spain | http://www.eage.org/events/index.php?eventid=297&Opendivs=s3 |
| XIII International Conference on Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR 2010) | 21 - 25 June | Lecce, Italy | http://www.ibam.cnr.it/gpr2010/ |
| 2010 Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting | 22–25 June | Taipei, Taiwan | http://www.agu.org/meetings/wp10/ |
| Water 2010 | 5 – 7 July | Quebec, Canada | http://www.water2010.org/ |
| 2010 The Meeting of the Americas | 8 – 13 August | Foz do Iguaçu – PR, Brazil | http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja10/ |
| SEG/EAGE Summer Research Workshop, "Low Frequencies: their values and challenges" | 15 – 20 August | Snowbird, UT, USA | http://www.seg.org/SEGportalWEBproject/portals/SEG_Online.portal?nfpb=true&pageLabel=pg_gen_content&Doc_Url=prod/SEG-Meetings/Mtgs-Upcoming-Mtgs/SRW.htm |
| XIII Symposium on Water-Rock Interaction | 16 - 20 August | Guanajuato, Mexico | http://wri13.cicese.mx/ |
| ASEG Exposition | 22 – 26 August | Sydney, Australia | http://www.aseg-pesa2010.com.au/ |
| European Conference on Earthquake Engineering | 30 August - 01 September | Ohrid, Macedonia | http://www.14ecee.mk/ |
| SEG International Exposition and 80th Annual Meeting | 17 – 22 September | Denver, CO, USA | http://www.seg.org/SEGportalWEBproject/portals/SEG_Online.portal?nfpb=true&pageLabel=pg_gen_content&Doc_Url=prod/SEG-Meetings/Mtgs-Annual-Meeting/2010overview.htm |
| 2010 AGU Fall Meeting | 13 – 17 December | San Francisco, CA, USA | http://www.agu.org/meetings/fm10/ |

Call for NSGS Executive Committee Nominations

The NSGS Nominations Committee is soliciting nominations for President-Elect and Treasurer for the 2010/2011 NSGS Executive Committee. The duties of the officers can be found at http://nsgs.seg.org/Bylaws_October2008.pdf. If you would like to be nominated or you would like to nominate someone, please let us know by emailing us at nsgs@seg.org. We encourage any member with interest in strengthening the NSG community to become more involved in the NSGS.

Call For Awards Nominations

Harold Mooney Award

The Harold Mooney Award is presented by the NSG Section during its reception and dinner at the SEG annual meeting. The honoree is chosen by his or her peers through nominations from the membership and recommendation to the NSG Section Executive Committee. The award is presented to an individual in recognition of long-term, tireless, and enthusiastic support of the near-surface geophysics community through education, outreach efforts, professional service, or development of opportunities with other professional disciplines that employ geophysics.

Frishknecht Leadership Award

The Frank Frischknecht Leadership Award is jointly presented by the NSG Section and the Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS). The award alternates (on an approximately 18-month interval) between the SAGEEP meeting and the NSG Section's banquet at the SEG annual meeting. This year it will be presented by the EEGS, but the NSGS can send nominations to the EEGS for consideration. The Frank Frischknecht Leadership Award is established to recognize an individual who shows extraordinary leadership in advancing the cause of near-surface geophysics.

For more information see <http://nsgs.seg.org/section-awards.htm>

Send nominations to Larry Bentley (Treasurer NSGS) by email (lbentley@ucalgary.ca) or snail mail (Department of Geoscience, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, Canada). The nomination should contain the name, title and affiliation of the candidate along with a statement describing the reasons for the nomination.

Near Surface in Journals

Geophysics Hydrogeophysics Special Section

Coming July-August issue of GEOPHYSICS will contain the special section "Hydrogeophysics - Electric and Electromagnetic Methods". More than 20 hydrogeophysics papers are dedicated to revealing properties and monitoring processes in the vadose zone as well as in aquifers using Electrical resistance tomography (ERT), Self Potential (SP), Induced polarization (IP), Airborne Time domain Electromagnetics (ATEM), Frequency domain Electromagnetics (FDEM), Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) or Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). New theory and techniques are discussed and several case studies illustrate the potential of hydrogeophysical techniques and also the pitfalls, problems and limitations for a wide range of application scales. Thanks to all the authors and reviewers that contributed to this special issue!

Evert Slob, André Revil and Jan van der Kruk

Student Travel Grants to SEG 2010

Purpose

The NSG Section Student Travel Grant Program exists to encourage students seeking a career in near-surface geophysics to attend the SEG Annual Meeting. Each year a number travel grants of \$500 (USD) may be awarded.

Eligibility

Students with research projects in near-surface geophysics are eligible for a travel grant. Preference will be given to students presenting oral or poster papers at the SEG Annual Meeting. The applicant must be a student member of NSG Section.

Applications

For full consideration, applications should be submitted by the end of June, 2010. However, applications will be accepted until August, 2010. Applications should be submitted by email to

Annual Meeting Travel Grants

SEG Foundation

P.O. Box 702740

Tulsa, Oklahoma 74170-2740 USA

Fax: 918-497-5560

Or (preferred)

Sent electronically to <https://www.grantinterface.com/SEG/Common/LogOn.aspx>

The application Should contain at a minimum:

1. Name, address, telephone number, and e-mail, including permanent school and summer addresses
2. Affiliation (college or university, department, and academic advisor)
3. Maximum, one page summary, listing course work in geophysics, synopsis of planned career and financial need if appropriate.

4. Research topic (preferred, the expanded abstract of the SEG Annual Meeting presentation)

5. Letter of confirmation of enrolment from academic advisor

Selection

A Selection Committee consisting of the NSGS Awards Committee or Past-President, President, and President-Elect will review the applications and recommend awards to the Executive Committee. The Selection Committee will notify the award recipients one month after the deadline for applications.

Payment

The travel grants will be awarded at the NSG Section dinner reception or business meeting during the SEG convention. Award winners receive a free invitation to the reception if charges are applied.

Ph.D. Position in Electromagnetic Geophysics

The Institute of Geophysics at the University of Lausanne has an opening for a doctoral student in the field of electromagnetic geophysics. The selected student will develop techniques for time-lapse and stochastic inversion of radio and audio magnetotelluric data with applications to hydrology. The position is funded for three years and the starting date is June 1, 2010 or a later date to be decided upon. The successful candidate should hold a MSc degree in geophysics, physics, environmental engineering or computational hydrology. He/she should have a keen interest and preferably some experience in scientific computing, geophysical and/or hydrological forward modeling and inversion. We are a dynamic international research group working on a wide variety of topics in environmental and computational geophysics. Basic knowledge of French is an advantage, but not a requirement. Our institute is well equipped, evolving dynamically, and scenically located on the shores of Lake Geneva, a region of outstanding beauty that offers a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere and a very high quality of life.

To apply, please send a cover letter clarifying your overall motivation for entering a PhD program together with your curriculum vitae and the names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of two referees to Prof. Niklas Linde, Institute of

Geophysics, Amphipôle Building, University of Lausanne, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland or e-mail to: niklas.linde@unil.ch. The **deadline for submission of applications is April 30, 2010**.

Erratum

In our last newsletter, we regrettably miss-identified the late Roger Young as Robert Young. We apologize for the error.