

Minutes IGUR annual meeting 2011

At 12th International Conference on Urban Drainage, Porto Alegre, Brazil,
September 13th, 2011, 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Participants: Patrick Willems (Chairman), Thomas Einfalt (Secretary), Marie-Claire ten Veldhuis, Søren Thorndahl, Alex Torpenholt Jørgensen, Ida Bülow Gregersen, Hjalte Sarop, Jens Jørgen Linde, Manfred Kleidorfer, Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen, Niels Einar Jensen, Assela Pathirana, Kapil Gupta, Simon Beecham, Li-Pen Wang, Daniel Schertzer, Auguste Gires, Mohamed Nor Desa, Bartholomew Emily Ayu

1. Welcome

The chairman Patrick Willems welcomed the participants of the annual IGUR meeting.

2. Minutes of the previous annual IGUR meeting in St.Moritz, December 2009

The minutes of the last IGUR meeting were approved without any addition.

3. Chairperson and secretary elections

Given that the first 3-years term of the current IGUR chairperson, Patrick Willems, passed, chairperson and secretary elections had to be discussed. Given that the current chairperson was ready to accept a second term, the IGUR members decided to re-elect him for a second 3-years term by hand clapping. Also Thomas Einfalt accepted to remain in place as secretary for another term of 3 years.

4. IGUR activities or supported by IGUR since previous IGUR meeting

- Special Issue Atmospheric research: The IGUR was guest editor of a Special Issue of Atmospheric Research on “Precipitation in Urban Areas - Rainfall in the urban context: forecasting, risk and climate change”. In that Special Issue, extended papers are being published of the 8th Workshop on Precipitation in Urban Areas (St.Moritz, 10-13 December 2009). The members of the Guest Editorial Board are Patrick Willems (chair), Peter Molnar, Thomas Einfalt, Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen, Christian Onof, Van-Thanh-Van Nguyen and Paolo Burlando. In total, 17 papers have been submitted, of which 12 were accepted (with minor or major revision). The IGUR guest editorial board also prepared a foreword for the special issue. Publication of the Special Issue is envisaged for autumn 2011.
- Climate Change article: One of the papers accepted for publication in the special issue (see previous point) has been prepared by the IGUR as an outcome of one of its activities: a state-of-the-art paper on “climate change and urban drainage”: *Willems, P., Arnbjerg-Nielsen, K., Olsson, J., Nguyen, V.T.V. (2011), ‘Climate change impact assessment on urban rainfall extremes and urban drainage: methods and shortcomings’, Atmospheric Research, 10.1016/j.atmosres.2011.04.003*
- Climate Change state-of-the-art review report in preparation: Currently, the IGUR is finalizing a state-of-the-art review report on the topic of “climate change and urban drainage”. The AR special issue paper (see previous point) is a short summarized version of that report. The more extensive review report presumably will be published as IWA book (a review is currently organized by IWA Publishing). Seven IGUR members are currently involved in its preparation. This book project was discussed during the meeting. Assela Pathirana proposed to contribute with a chapter on “dynamic downscaling”. The meeting considered this a good idea. Simon Beecham agreed to review the chapter on “climate change adaptation needs and strategies”.
- Review of abstracts and papers for international conferences (Novatech2010, 12ICUD). The IGUR has participated in the review of several urban rainfall related papers for the Novatech2010 Conference. For the 12ICUD conference, urban rainfall and climate change related papers were reviewed by members of the IGUR, and three technical sessions on “urban rainfall” coordinated by the IGUR.
- Support of Balkan conference on Precipitation. The IGUR supported the organisation of the 2nd Regional Rainfall Conference of the Balkans, and was involved in the scientific committee of that conference. The conference was held in Belgrade (Serbia) on 3-5 November 2010 and focused on the topic of “Regional rainfall and climate change”.

- IWA book chapter on “hot issues” in urban drainage. The IGUR contributed (as one of the working groups of the IWA/IAHR Joint Committee on Urban Drainage) to the new IWA book on "Global Trends & Challenges in Water Science, Research and Management --- A compendium of hot topics and features from IWA Specialist Groups" (to appear end of 2011): “Rainfall extremes and urban drainage”, P.Willems & Th.Einfalt
- IGUR Working Group reports have been prepared and submitted to the JCUD in January 2010 (incorporation in the annual JCUD Newsletter 2009), in June 2010 (before the Novatech2010 meeting), in January 2011 (incorporation in the annual JCUD Newsletter 2010) and in September 2011 (before the 12ICUD meeting).

5. News from the JCUD

Patrick Willems, supported by Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen, took reading of the most relevant items in the JCUD-meeting on Sunday afternoon, September 11th at the 12ICUD:

- New chair: David Butler
- More members from China, developing countries wanted; more activities linked to developing countries aimed
- More contributions from Urban Drainage people in IWA activities/conferences wanted (e.g. “Cities of the Future”; Busan conference)
- 13ICUD will be held in Kuching, Malaysia
- New JCUD website: please send in your contributions
- Urban Water Journal: has impact factor, special issues are possible

6. Other reports by IGUR members

The following other reports on activities by IGUR members were presented:

- Simon Beecham reported on a new research project for the Goyder Institute for Water Research on “Climate Projections for South Australia“ incorporating downscaling methods. The SEACI project is another climate change project centered around Victoria and including statistical downscaling methods down to a size of 5 km. Here, participants include CSIRO, BoM and other state organizations.
- Thomas Einfalt reported on the national working group in Germany about rainfall measurement by radar hosted by the Association of the German Engineers: VDI 3786
- Marie-Claire ten Veldhuis reported on the recently approved Interreg NWE project “RAINGAIN: Advanced observation systems for enhanced street scale urban surface flood prediction, warning and risk management“. Partners include the IGUR members Marie-Claire ten Veldhuis (project coordinator), Patrick Willems (WP leader on fine-scale rainfall estimation and forecasting) and IGUR meeting participant Daniel Schetzer (WP leader on radar data acquisition).

7. Future IGUR activities

- Follow-up / finalize Special Issue Atmospheric Research (see above: lead: Patrick Willems)
- Review report and book project on climate change & urban rainfall will be finalized in 2011 (see above; lead: Patrick Willems)
- Next International Workshop on Urban Rainfall at St. Moritz, 6-9 December 2012 (co-organized by Thomas Einfalt)
- Future conferences and workshops of importance
 - o UDM 2012, Belgrade, September
 - o HIC 2012, Hamburg, July
 - o ERAD 2012, Toulouse, June
 - o IWA World Water Congress, Busan, South Korea, 16-21 Sept. 2012: request by JCUD to contribute to workshop on “Innovative management of torrential rainfall in urban areas”, proposed by JCUD member Hiroaki Furumai

8. Update of IGUR members list and website

Update of the members list was discussed. The IGUR got requests from Jonas Olsson of the Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute, from Marie-Claire ten Veldhuis of the TU Delft, from Assela Pathirana of UNESCO-IHE and Sri Lanka, and from Søren Thorndahl of Aalborg University to become members of the IGUR. The IGUR welcomed Jonas, Marie-Claire, Assela and Søren as new members. For Jonas Olsson and Marie-Claire ten Veldhuis a second seat was available for Sweden and The Netherlands. Søren Thorndahl (Denmark) will replace Michael Rasmussen, and Assela will be the first member from Sri Lanka.

The website will be updated with this annual meeting report, the IGUR reports to JCUD, the news on future conferences and workshops, and list of members (Patrick Willems).

9. Next annual IGUR meetings

The next annual IGUR meetings will be:

- 2012 St. Moritz
- 2013 Novatech, Lyon
- 2014 ICUD, Malaysia

10. Any other item

Simon Beecham expressed in name of the participants a special word of thanks to the IGUR chairperson and secretary for their efforts during the last years in having several successful activities ongoing, and their willingness to continue chairing the group.