

Postponed IGUR Annual Meeting 2020

Minutes

Time: 9.00 a.m. – 10 a.m. GMT, Friday 9 April 2021

Location: Zoom (virtual)

Participants:

Simon Beecham (IGUR chairman)
Baxter Vieux
Daniel Schertzer
Guido Vaes
Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen
Marek Sowinski
Patrick Willems
Sandra Hellmers
Søren Thorndahl
Thomas Einfalt (IGUR secretary, minutes)

1. **Welcome**

Simon Beecham (chairman of IGUR) and Thomas Einfalt (secretary of IGUR) welcomed the participants.

2. **Minutes of previous meeting**

There were no remarks to the minutes of the last meeting during NOVATECH 2019 in Lyon, France, 2 July 2019. Thus, the minutes were approved.

3. **IGUR activities since the previous meeting**

Discussion on impact of COVID-19 on planned IGUR activities as well as reports on relevant conferences, seminars and workshops: Round table discussion.

The participants reported that numerous meetings were canceled in 2020 or postponed to 2021. This was also the case for the ICUD conference scheduled for September 2020 in Melbourne, Australia.

Daniel Schertzer reported that the EGU and the AGU meetings were among the few that took place, already in a virtual format, with a given impact on the participation. For instance, EGU 2021 received 13 000 abstracts instead of 16 000. However, this did not prevent to pursue the activities on “Urban Geosciences” that became in 2019 an Inter-

Transdisciplinary sub-program at EGU. In 2020, it served as a basis to organise a Great e-Debate on "[Epidemics, Urban Systems and Geosciences](#)". On the contrary, the France radar coordination has remained on hold largely due to the lockdowns.

The videos of the presentations of UrbanRain2018 have been postprocessed by **Jörg Rieckermann**. The YouTube channel of UrbanRain2018 is online, it needs to get consent from presenters to officially publish vids.

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmBdGGn-GshY76_nlJtJfT39UtkS_lyt8

The IGUR website has been prepared by **Martin Fenc** and is accessible at <http://igur.org/>

It was proposed to add information on open data which may be useful for research in the urban drainage / precipitation field. Martin will collect input for this.

Søren Thorndahl is guest editor of:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing/special_issues/weather_radar_urban and invites authors to submit their papers.

4. Future activities

- Forthcoming conferences and workshops
 - vEGU2021 (v for virtual, 19-30/04/21), **Daniel Schertzer** reports that in response to requests from the EGU leadership, an Inter Trans-disciplinary [ITS1](#) sub-program, a Union Session US2 and a Town Hall [TM10](#) are organised for EGU 2011 as follow-ups of the Great e-Debate on "Epidemics, Urban Systems and Geosciences" at the occasion of EGU2020.
 - International Conference on Urban Drainage (ICUD):
Due to COVID-19, the [International Conference on Urban Drainage \(ICUD\)](#) will now be held from 24 to 29 October 2021, in Melbourne, Australia as a hybrid event. It will be named ICUD2021. There is a further extension for the Call for Abstracts until 25 June 2021.
 - digital version of the IWA conference in May-June this year (as an intermediate version of the Copenhagen conference) <https://iwa-network.org/events/iwa-digital-world-water-congress/>
 - UrbanRain Workshop 2021 – update:
A decision has recently been taken to proceed with a face-to-face [UrbanRain Workshop](#) in December 2022. Further news will be circulated in due course
 - IWA Copenhagen 11-15 sept 2022.
Link (not with dates yet). <https://iwa-network.org/events/iwa-world-water-congress-exhibition-2021-copenhagen/>
- Next IGUR meeting
 - At 15th ICUD Melbourne, Australia, October 2021.
- Other activities by IGUR members:
 - a. There are two **logos** which have been prepared for the IGUR to select from. The working group members are invited to vote until one week

after the publication of these minutes and send the vote to **Thomas Einfalt** (einfalt@hydrometeo.de). He will then publish the result. Jörg Rieckermann proposed to have a designer look at it. There was no conclusive decision on this.

- b. **Daniel Schertzer** reports that more workforce is needed for the Urban Geosciences working group founded at EGU 2019 (see above). Volunteers are more than welcome and further details can be obtained from Daniel.
- c. **Patrick Willems** reported on ongoing research work on statistical downscaling of precipitation from model data and its impact on urban flooding.
- d. **Thomas Einfalt** is taking part in the EU H2020 WaterSENSE project (<https://www.watersense.eu/>) which is preparing precipitation data for sparsely covered areas by means of a combination of satellite imagery and soil moisture data. The objective is a better information for agriculture, but also for flood warning, starting in Australia.
- e. **Karsten Arnbjerg-Nielsen** mentioned that the EGU nowadays is a good extension to IWA activities, covering many topics relevant to urban drainage.

5. Election of IGUR Chair

- The election for the position of Chair of IGUR was due to take place in Melbourne in September 2020 at the 15th ICUD Conference. Due to the cancellation of the conference, the IGUR annual meeting was postponed. Therefore, it is now time to elect a new chairperson for IGUR because the current chair **Simon Beecham** has served the maximum of two terms. Thomas Einfalt is thanking him for his work and personal initiatives.
- A call for nominations is now taking place until end of April 2021, followed three weeks later by an online ballot, organized by Thomas Einfalt in his function of IGUR secretary.

6. News from the JCUD

Thomas Einfalt will collect the newsletter from **Manfred Kleidorfer** and distribute it to the IGUR working group.

7. Other business

Thomas Einfalt briefly reported on the ongoing works on the ISO standard for weather radar, part II. While part I covered the instrument, part II shall focus on data and their quality. There is a close cooperation with WMO JET-OWR on this topic because the WMO working group is preparing a Best Practice Guide for weather radar. ISO is now envisaging to concentrate on metrics capable of giving information on data quality and radar system performance.

Any person interested in this topic is encouraged to contact Thomas for information or exchange of experience.

It was proposed to find a formal procedure for members of the IGUR who have retired but would like to stay in touch with the working group as an “emeritus member” or “observer”. Details for the statutes of the working group will be discussed until the next IGUR annual meeting.

Lübeck / Adelaide, April 12th, 2021, updated April 23rd, 2021