

# UIS-BULLETIN

## Union Internationale de Spéléologie

<http://www.uis-speleo.org>

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*Editor-in-Chief: Pavel Bosák*

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### The 14<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology Kalamos, Greece, August 21-28, 2005

**Karst and caves as evidence of the development of natural, social  
and cultural phenomena in the era of multidisciplinary international cooperation**

<http://web.otenet.gr/ellspe>  
[info@erasmus.gr](mailto:info@erasmus.gr)



#### GENERAL PROGRAM

*August 13-21*

Pre-congress excursions (all will finish in Athens)

*August 21*

Registration; Opening reception

*August 22*

Opening of Congress and UIS General Assembly; Symposia and sessions, General meetings and Assemblies; Opening of the Photography Exhibition and Speleo Museum

*August 23*

Symposia and sessions, general meetings and assemblies; Opening of Film and Media Festival; Poster session

*August 24*

Day Excursions

*August 25*

Symposia and sessions, general meetings and assemblies. Caving Techniques Exhibition; Poster session

*August 26*

Symposia and sessions, general meetings and assemblies; Gala night (Greek Festival)

*August 27*

UIS General Assembly and Closing Ceremony

*August 28 – September 6*

Post-congress excursions (all will begin in Athens)

## SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

There will be three types of meetings: **Symposia** on closely related themes, **Sessions** of papers with topics related to the work of the UIS Commissions, and a general meeting of each commission, and **Workshops** on practical aspects of speleology.

- S1 Archaeology and palaeontology in caves including art and anthropology
- S2 Speleogenesis and evolution of karst aquifers including geology, hydrogeology and geomorphology
- S3 Physical chemistry and geochemistry
- S4 Paleokarst and speleochronology
- S5 Mineralogy of caves
- S6 Biospeleology
- S7 Atlas of karst regions
- S8 Exploration materials and techniques
- S9 Cave diving
- S10 Cave rescue
- S11 Large cavities
- S12 Glacial caves and karst in polar regions
- S13 Volcanic caves
- S14 Pseudokarst
- S15 Artificial cavities
- S16 Bibliographic
- S17 Informatics
- S18 Speleo-education
- S19 History of speleology
- S20 Protection and management of show caves and associated karst
- S21 Speleotherapy
- S22 Speleology and tourism development
- W1 Wild cave and karst protection and management
- W2 Photography, Film and Media
- W3 Topography
- W4 Hydrothermal caves
- W5 Exploration and exploration ethics

## CONGRESS VENUE

The Congress will take place in KORELKO Camping Site, Hotel DOLPHIN and Hotel CALAMOS (the three locations are near each other - specific details will be available on the web site after Programme finalization) Buses will provide transportation to participants for attending Congress Sessions every hour on the hour (distance between KORELKO Camping Site and Hotels: 10-minute drive approximately)

The Congress Venue in Kalamos Resort is close to Athens, 60 kms northeast, a distance of approximately one hour and a half (by car) away.

REGISTRATION FEES in EUROS					
Date payment received	Full	Partial *# and for Students	Accompanying Persons*		
"Early" Until March 15, 2005	160	100	100*	80*#	
From March 15, until April 30, 2005	200	140	140*	110*#	
From May 1, until July 31, 2005	220	160	160*	130*#	
From August 1, 2005	250	200	200*	150*#	

\* Without Congress proceedings and documentation

# Without Opening reception (may be purchased later separately)

**Students:** requires that copy of valid student registration card be faxed to the Congress Organizing Bureau (fax +30.210.7257532) or be sent as "attached scanned document" to e-mail [14ics-athens2005@erasmus.gr](mailto:14ics-athens2005@erasmus.gr)

**Accompanying:** For persons accompanying a fully registered participant: Applies for one adult (family spouse or partner) and for all children under 18 years

The full Registration fee includes: Participation in the Congress sessions, participants folder/ bag, registration identity card, Congress proceedings, opening reception, beach party, Participation certificate, 1-day excursion during Congress.

## Pre-Congress Excursions

### **GR 101 The Attica 100's, Hymettos Mountain**

Description: This excursion includes three daily trips to the three -100 m, vertical caves in the Athens surrounding area. They are the deepest of the Attica prefecture the deepest one being Pyrgos Pit at -138m.

Type & Difficulty: Vertical Caves (pits -100m), mid to experienced SRT knowledge required.

Organizing Club: SELAS

Dates: 2005-08-17 to 19 (3 Daily trips)

Price: 165 Euro

### **GR 102 Lavrion Ancient Mines**

Description: This excursion includes visits to the ancient mines of Lavrion, the Archeological and Mineral museums, as well as other archeological sites in the area.

Type & Difficulty: Short visits to horizontal mines as well as walking in archeological sites. Easy for even the moderately fit.

Organizing Club: SELAS

Dates: 2005-08-18 and 2005-08-19 (One day trip approximately 12 hours. Select one of the dates available)

Price: 60 Euro

### **GR 103 Cyclades Island Caves**

Description: This Excursion goes island hopping in the Cyclades, visiting caves and even the volcano on Santorini. Islands to be visited include Milos, Paros and Santorini.

Type & Difficulty: Traveling on boats. Easy and suitable for all healthy people even with little caving experience.

Organizing Club: SPELEO

Dates: 2005-08-13 to 21 (9 Days)

Price: 1,100 Euro

### **GR 104 Agia Triada Cave and Ohi Mountain, Evia**

Description: One of the most beautiful underground rivers in the country with special stalagmite and stalactite formations in the upper parts of the cave which is still under exploration. The cave is for the moment 3km long and 1km from the entrance can be accessed by foot (wearing a helmet, uniform etc.) The excursion includes treks to the Mt. Ohi summit.

Type & Difficulty: Horizontal cave with some short accents. Moderate to difficult, suitable for fit persons.

Organizing Club: SPELEO

Dates: 2005-08-17 to 21 (5 Days)

Price: 630 Euro

### **GR 105 Parnonas Caves in Arcadia, Peloponnese**

Description: This excursion includes visits to caves of Parnonas mountain in the vicinity of Paleohori village.

Type & Difficulty: Vertical caves and some horizontal. STR knowledge and good physical contrition required.

Organizing Club: SELAS

Dates: 2005-08-15 to 20 (6 Days)

Price: 660 Euro

### **GR 108 Caves and Archaeological sites in Peloponnese**

Description: This excursion includes visits to the caves of Dyros, Lymnon, tripa Voria, and Selinitza. Archeological visits to sites of Corinth, Epidaurus, and Mycenae.

Type & Difficulty: Horizontal caving (wet) and vertical caving. Easy (sections can be omitted to make visit an easier visit) to moderate.

Organizing Club: SPELEO

Dates: 2005-08-15 to 21 (7 Days)

Price: 762 Euro

### **GR 109 Plastira Lake & Caves in Karditsa**

Description: This excursion includes visits to caves, historical sites, and mountaineering in the grater area of lake Plastira.

Type & Difficulty: Caving and trekking. Moderate to difficult depending on activity

Organizing Club: SOK

Dates: 2005-08-14 to 21 (8 Days)

Price: Adult 560 Euro, Children 4-12 280 Euro, Children 0-4 free

## Post-Congress Excursions

### **GR 205 Parnonas Caves in Arcadia, Peloponnese**

Description: This excursion includes visits to caves of Parnonas mountain in the vicinity of Paleohori village.  
Type & Difficulty: Vertical caves and some horizontal. STR knowledge and good physical contrition required.  
Organizing Club: SELAS  
Dates: 2005-08-29 to 2005-09-03 (6 Days)  
Price: 660 Euro

### **GR 213 Caves of Mani, South Peloponnese**

Description: This excursion includes visits to the caves of Dyros, tripa Voria, and Selinitza. Archeological visits to sites of Corinth, Epidaurus, and Mycenae.  
Type & Difficulty: Horizontal caving (wet) and vertical caving. Easy (sections can be omitted to make visit an easier visit) to moderate.  
Organizing Club: SPELEO  
Dates: 2005-08-29 to 31 (3 Days)  
Price: 762 Euro

## Preparation of the General Assembly of the Union Préparation de l'Assemblée Générale de l'Union

DELEGUES - DELEGATES - DELEGIERTE

### **Important note**

The national delegate and his substitute representing the member country in the UIS, have to declare his validity by the official letter declaring that he is the representant of all speleologists of the country. When more than two speleological organizations (i.e., federations, unions, societies, associations) are existing, all have to declare that the national delegate was democratically elected.

**F** Les pays-membres dont les spéléologies ou l'organisation spéléologique sur le plan national autorisée à représenter l'ensemble des spéléologies ont décidé d'effectuer leur droit de vote dans l'Assemblée Générale de l'Union Internationale de Spéléologie par un nouveau délégué, sont priés de faire parvenir une information par écrite au Secrétaire Générale jusqu'au 1. Auguste 2005 le plus tard.

**E** If the speleologists or the national representative organisation of speleologists in any member-country have decided to give the authorization for voting in the General Assembly of the International Union of Speleology to a new delegate, it is necessary to inform the Secretary General of the UIS by letter at least before August 1, 2005.

**D** Jede Mitgliedsländer, in denen die Speläologen oder die zur Vertretung der Gesamtheit der Speläologen berufene nationale Organisation beschlossen haben, die Ausübung des Stimmrechtes bei der Generalversammlung der Internationaler Union für Speläologie durch die neue Delegierte vornehmen zu lassen, werden gebeten, das Generalsekretär der Union bis spätestens 1. August 2005 darüber zu informieren.

DROIT DE VOTE - RIGHT OF VOTES - STIMMRECHT

**F** A l'Assemblée Générale chaque pays-membre dispose d'une voix. Le drit de vote est lié au membre titulaire (délégué) ou au membre suppléant du pays respectif. Selon les décisions des Assemblées Générales, il oblige en cas d'une absence de tous les deux personnes à l'Assemblée aux pays-membres d'autoriser un "délégué votant" avant le commencement de l'Assemblée par lettre. Ces lettres peuvent être adressées au Secrétaire Générale de l'Union avant le 1. Auguste 2005.

Selon les décisions des Assemblées Générales précédentes (Bowling Green 1981), les pays-membres qui sont en retard avec le paiement des cotisations annuelles à l'UIS plus que trois ans perdent le droit de voter; si le retard atteint plus que cinq ans, le pays respectif ne compte plus comme membre de l'UIS. Le Président de l'UIS prie donc de régler en cas de nécessité la question des cotisations aussi tôt que possible.

Les sommes des cotisations annuelles sont publiées dand chaque des derniers numéros de l'UIS-Bulletin.

**E** Each member-country has one vote on the General Assembly. The right to vote is given to the official delegate or to his substitute. If the two persons are absent, it is necessary - in accordance with the decision of the General Assembly in the past - for the member-country to nominate a "voting delegate" by the letter before the beginning of the General Assembly. This leter have to be sent to the UIS Secretary General before August 1, 2005.

*According to past decision of the General Assembly (Bowling Green 1981), the member-country with a delay of more than 3 years in the payment of the annual contributions do not have the right to vote.* If the annual contribution has not been payed more than 5 years, the country will not be included longer in the membership list. All member-countries are invited - if necessary - to contact the President as soon as possible in questions concerning the payment.

In last numbers of the UIS-Bulletin, the amount of annual contributions has been published regularly.

**D** In der Generalversammlung der UIS verfügt jedes Mitgliedsland über eine Stimme. Das Stimmrecht ist von Delegierten oder seinem Stellvertreter auszuüben. Wenn beide Personen bei der Generalversammlung abwesend sind, kann das Mitgliedsland jemanden anderen zur Stimmabgabe als "stimmberechtigten Delegierten" ermächtigen. Diese Ermächtigung muß aber vor dem Beginn der Generalversammlung schriftlich vorliegen. Im voraus vorgenommene Ermächtigungen müssen beim Generalsekretär der UIS vor dem 1. Juni 2001 eintreffen.

Nach den Beschlüssen früherer Generalversammlungen (Bowling Green 1981) haben Mitgliedländer, die mit ihren jährlichen Mitgliedsbeiträgen an die UIS mehr als drei Jahre im Rückstand sind, kein Stimmrecht mehr. Länder mit einem Zahlungsrückstand von mehr als fünf Jahren werden in der Mitgliederliste nicht mehr geführt. Der Präsident der UIS bittet, falls derartige Rückstände bestehen, zur Regelung der Beitragsfrage mit ihm baldmöglichst Kontakt aufzunehmen.

Die Höhe der jährlichen Beiträge der Mitgliedsländer an die UIS ist in den letzten Nummern des UIS-Bulletin jeweils veröffentlicht worden.

#### NOUVEAUX MEMBRES - MEMBERSHIP DEMANDS - NEUE MITGLIEDER

**F** Des demandes de devenir membre de l'UIS doivent être parvenues au Secrétaire Générale de l'UIS avant l'ouverture du prochain Congrès Internationale de Spéléologie, en cas exceptionnel encore pendant le Congrès, mais avant la deuxième partie de l'Assemblée. Des nouveaux membres doivent dénommer immédiatement leur délégué et participent de ce moment aux votes et aux élections.

**E** Demand for membership are possible before the opening of the International Congress of Speleology by an information to the Secretary General of the UIS, eventually also during the Congress, but before the opening of the second part of the General Assembly. The demands are to be accepted by the voting delegates of the member-countries during the General Assembly. New members have to nominate immediately the official delegate and participate also on votes and elections.

**D** Anträge auf Mitgliedschaft bei der Union sind nach Möglichkeit von Beginn des kommenden Internationaler Kongresses für Speläologie dem Generalsekretär der IUS schriftlich zu übermitteln, können aber in Ausnahmefällen auch noch während des Kongresses, jedoch vor Beginn des zweiten Teiles der Generalversammlung eingebracht werden. Über die Aufnahme neuer Mitglieder entscheidet die Generalversammlung. Neue Mitglieder haben unverzüglich ihren Delegierten namenthaft zu machen und nehmen sofort nach der Annahme ihres Aufnahmeantrages an allen Abstimmungen und Wahlen teil.

#### CANDIDATURES POUR LE PROCHAIN CONGRÈS - PROPOSALS FOR THE NEXT CONGRESS - KANDIDATUREN FÜR DEN NÄCHSTEN KONGRESS

**F** Des candidatures pour le 15<sup>e</sup> Congrès International de Spéléologie qui doit être réalisé en 2009, doivent être présentées pendant la première séance de l'Assemblée Générale de l'UIS à Kalamos en août 2005. Un représentant de chaque pays qui est candidat aura la chance de donner un résumé concernant le programme prévu et les régions visitées pendant les excursions. Les délégués de pays-membres peuvent, avant de voter à la fin du Congrès, discuter leur choix pendant le Congrès avec les autres participants de leur pays; en cas de nécessité l'utilisation d'une salle de réunion soit assurée par les organisateurs du Congrès. Selon les décisions précédentes en cas que l'Assemblée Générale accepte une invitation d'un pays en dehors de l'Europe, une "Conférence régionale européenne de spéléologie" sera organisée soit en 2007 ou 2008. La prière d'organiser une telle conférence sera présentée à un des pays européens qui ont été candidat pour le Congrès.

**E** Candidatures of member-countries for the 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology to be held in 2009, have to be presented no later than in the opening session of the General Assembly of the UIS in Kalamos on August, 2005. In this session, each country will have the possibility to give a short summary concerning the region foreseen for the main events of the Congress and the excursion areas. During the Congress, voting delegates can discuss the proposals with the other participants from their countries. If necessary, a meeting room for this discussion will be reserved by the General Assembly, a decision is made by vote. In the case that the 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology will be held outside of Europe, in accordance with previous decisions an "European Regional Conference of Speleology" has to be organized in 2007 or 2008. The organizer of such Conference will be the European country which candidate for the International Congress of Speleology.

**D** Kandidaturen für den 15. Internationaler Kongress für Speläologie, der im Jahre 2009 durchzuführen ist, sind spätestens in der ersten Session der Generalversammlung der Internationaler Union für Speläologie in Kalamos im August 2005 vorzulegen. Ein Vertreter jedes Landes, das sich um die Abhaltung des Kongresses bewirbt, wird Gelegenheit haben, den vorgesehenen Veranstaltungsort und die wichtigsten Exkursionsziele vorzustellen. Die Delegierten jedes Landes haben während des Kongresses Gelegenheit, ihre Entscheidung mit allen Teilnehmern aus ihrem Land zu überlegen; die Veranstalter des Kongresses werden im Bedarfsfall ein Sitzungszimmer für diesen Zweck bereitstellen. Für den Fall, dass die Wahl im zweiten Teil der Generalversammlung der IUS am Schluss des Kongresses auf ein außereuropäisches Land fällt, nach den früheren Beschlüssen hat die Abhaltung einer "Europäischen Regionalkonferenz für Speläologie" entworfen im Jahre 2007 oder 2008 beschlossen. Um die Durchführung dieser Veranstaltung soll ein Land ersucht werden, das selbst Kandidat für den nächsten Internationaler Kongress gewesen ist.

COMMISSIONS, GROUPES DE TRAVAIL ET COMITÉES COMMISSION, WORKING GROUPS AND  
COMMITTEES - KOMMISSIONEN UND ARBEITSGRUPPEN

**F** Les Présidents des Commissions, Comités et des Groupes de Travail ont été invité d'envoyer au Secrétaire Générale de l'UIS un rapport concernant l'activité de leur groupement respectif depuis le dernier Congrès Internationale de Spéléologie le 31 juillet 2005 le plus tard. Jusqu'à cette date, on attend aussi des propositions concernant les travaux proposés pour le futur.

Il est prévu de publier l'ensemble de ces rapports dans un numéro spécial de l'UIS Bulletin avant le prochain Congrès et de distribuer ce numéro aux participants de l'Assemblée Générale de l'UIS à Kalamos.

Pendant le 14<sup>ème</sup> Congrès Internationale de Spéléologie, des séances de tous les Commissions de l'UIS sont prévues.

**E** The Presidents of Commissions, Committees and Working Groups are invited to send the report concerning the activities during the last period of work and the intentions for the forthcoming four-years-period to the Secretary General of the UIS before July 31, 2005.

It is foreseen to publish all reports in a special number of the UIS Bulletin before the 14<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology and to distribute this number to the participants of the General Assembly of the UIS in Kalamos.

Sessions of all Commissions are foreseen during this Congress.

**D** Die Vorsitzenden der Kommissionen und Arbeitsgruppen der UIS wurden eingeladen, dem Generalsekretär der UIS bis zum 31. Juli 2005 einen Tätigkeitsbericht über die zu Ende gehenden Arbeitperiode zu übermitteln, sowie Vorschläge über die zukünftige Zielsetzung zu erstatten.

Die Berichte sollen vor der Generalversammlung der UIS in einem Heft des UIS Bulletin zusammengefasst und dort vorgelegt werden.

Während des 14. Internationaler Kongresses für Speläologie sind zwar Sitzungen aller Kommissionen vorgesehen.

**ASSEMBLY GENERAL – Preliminary Agenda**  
**ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE - Ordre du jour préliminaire**  
**GENERALVERSAMMLUNG - Tagesordnung**

**First Session - Première Séance - Erste Sitzung**

**August 22, 2005**

1. Opening of the Assembly General  
Ouverture de l'Assemblée Générale  
Eröffnung der Generalversammlung  
While of silence – Vladimír Panoš, Jaques Choppy and other scientists and cavers who died within Congresses
2. Ascertainment of the number of voting delegates  
Constation du nombre des délégations votantes  
Feststellung der Anzahl der stimmberechtigten Delegierten
3. Salutations and thanks  
Salutations et remerciements  
Begrübungen und Danksagungen
4. Approval of Minutes of the UIS Assembly General from Brasilia D.F. (2001)  
Approbation formale du proces-verbal de l'Assemblée Générale de l'UIS de Brasilia D.F. (2001)  
Approbation des Protokolls der Generalversammlung der UIS in Brasilia D.F. (2001)
5. Reports concerning activities of the UIS, Commissions, Working Groups and Committees  
Rapport concernant les activités de l'UIS Commissions, des Groupes de Travail et des Comités  
Bericht über die Tätigkeit der UIS, der Kommissionen, der Arbeitsgruppen und der Komitees
6. Election of two auditors  
Elections de deux Commissaires aux Comptes  
Wahl zweiter Rechnungsprüfer
7. Election of a Commission for the elections of the new UIS Bureau  
Election d'une Commission des candidatures pour le prochain Bureau  
Wahl einer Kommission für die Kandidaturen für das nächste Büro
8. Presentation of candidate countries to organize the 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology (2009)  
Présentation des candidatures pour le 15<sup>ème</sup> Congrès International de Spéléologie (2009)  
Vorstellung der Bewerber für den 15. Internationaler Kongress für Speläologie (2009)
9. Admission of new Member Countries of the UIS  
Admission de nouveaux membres de l'UIS

- Aufnahme neuer Mitglieder der UIS
- 10. Presentation of proposals and motions  
Présentation de propositions et motions  
Vorstellung eingebrachter Vorschläge und Anträge
- 11. Different interventions  
Interventions diverses  
Ergänzende Informationen
  - Introduction of language corrections of the UIS Statute
  - Introduction of the translated versions of the UIS Statute
  - Introduction of the UIS Prizes

**Second Session - Deuxieme Séance - Zweite Sitzung  
August 27, 2005**

1. Report concerning the future activity of Commissions, Working Groups and Committees, and confirmation of Presidents by the Assembly General  
Rapport concernant l'activité future des Commissions, des Groupes de Travail et des Comités, et autorisation de leurs Présidents par l'Assemblée Générale  
Bericht über die zukünftige Tätigkeit der Kommissionen, Arbeitsgruppen und Komitees, und Bestätigung der Vorsitzenden durch die Generalversammlung
2. Report of the Advisory Committee concerning the proposals, motions and decisions  
Rapport du Comité Consultatif sur les propositions et motions et décisions  
Bericht der Beratungskomitees über eingelangte Vorschläge und Anträge und Beschlussfassung darüber
3. Report of budget auditors of past-UIS Bureau  
Rapport des Commissaires aux Comptes et Délibération du Bureau sortant  
Bericht der Rechnungsprüfer und Entlastung des scheidenden Büros
4. Elections for the period 2005-2009  
of the President and two Vice-Presidents of the UIS  
of Secretary General of the UIS  
of other members of the UIS Bureau  
Elections pour la période 2005-2009  
du Président et des deux Vice-Présidents de l'UIS  
du Secrétaire Générale de l'UIS  
des autres membres du Bureau  
Wahl für die Zeit 2005-2009  
des Präsidenten und der zwei Vizepräsidenten der UIS  
des Generalsekretärs der UIS  
der übrigen Mitglieder des Büros
5. Statement of the new UIS President  
Allocation du nouveaux Président de l'UIS  
Ansprache des neuen Präsidenten der UIS
6. Election of country organizing the 15<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Speleology (2009)  
Election du pays organisant le 15<sup>ème</sup> Congrès International de Spéléologie (2009)  
Wahl des Gastlands für den 15. Internationaler Kongress für Speläologie (2009)
7. Information concerning speleological events between the International Congresses of Speleology  
Information concernant les manifestations spéléologiques prévues entre les Congrès Internationaux de Spéléologie  
Informationen über geplante höhlenkundliche Veranstaltungen zwischen den Internationalen Kongressen
8. Interventions and supplementary information  
Interventions diverses et informations supplémentaires  
Allfälliges und Informationen
9. Thanks and closure of the Assembly General  
Remerciements et clôture de l'Assemblée Générale  
Danksagungen und Abschluss der Generalversammlung

## National Delegates and Substitutes Changes

### Belgium:

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## International Journal of Speleology New Editor-inChief!

The International Journal of Speleology underwent through the strategic change. To ensure the regular print of at least 2 numbers a year, the UIS Bureau decided to support the print by about 5,000 USD each year. In the same time, the new Editor-in-Chief was found: **Dr. Jo De Waele**, Laboratorio di Geologia Ambientale, Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Via Trentino 51, 09127 CAGLIARI, C.F. 80019600925/P.I. 00443370929, Tel.: (0039) 0706757778, Fax: (0039) 070282236, E-mail: geoam@unica.it.

The publishing has been still organized by the Società Speleologica Italiana, which is responsible for the managing of rest of funds for the print.

The UIS Bureau would like to thank to Prof. Enzi Burri, who resigned for the function of the Editor-in-Chief, for his effort and achievement in edition of the IJS in the past, especially after merging of two series (A – Physical Speleology, and B – Biospeleology) together.

## Commissions and Working Groups

### Union internationale de spéléologie / Département Enseignement / U.I.S. / Teaching department

#### Four-year 2001-2005 report of the U.I.S. Teaching Department

Le bilan des activités récentes du Département de l'Enseignement spéléologique n'est pas très conséquent, et nous regrettons de le livrer aussi sommairement. Depuis plusieurs années, nous avons un plan de développement qui porte sur trois axes principaux :

- + Des rencontres régulières, regroupant les enseignants spéléologues concernés par la spéléologie et la didactique.
- + Une incitation au développement d'échanges bi-gouvernementaux dans le domaine sportif.
- + Des publications, et le regroupement des données bibliographiques sur l'enseignement de la spéléologie.

Après le Symposium « Enseignement de la spéléologie en Europe » (Orthez, France, 1994), deux autres rencon-



tres internationales ont été successivement organisées, en Espagne (Madrid, 1998), puis en Roumanie (Sfîna de Vale, 2000). Le nombre de pays représentés pour ces dernières rencontres a été relativement faible (moins de 5), les échanges beaucoup moins riches et, depuis, aucune proposition d'organisateur potentiels ne nous est parvenue.

*Il serait donc souhaitable de programmer à nouveau – en 2007 – entre deux congrès internationaux - une manifestation portant sur des thèmes consacrés à l'enseignement et la didactique : ce serait l'occasion de faire le point sur la diversité de l'enseignement dispensé dans nos différents pays, et de faire part des expériences pédagogiques qui ont vu le jour ces dernières années. Pour s'en faire une idée, on se reportera au sommaire des Actes du Symposium de 1994 (U.I.S. Enseignement n° 8-2000, Spelunca-Mémoires n° 24, 194 p.)*

En ce qui concerne l'incitation au développement d'échanges bi-gouvernementaux, c'est surtout par le canal de la France, qui dans le cadre de la politique gouvernementale de son Ministère de la Jeunesse, des Sports et de la Vie Associative, met en place des programmes annuels d'échanges de jeunes sportifs, de cadres ou d'experts – avec prise en charge des frais de déplacement et de séjour –. Les pays concernés ces dernières années par ces échanges ont été essentiellement européens (Belgique, Bulgarie, Hongrie, Irlande, Liban, Pologne, Roumanie).

Cependant, on a noté récemment une diminution, voire la disparition de certains programmes, en l'absence de crédits alloués. Les bilans de ces actions paraissent annuellement dans le périodique annuel de la Commission des relations et expéditions internationales de la Fédération française (n° 9-2000 à 12-2003).

*Pour ce type d'échange, il est indispensable qu'il y ait une volonté commune et une démarche concertée entre les représentants des fédérations et des administrations, pour les pays ayant signés des protocoles d'accords dans le domaine sportif. Le domaine des échanges de jeunes (« programme Jeunesse ») des Ministères concernés de différents pays serait à explorer, en relation avec des organismes de formation d'animateurs, de centres de vacances ou de loisirs, ou dans le cadre scolaire (cf. financement de plusieurs actions conduites entre la France et la Roumanie par exemple).*

Pour la formation de cadres (avec dans certains cas la délivrance de « brevets validant des compétences pour l'encadrement »), on peut noter plusieurs initiatives françaises récentes visant à organiser des « stages d'initiateur de spéléologie », sur la base de ses programmes, avec des associations nationales de plusieurs pays (Grèce, Hongrie, Serbie ...). Il en est de même pour de nombreuses formations spécifiques de spéléo-secours qui sont du domaine de la Commission secours de l'U.I.S.

Le troisième volet concerne les publications et les recherches bibliographiques.

On peut noter l'existence pour de nombreux pays d'une « école nationale de spéléologie », ou de « commission des stages », ou de commission d'enseignement, qui publient régulièrement leur « calendrier de stages », puis des bilans d'activités, et des rapports pédagogiques ; ceux-ci parviennent de façon ponctuelle au Département enseignement U.I.S. Plusieurs fédérations nous envoient en outre, gracieusement leurs publications nationales (Belgique, Espagne, France, Italie, Roumanie, Suisse), dans lesquelles il est fait état des stages organisés, et nous les en remercions.

En contrepartie nous leur faisons parvenir annuellement un « calendrier des manifestations nationales, et internationales » que nous diffusons largement sous le couvert du Département Enseignement UIS.

Le département Enseignement U.I.S. n'a pas réussi, comme les précédentes années, à réaliser et diffuser un exemplaire de sa revue « Enseignement Spéléologie U.I.S. » (dernière parution, n° 8, - 2000).

Il est fait appel régulièrement aux correspondants pays de l'U.I.S. pour obtenir des bilans synthétiques, voire des documents pédagogiques, mais sans trop de succès...

*Un effort devrait être fait dans ce domaine en vue d'une publication pouvant paraître à l'issue du congrès U.I.S. 2005.*

A noter cependant, une précieuse publication espagnole rédigée suite à la rencontre internationale des enseignants tenue à Madrid en 1998 (Furada, Revista dos espeleologos galegos, n° 11, diffusé en 2003), dressant une liste de tous les documents pédagogiques, bibliographiques et audiovisuels parus en Espagne.

*Nous aimerions que de telles initiatives se développent dans d'autres pays. En effet, nous notons qu'un nombre conséquent d'articles, et d'ouvrages concernant l'enseignement de la spéléologie sont analysés annuellement dans le Bulletin bibliographique spéléologique/ Speleological Abstracts, réalisé par la Commission Documentation de l'U.I.S. à laquelle nous collaborons activement.*

En conclusion, si la vitalité du département Enseignement de l'U.I.S. qui ne compte plus actuellement beaucoup de forces vives laisse à désirer, on note, grâce aux nombreux contacts et publications dont nous disposons, que de nombreux pays développent une politique très active dans le domaine de l'enseignement spéléologique.

Une rencontre est programmée lors du congrès international en Grèce en août 2005 ; nous espérons y voir de nombreux représentants de fédérations et d'école de spéléologie des pays membres de l'U.I.S. Nous espérons que de nouveaux contacts pourront s'y nouer et nous permettront de remettre à jour la base de données et les adresses des différentes équipes qui œuvrent pour le développement de l'enseignement de la spéléologie de par le monde.

La structuration spéléologique nationale de nombreux pays s'est réalisée souvent grâce aux activités de terrains,

stages et rencontres, animées par de nombreux enseignants qui mènent des actions pédagogiques et de vulgarisation axées sur la sécurité, les techniques de progression spéléologique et la protection du milieu souterrain.

Sécurité dans les techniques spéléologiques, et protection de l'environnement karstique sont les deux axes prioritaires d'une pratique spéléologique « responsable », dans le cadre d'une politique internationale affichée dans le domaine du développement durable.

Nous aimerions que toutes les actions qui pourraient voir le jour sous l'égide du Département de l'enseignement spéléologique de l'U.I.S. se placent dans cette optique pour les années à venir.

*Marcel Meyssonier*

Responsable du Département Enseignement U.I.S.

### **Commission on Mineralogy**

There has been not much activity since Switzerland. The reason for this is that I cannot find a person to chair my "Protection of Speleothems" Committee, one who knows the "political ropes" as to how to stop the trade of speleothems worldwide. I must find such a chairperson at the Athens meeting, to ensure the future of the UIS Mineralogy Commission.

The publication of "Ontogeny" by Charlie Self and me in the Journal of Cave and Karst Studies, August, 2003, v. 65 was accomplished under the UIS Mineralogy Commission.

I received an E-mail from Elery Hamilton-Smith and am attaching it to you. As you can see, the UIS Commission on protection of speleothems worldwide is badly needed, but I can't seem to identify a person capable of carrying on this task. I'm not a politician - I'm a mineralogist/geologist. We need someone who is politically astute and can work with groups dealing with international law for speleothem protection. Got any ideas?

*Carol A. Hill*

Commission President

### **UIS Informatics Commission Report 2001-2005**

#### **In Summary**

The main work over the period:

- + setting up of UIS' new Internet facilities under their own domain name (uis-speleo.org), and moving and consolidating three websites (UIS, UISIC and CaveXML) across to this new UIS server. UIS Commissions will also now be able to load and update their own websites on this server.
- + assistance to the President in his efforts to make UIS documents widely available on the UIS website, and in as many official UIS languages as possible.
- + creation of additional UIS web pages: (1) details of all known national speleo organisations including their publications and current contact details, (2) speleo volunteer vacancies, and (3) guidelines and standards from UIS and other speleo organisations.
- + publication of a first draft of recommended surface karst mapping symbols for discussion (in collaboration with IGU).
- + the addition of suggested database table structures for map lists, data quality and security, and data attribution and history. These are added to the existing basic cave database table structures.
- + collaboration with Australia in the design of its new web-based national cave database, which uses UISIC's proposed cave/karst data field definitions and table structures.
- + further progress with the Cave Data Exchange Format Working Group and CaveXML.
- + a ninth language received and a new leader for our Caver's Multi-lingual Dictionary.

Special thanks go to the people who have made the above possible: Steff Näff (Switzerland) for his very generous provision of the new Internet facilities for UIS, Brian Finlayson (Australia) for his very generous provision since 1994 of the original website host, Philipp Häuselmann (Switzerland) for the surface mapping symbols, Andreas Neumann (Switzerland) for initially leading our Cave Data Exchange Format Working Group and for designing and hosting its website until 2004, all the participants in the above working group for their discussions and insights, Fernando Andreu (UK) for taking on the job of UIS Website Addresses Manager, Peter Stavropoulos (Greece) for taking over the International Speleo Calendar from Roger Taylor (Australia) who operated the calendar for the previous seven years, and Mladen Garašić (Croatia) who recently provided Croatian for our Cavers Multi-lingual Dictionary, and has also generously taken over its leadership, replacing Attila Kósa (Hungary), who died in 2003.

In the next period the main push will be to make up for this period's lack of advance in the Commission's core work with cave/karst data field definitions, and in engaging the wider cave documentation community. Critical to this will be bringing the Commission's website up to date, and resurrecting its *cavedata* mailing list, *Informatics Bulletin*, and contact list. To help achieve this I am looking for a volunteer to take over my work of management of the main UIS website, and a volunteer to edit our *Informatics Bulletin*. I am happy to continue as President of the Commission if UIS wishes.

Further details of our work for the period can be found below. Anyone is very welcome to help with any of this work - please just contact the relevant leader.

Peter Matthews

### UIS Internet Facilities

The Commission has continued to produce and manage the main UIS Internet facilities and web pages. Though important, this "administration" work has significantly impacted the Commission's core speleological work with cave/karst data techniques, therefore the Commission is currently advertising for an experienced volunteer to take over the management of the UIS website. We are also reviewing whether now is the time for the Internet policies and routine website work to come directly under the UIS Bureau, with UISIC performing only a technical management role. The Internet work for UIS during the period has included:

- + setting up of UIS' new Internet facilities with their own domain name (uis-speleo.org), and moving, consolidating and restructuring three websites (UIS, UISIC and CaveXML) across to this new UIS server. The server facilities have very generously been donated by Stefan (Steff) Näff of Switzerland, and include such things as Domain Name Service, website, email redirections, mailing lists, and open-source database facilities. UIS Commissions will also now be able to load and update their own websites on this server.
- + assistance to the President in his efforts to raise the profile of UIS by loading his *What is UIS?* document, and UIS external and internal documents in as many official UIS languages as possible. We have also collaborated in drafting a document for Bureau consideration concerning the various responsibilities and policies associated with UIS' Internet facilities.
- + setting up of generic email addresses for UIS such as "president@uis-speleo.org", "secretary@uis-speleo.org", etc., which permits a constant email address regardless of changes to their true email address.
- + continued production of the International Speleo Calendar.
- + and with the appointment of Fernando Andreu of the UK who looks after all the people and organisation address changes on the website, we now effectively have an Internet Team of Site Provider, Website Manager, Technical Manager, Website Addresses Manager, and International Speleo Calendar Editor.
- + a major effort to gather current details and publish a list of national speleological organisations, their contact details and their publications.
- + loading on the website of: (1) PDF versions of the *UIS-BULLETIN* so that people can print their own copy directly from the website, (2) requests for volunteers, and (3) links to speleo guideline documents by UIS and other organisations.

UIS: <http://www.uis-speleo.org>  
UISIC: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org>  
Peter: [matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)  
Addresses: [addresses@uis-speleo.org](mailto:addresses@uis-speleo.org)  
Calendar: [events@uis-speleo.org](mailto:events@uis-speleo.org)

Peter Matthews

### Caver's Multi-lingual Dictionary - Attila KÓSA, Hungary (To 2003), now Mladen GARAŠIĆ, Croatia.

Sadly, international speleology and UISIC lost one of its hard workers when Attila died in October 2003. Attila and I converted his four-languages paper-based *Cavers Living Dictionary* to the web in 1998, and with the help of collaborators built it up to eight languages by 2000. Mladen GARAŠIĆ of Croatia has recently generously offered to take over the leadership of the Working Group, and has also contributed Croatian, which when loaded will bring the Dictionary up to nine languages. We have also had an offer of help from a group in Hungary to develop the dictionary further.

Dictionary: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/lexintro.html>  
Mladen: [dictionary@uis-speleo.org](mailto:dictionary@uis-speleo.org)

Peter Matthews

### International Speleo Calendar - Roger TAYLOR, Australia (to 2003), now Peter STAVROPOULOS, Greece

Peter Stavropoulos of Greece has taken over from Roger Taylor of Australia who faithfully updated the Calendar for seven years (Thanks, Roger!). Peter is now also developing a web-based database version of the calendar. Please be sure to keep Peter advised of your national and international events and so get the benefit of the extra publicity.

Calendar: <http://www.uis-speleo.org/calendar/events.html>  
Peter: [events@uis-speleo.org](mailto:events@uis-speleo.org)

Peter Matthews

### Survey and Mapping Working Group - Philipp HÄUSELMANN, Switzerland

This Working Group tackles the various issues related to cave/karst survey and mapping. Where a significant amount of work is needed on a particular task, it creates a sub-group to help focus on that work. During the period:  
+ **General:** Replied to various questions regarding mapping, computer programs, and the history of the BCRA grading scale.

+ **Basic Cave Mapping Symbols:** Published the symbols in various journals, for example *Acta Carsologica* (Slovenia) and *Spelunca* (France)

+ **Surface Karst Mapping Symbols:** Emailed and met with various scientific workers. The first round of draft symbols has been loaded on the web for comment. This sub- Working Group is in collaboration with the Karst Commission of the International Geographical Union. The symbols are expected to be discussed and hopefully voted upon at the coming International Congress.

+ **Cave Data Exchange Format:** (*Andreas NEUMANN, Switzerland, to 2002, now Peter MATTHEWS, Australia*) The purpose of this sub- Working Group is to establish an agreed transfer and archiving format (CaveXML) for cave/karst data using XML standards (Extensible Markup Language). Andreas had to give up the leadership due to pressure of work, but continued to host the website until it moved to the UIS server (Thanks, Andreas!). The WG is currently under the umbrella of Survey and Mapping because in the first instance we have been using cave survey data as a pilot. The group has its own mailing list for discussion and a website to record progress. After vigorous and wide-ranging early discussion the group lost a lot of momentum after we lost our mailing list because of hacking, and had further delays re-establishing the mailing list, moving our website to the new UIS server, and re-assessing our work plan in the light of these delays, and the complexity of survey data and how it is handled. We are now ready to move forward again.

+ **Future:** After the surface symbols are established, Survey and Mapping's next task will probably be survey and mapping gradings.

Basic symbols: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/wgsurmap.html#symbols>

Surface symbols: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/wgsurmap.html#surface>

CaveXML: <http://www.cavexml.uis-speleo.org>

Philipp: [praezis@geo.unibe.ch](mailto:praezis@geo.unibe.ch)

Peter: [matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)

*Peter Matthews*

### **Cave Data Field Definitions**

By discussion, consultation, and setting up a fields clearing house, the basic aim is to create a wide repertoire of agreed field definitions so that cave/karst data can more easily be exchanged, compared and/or consolidated by cavers, researchers and managers. This is one aspect of the Commission's data exchange techniques proposal. The Cave Data Exchange Format Working Group (above) covers another aspect. Although over 700 data fields have so far been identified, many more are needed, but unfortunately the discussion phase of this work has not been started yet, and the web pages lag behind actual progress. I plan to concentrate on rectifying this during the coming period. The fields and suggested speleo database table structures which use them have been published on the website, and during this period we have added structures for map lists, data quality and security, and data attribution and data history to the original structures for basic cave data. Much of the existing fields work has come out of my original work on the Australian Speleological Federation's (ASF) national *Karst Index* database, and more recently while assisting Mike LAKE with the development of ASF's new open-source web-based version, which is using the above fields (See also a paper at the 2005 ICS).

Proposal: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/exchange/exchprop.html>

Fields: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/exchange/atenlist.html>

Tables: <http://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/exchange/tables.html>

ASF's Karst Index: <http://www.caves.org.au/kid/>

Peter: [matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)

*Peter Matthews*

### **Cave Database Software**

The Commission's existing freeware PC based cave/karst database system has been on the backburner until the ASF's open-source web-based cave/karst database can be assessed. A joint paper on ASF's system is expected to be presented during the 2005 ICS.

ASF databáze: <http://www.caves.org.au/kid/>

Peter: [matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)

**In the pipeline:** Other projects coming up in addition to our existing work (Further suggestions and help with any of these projects are welcome!):

+ an Addresses database to help maintain all the address administration in UIS and its Internet facilities (Fernando ANDREU).

+ UIS Internet mailing lists for better communications (Peter MATTHEWS, Australia).

+ a Calendar database (Peter STAVROPOULOS).

+ enhancements to the Caver's Multi-lingual Dictionary (Mladen GARAŠIČ, Croatia).

+ a cave/karst informatics bibliography (Günter STÜMMER, Austria).

+ a revised speleo subject classification scheme (Peter MATTHEWS) in collaboration with the UIS Bibliography Commission (Alexander KLIMCHOUK, Ukraine).

+ a scale for Survey and Mapping Grading (Philipp HÄUSELMANN, now Austria).

Günther: [speleo.austria@netway.at](mailto:speleo.austria@netway.at)

Alexander: [klim@speleogenesis.info](mailto:klim@speleogenesis.info)

### **UISIC Vacancies**

- \* UIS Website Manager.
- \* *Informatics Bulletin* Editor.
- \* Field Form Library Manager.

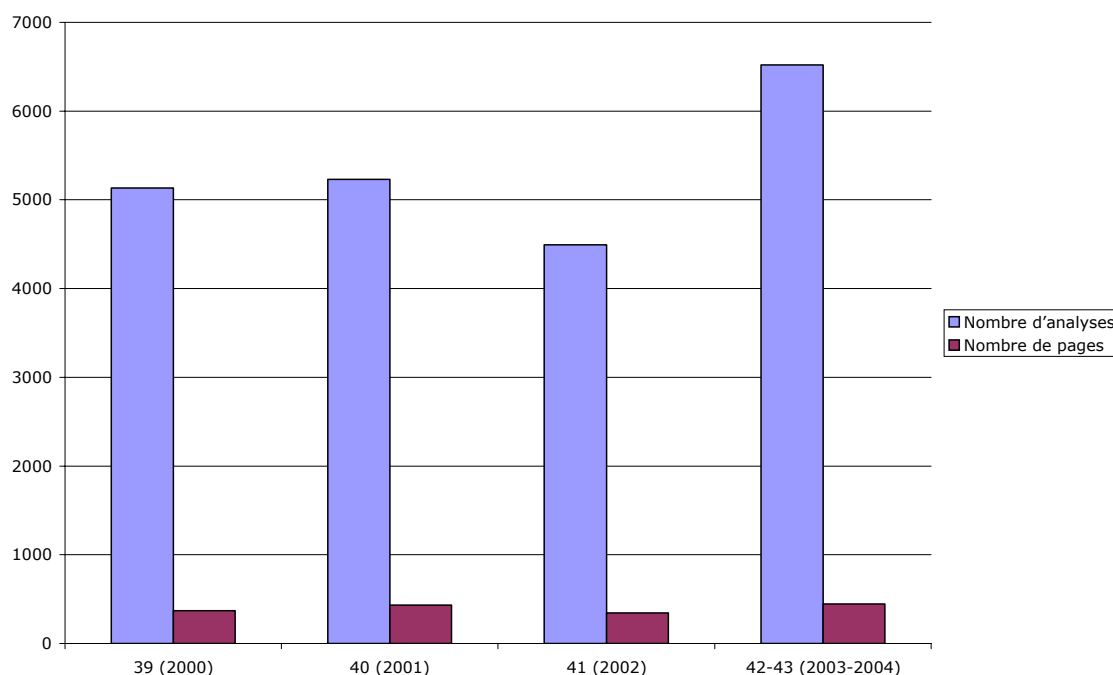
Peter Matthews

### Commission de bibliographie

*Rapport 2002-2005.* Depuis le congrès au Brésil, 4 bulletins bibliographiques spéléologiques (BBS) sont parus :

N°	Nombre d'analyses	Nombre de pages
39 (2000)	5133	370
40 (2001)	5227	432
41 (2002)	4493	342
42-43 (2003-2004)	6520	446

Évolution du nombre d'analyses et du nombre de pages, à gauche le nombre d'analyse, à droite le nombre de pages :



On constate que le nombre de pages est relativement stable de l'ordre de 440 pages. Par contre le nombre d'analyses a fortement augmenté, sans trop influencer sur le nombre de pages. Depuis deux ans, nous avons limité fortement la taille des résumés, ce qui nous a permis de produire une page de BBS avec plus de 20 analyses. L'objectif est de publier une information sur les publications, mais pas de la remplacer. La conséquence est que les rédacteurs prennent plus de temps pour réaliser une analyse ; il n'est plus possible de copier le résumé.

Chaque BBS représente environ 1000 heures de travail à la rédaction suisse. Malgré la saisie informatique, il reste encore beaucoup d'erreurs et de corrections à faire.

La liste des collaborateurs du BBS est publiée dans chaque numéro.

*Les CD-ROM.* Chaque année, le BBS est disponible sous forme de base de données, diffusé en CD. Le CD 12 ans contenait plus de 50'000 analyses et a paru en 2002. Chaque année, il est possible d'y ajouter le cd annuel, constituant ainsi une unique base de donnée en constante évolution.

*Les coéditeurs.* La publication du BBS est possible chaque année grâce aux fédérations coéditrices : Fédération Française de Spéléologie, Società Speleologica Italiana, British Cave Research Association, Société Suisse de Spéléologie, Federacio Catalana d'Espeologia. Les fédérations coéditrices contribuent fortement à la réalisation des analyses et assurent le tirage-papier en commandant des livres pour leurs membres. Sans leur aide, il ne serait pas possible d'imprimer le BBS.

*Le problème de l'impression et des envois.* L'impression revient approximativement à 9'500 euros, pour 750 exemplaires de 450 pages. Ces dernières années, toutes les fédérations coéditrices ont diminué le nombre d'exemplaires commandés. Aux coûts d'impression, il faut ajouter le coût de l'expédition, de l'ordre de 15 euros à destination de l'Europe.

*Renoncer au papier ?*

+ Non, tant que le tirage commandé est suffisant et que les frais d'impression sont couverts. Le n° 42-43 est tiré à 750 exemplaires. Il n'est pas possible d'en faire moins.

+ Oui, si le tirage doit encore diminuer. Une solution serait de proposer un nouveau type de CD qui contiendrait le BBS sous forme de base de données, comme d'habitude, et la version papier serait proposée en format pdf. Chacun aurait le loisir d'imprimer les pages qui l'intéressent et les fédérations coéditrices pourraient organiser une impression dans leur pays.

*Le problème des fédérations qui collaborent au BBS et ne sont pas coéditrices.* Plusieurs fédérations contribuent régulièrement au BBS, sans pour autant participer à la coédition de la revue. Donc ces fédérations contribuent à augmenter la facture des autres fédérations coéditrices. Évidemment la richesse du BBS est fortement tributaire du nombre d'analyses et il serait idiot de refuser des analyses sous prétexte qu'ils ne sont pas abonnés au BBS. Mais il serait possible de diminuer le nombre d'analyses, toutes n'ont pas un intérêt mondial, ou de diminuer la taille des analyses. Que faire, supprimer le papier ? Une proposition serait que les fédérations fournissant plus de 150 analyses soutiennent financièrement la parution du BBS, par une cotisation unique par exemple de 500 euros

*La qualité des analyses.* Malgré tous les outils informatiques disponibles, la rédaction suisse passe encore beaucoup trop de temps à la correction des analyses, tant sur les classifications que sur l'orthographe. Les collaborateurs doivent encore s'améliorer et relire les consignes du BBS, et les instructions de classification. Même à court terme, il n'est plus envisageable que la rédaction suisse passe plus de 300 heures à corriger et à mettre en forme les analyses.

*Réunions de la commission pendant le congrès.* L'ordre du jour des réunions de la commission sera □on cle suivant :

- + Tour de table des participants
- + Abandon de la version papier ?
- + Contribution financière des fédérations non-éditrices du BBS
- + Formation des collaborateurs
- + Divers

*Avenir du BBS.* Le BBS a besoin d'une meilleure diffusion, et d'un soutien accru de l'UIS. Il faut absolument réduire la charge de l'équipe rédactionnelle suisse, en améliorant la qualité des analyses. SCNAT, l'Académie Suisse des Sciences Naturelles, soutient la réalisation de la publication en ligne des bases de données BBS. Cette opération est prévue pour cet automne. Techniquement, cela pose très peu de problèmes. Financièrement, il sera nécessaire de mettre en place un mécanisme de paiement des consultations par exemple sous forme d'abonnement, ou de trouver un moyen de compenser la perte des ventes du CD par une autre source de revenus. Depuis quelques années, il est possible d'analyser les publications sur Internet ; la saisie des informations sera améliorée. Ce type d'analyse prendra encore de l'ampleur. Évidemment tout dépend de la disponibilité du site Internet. Il est envisagé lorsque c'est possible de réaliser une copie en PDF du site, ou du document analysé, et de le conserver sur le serveur de la commission. Dans certaines conditions, il serait possible de diffuser le fichier PDF avec le BBS ; et d'en d'autres cas nous aurons des problèmes de respect de droit d'auteur, et de taille de fichiers. Le prochain BBS paraîtra au printemps 2006, et concernera l'année 2005. Le délai de rédaction est fixé au 1<sup>er</sup> février 2006. Le plus simple consiste à analyser les revues à mesure de leur parution.

*Remerciements.* En lisant ce rapport, qui est celui de la rédaction suisse, il ne faut pas oublier les 50 collaborateurs répartis dans le monde, qui contribuent grandement à la réalisation du BBS. Un grand merci pour leur aide.

*Publicité.* N'oubliez pas de passer au stand de la commission pour acheter le dernier BBS paru, et compléter votre collection :

42-43 (2003-2004): 6520 références. 446 pages. Prix : 90 CHF, 60 euros.

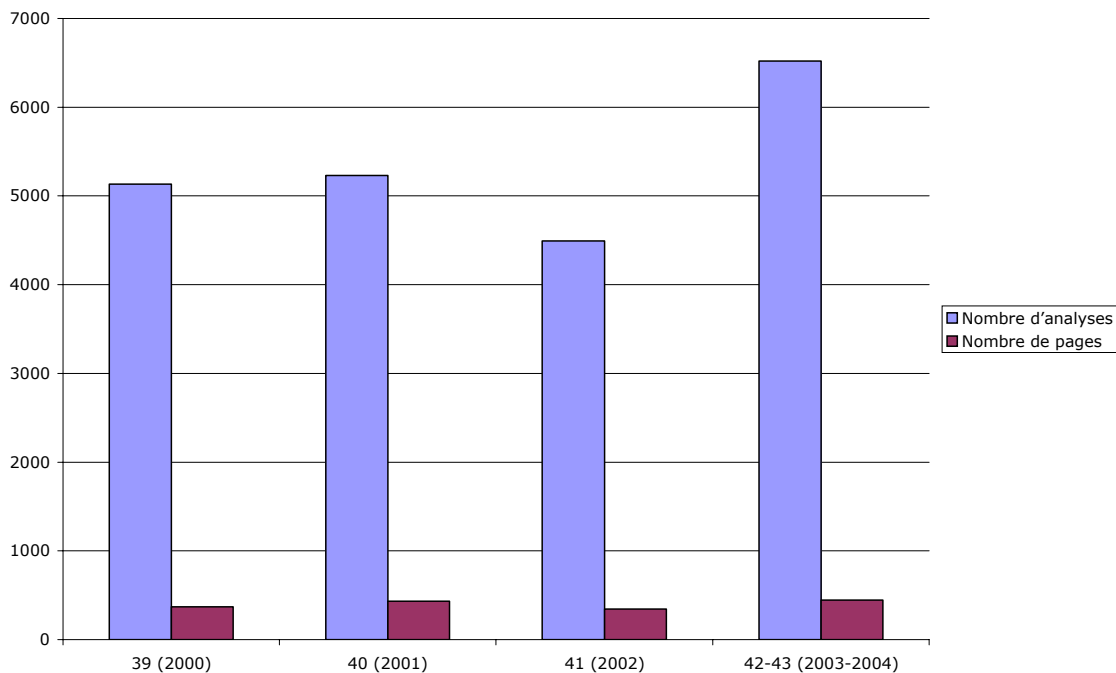
Le CD 17 ans (1988-2004): il coûte 220 francs (145 euros), Il sera gratuit pour les acheteurs du CD 12 ans et des mises à jour 2000 – 2004. L'échange se fait lors du congrès.

## **Commission on Bibliography**

*2002-2005 Report.* Since the congress in Brazil, 4 BBS Speleological Abstracts have been published:

issue #	Number of abstracts	Number of pages
39 (2000)	5133	370
40 (2001)	5227	432
41 (2002)	4493	342
42-43 (2003-2004)	6520	446

Changes in numbers of abstracts and numbers of pages. On the left, number of abstracts; on the right, number of pages.



It is clear that the number of pages is fairly stable, around 440 pages. However, the number of abstracts has greatly increased, without having too much effect on the number of pages. In the last ten years, we have strictly limited the size of abstracts, which has allowed us to print over 20 abstracts on one BBS page. Our goal is to publish information about publications, but not to replace them. The result is that our collaborators take more time to write their abstracts; they can no longer just copy the article's abstract.

Each BBS is the result of about 1000 hours of work for the Swiss editing team. Despite the increased use of computer entries, there are still many errors and corrections to make. The list of BBS collaborators is published in each issue.

*The CD-ROMs.* Every year the BBS is available as a database on CD. The 12-year CD, published in 2002, contains over 50,000 abstracts. Each year it is possible to add the yearly CD to this, creating a unique database which is constantly evolving.

*The co-publishers.* The BBS's publication is made possible each year by the co-publishing federations: Fédération Française de Speleologie, Società Speleologica Italiana, British Cave Research Association, Société Suisse de Speleologie, Federacio Catalana d'Espeleologia. These co-publishing federations make a vital contribution to the written abstracts, and they ensure the paper version of the BBS by ordering issues for their members. Without their help, it would be impossible to print the BBS.

*The problem of printing and postage.* Printing the BBS costs about 9,500 Euros for 750 copies of 450 pages. In the last few years, all the co-editing federations have reduced the number of orders. In addition to printing costs must be added the cost of posting, which is 15 Euros within Europe.

#### *Should we abandon paper?*

+ Not as long as there is enough demand for the printed version and the printing costs are covered. Issue # 42-43 has 750 prints; it is not possible to print less copies.

+ Yes, if the printing should decrease further. One possible solution is to offer a new kind of CD, with the usual database as well as the abstracts in pdf format. Users could print the pages they need; and federations could be responsible for printing their own country's pages.

*The problem of federations which collaborate on the BBS but are not co-publishers.* Several federations are regular contributors to the BBS, without however participating in the journal's publication. These federations add to the bill of the other co-publishing federations. Of course, they contribute to the wealth of abstracts in the BBS, and it would be stupid to refuse abstracts from people who are not BBS subscribers. But it would be possible to reduce the number of abstracts, for example those with less world impact, or to reduce the size of abstracts. Should we abandon paper for this? One suggestion would be that federations who provide more than 150 abstracts should financially support publication of the BBS, for example by a single subscription fee of 500 Euros.

*The quality of abstracts.* Despite all the available computer tools, the Swiss editing team still spends far too much time correcting abstracts, as much in the classifications as on spelling. Collaborators must improve the quality of their submissions and know the BBS guidelines, as well as the classification instructions. Even in the short term, it is not feasible for the Swiss editors to spend over 300 hours correcting and formatting abstracts.

Commission meetings during the congress. The following points will be addressed during the commission's meetings:

- + Introduction of participants
- + Abandon the paper version?
- + Financial contribution of non-copublishing federations
- + Training for collaborators
- + Miscellaneous

*Future of the BBS.* The BBS needs a better distribution, and increased support from the IUS. It is imperative to reduce the workload on the Swiss team, by improving the quality of abstracts. SCNAT, the Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences, is funding the online publication of the BBS databases. The project will begin this autumn. Technically, this is easy to do. Financially, it will be necessary to install a method of payment for consulting the database, for example in the form of a subscription, or to find another way to compensate for the loss of CD sales by another source of revenues. In the last few years, it has been possible to type abstracts on the Internet; this improves data entry. The use of this kind of abstract will continue to increase. Obviously, all depends on the availability of the website. We hope to be able to produce as soon as possible a PDF version of the site or the abstracted article, to store on the commission's server. In some cases it will be possible to publish the PDF files with the BBS; in other cases there will be copyright issues and file-size limitations. The next BBS will be published in spring 2006, and will deal with 2005. The editing deadline has been set to the 1<sup>st</sup> of February 2006. The easiest method is to abstract journals as they are published.

*Acknowledgements.* As you read this report, written by the Swiss editing team, please remember our 50 collaborators around the world, who contribute a large part of their efforts to the BBS. We would like to say a huge thank you for all their help.

*Publicity.* Don't forget to stop by the Commission's stand to buy the latest BBS and complete your collection:

42-43 (2003-2004): 6520 references. 446 pages. Price: 90 CHF, 60 euros

The 17-year CD (1988-2004): costs 220 francs (145 euros), it is free for buyers of the 12-year CD and the 2000-04 updates. You can exchange them at the congress.

### **Commission d'archéologie et de paléontologie –Commission on Archaeology and Palaeontology in Caves**

Nos activités ont consisté à aider les organisateurs de divers évènements :

- Symposium d'archéologie et de paléontologie à Athènes en 2003
- Rencontre archéologie et paléontologie de la SSS (Suisse) en 2004
- Dossier spécial Paléontologie dans la revue de la SSS, Stalactite 1-2004
- Session archéologie et paléontologie lors des Conventions de la NSS 2002-2003-2004
- Symposium d'archéologie et de paléontologie du Congrès international UIS à Athènes 2005

The Commission on Archaeology and Palaeontology in Caves assisted with information and support to the 3rd Symposium on Cave Archaeology & Palaeontology held at Harokopion University, 17-19 October 2003. The Commission has offered their support and been represented or participated in sessions or symposiums for Cave Archaeology and Cave Palaeontology at the National Speleological Society's Annual Convention in 2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005. We are looking forward to participating in the 14th International Congress of Speleology in Greece this August of 2005.

*David A. Hubbard, Jr. and Roman Hapka*  
Co-Presidents of the Commission

### **Commission on Physical Chemistry and Hydrogeology of Karst**



*Activities since the Brazil Congress in 2001.* The main activity of the commission was its International Workshop on "Cave Climate and Paleoclimate- Best Record of the Global Change" held in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria. The main purpose of this meeting was to return the leading role of UIS in this strategic modern topic which was completely developed by UIS in the past years and to try to enforce the UIS legislation on collection of speleothems in the international paleoclimatic community. This meeting was co-organised with IGCP 448 Project of IUGC- UNESCO and the Royal Society of Bulgaria. So it attracted the highest attention of the government, parliament and the media in Bulgaria. One of the members of Bulgarian parliament presented a keynote lecture at the workshop.

The commission member Dr. Derek Ford was awarded the honorary foreign fellowship of the Royal Society of Bulgaria. This highest award was presented to him with a citation by the President of the Royal Society of Bulgaria on a general meeting of the Society in the beginning of the workshop. Programme of the workshop was very interesting and stimulating. Proceedings of the Workshop were published in a dedicated volume (v.33, 1/4, 2004) of the International Journal of Speleology after peer review.

It is available at: [http://www.ijs.speleo.it/issue.php?id\\_volume=61](http://www.ijs.speleo.it/issue.php?id_volume=61)

The extended abstracts of it are published in internet at:

[http://karst.planetresources.net/Stara\\_Zagora/abstarcts.htm](http://karst.planetresources.net/Stara_Zagora/abstarcts.htm)

and can be downloaded from: <http://karst.planetresources.net/downloads.htm>.

This workshop had 33 participants from 11 countries (Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Greece, Iran, Italy, Russia, Spain, Turkey) and made several important decisions which were sent to UNESCO shortly together with the IGCP 448 report.

It was decided to start a new International research programme on "Cave Climate" of the UIS Commission on Physical Chemistry and Hydrogeology of Karst. Its main purpose is to improve the experimental techniques for measurements of the climatic parameters in caves and to generate proper models of the cave climate. It will contribute also to the Speleothem Records of Environmental Changes programme (led by Y. Shopov) by studying the influence of the cave climate on the quality and modulation of the speleothem records. Professor Giovanni Badino (University of Torino, Italy) will be the leader of the programme. He will prepare the draft of the programme and the commission president will distribute it amongst the commission members and all other cave researchers to involve all interested persons in the programme.

The other active international program of the Commission "Luminescence of Cave Minerals" reported the advance in the field of speleothem paleoluminescence records of environmental changes produced by its operation.

The Commission will organise the next symposium "Cave Climate and Paleoclimate- Best Record of the Global Change"-II on 26<sup>th</sup> august 2005 during the 14<sup>th</sup> UIS Congress in Greece. Two Commission meetings during the congress will take place on Monday 22 august and Saturday 27 august.

The commission meeting scheduled for September 2003 in Esfahan, Iran was postponed with over 2 years by the local organisation committee.

*Major Achievements* reported at the UIS Commission on Physical Chemistry and Hydrogeology of Karst during the International Workshop on: "Cave Climate and Paleoclimate- Best Record of the Global Change" held in Stara Zagora, Bulgaria. Major achievements of the workshop are:

1. Derek Ford (Canada) reported a very successful U/Pb dating of very old (86-95 Ma) speleothems from Guadalupe Mts. It finally allows precise dating of the uplift of Guadalupe Mts., producing quite unexpected age of the event.
2. Vladimir Tolmachev (Russia) developed a new marking expert method for assessment of karst terrain sensitivity to pollution. He demonstrated its application for choosing of most appropriate places in karst for storage of garbage (establishment of land-fields).
3. Yavor Shopov reported major achievements of speleothem paleoluminescence research in the last 20 years after he discovered in 1982, that most of the speleothem luminescence is caused by organics produced in the soil, rather than by inorganic ions as believed before. In the period of 1985-1991 he developed 4 different new techniques for measurement of records of various environmental parameters from phosphorescence or fluorescence of speleothems. He reported also a new technique for quantitative reconstruction of the variations of past annual karst denudation rates during geological periods of time.
4. Giovanni Badino (Italy) reported development of proper tools for estimation of the cave climate response of the global climate changes.
5. Diana Stoykova (Bulgaria) reported first successful quantitative estimation of the variation of the effective temperature of the solar surface, producing the century and millennial cycles of the solar luminosity. This major result was achieved using speleothem luminescence records.
6. Sophie Verheyden (Belgium) achieved very high (annual) resolution of the records of trace elements in stalagmites and demonstrated their possibilities for paleoclimatic reconstructions.

*Yavor Shopov*  
Commission President

### **Commission on Karst atlas**

We will prepare an additional volume "International Karst Atlas" of the "Zeitschrift für Geomorphologie". To day, papers with colour maps (60 x 80 cm) lie before to a region of the Swabian Alp, the Aggtelek Karst in Hungary, the alpine Karst in southern Germany/Austria and the tropical karst along the western margin of the Khorat Plateau in Northeast Thailand. We hope to finish this volume in autumn and the printing is planned for the first part in 2006.

*Karl-Heinz Pfeffer*  
Commission President

## **Commission on Statutes**

The commission, together with UIS Bureau members and past presidents, has worked on the statutes:

- polishing the text in French of the original version (though the official version remains for now the one adopted by vote by the UIS General Assembly in La Chaux-de-Fonds in 1997).
- translation into English of the polished version in French.
- translation into Italian,
- translation into Russian.

In addition, the commission has constructively given advice on statutes when necessary, and specially when discussions arose about the evolution of the 14<sup>th</sup> ICS.

A new version of UIS Internal rules has been set up by the Bureau and past presidents.

*Claude Mouret*  
President of the Commission on Statutes

## **Commission on Long caves**

The commission has worked on the updating of the lists of the long caves, deep caves, long sumps and large chambers and regularly published reports on the matter.

*Philippe Drouin*  
Co-president of the commission

# **From Member Countries and Regions**

## **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

### *UIS support to the candidacy of Vjetrenica for the World Heritage List*

UIS firmly supports the candidacy of Vjetrenica for the World Heritage List, as it is an exceptional speleological wealth, a fraction of the impressively developed part of the world-known Dinaric karst. The cave is developed in carbonate rocks containing up to 99.98 percent calcite, situated in geodynamically active area with the annual precipitation of 3000 mm. As such it abounds with testimonies of the development of geological history. Karst landscape it belongs to, whether surface or subterranean, is crammed with various and textbook shaped karst phenomena the importance of which is equally attractive to science, education and tourism. The cave and its surroundings are on the very top of the world's biodiversity scale: there is an unrecorded degree of endemism and sites of "locus typicus". Also, the researches so far revealed an outstanding collection of palaeontological finds. Centennial life in karst areas developed congenial folk patents such as the series of mills on scores of abyss and cavities, ventilation of flats by wind from the cave, cultural landscapes and so on. In short, Vjetrenica and karst of the wider area of Popovo polje deserve to be listed among the most significant world's goods, in order to become the heritage of all people of the world and have the highest level of preservation.

### *UIS support to the establishment of the Multifunctional centre for karst Vjetrenica-Popovo polje*

UIS firmly supports the idea and efforts related to the establishment of a Multifunctional centre for karst nearby Vjetrenica in Zavala in Bosnia and Herzegovina suggested by country's speleologists, the competent Environmental Ministry from Mostar and the Ravno municipality. The Centre suitably tackles issues related to the management and protection of the karst: the need for and interdependence of exploring the karst, the education on the nature and culture of the karst, the tourist, economic and agricultural exploit of karst and its permanent preservation. An important dimension of the project is the protection of biodiversity and geodiversity, the restoration of rural culture and tradition and the improvement of life. Odds are the project would soon start to finance itself in an astonishing area in the proximity of tourist centres such as Dubrovnik.

Vjetrenica is an extraordinary speleological treasure, a fraction of miraculously developed part of world-known Dinaric karst. The cave is developed in carbonate rocks containing up to 99.98% of calcite, in geodynamically active area with the annual precipitation of 3000 mm. It provides a large amount of evidence of the development of geological history. The karst landscape it belongs to, whether surface or subterranean, is crammed with various and textbook shaped karst phenomena the importance of which is equally attractive to science, education and tourism. With regard to its biodiversity, the cave and its surroundings are on the very top of the world's biodiversity scale: there is an unrecorded degree of endemism and sites of «locus typicus». Also, the researches so far revealed an outstanding collection of palaeontological finds. Centennial life in karst areas developed congenial folk patents such as series of mills on scores of gulfs and cavities, ventilation of flats by wind from the cave, cultural landscapes and so on. An additional reason for the establishment of the Centre lays in obligation to provide services for the good - a candidate for the World Heritage List, which is in progress.

## **Tanzania**

### *Tanzania - Mission Accomplished*

I am back from Tanzania. I have great news for you. Not only, I could gauge myself the great success of the ISET expedition (Dec2004-Jan2005) and the impact we made, but also I trained the best 4 members of the TNST (Tanzania National Speleological Trust) on cave mapping. So now our Tanzanian colleagues can perform almost all

speleological activity by themselves. In one expedition led by the UIS, Tanzania got already a well established organization supported by the government, and capable of exploring and protecting local caves. The equipments that were donated to them makes good arsenal for a start, the documentations that were also offered make their progress a matter of time.

I was so surprised and happy to see the progress in front of my eyes. I introduced the UIS to the administrators at the government (up to the regional commissioners and ministers levels) and at the university and academic realm.

Soon, we will receive the request from Tanzania to adhere to the UIS. I look forward for that but I gave them a few assignments before, once again to test their motivation. They still have to prove that they can do progress without any foreign assistance. Time will tell but I believe prospects are very high.

All the results of this expedition, that at least made big changes for me (as I can see now the power UIS can have and the efficiency in teaching and protecting caves via locals) will be on the web (<http://tanzania.speleo.tv>) and we will also publish a small book devoted for the ISET.

Once this book is finished, we will search for a new destination, where we can operate for the benefit of international speleology... Pakistan could be the new target... but first let us finish the book about the Tanzanian experiment.

*Fadi Nader*

### **New address for International Caver**

New email address is as follows: [timo@icaver.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:timo@icaver.wanadoo.co.uk).

Backup Hotmail address is: [timo\\_674@hotmail.com](mailto:timo_674@hotmail.com).

*Tim Stratford*

## **Events**

All other events, national or international – see UIC Calendar on web pages: <http://www.uis-speleo.org>

### **September 7-11, 2005**

*Evaporite-Karst Processes and Problems* will be held during the *Sixth International Conference on Geomorphology*, to be held in Zaragoza, Spain, on September 7–11, 2005: geology, geomorphology, hydrogeology, speleogenesis, minerals, paleokarst, subsidence/collapse, or environmental problems (and other topics) are welcome. Many excellent 3- to 5-day-long field trips are offered before and after the conference.

<http://wzar.unizar.es/actos/SEG/index.html>.

Francisco Gutiérrez, University of Zaragoza, Spain <[fgutier@posta.unizar.es](mailto:fgutier@posta.unizar.es)>

Kenneth Johnson, Oklahoma Geological Survey, USA <[ksjohnson@ou.edu](mailto:ksjohnson@ou.edu)>

### **September 14-19**

*Cvijić Karst 2005 Conference*, Belgrad, Serbia – September 14-15 and Kotor, Montenegro – September 116-19. International Association of Hydrogeologists Annual Meeting and Council. IAH Karst Commission session (Kotor September 17+18, 2005). More on: <http://www.cvijic-karst2005.org.yu/>.

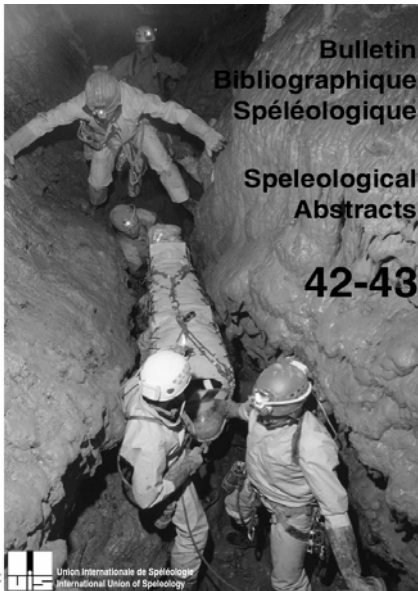
### **October 18-21, 2005**


*Protected karst regions - state, problems and perspectives* in Shumen, Bulgaria. This conference is organized by the Institute of Geography of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Shumen Natural Park Directorate (host of the conference). The event is dedicated to the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Institute of Geography and 25th Anniversary of the pronouncement of the Shumen karst plateau park. Co-organizers are the Foundation Center of Karstology "Vladimir Popov" and the Regional Environmental Inspectorate of Shumen. The conference is under the patronage of the Shumen mayor, Mr. Veselin Zlatev. <http://www.karst.iit.bas.bg/>.

### **May 26-29, 2006**

*4<sup>th</sup> International Conference "Climate Change: the Karst Record" (KR4)*, to be held in Baile Herculane, Romania May 26-29, 2006. Further details can be found on conferences webpage at <http://www.karst.ro/> where you may also register online.

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Beginning with 1994, the annual contributions will be as follows:

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**OLDER NUMBERS OF THE UIS-Bulletin**

Volumes 1 to 38 of the **UIS-Bulletin** are available on the request by the UIS Past-President Univ. Prof. Dr. Mag Hubert Trimmel (Draschestrasse 77, A-1230 Wien, Austria). Volumes 39 to 49 are available on the request by the UIS Secretary General Dr. Pavel Bosák (Vol. 43 and 47/1 was not distributed by mail!).

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