

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



2000

ANNUAL REPORT

And

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND
ANNUAL REPORT
2000

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President's Report

It gives me great pleasure to be writing, as President, in the first Annual Report of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland. The idea for an Annual Report came from John Clifford, an idea that was wholeheartedly supported by the Board. The Report records the work of the Institute for the previous year. Like the Financial Statements included later in the Report, it will record the work done on a calendar year basis. Updates of the activities of the Institute will be provided throughout the year through information notes from the Secretary, the web site, the Annual General Meeting and other meetings.

The business of the IGI is largely conducted by the Board operating a committee system (some Committees are referred to as Working Groups). Where an issue warrants, the Board sets up a Committee with specific terms of reference to deal with the topic. Persons who have relevant expertise or interest in the particular issue are invited to join the Committee. These persons may be on the Board but commonly are not, so that we get as broad a range of views as possible. Often, people volunteer to serve on a Committee and their participation is most welcome. This active participation by the membership bodes well for the long-term health of the Institute. Often the purpose of a Committee is to produce a document, be it a position paper or guidelines or some other formal communication. Where this is the objective, there will be a full consultation process before any such document is formally adopted, so that the widest range of views and interests can be accommodated.

I do not intend to record here all the work carried out by the Institute or its various Committees during the year – this is covered more than adequately in the remainder of the report, which I urge you to read.

It is often the case that many years after the founding of an organisation, especially at significant anniversaries, people ask how the organisation was set up and who was there at the beginning. I thought it might be useful to chart some of the significant events that led to the setting up of the IGI and to record the part played by a number of individuals. This latter attempt is fraught with pitfalls and I apologise in advance to any person whose contribution I have failed to recognise. Perhaps they can inform the IGI so that the record can be set straight. So here is the 'Road to the IGI' according to Eibhlín Doyle. First a timetable of significant events:

- 1986 – Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG) affiliates to the EFG
- 1992 - IAEG sets up Professional Membership category
- 1997 - IAEG sets up Professional Affairs Committee (PAC)
- 1998 - "Geology - it's your Profession" Meeting
- 1998 - PAC recommends setting up Institute of Geologists of Ireland (IGI)
- 1999 - IGI launched
- 2000 - IGI Inaugural General Meeting.

Even before these easily identifiable events, discussions on professionalism in geology took place in the IAEG led by, among others, Peter Brück. I'm not sure if other associations held similar discussions at this early stage. The decision of the IAEG to affiliate to the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) in 1986 was taken so as to have Irish qualifications recognised in other European countries and vice versa. Prominent at the time in these discussions were Gareth Ll. Jones and Christian Schaffalitzky.

There is no doubt that the decision by the IAEG to set up a Professional Membership category was a significant decision both for the profession of geology and for the birth of the IGI. Not surprisingly, most of those who became Professional Members of the IAEG (PMIAEG) were from the exploration and mining industry. Nonetheless the IAH approached the IAEG to become affiliate members of the IAEG to avail of the Professional Membership category. Kevin Cullen played a major role here. At the IAEG AGM in 1996 a discussion took place on extending the Professional Membership category to the wider geological community, as a number of other disciplines were requiring a professional qualification. Out of this debate I (as incoming President of the IAEG) recommended that a committee be set up to examine the position. The IAEG Council decided to set up a Professional Affairs Committee (PAC) with representatives being invited from all disciplines of the earth sciences. Prominent members of the PAC were Eugene Daly (IAH), Bernard Murphy (Geotechnical Division of IEI), Julian Menuge (IGA), Gareth Ll. Jones and Christian Schaffalitzky (both of the IAEG). Later Piers Gardiner (IMQS), Michael Philcox (IQUA), Peter O'Connor (GAI) and John Clifford (IAEG) joined the PAC.

By the end of 1997 we had an IGI concept developed. The concept was drawn up in consultation with other Irish geological associations/bodies. In 1998 we held the meeting "Geology – it's your Profession". This successful meeting pulled together the views, ideas and concerns of the various geological bodies and individual geologists. From this meeting we were able to move together towards the launching of the IGI in 1999. Dr Michael Woods TD, then Minister for the Marine and Natural Resources, officiated at the launch of the IGI.

Each earth science association then approached its membership, seeking approval for the concept and for financial support for the launch of the IGI. The following organisations agreed with the concept and to support the IGI:

- Irish Association for Economic Geology
- International Association for Hydrogeologists (Irish Branch)
- Irish Mining and Quarrying Society
- Geophysical Association of Ireland
- Geotechnical Section of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland

These are known as the sponsoring bodies. Intensive consultations took place with the sponsoring bodies at all stages. An interim committee was appointed, made up of representatives of the sponsoring bodies. The work of the interim committee was largely to further develop the concept of the IGI and draw up the framework within which the Institute would operate (The Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association and the Code of Ethics). At the Inaugural General Meeting held on 4th April 2000, the Articles and Memorandum of Association and the Code of Ethics were formally adopted, thus bringing the Institute into being. The first Board of the IGI was also elected and a programme of work outlined. Interaction between the IGI and sponsoring bodies continued, with each body sending observers to Board Meetings.

This then is a summary of the development of the IGI and as I said earlier, if anyone would like to add to this, I would invite him or her to write to the Board to have their views recorded.

One of the principal tasks of the Board has been to build up the membership. I am pleased to inform you that on December 31st 2000 our membership stood at 122 Professional Members and 4 Members-in-Training. This exceeds our original target of 80 Professional Members by the end of 2000.

Of primary concern to members, the sponsoring bodies and the general public, and one of the driving forces for the development of the IGI, has been the requirement for members to keep abreast of progress in their chosen field. The process, which has been developed in other professions, is commonly known as Continuing Professional Development (CPD). CPD is a planned means for members to maintain and further their knowledge and skills.

A scheme has been devised following much research and discussion. Two workshops were held to obtain the views of members. The CPD process is one where a member's activity and planned development are recorded annually. CPD forms are available on the web site. It should be stressed that the CPD scheme will evolve with use and that we will listen to members' views and concerns on the implementation of CPD. As part of CPD, the IGI also ran short courses on Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and on Report Writing, both of which were well attended. A number of courses run by our sponsoring bodies were also certified for CPD purposes.

The First International Professional Geology Conference took place in Alicante, Spain in July. I gave a presentation on 'Professionalism in Geology: The Irish Experience'. A number of professional geological bodies from other countries were impressed with the progress the IGI has made and with the CPD scheme we have implemented. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Geological Survey of Ireland for their support for my attendance at this conference.

The IGI's profile is improving; we were invited to contribute to Fine Gael's Environmental Policy Forum on 2nd October by the then Environment spokesperson, Ivan Yates, TD. John Clifford and Teri Hayes attended and gave presentations on behalf of the IGI. The IGI has also obtained representation on the National Committee for Geology of the Royal Irish Academy and on the Consultative Committee of the Geological Survey of Ireland. Our representatives are Becci Cantrell and Julian Menuge, respectively.

Much has been achieved over a short period of time but a lot yet remains to be accomplished. Many of our short-term goals have been achieved, e.g. setting up the IGI. We are now moving ahead with our intermediate goals, many of which are being handled by working groups, but it must be remembered that there are long-term goals, which may take many years. These goals can be achieved with the continued support and drive from the various associations and members.

I would like to thank all the sponsoring bodies for their input and their financial support. They are: Geophysical Association of Ireland; Geotechnical Section of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland; International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Branch); Irish Association for Economic Geology Limited; and Irish Mining and Quarrying Society. The Board recommends that all members of the IGI should continue to support the activities of their specialist association, or to join at the earliest opportunity if not already a member. These associations are your first port of call for CPD. The IGI will continue to award course accreditation for appropriate courses run by the various associations.

On a lighter note, I would like to thank Eugene and Margaret Daly, who again hosted a barbecue for the IGI, on 22nd July. Thanks to their hard work, and to the fine weather, members and their guests enjoyed a relaxing day out.

The work completed has only been possible because of the energy and enthusiasm of the Board and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Board members, observers and members of the working groups for their hard work and assistance during the year. I have been fortunate to benefit from the strong support and assistance given to me as the Inaugural President. I wish the incoming Board well with the continued development and implementation of the IGI programme.

EurGeol. Dr Eibhlín Doyle PGeo

Secretary's Report

The Inaugural General Meeting of the IGI was held on 4th April 2000 in UCD Geology Department and attended by 33 Professional Members. A Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association and Code of Ethics were adopted by the meeting and a Board elected. The Minutes of the IGM have been distributed separately.

The Transitional Council met four times, in Dublin, prior to the IGM. Following the IGM, the inaugural Board of the IGI met nine times, on an approximately monthly basis. One meeting was held in Portlaoise, one in Galway, one in County Wicklow and six in Dublin.

A summary of the activities of the Validation Committee (*Chair: Christian Schaffalitzky*) and of the Professional Development Committee (*Chair: Eugene Daly*) are included in this Annual Report. The membership of the Ethics and Disciplinary Committees continued unchanged; neither was required to meet.

The following Working Groups were established or continued in 2000:

- Reporting of Mineral Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (continuing) *Chair: John Clifford*
- Public Affairs Strategy (established 8th February) *Chair: Seán Finlay*
- Drilling Standards (established 12th April) *Chair: Becci Cantrell*
- Geology in Environmental Impact Statements (established 13th September) *Chair: Eibhlín Doyle*
- Promotion of the Requirement for Professional Qualifications (established 13th September) *Chair: Peter O'Connor*

A summary of the activities of each working group is included in this Annual Report.

The Board applied to the Revenue Commissioners for charitable status. Changes to the Memorandum of Association required by the Revenue Commissioners were agreed by the Board and will be put to the 2001 Annual General Meeting.

At the end of 2000 there were 122 Professional Members. Analysis of their application forms reveals the following breakdown by sector of main employment:

Mineral Exploration	40
Civil Service	22
Hydrogeology & Environmental Geology	19
Academia	18
Mining	8
Petroleum Geology	6
Other	9

In future years, a more comprehensive and up to date analysis will be available from the Directory.

Two additional membership classes were established as provided for in the Articles of Association:

Member-in-Training is open to persons with an acceptable degree in geology or a related subject. There is no requirement for professional work experience. This membership class is intended for those in the early years of a professional geological career who hope to become Professional Members. Members of the IGI's sponsoring bodies are entitled to a 50% reduction in both application and annual subscription fees. Members-in-Training are subject to the same requirement to undertake Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as are Professional Members.

Associate Member is open to persons with an acceptable degree in geology or a related subject, though the Board may waive this requirement. There is no requirement for professional work experience, or for participation in the CPD scheme. This membership class is intended for those who do not, and do not seek to, work as professional geologists but wish to avail of other IGI services, e.g. courses, workshops and social events.

A mutual recognition agreement with the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) permits PGeos to use the IGI as their sole sponsor if applying for Professional Membership of the AIPG. The IGI and the Geological Society started working towards a similar mutual recognition of professional qualifications. John Clifford and Christian Schaffalitzky met with officers of the Geological Society and documentation has been exchanged between the two bodies.

Seventeen PGeos were awarded the title European Geologist (EurGeol.) by the European Federation of Geologists, bringing to 59 the total number of Irish EurGeols.

The IGI office has been furnished as a secure storage place for IGI files, etc. As the volume of routine secretarial work increases, it is anticipated that some paid secretarial assistance will be sought before the end of 2001.

The web site (<http://www.igi.ie>) has been expanded by Peter O'Connor and now includes a Geoservices Directory. Other materials available on the web site include:

- membership forms and guidelines to join the IGI, and to apply for the title European Geologist
- a list of current IGI members
- the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and the Code of Ethics
- news of IGI activities
- links to other web sites of geological interest.

A design was agreed for personal embossing stamps for Professional Members. Several Professional Members have availed of the opportunity to equip themselves with a stamp at a cost of IR£60. The IGI has placed entries in the 2001 editions of the Journalists' Handbook, the IPA Year Book and Expert Witness Ireland. An Expert Witness Directory of Professional Members was compiled, to be made available both on-line and in printed form.

Dr Julian Menuge PGeo

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited
A Company Limited By Guarantee
Financial Statements
For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

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The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Directors And Other Information

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

Directors

Eibhlin Doyle
Julian Menuge
John Clifford

Secretary

Julian Menuge

Company Number

314400

Registered Office

14 Upper Fitzwilliam Street,
Dublin 2.

Auditors

Casey McGrath & Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
and Registered Auditors
14 Upper Fitzwilliam Street,
Dublin 2.

Bankers

Bank of Ireland,
2 College Green,
Dublin 2.

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Report of the Directors

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

The directors present their report and the financial statements for the period ended 31st December 2000.

Principal Activity

The company was set up as a company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital. Its principal activity is to promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in all disciplines and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto.

Review of the Business

During the period the company have aimed to promote interest in the geoscientific professions and advance the science of geology, its practice, and that of the geosciences in Ireland.

Results And Dividends

The profit for the period after providing for depreciation and taxation amounted to IR£ 2,917 (1999 unaudited - IR£10,415).

As the company does not have share capital no dividend to shareholders is payable.

Post Balance Sheet Events

No events occurred after the balance sheet date which would affect the financial statements.

Future Developments

The directors expect that over the coming year the membership levels should increase.

Health and Safety of Employees

The Safety, Health and Welfare Act 1989 imposes certain requirements on employers. The company is taking the necessary action to ensure compliance with the Act, including the adoption of a safety statement.

Share Capital

The company is Limited by Guarantee and does not have Share Capital.

Going Concern

The directors consider that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Report of the Directors

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

Auditors

The auditors, Casey McGrath & Associates, have indicated their willingness to continue in office in accordance with the provisions of Section 160(2) of the Companies Act, 1963.

Taxation Status

So far as the directors are aware, the company is a close company within the meaning of the Corporation Tax Act, 1976.

On behalf of the Board

Director:

Director:

Date:

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Statement of Directors Responsibilities

For The Year Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

Directors' Responsibilities

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company and of the profit or loss of the company for that period. In preparing these the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Acts 1963 to 1999. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Board

Director :

Director :

Date :

**Auditors Report To The Shareholders Of
The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited
A Company Limited By Guarantee**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 13 to 16 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on 15.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on 11 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at the 31st December 2000 and of its profit for the period then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Acts 1963 to 1999.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the company. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

In our opinion the information given in the directors' report on 9 - 10 is consistent with the financial statements.

**Casey McGrath & Associates
Chartered Certified Accountants
and Registered Auditors
14 Upper Fitzwilliam Street,
Dublin 2.**

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Profit & Loss Account

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

	Notes	Appendix	9 Months to 31/12/00 IR£	12 Months to 31/03/00 IR£
Turnover	1	I	16,220	24,632
Cost of sales			(1,361)	(454)
Gross profit			14,859	<u>24,178</u>
Administrative expenses		I	(11,942)	(13,763)
Operating profit	2		2,917	<u>10,415</u>
Retained profit brought forward			10,415	-
Retained profit carried forward			13,332	<u>10,415</u>

There are no recognised gains or losses other than the profit or loss for the above two financial years.

On behalf of the Board

Director :

Director :

Date :

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Balance Sheet

As At 31st December 2000

	Notes	31/12/00 IR£	31/03/00 IR£
Current Assets			
Debtors	3	241	-
Cash at bank and in hand		16,742	10,415
		<u>16,983</u>	<u>10,415</u>
Creditors: (amounts falling due within one year)	4	(3,651)	-
Net Current Assets		<u>13,332</u>	<u>10,415</u>
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		<u>13,332</u>	<u>10,415</u>
Profit and Loss account	5	<u>13,332</u>	<u>10,415</u>

On behalf of the Board

Director :

Director :

Date :

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

1. Accounting Policies

1.1. Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

The company has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS1 from the requirement to produce a cashflow statement because it is a small company.

1.2. Reporting Currency

The financial statements are expressed in Irish Pounds (IR£).

1.3. Reporting Convention

Because the company is not considered to be carrying on a trade it is not permitted to register for Value Added Tax. All figures included in the financial statements are therefore VAT inclusive.

1.4. Deferred Expenditure

All expenditure is written off to the profit and loss account in the period in which the expenditure is incurred. No expenditure is deferred to future accounting periods.

1.5. Subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are accounted for on a cash receipts basis.

1.6. Turnover

Turnover represents the total invoice value, including value added tax, of sales made during the year. The company is not VAT registered.

2. Operating profit

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
Operating profit is stated after charging:		
Auditors' remuneration	960	-
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

3. Debtors

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
Prepayments	241	-
	<u>241</u>	<u>-</u>

4. Creditors: (amounts falling due within one year)

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
With-holding Tax	(9)	-
Accruals	3,660	-
	<u>3,651</u>	<u>-</u>

The company is currently applying for Charitable Status with the Office of The Revenue Commissioners and if granted the activities of the Institute would be free from tax.

5. Profit and Loss Account

	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
Balance at start of year: pre-incorporation	10,415	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year	2,917	10,415
	<u>13,332</u>	<u>10,415</u>

6. Comparative Figures

The comparative figures shown in the financial statements are for informational purposes only. These figures represent the unaudited position of the company prior to its incorporation.

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited

A Company Limited By Guarantee

Schedule Of Turnover & Administrative Expenses

For The Period From 1st April 2000 To 31st December 2000

Appendix I :	2000	1999
	IR£	IR£
Turnover		
Professional Member Subscription & Application Fee	9,127	7,423
Membership Application Fee	88	-
Sponsorship	4,350	5,650
Euro Geol Member Subscription & Application Fees	140	2,875
Euro Geol Application Fee	-	2,400
Embossing Device	502	-
Advertising	200	-
Continuous Professional Development	1,765	-
EFG Sponsorship	-	300
Founder Sponsor	-	5,534
Other income	48	450
	<u>16,220</u>	<u>24,632</u>
Administrative expenses		
Eur Geol Membership	2,008	2,681
Social Events	220	-
Furnishings	1,700	325
Printing, postage and stationery	985	2,247
Advertising	1,380	1,105
Photographic & Printing	2,365	-
Computer costs	363	1,815
European Federation of Geologists	1,634	2,570
Legal and professional	-	1,888
Audit	960	-
Bank charges	35	186
Credit card charges	105	-
General expenses	187	946
	<u>11,942</u>	<u>13,763</u>

Validation Committee

EurGeol. Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo (Chair)
EurGeol. Kevin Cullen PGeo
EurGeol. Eamonn Grennan PGeo
EurGeol. Gareth V. Jones PGeo
EurGeol. Andy Meldrum PGeo
EurGeol. Ed Slowey PGeo

Following the intense period of membership applications during 1999 activity was much lower in 2000. New Professional Members approved totalled five with four Members-in Training approved. The committee also approved the new application forms and procedures which now operate for membership applications. Applications are now checked by an Assessor before applicants are called to interview. The committee is concerned at the current low level of applications for Professional Membership and will seek to develop ways to improve this situation in 2001.

EurGeol. Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo

Professional Development Committee

Eugene Daly PGeo (Chair)
Dr Julian Menuge PGeo
EurGeol. Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo

Continuing Professional Development (CPD) is the systemic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skill and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a practitioner's working life. CPD was an integral part of the original blueprint document from which the IGI evolved.

One of the initial acts of the IGI Transitional Council was to set up a CPD committee, later formally defined in the IGI Articles of Association as the Professional Development Committee. The committee produced an initial draft of a CPD Scheme in January 2000. The two main items of the proposed scheme were the Professional Development Programme for members and the provision of courses.

CPD workshops were held in Dublin (UCD) on 18th January and Thurles (Hayes Hotel) on 13th March 2000. The meetings were held to explain the draft scheme and the individual's development programme and get members' views on the proposal. Over 50 members attended the two workshops. After presentations by a number of speakers lively discussions took place at both venues. Members who attended also completed a questionnaire giving their views on CPD in general, the proposed scheme in particular and their requirements in terms of courses. Members were generally in support of the proposed scheme.

After the workshops some alterations were made to the draft development programme to incorporate the views of members. The CPD forms, and guidelines for completion, were subsequently put on the IGI web site. Completion of CPD forms for the year 2000 will be voluntary.

A seminar on report writing was held by the IGI, on 11th of September 2000, in the Ambassador Hotel, at Kill, County Kildare. The course was given by Bruce Misstear, a hydrogeologist in the Department of Civil, Structural & Environmental Engineering at Trinity College Dublin. The seminar was well received by the 36 participants, including both members and non-members. Each participant was given a Certificate of Completion. A small profit was made on the seminar.

During the year the committee accredited two courses run by the IAEG:

- a one-day course on Metallurgy for Geologists held at the Geological Survey of Ireland in October, and
- a weekend course on Mine Geology held at Glengowla Heritage Mine, Oughterard, County Galway in November 2000.

I would like to thank committee members and all who contributed to drafting of the CPD documentation.

Eugene Daly PGeo

European Federation of Geologists

The EFG is comprised of 18 affiliated member national associations. In the past year Austria and Greece have resigned, or chose not to renew their membership. However, a number of other countries are seeking to join as full members. These include Czech Republic, Iceland, Norway, Romania and Turkey.

EurGeol. Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo currently holds the Presidency of the Federation. This has meant quite an amount of work and travel, requiring visits within the past 12 months to Brussels, Paris, Norway, Slovenia, Spain, and Milwaukee, USA to represent the EFG at various international conferences and meetings. In Milwaukee the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) acknowledged his input and awarded him with Associate Membership, which is a great honour. Over the past two years Enterprise Oil and then Enterprise Energy Ireland sponsored this work and travel, and they are warmly thanked for this. Regrettably they have decided not to do so this year.

One of the first tasks of the current EFG Council was to conduct a detailed review of the administrative procedures and financial situation. Following from that review a number of changes have been made which will make the Federation much more organised and business-like. Council decided as a matter of policy to move the administrative office from Paris to Brussels. This will facilitate improved contact with EU technocrats. The Board hopes that this can be accomplished during 2001. Debts from prior years have now been cleared and a system of financial control has been put in place.

The publication policy of the Federation was also studied. It is now agreed that the 'European Geologist' magazine is to be continued as the flagship publication of the Federation and a new Editor has been appointed. However as policy it must be operated on a break-even basis from 2002. In addition to the magazine, publication of 'Eurogeopages' will be continued in electronic form, and will also be available on the EFG web site: www.eurogeologists.de

During the year the Federation was actively involved at European level on a number of issues. The Environmental Working Group prepared a dossier on Environmental Geology in Europe which was presented to the Commission at a meeting in November 1999. This Working Group also made a number of representations to the EU Draft Directive on the Disposal of Sludge. Members of the IGI made a number of very welcome contributions to this Working Group. The Engineering Geology Working Group has drafted a report on engineering geology in Europe. A preliminary draft of this report is available on the EFG web site. The Minerals Working Group, in which the IGI delegate is active, has joined with the IMM, Geological Society and IGI in drafting a European Code for the reporting of mineral exploration results, resources and reserves. This Code is a clone of the JORC Code, and hopefully is a first step toward a World Code (see separate report).

The EFG considers that one of its main challenges for the immediate future is to increase the professional profile of geology in Europe. One way forward is to get recognition for the EurGeol. title, and to sort out any problems regarding freedom to practice within the EU. A Working Group chaired by EurGeol. John A Clifford, has been established to address this problem. This Group is currently developing a strategy to achieve these objectives and this will be presented to the EFG Council in June 2001.

During the year the EFG was one of the organisers, along with the AIPG and the Canadian Council of Professional Geoscientists, responsible for the first International Professional Geology Conference. This was hosted in Alicante, Spain, by the Spanish professional body, the Ilustre Colegio Oficial de Geólogos, following the EFG Council Meeting. There were more than 100 representatives of the sponsoring organisations and others participated in the meetings which were held in parallel with the meetings of the Spanish Geological Society. The objective of the conference was to bring together representatives of professional geology organisations from Europe, the United States and Canada to discuss issues related to the certification / registration / licensure of geologists and to develop a dialogue which would enhance the mobility of geologists globally. The President, EurGeol. Dr Eibhlín Doyle, represented the IGI and made a presentation on the Irish experience. The Continuing Professional Development code of practice, which is being put in place by the IGI, drew a lot of positive comment from the delegates. A report on the Conference is available on the EFG web site.

EurGeol. Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo (President EFG)

EurGeol. John A. Clifford PGeo (IGI delegate to EFG Council)

Drilling Standards Working Group

EurGeol. Becci Cantrell PGeo (Chair)
Mark Holdstock PGeo
Stephen Mac Sweeney
EurGeol. John Pyne PGeo
Geoff Wright PGeo

A working group was set up to compile standards/guidelines for drilling and borehole construction. The working group comprises representatives from the Mineral Exploration, Geotechnical and Hydrogeological fields. While guidelines exist to some extent within the Exploration and Geotechnical sectors, the areas of water well drilling and ground investigation are largely unregulated. Consequently there are inconsistent standards of construction and decommissioning of boreholes.

A sub-group was set up to draft appropriate standards/guidelines for use in water well drilling and hydrogeological investigations. The sub-group comprises members of the International Association of Hydrogeologists Irish Group: David Ball, Padraig Briody, Becci Cantrell, Vincent Fitzsimons, Kevin Forde, Margaret Keegan, Shane O'Neill and Geoff Wright. This document should be viewed as a discussion document and as a guide to good practice prior to it being potentially adopted as a legal standard. The document will cover *inter alia* the following areas: the requirement for a registration system for wells, water well construction, sealing of borehole annulus and well-head completion, well cleaning and development and disinfection, borehole decommissioning, yield testing.

The standards are intended to provide guidance to environmental, engineering and geological consultants, the drilling industry, local authorities, Environmental Protection Agency, group scheme organisers, private well owners and other interested parties. The draft standard is expected to be produced in 2001 and will be circulated for comment to all interested parties.

The working group met on 24th May 2000. Further meetings will be scheduled pending a draft document on hydrogeological issues. The hydrogeological sub-group met on 31st July 2000.

EurGeol. Becci Cantrell PGeo

Geology in Environmental Impact Statements Working Group

EurGeol. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo (Chair)
EurGeol. Mike Boland PGeo
EurGeol. Eamonn Grennan PGeo
EurGeol. Margaret Keegan PGeo
Tim Paul
Geoff Wright PGeo

A number of representations were made to the Board on the quality of the geological input to Environmental Impact Statements (EISs). Sad to say all of these comments lamented the inadequate quality of the input. Happily none of our members were responsible for poor input identified. Consequently the IGI set up a Working Group to address the content and expected standard of geological input to EISs and to provide guidelines to professional geoscientists. This should serve to clarify and improve the content and quality of EISs as well as enhancing public confidence in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. It would also serve to promote the profession by requiring geological sections of EISs to be prepared and written by Professional Geologists.

Broad guidelines exist for EISs. However, unlike other disciplines, geology is a subsection of the Soils heading. In fact the EU directive states only soils. It is therefore no wonder that geology in many EISs is poorly dealt with.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has contracted CAAS to update its Guidelines on Environmental Impact Statements. The EIS Working Group has written to CAAS to ensure that the IGI has an input to the new Guidelines Document.

The EIS Working Group has examined the geological parts of a number of EISs. A number of UK EISs will be examined to compare with Irish examples. A table will be produced which will identify areas where geological issues should be addressed. This work will lead to a checklist and guidelines, which will be made available to all stakeholders.

EurGeol. Dr Eibhlín Doyle PGeo

Promotion of the Requirement for Professional Geological Qualifications Working Group

Peter O'Connor PGeo (Chair)	Engineering Geology, Geotechnics, Geophysics
Andy Bowden PGeo	Metallic Mineral Extractive Industry
John Barnett Chartered Minerals Surveyor	Non Metallic Minerals Extractive Industry
Vincent Fitzsimons PGeo	Hydrogeology
EurGeol. Jonathan Derham PGeo	Environmental
EurGeol. Nick O'Neill PGeo	Hydrocarbon Exploration and Production
Bettie Higgs PGeo	Academia
Seán Finlay PGeo, CEng	Planning
Piers Gardiner PGeo	Government and Regulatory Agencies
EurGeol. John Morris PGeo	Geological Heritage

This working group was established in order to promote the recognition of Professional Qualifications for geoscientists in Ireland. The long-term objective of the Group is to devise a strategy for enhancing the role and status of geoscience through the activities of the IGI and the PGeo certification. This in turn will lead to improvements in the job and business opportunities for all professional geoscientists, and increase the attractiveness of geoscience as a career. More specifically, the objectives are to make recommendations on how to:

1. achieve statutory recognition of geoscience as a profession and of the IGI as the professional body for geoscience in Ireland,
2. ensure that geoscience work is carried out by geoscientists with relevant Professional Qualifications.

Current international practice in requirements for Professional Qualifications in geoscience range from State licensing (USA), to regulation by certifying bodies established by royal charter (UK), to self-regulating bodies without any legal status (IGI and European Federation of Geologists).

There are currently 122 full members of the IGI. The IAEG currently has 196 full members. Allowing for overlapping membership and geoscientists who are members of neither grouping it is reasonable to assume that there are in the region of 250-300 geoscientists practising in Ireland. The number of practising geoscientists in Ireland is low however when compared with countries such as Denmark (1200), Switzerland (1600) and the Netherlands (2000). No firm statistics have been obtained on the number of geoscience graduates coming out of the Irish universities each year but if an average of 25 is assumed over an average working life of 35 years then there should be approximately 875 working geoscientists in Ireland instead of 250-300. Admittedly this is a simplistic model but the overall indication is of a historic underemployment of geoscientists in Ireland.

The working group has defined 'professional qualification' as the recognition by an established certifying, licensing or regulatory body that a geoscientist:

- possesses an appropriate geoscience qualification from a recognised academic institution;
- subsequent to the award of the geoscience qualification has obtained at least five years experience in the area of expertise in which they practice;
- has attained a position of professional responsibility;

- has submitted examples of their work for peer review;
- is competent to apply the principles of his/her education and training to the analysis and solution of geoscience problems;
- has agreed to abide by a Code of Ethics and Discipline laid down by the certifying, licensing or regulatory body;
- has agreed to undertake a course of Continuing Professional Development in order to maintain their level of expertise.

The Working Group is engaged in the following activities:

- identifying the current scope of geoscience work in Ireland and potential areas where that scope could be extended;
- identifying those organisations that employ the services of geoscientists, or routinely use the work of geoscientists, as part of their decision making process;
- obtaining the views of those organisations on:
 - a) their opinion of the current standard of geoscientific work which they encounter;
 - b) any areas where improvement is required in the standard of geoscientific work provided;
 - c) their current requirements for other disciplines to possess Professional Qualifications;
 - d) the advantages of having geoscientists possess Professional Qualifications;
 - e) their willingness to insist that geoscientists whose services they commission or utilise possess Professional Qualifications.
- reviewing current practice in other countries;
- identifying the legal and/or other approaches that could be used to ensure that geoscientists possess Professional Qualifications;
- making recommendations on a course of action to achieve the objective of geoscience work being carried out by geoscientists possessing Professional Qualifications;
- obtaining legal advice on its proposals and course of action;
- meeting with key legislators and officials.

A list of over 50 organisations and groupings that directly employ the services of geoscientists or make use of geoscience information has been compiled. It includes the Geological Survey of Ireland, Exploration & Mining Division, Environmental Protection Agency, RPI, Office of Public Works, National Roads Authority, Institution of Engineers of Ireland, consulting engineers, environmental consultants, local authorities, mining and exploration companies, oil companies, aggregate producers.

Peter O'Connor PGeo

Public Affairs Strategy Working Group

Sean Finlay PGeo, CEng
Malcolm Doak PGeo
Vincent Fitzsimons PGeo
EurGeol. Teri Hayes PGeo
Peter O'Connor PGeo

The Public Affairs Strategy Working Group was set up to promote the IGI through the media and to those in the civil service, local authorities and other bodies where the IGI seeks recognition.

- A Members Directory for 2001 is being compiled and will be distributed to Government Departments, local authorities, consulting engineers, mining companies and other users of geological services. The Directory contains details of each member's main fields of expertise and their contact details.
- A press release publicising the IGI has been taken by a number of newspapers, technical and legal journals and a poster display of the different aspects of geoscience is under construction.
- The IGI has taken entries in the IPA Yearbook and the forthcoming Journalist's Handbook in order to promote the Institute's activities and objectives.
- A database of key contacts in local authorities, engineering companies, consultancies, law companies, regulatory authorities and agencies has been compiled. This allows promotional information to be easily distributed.
- A promotional leaflet for the IGI has been produced and 1,000 copies distributed to Government Departments, local authorities, universities, consulting engineers and some law firms in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.
- The Working Group plans to arrange meetings with Ministers, legislators and key officials in regulatory bodies in order to promote the role of geoscience and to emphasise the advantages of Professional Qualifications. Through a questionnaire, IGI members were canvassed for their views on suitable topics to be raised. Meetings will be carried out in co-operation with the Working Group on Professional Qualifications.
- Submissions on the National Spatial Strategy were made to the Department of the Environment and Local Government and to Fine Gael. John Clifford's assistance in this regard is gratefully acknowledged.
- Discussions have taken place with the IAEG regarding re-publication of the 'Geology for Schools' leaflets. These will be distributed to schools in order to increase awareness of the role of geoscience in society.

Peter O'Connor PGeo

Reporting of Mineral Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves Working Group

Over the past number of decades, and in particular during the 1990's, there has been growing recognition of the need for an international agreed set of standards for the reporting of mineral exploration results, mineral resources and mineral reserves.

National codes were developed initially – JORC (1989); IAEG (1991); IMM (1991); SME (1991) CIM (1996). In 1994, representatives from Australia, Canada, South Africa, UK, and USA formed an International Mineral Reserves Committee under the aegis of the Council of Mining and Metallurgical Institutions (“CMMI”). In 1997 this committee agreed provisional definitions for mineral resources and mineral reserves, and for their respective sub-categories, measured, indicated and inferred resources; and proved and probable mineral reserves (the Denver Accord).

Concurrently the United Nations Commission for Europe (UN-ECE) were developing a framework classification for mineral reserves and resources. As a result of a series of meetings with the CMMI Committee the definitions agreed by them in Denver were incorporated into the UN Framework Classification in 1998.

Over the past twelve months the CMMI definitions have been incorporated into revised codes produced in Australia (JORC 1999) and South Africa (SAMREC 2000). Draft codes have been produced in both Canada and the USA.

A Consultation Draft for a European Code, which is consistent with these international developments, has been produced by the Working Group on Resources and Reserves of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy working in conjunction with the Institute of Geologists of Ireland, European Federation of Geologists and The Geological Society.

The main principles governing the operation and application of the Code are transparency, materiality, and competence. “Transparency” requires that the reader of a Public Report is provided with sufficient information, the presentation of which is clear and unambiguous, to understand the report and is not misled. “Materiality” requires that a Public Report contains all the relevant information which investors and their professional advisers would reasonably require, and reasonably expect to find in the report, for the purpose of making a reasoned and balanced judgement regarding the mineralisation being reported. “Competence” requires that the Public Report be based on work which is the responsibility of a suitably qualified and experienced person who is subject to an enforceable professional code of ethics.

The similarity of the reporting codes and guidelines emerging from the efforts of the individual countries is now so close that a World Code is considered an achievable objective. This will require the formulation of an international definition of a Qualified Person. Key to its implementation will be reciprocity of professional qualifications, agreed principles that would constitute minimum requirements for professional Codes of Ethics, and an oversight international organisation to approve the professional institutions accrediting the Qualified Person.

EurGeol. John A. Clifford PGeo