

## UIS BUREAU MEETING

October 31 – November 1, 2014

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

<b>Attendance: Session 1</b>	
<i>Friday, October 31, 2014; 09:00-13:40 (local time)</i>	
<b>President</b>	Kyung Sik WOO
<b>Vice-President of Administration</b>	George VENI (acting Secretary for the minutes)
<b>Vice-President of Operations</b>	Efrain MERCADO
<b>Adjunct secretaries</b>	Giovanni BADINO (partial attendance by Skype)
	Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS
	Nivaldo COLZATO
	Christian DODELIN
	Mladen GARAŠIĆ
	Zdeněk MOTYČKA
	Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
<b>Honorary members/Past-presidents</b>	Andrew James EAVIS
	José Ayrton LABEGALINI
<b>Bureau members not in attendance</b>	Fadi NADER
<b>Guests</b>	Nicholas WHITE

### **1) Opening comments of the UIS President/Approval of the Agenda**

Kyung Sik Woo thanked all participants for coming to Sydney. He discussed the outcome of the Executive Committee meeting the day before that refined the Bureau meeting agenda.

### **2) Approval of Minutes from the 2013 Bureau Meeting (Brno, Czech Republic)**

A few minor misspellings and corrections in English were made in the minutes of the 2013 UIS Bureau Meeting by George Veni. The revised minutes were approved by consensus.

### **3) Review of Action Items and Decisions of previous UIS Bureau Meeting (2013)**

- a. Christian Dodelin explained the situation with canyoning in the FFS proposal to conduct that activity within the UIS. The situation has since changed and it is clear there is overlap between canyoning and caving, but the two activities are separate and the organizations should remain separate.
- b. Speleo Nederland had a similar proposal to include caving under the Sportaccord organization so speleological organizations could receive insurance through Sportaccord. After reviewing the requirements for Sportaccord membership, membership requires that organizations are about competitive sports and UIS does view speleology as a competitive sport.

<b>ACTION 1: Fadi Nader will send a letter to Speleo Nederland to explain why UIS cannot be a member of Sportaccord.</b>
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### **4) Review/approval of an Invited Bureau Adjunct Secretary from Australia to fill the remainder of Stan Flavel's term**

Nicholas White was present at the meeting to represent Australia and explained that the Australian Speleological Federation will meet in two days and decide who they will recommend to fill Flavel's position. White prefers that he not serve as a Bureau member due to other obligations.

**5) Review of Finances (Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA)**

a. Summary of past year and current status:

The report is below. Some member countries, including new countries, have not yet paid.

UIS Financial report for 2014 until October 14, 2014

<b>EUROs 2015</b>			
1.1.2014	<b>12.047,90</b>		<b>10000,00</b> deposit till 7.4.2014
	22.047,90	<b>49,98</b>	interest
		20.000,00	NEW deposit from 11.4. 2014 until 13.4. 2015 – taken from account
		148,86	interest
	<b>Income until 14.10.2014</b>		
	fees	2.920,00	
	other	6.839,53	
	interests	0,63	
	Interest EUR deposit	198,84	
		9.959,00 + 2047,9	12.006,90
	bank fees		112,96
	commissions		1.225,00
	other		1186,13
			2524,09
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>9.482,81</b>	<b>and 20.000 deposited!</b>
<b>USD 2014</b>			
			<b>30.000,00</b> deposited until 7.4.2014
<b>income</b>	<b>payment</b>	39,46	interest
<b>225,26</b>	<b>150</b>		
	<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>16.929,86</b>	deposited from 11.4. 2014 until 13.4. 2015 - taken from account
		55,73	interest

- b. Status of sales of *Cave Geology* in Spanish as translated and printed by the Cuban Speleological Society (N. Zupan Hajna): The books are available on Amazon.com but so far only one copy has sold. We need ideas on how to sell more; 250 copies remain in Slovenia. UIS loaned 5000 Euros for the printing of the book to be repaid with the sales.

**ACTION 2: Efrain Mercado will promote the book through FEALC and take copies back to Latin America from the 2015 Bureau meeting. Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns will advertise the availability of the book on Amazon.**

- c. Internet payment (E. Mercado): The completion of the transition of the UIS website to the NSS server should be complete within a week. When completed, it will give more ability for the UIS website to do more things. The cost is US\$150.00/year and will be paid automatically.

**DECISION 1: The UIS will pay the NSS US\$150/year automatically for use of its server for the UIS website. Efrain Mercado will coordinate with the NSS and Nadja Zupan Hajna will make the payment.**

- d. Request by Hungary for reduced dues (N. Zupan Hajna): The number of Hungarian cavers has dropped in half and with national financial problems they are asking to be changed from Category A to Category C to reduce their dues from 300 to 50 Euros/per year. They are willing to return to a higher category when their situation improves.

**DECISION 2: The UIS will accept the Hungarian Speleological Society's proposal to reduce their dues to 50 Euros/year retroactively to 2011 as Category 3. Fadi Nader will notify them.**

- e. Request for funds by the commissions (G. Veni): The following requests were made by the commissions:
- **Bibliography Commission:** 500 Euros each year until 2017 for the coordination of Speleological Abstracts.
  - **Department of Protection:** 250 Euros each year until 2017 to support the Habe Prize.
  - **Pseudokarst Commission:** 100 Euros to print the next edition of the commission's newsletter and any "extra" funds to support the travel of honorary commission members to the commission's symposium.
  - **Speleotherapy Commission:** 250 Euros in 2014 and 2016 for translating the proceedings of the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> symposia, and 150 Euros in 2014, 2015, and 2016 to print the Bibliographic Bulletin of Speleotherapy.

**DECISION 3: All commission requests for funding were approved except for the "extra" money by the Pseudokarst Commission and that printing costs will only be paid for one year, after which all commissions will be encouraged to publish electronically on their websites and the Karst Information Portal. George Veni will notify the commissions and Nadja Zupan Hajna will send payments. Zdeněk Motyčka will assist the Pseudokarst Commission with extra money.**

- f. Discussion to possibly develop grants for exploration (N. Zupan Hajna): Proposal for grants for members to support exploration among members countries, not to non-member countries. Discussed before the meeting with Fadi Nader and up to 1000 Euros in support was suggested. There was general support for the idea but also discussion of many complexities.

**ACTION 3: Zdeněk Motyčka will organize a committee to study how to develop a grant program to support expeditions and projects.**

- g. Determine how to recognize member countries on the UIS website (N. Zupan Hajna): The UIS website lists all organizations and members on one list and the members need to be distinguished.

**ACTION 4: Efrain Mercado will differentiate between the members and non-members on the website. José Labegalini will assist.**

**6) Status of review and modification of the UIS Statutes and Internal regulations (G. Veni)**

Both documents have been closely reviewed and modified. Most of the proposed changes are very small, such as correcting English and typographical errors, reformatting some information to make it clearer and easier to find, and using consistent terminology. More significant changes include making the documents consistent with each other, removing actions and practices that are no longer true of the UIS and replacing them with current actions and practices, adding procedures to remove Bureau members, delegates, and member nations, and removing detailed procedures from the Internal Regulations and placing them into their own documents (as currently done with the Congress guidelines). The next steps are to:

- a. check key points with a Slovenian lawyer and make sure everything is legal and proper by Slovenian law;
- b. add a preamble to the Statutes as required by Slovenian law;
- c. add a responsible person in Slovenia as required by Slovenian law;
- d. add more power to the Advisory Committee as required by Slovenia law;
- e. possibly develop a Conflict of Interest Policy and Bureau Ethics Policy.

**ACTION 5: Nadja Zupan Hajna will consult with a Slovenian lawyer to work out the next steps on the Statutes and Internal Regulation by the end of 2014. Fadi Nader and George Veni will then make any remaining changes and send the document to the Bureau for review.**

**7) Procedure for applying for UIS Bureau (J.-P. Bartholeyns)**

Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns noticed some slowness and inefficiency in the posting of candidates and information about the candidates running for the UIS Bureau. He proposed using a standard form that is completed by the candidates to provide information about themselves.

**ACTION 6: Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns will work with others to revise his proposal by the end of April 2015 for collecting and posting information on candidates running for the UIS Bureau.**

**8) 50th Anniversary of the UIS (N. Zupan Hajna)**

Nadja Zupan Hajna reviewed the draft schedule and the proposed costs (below). She and Andrej Mihevc are the organizers.

	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21
	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN

Morning	-Registration -Opening of event <b>CAVE SCIENCE</b> -Invited lectures -Lectures of participants	<b>OPEN EXPLORATION FRONTIERS; BIG CAVE SYSTEMS</b> -Invited lectures -Lectures of participants	<b>HISTORY OF CAVE EXPLORATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE – »ALCADI«</b> -Invited lectures -Lectures of participants	<b>Whole-day field trip</b> Classical Karst: Škocjanske jame UNESCO, cave entrances to underground river Reka, Grotta Gigante springs of Timava	<b>UIS DAY</b> - Invited lectures - Visit of Postojnska jama cave	<b>UIS Bureau meeting</b> Cave visits (organized by JZS)	<b>UIS Bureau meeting</b>
Afternoon/evening	- Lectures of participants - Poster session - Karst mysteries -Institute reception	-Field trip: cave Planinska jama, Rakov Škocjan, Cerknjško polje (entrance to cave Karlovice)	-Field trip: cave Vilenica		- 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UIS; celebration in the cave Postojnska jama - Reception in front of the cave	<b>UIS Bureau meeting</b>	

Nadja proposed:

1. Registration for International Karstological School and UIS Day:

- Whole week = 150 Euros/person; students 50 Euros/student
- UIS Day (Friday) = 50 Euros/person
- UIS Bureau members: 150 Euros or 100 Euros or 0 Euros (depending on if pays some of the expenses)

Included: materials, coffee breaks, reception, excursions, lunch during whole-day excursion, cave visits, celebration, banquet

2. Accommodations– discount in negotiation

Due to other sponsorships, it does not seem possible to get sponsorships for free accommodations for UIS Bureau members.

3. UIS Day Celebration (Friday)

This will include lectures, free tourist visit of Postojnska jama (organized) and a celebration in the cave (up to 1 hour), and a reception. There is consideration of creating postcards and a special stamp. The President of Slovenia and ministers will be invited.

UIS Day banquet will be semiformal with a menu that will cost 25 Euros/person for self-service or an additional 2,6 Euros for service. Beer costs are under negotiation. Soft drinks and red wine will be purchased at a discount shop. White wine may be provided with special UIS labels at 2,5 Euros/bottle.

4. Publications

A booklet will need to be printed with details on the excursions, abstracts, general program, UIS history paper, the UIS President's speech, etc.

5. UIS invited guests?

Will the Bureau invite somebody to participate and we will cover costs? No one was specifically identified.

**DECISION 4: UIS approves Nadja Zupan Hajna to pay up to 3000 Euros in costs for the UIS Anniversary Celebration if registrations fees do not cover all of the expenses. The Bureau members will not pay the registration fee for the celebration. If the cost is more than 3000 Euros, Nadja Zupan Hajna will present the excess cost to the Bureau and the Bureau will decide at that time if more than 3000 Euros can be paid.**

**ACTION 7: Nadja Zupan Hajna and Zdeněk Motyčka will create a circular in PDF format for posting on the Karstological School and UIS websites to promote the UIS Anniversary Celebration. They will send it to Efrain Mercado for translation into Spanish.**

#### **9) UIS History Book (J.A. Labegalini)**

The book has made progress with a lot of input from various people. Time is short and José Labegalini needs prompt replies. He will stop collecting information in December or January. The book will be ready for the 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration. There was general discussion on the cost of printing, how much to spend, and how to sell/distribute the book.

**ACTION 8: Nadja Zupan Hajna will look into the costs and possibilities for publishing the UIS History book in Slovenia. She will relay the information to José Labegalini and Zdeněk Motyčka and they will make recommendations on the number of copies to print and the sale price.**

#### **10) UIS Film (M. Garašić)**

Mladen Garašić is coordinating with Boris Watz, who is still recovering from his badly broken leg. Boris will send some preliminary material soon for discussion on how to proceed. He is currently focusing on a film for the 50<sup>th</sup> UIS Anniversary Celebration and then perhaps another film that could be ready for the 2017 ICS.

#### **11) ISCA (J.-P. Bartholeyns)**

There is progress on the proposed Show Cave Guidelines but problems from at least a couple of ISCA members focused on wood and numbers of visitors. Some ISCA members are concerned that the guidelines are too strong and will be seen as requirements by countries overseeing the show caves. Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns reported that he and Arrigo Cigna are happy with the draft received from David Summers as a good compromise to address the concerns. We must now see what happens at the ISCA Congress next week, but UIS will continue to assist and work with ISCA as desired on the protection of caves.

It was observed that the UIS 2002 agreement with ISCA says that ISCA will be affiliated with UIS. However, that affiliation needs to be formalized under the new UIS rules for Affiliated Organizations.

**ACTION 9: Kyung Sik Woo will discuss renewing and updating the affiliation with ISCA at the ISCA Congress next week.**

*The meeting was recessed for the day so the Bureau could go to Penrith from 14:00-17:00 and inspect the venue for the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS.*

<b>Attendance: Session 2</b>	
<i>Saturday, November 1, 2014; 09:00-16:00 (local time)</i>	
<b>President</b>	Kyung Sik WOO
<b>Vice-President of Administration</b>	George VENI (acting Secretary for the minutes)
<b>Vice-President of Operations</b>	Efrain MERCADO
<b>Adjunct Secretaries</b>	Jean-Pierre BARTHOLEYNS
	Nivaldo COLZATO
	Christian DODELIN
	Mladen GARAŠIĆ
	Zdeněk MOTYČKA
	Nadja ZUPAN HAJNA
<b>Honorary &amp; Past-President</b>	Andrew James EAVIS
	José Ayrton LABEGALINI
<b>Bureau members not in attendance</b>	Giovanni BADINO
	Fadi NADER
<b>Guests</b>	Denis MARSH
	Nicholas WHITE

## **12) Status of the 2017 ICS**

George Veni reported that there may have been some confusion among some of the ICS organizers about the Bureau's expenses during this visit to Sydney. They are not meant to be paid by the Australian cavers but are part of the ICS expenses and that advance funds are available from the UIS to cover those and other expenses if needed.

Denis Marsh, Chairman of the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS Organizing Committee, gave a report on the progress of the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS. There have been some delays in organization due to Stan Flavel's health issues. However, this is still early in the process and some aspects of the ICS are still being organized. Nick White is the Vice President, Jim Crockett is the Secretary, and David Butler is the Treasurer. Subcommittees have been established for registration, field trips, program, public relations, the venue, and lodging. The subcommittee chairs will have coordinators working for them to get the jobs done. Australia is expensive and they are working on sponsorships to reduce costs. The venue has challenges but they are not insurmountable. The 17<sup>th</sup> ICS has full backing of the Australian Speleological Federation. Denis asked for questions, feedback, and a vote of confidence. He received all three from the Bureau.

**ACTION 10: Bureau members will send George Veni all of their comments, suggestions, ideas, and concerns about the 17<sup>th</sup> ICS by 30 November 2014. George will organize them and send them to the ICS officers.**

## **13) UIS Media**

Nivaldo Colzato wants to use the Bulletin to more effectively promote the UIS, and not just record UIS activities. He is also working to better maintain the list of member countries and connections with those countries. Kyung Sik Woo asked that updates be sent to Fadi Nader and Nadja Zupan Hajna. Zdeněk Motyčka suggested creating an e-mail list of individuals, not just delegates. The ICS registration lists can be used as the basis for such a list.



**ACTION 11: Efrain Mercado will compile e-mail addresses for ICS attendees, other individuals, delegates, and from club mail addresses into a database for a full UIS e-mail list.**

Nivaldo Colzato reported that the UIS logo has been used in many ways and in different colors, even though there is only one official logo. Consistency is needed and he is developing a document with details on how the logo looks and can be used.

**ACTION 12: Nivaldo Colzato will expand his draft guide for the logo to a branding guide for all UIS symbolic devices (logo, flag, anthem, fanfare, etc.), which will be attached to the revised Internal Regulations. He will send a draft version for comments by the end of 2014. Bureau members should send comments on current guide by end of November 2014.**

**14) Cave Rescue: International reactions – lessons learned in 2014 (C. Dodelin / E. Mercado)**

- a. Review of recent rescues: Christian Dodelin explained that the rescue in German was not organized by cavers. Austria and Germany do not work with cavers and do not have cave rescue organizations. Dodelin has long suggested that the official rescue organizations work with cavers, but it has not been possible so far. When the accident occurred, international cavers were not initially accepted by the official German mountain rescue team, except for the Swiss. After four days, Italian cavers and a Slovenian doctor entered the cave. In the end, too many people arrived and most were not needed. Insurance is now needed for caving in Germany and the cave is closed. Insurance for individuals is over 1000 Euros so insurance through organizations is needed.

Efrain Mercado explained how the Peru rescue of a Spanish caver had complications with the remote site and poor local organization. There is no local cave rescue team. Neither the Peruvian nor the Spanish governments offered any rescue support until the accident was internationally publicized. The Spanish rescue team was accepted because the caver was Spanish. The rescue was self-funded and donations are sought to cover the expenses. Like in Germany, there were too many unnecessary people on site consuming needed rescue resources. Efrain had a team of Belizian, Brazilian, Costa Rican, Mexican, and US cavers ready to go, but he could not get permission from Peru. Zdeněk Motyčka suggested developed a multinational rescue agreement, as between the Czech Republic, Poland, and Slovakia, which makes rescue cooperation easy.

**ACTION 13: Christian Dodelin and Efrain Mercado will summarize the situation from the 2014 German and Peruvian rescues and provide recommendations in an article for the UIS Bureau by 15 December 2014.**

- b. Code of Ethics reinforcement (E. Mercado): The Code of Ethics should include setting up an emergency plan in the country visited.

**ACTION 14: Christian Dodelin and Efrain Mercado will write an addition to the Code of Ethics to discuss rescue and send it to the UIS Bureau to review in time for discussion at the next Bureau meeting.**

- c. Caving insurance: George Veni was contacted by Baerbel Vogel, President of the German Speleological Federation, for a list of countries with insurance or other funds for cave rescue costs.

**ACTION 15: George Veni will contact the President of the German Speleological Federation and recommend she contact Christian Dodelin, Andy Eavis, and Paul Williams for information on caving insurance.**

**15) UIS Relationships with Regional Organizations and Countries (K.S. Woo)**

- a. European Federation (FSE) sent a letter officially requesting to become an Associated Speleological Organization of the UIS. Zdeněk Motyčka pointed out that the Czech Republic did not join the FSE and has suffered retaliatory attacks, such as boycotting of the Brno Congress, although some of this has been the action of one person who is no longer on the FSE Bureau.

**DECISION 5: The Bureau approved the FSE as an Associated Speleological Organization of the UIS; Zdeněk Motyčka abstained from voting. Fadi Nader will notify the FSE.**

- b. Possible proposals for 2021 ICS:
  - i. **Brazil** (J. Labegalini): The Brazilian Speleological Society proposed this idea to evaluate the evolution of speleology over the past 20 years from when a congress was last held in Brazil. It would be held in a karst area of southern Brazil and would be only the second ICS in South America. They recognize the tradition of the congress going back to Europe after each out-of-Europe ICS, but ask their proposal be given serious consideration.
  - ii. **France** (C. Dodelin): Proposal in the region of the Alps with lots of caves and prehistoric cave sites.
  - iii. **Italy/Slovenia** (N. Zupan Hajna): Meeting along the border held by both countries in the Classical Kras. Jo De Waele asked Nadja Zupan Hajna if they would work together and symbolically reunify the karst and countries. The Karst Research Institute in Slovenia and the Italian Speleological Society would help organize this ICS.
- c. Status on Iran (K.S. Woo): Kyung Sik Woo was invited to an Iranian national geology conference on 10 topics. It started in Tehran with a day of plenary sessions, then split with buses going to different venues for each topic. The cave symposium was arranged by the Iran Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation (IMF). During the event he found the IMF and the Iranian Caves and Speleology Association (ICSA) were not communicating, resulting in inefficiencies. He met with IMF President Fahimi and ICSA President Hasheminezhad and asked for an international agreement among them. Hasheminezhad is the UIS delegate and his wife is the vice delegate. They agreed to make an IMF representative a vice delegate but Kyung Sik has not heard anything since. Fadi Nader sent an e-mail to get a letter of mutual

agreement, followed by another message from Kyung Sik, but no reply has been received yet. They may be waiting for governmental approval. Nadja Zupan Hajna pointed out that they have not paid dues for last year or this year and are not replying to her e-mails.

**ACTION 16: Kyung Sik Woo will write a letter to both Iranian organizations to remind them of their agreement to work together and need to reply to UIS with their decision, and that they need to pay their dues.**

#### **16) Increasing UIS' international recognition (K.S. Woo)**

- a. Action plan
  - i. Prize (certificate of award or plaque): Everyone supports the idea of giving UIS awards for major achievements and contributions to speleology. Nivaldo Colzato is working to establish the details. It was proposed that major awards could be named after major international UIS figures.
  - ii. Status within ICSU: Kyung Sik Woo explained what ICSU is and its relationship and benefits to UIS. UIS is Associated Member (Full Member is too expensive) but UIS can get involved in any ICSU program, which gives UIS opportunities for major policymakers to learn about the importance of speleology in research and policy. Kyung Sik recommends continuing UIS involvement with ICSU and identifying two delegates to go to ICSU meetings, including the cost of travel estimated at \$3000/person once every three years.

**DECISION 6: Kyung Sik will be the delegate to the next ICSU meeting in 2017 and UIS will approve the costs before the travel, if he cannot get travel funds from other sources.**

Physical Chemistry and Hydrogeology Commission proposal; support letters needed: George Veni explained that the commission was applying for an ICSU grant on behalf of the UIS and that letters of support from ICSU members were needed. Commission President Yavor Shopov asked if the Bureau would pay for equipment to support the proposal but the consensus was to not pay for equipment before the grant was received.

**ACTION 17: George Veni will send the Bureau list of ICSU members for letters of support for the ICSU grant.**

- iii. Invite underdeveloped countries to join the UIS: Find creative ways to encourage and help them attend the ICS and join the UIS.

**ACTION 18: Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns will coordinate outreach to recruit new member nations, especially from underdeveloped countries.**

**ACTION 19: Nivaldo Colzato will create a PowerPoint with information on the UIS and which encourages cavers to become involved with the UIS. It will be designed for presentation by Bureau members.**

- iv. Increase in public awareness of cave/karst protection.
  - v. Development programs of cave education (survey, exploration and investigation).
  - vi. UIS book for children: Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns is concerned that children's books need to be very specific to their age and the types of caves in the child's region. Kyung Sik Woo said he was suggesting something more general. Nadja Zupan Hajna suggested targeting young, emerging cavers. Efrain suggested publication as an e-book and will work with Jean-Pierre on the development of the text. The topic should be discussed with the UIS Department of Education.
- b. Long-term plans
- i. Fund-raising: Kyung Sik Woo reported that 2,500 Euros were anonymously donated to the UIS and that Andy Eavis and Zdeněk Motyčka will work together on fundraising.

**ACTION 20: Zdeněk Motyčka will organize a fundraising team and present fundraising strategies and draft materials in 2015.**

- ii. Expansion of memberships.
  - iii. Promotion of commission activities.
  - iv. Collaboration with other Unions.
- c. Kyung Sik Woo suggested the following roles for the Adjunct secretaries:
- i. Giovanni Badino: Promotion of commission activities.
  - ii. Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns: Expansion of UIS new country memberships and assist with UIS educational electronic publication.
  - iii. Nivaldo Colzato: UIS newsletter and other publications, and create informational UIS PowerPoint.
  - iv. Christian Dodelin: International support of caving education for underdeveloped countries.
  - v. Mladen Garasic: UIS film.
  - vi. Zdeněk Motyčka: Fund raising and promotion of international caving expeditions.
  - vii. Nadja Zupan Hajna: Acting Treasurer, the 50th Anniversary.
  - viii. Invited Adjunct Secretary: 2017 ICS.

### **17) Other business:**

- a. Approval of US National Cave and Karst Research Institute as an Affiliated Organization of the UIS: George Veni said he would stop being a UIS Bureau member for a few minutes in order to represent the US National Cave and Karst Research Institute (NCKRI) where he is the Executive Director. He applied for Affiliated Organization status with the UIS, but asked for reduced or waived annual fees because NCKRI has:
  - hosted the UIS International Workshop on Ice Caves;
  - helped produce two issues of the UIS Bulletin;
  - paid for the creation of the UIS educational CDs that were distributed for free in Kerrville;
  - sponsored the 15<sup>th</sup> ICS with \$10,000;

- partnered with the UIS in the Karst Information Portal, which is generating publicity for the UIS and is an important benefit to cavers around the world; and
- arranged for the UIS' *International Journal of Speleology* to be now published for free digitally and is available for free internationally through the Karst Information Portal.

Veni left the room while his request was discussed and decided.

**DECISION 7: UIS will accept NCKRI as an Affiliated Organization and NCKRI will pay 300 Euros/year.**

- b. Status of UIS Awards: Nivaldo Colzato reported on his efforts to enhance the UIS awards and improve the award process.

**ACTION 21: Nivaldo Colzato will make a list of suggested awards, honorary names, and procedures to apply and for receiving awards, and will send it to the Bureau for comments by the end of 2014.**

- c. Commission request: George Veni reported that he thought the Bureau had approved a request for US \$150/year from the Karst Hydrology and Speleogenesis Commission to support the Speleogenesis website. However, he could find no record of it in any of the Bureau minutes or e-mails.

**DECISION 8: The Bureau agreed to pay the Karst Hydrology and Speleogenesis Commission US \$150 each year through 2017 to support the Speleogenesis website. George Veni will notify the commission and Nadja Zupan Hajna will send the payment.**

- d. Anniversary souvenir: Zdeněk Motyčka asked about creating a memorial coin or other item for the 50<sup>th</sup> UIS anniversary.

**ACTION 22: Zdeněk will send the Bureau a suggestion and costs for a UIS Anniversary souvenir by the end of 2014.**

### **18) Speleological events since the last Bureau meeting**

There was consensus that reports on past events should be limited to those where some presentation or promotion was made on the UIS and not just where Bureau members attended.

- NSS Convention, 5-9 August 2013 (Shippensburg, Pennsylvania, USA): George Veni attended this event. It was attended by about 800 cavers and cave scientists, a lower than average number because about 150 attended the ICS in Brno a week earlier.
- EuroSpeleo Forum 2013, November 2013, (Casola, Italy): Christian Dodelin, Mladen Garašić, and Zdeněk Motyčka attended.
- Balkan Speleological Conference, 28-30 March 2014 (Sofia, Bulgaria): Efrain Mercado attended.
- International Conference on Integrated Use and Protection of Underground Spaces Devoted to the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Kungur Ice Cave Exploration, 26-31 May 2014 (Kungur Ice Cave, Perm, Russia): Kyung Sik Woo attended.

- e. Karst without Borders, 11-15 June 2014 (Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina): This is a UNESCO supported meeting of the Karst Commission of the International Association of Hydrogeologists. Mladen Garašić attended this meeting.
- f. 22<sup>nd</sup> International Karst School, focus on Microbiology, Postojna, Slovenia (June 2014): Pavel Bosak and Nadja Zupan Hajna attended this event.
- g. NSS Convention, 14-18 July 2014 (Huntsville, Alabama, USA): George Veni attended this event. It was held at the new NSS Headquarters and attended by about 1200 cavers and cave scientists.
- h. International Workshop on Ice Caves VI, 17-22 August 2014 (Idaho Falls, Idaho, USA): NCKRI organized this event and George Veni chaired it for the UIS Commission on Glacier, Firn, and Ice Caves. Thirty-two people from 11 countries attended. Twenty papers were published in the proceedings, which are available for free on the Karst Information Portal. Andrej Mihevc also attended and will organize the next meeting for 2016 in Postojna, Slovenia.
- i. EuroSpeleo Forum 2014, August 2014, (Romania): Jean-Pierre Bartholeyns, Christian Dodelin, and Mladen Garašić attended.
- j. 31<sup>st</sup> ICSU General Assembly, 31 August – 3 September 2014 (Auckland, New Zealand): Kyung Sik Woo and Paul Williams attended and spoke on behalf of the UIS.
- k. Karst Record Conference (7), 29 September - 3 October 2014 (Melbourne, Australia): Andy Eavis, Derek Ford, and Paul Williams attended this conference.
- l. Geological Society of America Convention, 19-22 October 2014 (Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada): George Veni attended this event along with 6,700 geologists from around the world. The convention included three karst sessions, one karst field trip, and the creation of a Karst Division within the organization.

**19) Future speleology events until end of 2015 that UIS should consider attending**

- a. ISCA Congress, 2-8 November 2014 (Jenolan Caves, Australia), <http://www.i-s-c-a.com/event/39-isca-7th-congress>: All of the Bureau, except George Veni, plus Andy Eavis and José Labegalini will attend this event.
- b. Karstology in Arid Regions, 2-9 March 2015 (Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates), <http://abudhabi.zrc-sazu.si/>: This event is co-organized by the Karst Research Institute and Nadja Zupan Hajna may attend.
- c. Hypogea2015, International Congress on Artificial Cavities, 11-17 March 2015, (Rome, Italy), <http://hypogea2015.hypogea.it/>: This is an event of the UIS Commission on Artificial Cavities.
- d. Cuban Speleological Society 75<sup>th</sup> Congress, April 2015 (Camaguey, Cuba): Efrain Mercado may attend.
- e. 13th International Cave Rescue Conference, 16-19 April 2015 (Le Camp, Vaumarcus, Switzerland), [www.riss2015.ch](http://www.riss2015.ch): Christian Dodelin will attend.
- f. EuroSpeleo Forum 2015 and XXII Italian National Congress of Speleology, 30 May - 2 June 2015 (Pertosa-Auletta, Italy), <http://www.congressospeleo2015.org/english/index>: Arrigo Cigna, Paolo Forti, and Mladen Garašić may attend.
- g. 23rd Karstological School and UIS Celebration, 15-19 June 2015 (Postojna, Slovenia): The 2015 UIS Bureau Meeting will be held at this event in the UIS office at the Karst Research Institute.



- h. 33<sup>rd</sup> Congress of the Brazilian Speleological Society, 15-19 June 2015 (Eldorado, Sao Paulo, Brazil), <http://www.cavernas.org.br/33cbe.asp>: Nivaldo Colzato and José Labegalini will attend.
- i. KG@B, International Conference on Groundwater in Karst, 20-26 June 2015 (Birmingham, UK), <http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/generic/kgatb/index.aspx>: Andy Eavis will attend this event.
- j. NSS Convention, 13-17 July 2015 (Waynesville, Missouri, USA); <http://nss2015.caves.org/>: George Veni will attend this annual convention.
- k. 13<sup>th</sup> Symposium on Pseudokarst, 16-20 September (Czech Republic), <http://www.pseudokarst.de.vu/>: This is an event of the UIS Commission on Pseudokarst and Zdeněk Motyčka will attend.
- l. 14<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 5-9 October 2015 (Rochester, Minnesota, USA), <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>: NCKRI is jointly organizing this event with the Minnesota Ground Water Association and George Veni is co-chairing it. It is the longest-running international meeting on engineering and environmental problems in karst.
- m. Asian Conference on Speleology, October 2015 (China): Kyung Sik Woo will attend.
- n. National Cave and Karst Management Symposium, 19-23 October 2015 (Cave City, Kentucky, USA), <http://nckms.org/>: George Veni may attend this meeting.
- o. Geological Society of America (GSA) Convention, 1-4 November 2015 (Baltimore, Maryland, USA), <http://www.geosociety.org/>: The new GSA Karst Division is already planning several cave and karst sessions and two field trips. George Veni will attend.

**ACTION 23: George Veni will send the list of speleological events to the UIS website.**

#### **20) Closing Statements (K.S. Woo)**

Kyung Sik Woo closed the 2014 UIS Bureau meeting and thanked everybody for their presence and their contribution.

**ACTION 24: George Veni will prepare the minutes of the 2014 Bureau meeting and the Action List for 2014-2015.**