

# INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



**2007-8**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**and**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

### *MISSION*

*To promote and advance the science of geology and its professional application in all disciplines, especially the geosciences and to facilitate the exchange of information and ideas in relation thereto.*

*To require its members to uphold, develop and maintain the highest professional standards in the practice of their profession, as described in the Company's Code of Ethics and Conduct.*

**April 2008**



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## **1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

I wish to thank all the Board Members for their contribution to IGI activities over the past year and in particular Yvonne O'Connell as Secretary, Stephen Bradley as Treasurer and Piers Gardiner as Vice-President. We are extremely fortunate to have so many members who are willing to give of their time in the support of our profession. You will see in this report the wide variety of work that is carried out throughout the year by Board Members, the various Standing Committees, and individual members. This work allows the IGI continue to function as a self-regulated professional body and to achieve the goals set out in the Institute's Mission Statement.

I would also like to thank Susan Pyne and Ethel Stringer for their work in maintaining the IGI office and Institute's accounts respectively. The IGI office is a critical element in the management of the Institute's affairs and contact with the membership and we are indebted to Susan and Ethel for their efficient management of IGI business.

I am glad to report that progress has been made in 2007 in furthering most of the Institute's aspirations as set out in the Strategic Plan. Building upon the successes outlined by Gareth Jones in last year's Annual Report the IGI is now in good shape to further build its profile within the community generally and within the geosciences sector specifically. With the Institute's finances now on a firmer footing the incoming Board can proceed with a range of activities that will enhance the Institute's reputation and recognition as the Professional Body for geoscientists in Ireland.

### **IGI DIRECTORY 4<sup>TH</sup> Edition 2007**

The 4<sup>th</sup> biennial edition of the Institute's Directory of Members was published in 2007. This valuable reference directory of members' qualifications and areas of expertise has been distributed to numerous public bodies throughout the country. The Institute is indebted to Stephen Bradley for his sterling work in compiling the Directory and to the many companies whose advertisements supported its printing and distribution.

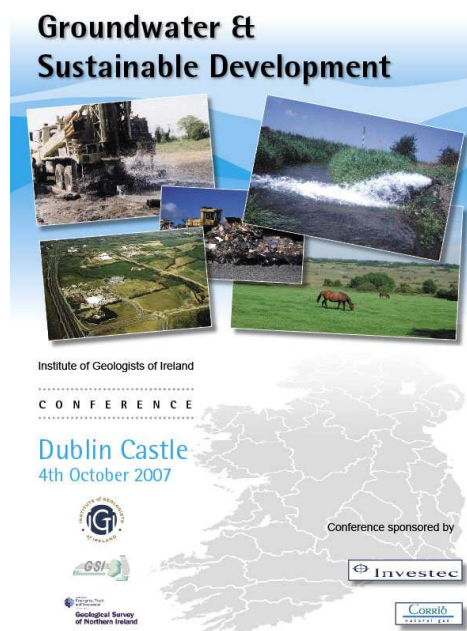


The Institute is fortunate to have the support of a number of geoscience public bodies. We continue to be indebted to the UCD School of Geological Sciences for hosting the IGI office. Also, the Institute is indebted to the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) for the use of its Haddington Road lecture hall for IGI courses and the AGM. The GSI also arranges for the Institute's use of Dublin Castle as the venue for the annual conference. These supports, together with the assistance of the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and the Environmental Protection Agency, play an important role in the development and promotion of the Institute's affairs.

In the 9 years since the foundation of the IGI in 1999 the Institute has, as was envisaged, developed its own structures and profile quite separate from those of the founding and Sponsoring Bodies. The initial financial contributions from the sponsoring bodies were crucial in the early development and survival of the Institute. In the intervening years the IGI has become less reliant on financial support provided by the Sponsoring Bodies. Nonetheless the IGI welcomes the continued support provided by the Geophysical Association of Ireland (GAI), Geotechnical Society (GSI), Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG), International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group) (IAH). In particular the IGI is indebted to the IAH for its continuing financial support.

This year saw the publication and distribution of the IGI Water Well Drilling Guidelines. This long awaited document was printed with financial support from the EPA. The Drilling Guidelines have been distributed to Local Authorities and other public bodies across the country and we hope this IGI publication will become the standard for water wells. It is hoped to add to the 2007 publication with a guidance note on the construction of geothermal wells. An IGI Working Group under the Chair of Barry Balding is examining the matter and it is hoped that their work will result in a publication in the coming year.

Our annual autumn Conference is now an established event on the geological calendar. The 2007 Conference was again held in Dublin Castle with the theme of 'Groundwater and Sustainable Development'. We had the added bonus that the incoming Minister Eamon Ryan of the Green Party was available to open the conference. The number of delegates attending the annual Conference were up in 2007 especially for the keynote papers delivered by Professor Yvonne Scannell and Donal Daly. We were particularly delighted that Geoff Wright (who is now living in the UK) delivered a paper on the IGI Drilling Guidelines as it was Geoff who project-managed the development of this important IGI document.



The 2007 Conference was financially successful due to generous sponsorship from Investec , the event's main sponsor and Corrib Natural Gas our junior sponsor. It is planned to host the annual IGI event in Belfast in 2008 and to return to Dublin Castle in 2009 to celebrate the Institute's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Institute's CPD programme continues to play an important role in maintaining our recognition by various regulatory bodies at home and abroad. Thanks are certainly due to John Kelly for his Herculean efforts in getting a near 100% rate for the '06 returns. Hopefully his '07 campaign will be less stressful.

The IGI continues to be an active member of the European Federation of Geologists (EFG). Our representatives Fionnuala Collins and Piers Gardiner have attended Council meetings and contributed to the election of the incoming Council. The IGI will host the summer 2009 EFG Council meeting in Dublin Castle when representatives from over 20 countries will meet to discuss the role of geosciences across Europe. I look forward to welcoming our European colleagues to Ireland and facilitating their meeting while at the same time exposing them to some of the capital's heritage.



The International Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE) is well underway with numerous events taking place throughout the country. The IGI was delighted to sponsor some of the public talks being arranged by the GSI as part of the IYPE. The Board encourages all our members to engage with and support the many activities that are being held throughout the country. Details of planned events are available at [www.planetearth.ie](http://www.planetearth.ie).

The IGI is developing a series of bespoke courses to inform, educate and train our members and others in the geoscience sector. Cecil Shine and the Groundwater Section of the GSI along with many others are to be congratulated for preparing and delivering a two-day course on Groundwater Protection Zones. Similarly, the Institute is indebted to the Groundwater Division of the EPA and to CSA for assisting in the development of a course on the Validation and Interpretation of Water Level Data. While the aim of IGI courses is primarily to educate, they also provide useful financial income to the Institute through the freely given input of the organisers and lecturers.

**Validation & Interpretation of Water Level Data**

Institute of Geologists of Ireland

One Day Course

26th February '08

Geological Survey of Ireland  
Beggars Bush  
Haddington Road  
Dublin 4

Logos at the bottom: Institute of Geologists of Ireland, EPA, GSI, and Planetearth.

Communicating with our membership is an important aspect of the Board's work. The Newsletter and the Web page are important tools in this regard. Thanks are due to Fionnuala Collins and Stephen Bradley for keeping these channels of communication open and members are encouraged to forward articles for the Newsletter. I am pleased to announce that the Board has commissioned an overhaul of the Institute's web page by a specialist firm under the direction of Stephen, Fionnuala and John Walsh.

Finally, I am particularly delighted to congratulate John Clifford on his award of the EFG Medal of Merit, a just reflection of John's contribution to our profession not only here in Ireland but also on the European and world stages.

**EurGeol Kevin T. Cullen PGeo  
President**

## **2. HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT**

### **2007 Annual General Meeting**

The 2007 Annual General Meeting of IGI was held on Wednesday 16th May 2007 at 7 p.m. in the GSI Lecture Theatre, Beggars Bush, Dublin 4. It was attended by 17 members. Minutes of the meeting have been distributed separately. The meeting was chaired by the IGI President, EurGeol Kevin Cullen.

Members present were: Barry Balding, Stephen Bradley, Fionnuala Collins, Kevin Cullen, Eugene Daly, Jonathan Derham, Piers Gardiner, Gareth Ll. Jones, John Kelly, Julian Menuge, Yvonne O'Connell, Peter O'Connor, John Pyne, Cecil Shine, Bruno Teillard, John Walsh. Susan Pyne (IGI Administrative Secretary) also attended.

Apologies were received from: Peter Bruck, John A. Clifford, John Colthurst, Eibhlín Doyle, Laz Fleming, Sarah Gatley, Margaret Keegan, Hartmut Krahm, Hugh McCullough, Frank McDermott, Sean Moran, Mike Lowther, Edmund Nicklas, Nick O'Neill, Christian Schaffalitzky, Pat Shannon and Gerry Stanley.

### **Board meetings**

The Board met 9 times in 2007/8 between the 2007 AGM and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, on 5th July, 9th August, 12th September, 17th October, 21th November, 19th December, 16th January, 19th February, 19th March. A further meeting was scheduled for 16 April, 2008.

The number of meetings (out of 9) attended by Directors was as follows:

Kevin Cullen 8; Yvonne O'Connell 5; John Kelly 4; Stephen Bradley 6; Piers Gardiner 5; Cecil Shine 2; Barry Balding 6; Sarah Gatley (Resigned) 1; John Walsh 5; Fionnuala Collins 4 and Deirdre Lewis (Co-opted in 2008) 1.

Sarah Gatley resigned from the board in November 2007 and was replaced by Deirdre Lewis in early 2008.

Piers Gardiner attended 1 meeting as EFG Delegate in December 2007. Fionnuala Collins attended 2 meetings as EFG Delegate in June and December 2007.

There were no meetings during the year of the Ethics or Disciplinary Committees.

### **Membership:**

There are currently 132 Professional Members of the Institute, 23 Members-in-Training, 3 Retired Members and 2 Associate Members.

### **New Members**

Eleven new Professional Members joined during the year;

Gerry Baker  
Chris Bonson  
Titus Haggan  
David Hall

Patrick Laffly  
Kevin McNulty  
Craig O'Connor  
Miller O'Prey

Ric Pasquali  
Kieran Ryan  
Ruth Staunton

Six Members-in-Training were elected during the year:

Marie Fleming  
David Plunkett

Siobhan Tinnelly  
Sandra Julia

Eamon Loughlin  
Deirdre Larkin

Twelve PGeos were awarded the title of European Geologist (EurGeol) by the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) during the year;

Chris Bonson  
Piers Gardiner  
Titus Haggan  
David Hall

Patrick Laffly  
Paul Tierney  
Kevin McNulty  
Craig O'Connor

Miller O'Prey  
Ric Pasquali  
Kieran Ryan  
Ruth Staunton

### **Resigning Members**

Three members resigned during the year;

Michael Hodgson

Hartmut Krahn

Conor Walsh

### **Members Delisted**

Four members were delisted during the year;

Jenny Deakin  
Anita Furey

Fiona Lawlor  
Koen Verbruggen

**EurGeol Yvonne O'Connell PGeo**

**Hon. Secretary**

## **3. HON. TREASURER'S REPORT**

**TO BE ADDED**





## **4. STRATEGIC PLAN REVIEW**

A Five-year Strategic Plan (SP) was presented at the 2006 AGM to provide a template for the management of the IGI and to lay a path for the future development of the Institute.

Different elements of the SP are used to inform the Board at monthly Board meetings to ensure that the Institute continues to build on the sound foundation laid in its early years while not losing touch with the principles and reasons for its formation by the four Founding Bodies. The following provides a brief review of progress on the main headings of the Strategic Plan.

### **Core Activities**

The Board continues to manage the Institute's affairs in a professional and efficient manner with the support of the IGI office and of various Committees and Working Groups.

### **Office Management**

In addition to regular Board Meetings the Executive now meets on a monthly basis with the Institute's office administrator and bookkeeper. The IGI office now provides membership and accounting statements to the monthly Board meetings.

### **Conferences and Courses**

The Board continues to organise and run courses for its members and other interested parties. In the current year, a number of very successful courses were delivered and the annual IGI Conference was held in Dublin Castle, on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

The Institute contributed financially to the series of public lectures organized by the GSI as part of the International Year of Planet Earth.

### **Web Page, Newsletter and Directory**

The Board continues to publish a regular Newsletter and maintains an effective Web Page. The Board has commissioned a review of the Institute's web page with the intention of providing an up dated web portal in 2008. The biennial Directory of IGI Members was published in 2007 with the support of commercial advertisements.

### **Professional Relations**

The Board continues to maintain links with the Founding Bodies and to develop new and stronger links with related bodies such as the Irish Concrete Federation, the EPA and An Bord Pleanála.

### **Promote IGI and EurGeol Titles**

The Board has agreed to host its annual conference event for 2008 in Northern Ireland. It is proposed to arrange a focused technical event in the autumn as a first step in the wider promotion of the PGeo title in Northern Ireland.

The Board established a two-stage strategy to increase the membership numbers. The first stage of the strategy focused on those applying for membership at any level. Contact is maintained with the Applicant throughout the process with regular updates on progress achieved. This aspect of the strategy is functioning well.

The second stage of the strategy will now concentrate on identifying those who should be interested in joining the Institute and making contact with them and to encourage them to make the application. This aspect of the strategy will be implemented in 2008.

### **Standards**

The Well Drilling Guidelines were printed and distributed with the support of the EPA in 2007. It is hoped to develop this document in 2008 with standards for geothermal wells.

### **Maintaining Links**

The institute continues to be represented at the EFG Council meetings and to assist where possible the promotion of geology and geologists across Europe. The Institute has agreed to host the EFG's summer Council meeting in Dublin in May 2009.

## **5. COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS**

### **5.1 VALIDATION COMMITTEE**

The validation Committee held three validation interview sessions since the last Annual General Meeting in May 2007.

On 22nd August 2007 (to tie in with SGA Conference), a panel comprising David Blaney, John Colthurst and Mark Conroy (Chair) interviewed two candidates:

- i) Kevin McNulty
- ii) Craig O'Connor

The two candidates met the required educational and technical criteria and were recommended by the interviewing panel for acceptance as Professional Geologists.

On 4th September 2007, a panel comprising Margaret Keegan, Robert Meehan and Mark Conroy (Chair) interviewed six candidates:

- i) Gerry Baker
- ii) Chris Bonson
- iii) Titus Haggan (by telephone in Brazil.)
- iv) Patrick Laffly
- v) Miller O'Prey
- vi) Ric Pasquali

All six candidates met the required educational and technical criteria and were recommended for acceptance as Professional Geologists.

On 12th February 2008, a panel comprising Peter O'Connor and Mark Conroy (Chair) interviewed the following three candidates:

- i) David Hall
- ii) Kieran Ryan
- iii) Ruth Staunton

All three candidates met the required educational and technical criteria and were recommended for acceptance as Professional Geologists.

**EurGeol Mark Conroy PGeo.**

### **5.2 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Professional geologists are now engaged with regulatory authorities, industry and the general public. This engagement, together with more stringent definition of the experience and qualifications of the competent professional person in guidelines, requires relevant and up-to-date accreditation of professionals as an essential part of professional activity.

The entrance requirements and vetting procedures of the IGI deal with the previous experience of applicants prior to admission to the IGI. The measure of the ongoing experience

and knowledge gain of the member is assessed through Continuing Professional Development (CPD). This is designed to quantify the ongoing improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills, accompanied by the development of the personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a geoscientist's working life.

In order to keep up to date with the ever increasing technical and regulatory changes in our profession, and in line with the stated IGI objective of improving professional standards, all IGI Professional Members must devise and carry out a CPD programme. The success of meeting this CPD programme is summarized in the CPD form which members are required to complete annually. This approach is in line with best practice in professional geology organizations in other countries and is a programme that the IGI is increasingly required to implement to meet the minimum requirements of an increasing number of regulatory bodies of which various stock exchanges, the Exploration and Mining Division and the Environmental Protection Agency are examples.

The majority of members successfully completed and returned CPD forms for 2006 in a timely fashion. Initial reminders produced a quick response from most who had missed the initial deadline but again, repeated reminders and finally, notice to cancel membership were required to prompt a rump of defaulters into action.

It is essential that any CPD scheme implemented by a professional body meets the requirements of the members and any regulatory bodies recognizing that professional organization. The IGI CPD scheme is regulated by the European Federation of Geologists (EFG). The IGI CPD programme was audited by the EFG in 2006 and was deemed to meet the required standards of the EFG.

The IGI CPD auditing committee remained unchanged from 2006. A total of 25% of all CPD returns were audited in 2006, concentrated on those returns which were received after the deadline.

### **Future Development of the IGI CPD scheme**

The following issues are currently being addressed by the IGI CPD committee:

A review of ongoing professional practice to allow CPD hours to be attributed to professional work undertaken in new and challenging areas as part of an ongoing practice

A review of definitions of professional activities which qualify as CPD activities and the relative weight to be applied to these activities.

Certification of training courses and the number of CPD hours attributable to same

Ongoing update of the IGI CPD forms.

**EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo**

## **5.3 EDUCATION**

### **The Bologna Process**

This process is intended to create a European higher education area by 2010 which is defined by academic degree standards and quality assurance standards which are comparable and compatible throughout Europe. It has three priorities: Introduction of a three cycle system (bachelor/master/doctorate), quality assurance and recognition of qualifications and periods of study. Each of the three cycles of higher education qualification is defined in terms of qualifications and a European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) which is intended to facilitate student mobility and international curriculum development. ECTS credits for each of the cycles are as follows:

- 1st cycle: typically 180–240 ECTS credits, usually awarding a Bachelor's degree.
- 2nd cycle: typically 90–120 ECTS credits (a minimum of 60 on 2nd-cycle level). Usually awarding a Master's degree.
- 3rd cycle: Doctoral degree. No ECTS range given.

These will generally take three, two and three years respectively to complete, whilst the naming of the degrees may vary from country to country. These cycles are broadly equivalent to levels 7 and 8 (1<sup>st</sup> cycle), 9 (2<sup>nd</sup> cycle) and 10 (3<sup>rd</sup> cycle) of the Irish National Framework of Qualifications (2003). All universities in Ireland are working towards defining courses/degrees which are as close as possible to the proposed framework. The manner in which this is achieved for Irish science degrees is likely to involve one, or a combination, of the following end-member approaches: (i) Retention of the existing four-year BSc and one-year MSc Irish degrees, but with course modules defined in terms of ECTS equivalents (e.g. certain Irish BSc modules will be at 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle level) and (ii) redefinition of BSc degrees as three-year courses, with the introduction of two-year MSc degrees. What approach is followed may differ from degree to degree (e.g. Irish BA degrees are already three-year courses), and will require important decisions by universities and government – these decisions, never mind associated implementations, may not be in place by 2010. The issue of standardisation of quality and content is being addressed within the framework of the so-called Tuning initiative, 'Tuning Educational Structures in Europe', by European universities, at both a generic and subject level. One of the main purposes of Tuning is to link learning outcomes, competences and ECTS workload based credits. As part of Tuning a new concept for ECTS, implying a change of the European Credit Transfer System into a European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System, in which credits no longer have a relative value but have an absolute one and are linked to the achievement of learning outcomes for a unit or module. Consideration of common Earth Sciences goals/learning outcomes, and their associated ECTS credits, is currently within the remit of the EU subject area work group for Earth Sciences, which is co-ordinated by Professor Paul Ryan (NUIG).

### **Recognition of Professional Qualifications**

A transposition of EU Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualifications was drafted and adopted by government towards the end of 2007. We have been informed that IGI and PGeo was not included in this document for what we understand is a variety of reasons including (i) there is currently no legislation that the function of Geologist, or its associated Abbreviated title (PGeo), is protected in the State, (ii) IGI is not protected by charter and (iii) the profession and professional activities of a geologist are not regulated 'by professional bodies which are recognised in a special form by the State. We have requested advice on what steps must be taken for PGeo to be legally recognised as a professional qualification.

**EurGeol. Dr. John Walsh PGeo.**

## **5.4 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

To date three electronic format IGI Newsletters have been published and distributed to the membership during 2007 - 2008. Alongside email bulletins the Board continues to develop the Newsletter as one of the two main communications resources available to the membership by publicising upcoming events (lectures, workshops, field-trips, and courses), providing news of members and news from industry. The publication of the newsletter is quarterly, with deadlines for receipt of articles at the end of March, June, September and December. Members are requested to submit articles for inclusion in future editions and to alert the editor ([fcollins@bma.ie](mailto:fcollins@bma.ie)) to upcoming events that may be of interest to members. The Newsletter continues to be produced at no cost to the Institute. All past Newsletters are archived on the IGI website.

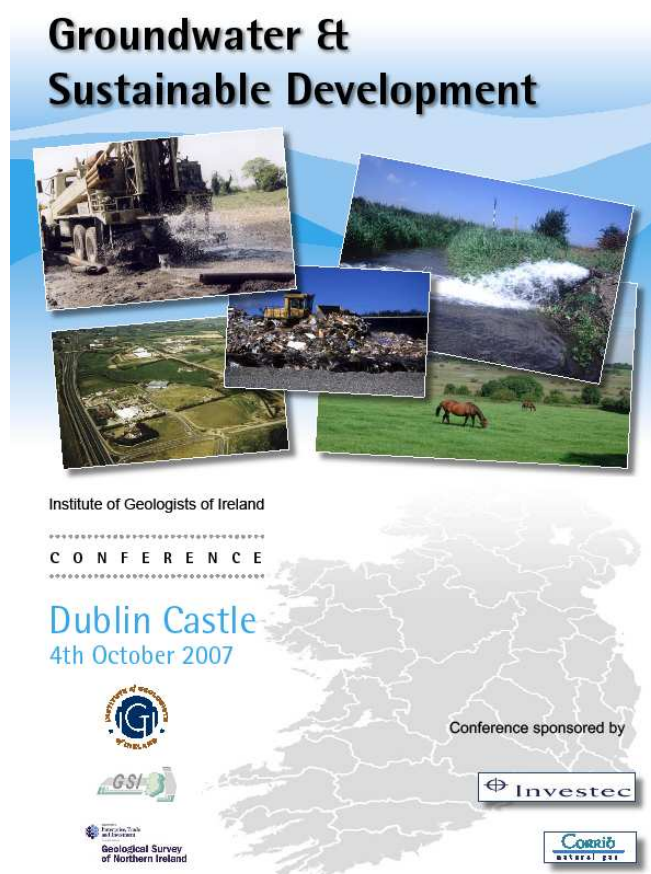
The IGI website ([www.igi.ie](http://www.igi.ie)) is currently being re-designed and it is intended that the new website will be more accessible and user friendly. The website contains a range of information from upcoming training courses and lectures, job vacancies and membership list. IGI publications are also available in downloadable format. In addition, complete pdf copies of presentations given by most of the speakers at the IGI's 2007 Annual Conference on 'Groundwater and its Sustainable Development' are also downloadable from the site along with previous year's presentations.

**EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo**

## 5.5 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

The 2007 IGI Annual Conference was held on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> in Dublin Castle on the theme **Groundwater and Sustainable Development**. The conference was officially opened by Minister Eamon Ryan of the Green Party and was attended by 120 delegates drawn from all over the country and included geoscientists, other professionals and drilling contractors.

The keynote paper was delivered by Prof. Yvonne Scannell of Trinity College and Arthur Cox solicitors. Prof. Scannell's paper examined the legal status of groundwater within the Irish legal and planning systems and together with Donal Daly's (EPA) challenging paper on the Water Framework Directive set the scene for a most enjoyable and successful conference.



Taly Hunter Williams (GSI) outlined the present understanding of Irish aquifers and was followed by overseas speakers Jan van Wonderen (Mott McDonald) and Rob Sage (Three Valleys Water plc.) who outlined the UK regulatory and operator's experiences respectively with large scale groundwater abstractions and their impact on protected habitats.

The afternoon session opened with Peter McConvey (GSNI) describing the implementation of groundwater licensing in Northern Ireland. Geoff Wright, formerly of the GSI and now living in the UK, then outlined the main elements of the IGI's Water Well Guidelines which were published earlier this year. Angelo Papaioannou (Enviros) then described the range of analytical tools available to determine the level of impact associated with groundwater abstractions.





*Minister Eamon Ryan TD. with Professor Yvonne Scannell, Mr. Tony Morland of Investec and IGI President Kevin Cullen.*

Dr. Les Brown (CSA) and Kieran O'Dwyer presented the closing papers on quarry dewatering and developing major groundwater abstractions within the present regulatory framework respectively.

The Sessions were chaired by Jonathan Derham, Bruce Misstear, David Ball and Prof. Rudolph Minder.

The IGI would like to thank all those who contributed to the success of the Annual Conference and particularly the main sponsor Investec and the supporting sponsor Corrib Natural Gas.

The presentations delivered at the Annual Conference can be downloaded from the IGI web page. The 2008 Conference will be held in Northern Ireland.



*Minister Eamon Ryan TD., Dr. Eibhlin Doyle Senior Geologist with GSI, Garth Earls, Director of GSNI, IGI President Kevin Cullen and IGI Vice-President Piers Gardiner*

## 5.7 COURSES COMMITTEE

The Courses Committee organised a number of courses in the past year and thanks are due to all who contributed of their time in the delivery of the courses.

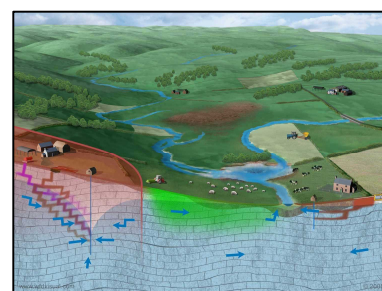
Of particular note is the two-day course on **Groundwater Source Protection Zone Delineation** which was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of October, 2007. The course was run in conjunction with the GSI and the EPA. Thanks are due to the many contributors who developed and delivered this bespoke course on behalf of the IGI and to Minerex Ltd for their management of the two-day event. The course had 30 attendees with many more disappointed potential registrants. It is planned to hold this course again in 2008.

### Groundwater Source Protection Zone Delineation

30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007, Geological Survey of Ireland, Dublin

#### Background and course aims

Delineation of source protection zones (SPZs) around wells and springs is a critical factor in protecting drinking water supplies. It is also relevant to the implementation of the WFD, assessing groundwater monitoring data from the national EPA network, Cryptosporidium risk assessments and producing Drinking Water Safety Plans.



A second bespoke course on the **Validation and Interpretation of Water Level Data** was held on February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in the GSI. Run with the support of the GSI, EPA and Waterra UK Ltd the 36 registrants had a morning of lectures followed by afternoon workshop. Again, thanks are due to all the lecturers who gave of their time to develop and deliver the course and to the IGI office for the efficient management of the day long course. It is hoped to hold a similar course in Belfast later in 2008.



A course on Report Writing is being planning at the moment and the date will be announced shortly.

The IGI is indebted to the GSI for the use of the lecture facilities at Haddington Road. The use of these excellent facilities in no small way contributes to the financial success of the courses run by the Courses Committee.

**EurGeol Cecil Shine PGeo.**

## **5.6 EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS**

During the year the EFG continued to promote the professional status of geologists in 22 countries across Europe through the expanding use and recognition of the **EurGeol** title, making representations to the EU Commission and liaising with other international geological bodies. The EFG promotes geology through its publication of the *European Geologist Magazine*, publication of the EFG newsletter, close liaison with the EU parliament and via its own Web Site at [www.eurogeologists.de](http://www.eurogeologists.de).

The IGI delegates for 2007 were Fionnuala Collins and Piers Gardiner. Gareth Jones was also active as a member of the Past Presidents Panel.

There were the usual two meetings in 2007; Rome in May and Brussels in December. By the end of the second meeting it was clear that the council were going to drive changes to significantly raise the membership, efforts and profile of the EFG under the new president.

Relevant items from the two meetings are:

- 11 new Eur Geols from the IGI in 2007
- The Summer Council meeting for 2009 is to be held in Dublin.
- The election of Dr Manuel Regueiro (Spain) as the new President in December
- The constant need for articles (and photographs) for inclusion in the *European Geologist Magazine*. Please liaise with Fionnuala Collins for further details
- An interesting paper on the state of the EFG by the outgoing President, which was summarised in the report to the IGI from the May Meeting.
- Expert panels on various topics to be set up to assist in lobbying.
- IYPE board membership with the EFG as an associate partner
- Updating and revision of the Strategic Plan, EFG regulations, and the website
- EFG Medal of Merit to be awarded to John Clifford

### **May 2007 Council Meeting**

The 2007 EFG Council Meeting was held in Rome on May 20th to 21st and was attended by 41 people (delegates and observers) from 17 member countries (including Russia who were elected during the meeting) and three observer countries (Austria, Serbia and Romania). A five person delegation from the American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) also attended the meeting as an Associate Member.

The President highlighted the erosion of geological knowledge due to sidelining of the geological profession in the development process. He identified the key issues of sustainability of the Federation (to safeguard professional excellence), visibility of geology (extend national influence and reach), credibility (across international boundaries) and portability (global recognition), necessary to transform the EFG into a strong civil organisation.

Current Council weaknesses include lack of consistent efforts, poor connections/ networking and poor publicity of the Federation within the National Associations terrains. However, Ireland has a

95% take up of the EurGeol title, which is the highest proportion within the Associations of the member countries.

The Vice-President highlighted the need for making the most of electronic communications. Each National Association is to have a link to the EFG site. Again, Ireland already has this link.

Council approved the 2006 accounts and reports unanimously. Switzerland expressed their concern that small national associations pay too much for EFG membership when compared to large countries. This is to be discussed by email via the EFG website. Income from work on the Terrafirma project was estimated to be in the order of €50,000 in the next few years.

The EU delegate highlighted the need for expert panels supported by the EFG to strengthen lobbying. Expert panels were sought in the following areas:

- Geological Heritage
- Soil Protection
- EIS and Groundwater
- Geothermal Energy and CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration
- Natural Hazards

Member countries were requested to provide active experts.

The Irish Water Well Guidelines and template for the information to be contained in Quarry EIS and an Education Sheet which graphically displayed the Geology of Ireland were presented to the Board. All three were well received. Ireland declared that they were happy to host the 2009 Summer meeting in Dublin, but would not be in a position to organize a conference to coincide with the meeting

An appeal was made for articles and photos, particularly cover photos, for the *European Geologist* magazine.

Larry Weber of the AIPG advertised the third International Professional Geological Conference in Flagstaff, Arizona in 2008.

The President Prof. Dr. Istvan Berczi (Hungary) completed his term of office and was not seeking a second term. Due to a late challenge to the sole Presidency nomination (Manuel Regueiro of Spain) by Italy's Pietro Di Paolo of CNG, it was decided to postpone the elections until the December meeting. In the meantime more information would be sought regarding the new candidate and a consensus could be achieved by each National Association. Dirk de Costa (Belgium and Luxembourg) agreed to act as President in the meantime.

In addition to the election of President, the EU Delegate, Herald Lightenberg (Netherlands) was standing for a second term. However, the Treasurer (Umberto Puppini) had completed his term of office and was not seeking another term. Both Umberto and Herald kindly agreed to act in their positions until the December elections.

### **December 2007 Council Meeting**

The regular winter meeting in Brussels was attended by 23 council members and three EFG officials from 15 member countries; Russia was welcomed as a new member to the Council. Normally this would be an 'informal' session, but since elections were being held, this was a formal meeting. Piers Gardiner and Fionnuala Collins attended as the IGI delegates, while Gareth Jones was also present in his capacity as a past EFG President.

Board elections were held for three positions. For the first time since 1993 there was competition for the post of President (see above), with Manuel Regueiro being elected. Herald Ligtenberg was re-elected as the EU Delegate, but since no valid nomination was received for Treasurer it was decided to defer the election until the Summer 2008 meeting.

Various topics were reported on by the Board. These included the EFG involvement with IYPE as an Associate partner, with the Vice-President (Dirk de Costa) nominated for a seat on the IYPE Board; concerns that the current EFG structure is restricting applications from some countries; and most welcome, their nomination of John Clifford for the EFG Medal of Merit. This extremely well deserved recognition of the international work undertaken by John for many years will be presented at the Summer 2008 meeting in Athens. There were also reports on various workshops and the very successful EFG stand and expert panel sessions during Green Week 2007.

The Council considered a number of other issues. The current EFG strategic plan was recognized as being somewhat 'woolly' and missing detail and specific actions, targets and deadlines. A five-year plan with a relationship to the plans of National Associations is being drafted for evaluation at the Summer meeting. EFG regulations were also recognized as needing overhaul delete comma and drafts will be examined at the same meeting.

The *European Geologist* magazine continues to be an EFG success story delete comma with a healthy supply of articles that needs to continue. Ireland has made a significant contribution in this regard, but further contributions from the IGI membership would be much appreciated. Interested readers can now access the last 12 issues on the EFG website, which will also host all future issues. The website itself is also being professionally revised.

The President felt that the EFG funding should be increased, and floated the idea that each National Association should provide 0.7% of their annual budget in future. For Ireland our budget was indicated as 30,000 euro, implying an EFG payment of some 210 pa.

Future meetings were discussed. The next meeting of the council is a formal one, taking place at Athens on the 31 May-1June, and is preceded by a one day conference on 'Geology and surface water and groundwater management'. Ireland is hosting the formal summer meeting of the council for 2009 (see separate article) and made a presentation which appeared to stimulate much interest in the Dublin drinking scene. The EFG are holding two workshops, on the sustainable use of mineral management and issues for a geologist in the 21st century, at the 33<sup>rd</sup> International Geological Congress at Oslo in August this year. Following the attendance of representatives from the AIPG to the Rome 2007 meeting, a number of member countries, including Ireland, are sending delegates to give papers at the Third International Professional Geological Conference entitled 'Global Geoscience Practice, Standards, Ethics and Accountability' at Arizona in September 2008.

**EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo**  
**EurGeol Piers Gardiner PGeo**

## **IGI to Host the Summer 2009 EFG Council Meeting in Dublin**

The EFG Council, the body responsible for directing the European Federation of Geologists, consists of the elected Board and up to two delegates from the National Associations of each member country (21 at present). The five member Board, elected from the Council, is supported by the Agency Chief of the Brussels office and handles ongoing activities. As currently established, there is one formal meeting of the Council each summer, and an informal ('working') meeting at the end of the year. However, whereas the informal council meetings are held at the EFG offices in Brussels, the formal meetings are hosted in different member countries and often follow on from a conference organised by the host national association. Thus the formal council meeting was held in Rome in 2007, will be in Athens in 2008 and has been awarded to Ireland for 2009.

Planning for what will be the 57<sup>th</sup> Council meeting in 2009 is well advanced. It will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May in Dublin, with the formal sessions taking place at Dublin Castle on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of May. Preliminary informal meetings will be held on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> May, giving scope for discussions with associate and observer countries, working groups or meetings with relevant government departments. That evening the IGI will host a reception for up to 50 council members and associate and observer representatives. It is hoped that EurGeols and a Minister from the present government will also attend the reception, which will be followed by an academic study tour of the building stones and bar surfaces of the various hostels featured by James Joyce in his literary works. Appropriately stimulated, the formal Council sessions will start on the 16<sup>th</sup>, followed that evening by a dinner for the Council and their partners. The Council will continue in session on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> until formal closure at lunchtime. In the afternoon members will have the option of attending a field trip, probably to historic mine sites in Co. Wicklow, or enjoying the social attractions of Dublin.

**Organising Committee :**    **EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo**  
   **EurGeol Piers Gardiner PGeo**  
   **EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo**



## **5.7 GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The Geological Survey of Ireland Consultative Committee met twice in 2007 on the 25<sup>th</sup> April and 25<sup>th</sup> October 2007. The April meeting was attended by Dr. Piers Gardiner, standing in for Margaret Keegan. The October meeting was attended by Fionnuala Collins. Some of the main items discussed were:

**General:** It was noted that the important national role of the GSI was not adequately appreciated and therefore was not adequately resourced. The profile of Geosciences needs raising in order to achieve political support. Possibilities for North-South (GSI-GSNI) and East –West (GSI-BGS) co-operation are opening up.

**GSI Resources and Status:** GSI recruited a Senior Geologist (Hydrogeologist) in late 2007. The draft GSI Bill, which addresses the functions of a modern GSI as well as mechanisms to ensure receipt of geoscience data from third parties, has been stalled pending clarification on whether or not GSI should be transformed into an Agency. It has been acknowledged that Agency status would permit GSI discharge its function more effectively.

**GSI Business Plan and Current Projects:** The Geourban project will extend to urban centres other than Dublin. Human induced as well as naturally occurring landslides are to be considered under the Geohazards programme. The Aggregates Potential Mapping programme is to be undertaken in three priority areas as an essential planning tool to avoid sterilizing valuable aggregates and to assist companies in identifying new potential aggregate resources. The potential for pyrite will be addressed however APM is non site specific and this should be addressed by individual developers.

### **National Geoscience Programme:**

**GSI Data** (seabed and onshore) is now being provided free of charge in a digital mode over the internet.

**Griffith Awards:** Nine contracts have been awarded including two in Northern Ireland. The research will focus on underground carbon storage, groundwater and climate change, seabed resources and information management.

A quantified economic profile of the geoscience sector is being prepared. A published set of research priorities is needed. Both will help make a case to ensure geoscience receives increased and adequate support in future reviews of spending of the National Development Plan.

**International Year of the Planet Earth (2008):** The varied programme of events was discussed. Launch events, lectures, Planet Ireland TV series, walks and talks, competitions, publications, special weeks, exhibitions and International initiatives are planned.

**EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo**

## **5.6 GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE**

The 2007 meetings of the GSNI Consultative Committee was held in the GSNI offices at Colby House, Stranmillis Road on the 24<sup>th</sup> May and 29<sup>th</sup> November. Attendees covered a wide range of disciplines including the geological surveys, government agencies and departments, professional bodies and the extractive industries. It was only possible for the IGI to attend the November meeting.

As of May 2007 GSNI had delivered 25 of 30 deliverables with three delayed and two ongoing. GSNI staff were congratulated on a high level of delivery. The Dungiven and Maghera 1:50,000 mapsheets were published.

GSNI, GSI and BGS have agreed a “Framework for Increased Scientific Cooperation between the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland and the Geological Survey of Ireland”. This will increase cooperation between GSNI and GSI with ongoing input from BGS. As a result of this agreement, a joint meeting of the GSNI and GSI consultative committees will be held in April 2008.

The recent restructuring of BGS was detailed and the areas in which this would or may affect the ongoing work of GSNI were outlined.

Current and ongoing funding for GSNI was described. Due to the re-establishment of the Northern Ireland Executive, funding for the current year is being decided on an ongoing basis, funding for programmes for the succeeding two-year period has been agreed.

GSNI programmes are continuing to progress well. The Tellus project is ongoing and is proving to be a success with the Tellus conference very well attended. The mapping programme continues, although publication is being delayed to incorporate Tellus data into the published maps. Geoparks are another area of significant progress with the expansion of the Marble Arch Geopark.

Mineral exploration and hydrocarbon licence applications and issues are at a record level. GSNI has been heavily involved in assisting with a BBC(NI) television production on the geology and geological history of Northern Ireland.

**EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo**



## **6. REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES**

### **6.1 CHRISCO**

#### **Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards**

This Report to Members is intended to inform CRIRSCO members of events and progress since the last report in June 2007. Items broadly follow the format and sequence of previous reports.

#### **CRIRSCO Membership Issues**

Membership is unchanged from the previous report. Members comprise Peter Stoker and Ian Goddard (Australia), Niall Weatherstone (UK), John Clifford (Ireland and W Europe), Ferdi Camisani and Roger Dixon (South Africa), Edmundo Tulcanaza (Chile), John Postle and Debbie McCombe (Canada) and Jean Michel Rendu and Harry Parker (USA). UK, Ireland and Western Europe and Chile currently have no nominated second members for their areas.

#### **CRIRSCO Restructuring**

With a stable membership and now entering our second year of association with the ICMM; the CRIRSCO structure remains supported by its constituent National Reporting Organisations and is becoming embedded. However, the practicalities of handling an increasing work load remain and the ongoing structure of the Committee remains under continuous discussion.

As an action item of the CRIRSCO meetings in London in October 2007, the group agreed to examine options for a CRIRSCO constitution that would deal with issues including current and potential future membership. It will be important to be inclusive in enabling countries that subscribe to the CRIRSCO reporting standards to be represented, while being mindful of the size of the Committee and its ability to function.

Currently a small 'executive' has been formed of Niall Weatherstone (Chairman), Roger Dixon (Deputy Chairman and designated successor to Chairman) and John Clifford (Deputy Chairman) to facilitate the administrative work of the Committee.

The ICMM budgeting process for 2008 has now been completed with the full budget for the year being £82,000 of which the ICMM contribution is £62,000<sup>1</sup>. The balance is nominally split between NRO contributions (£5000) and 'sponsorship funding' (£15,000). These latter amounts would only be sought if there was a risk of base budget overrun.

At the October meeting, it was agreed that running, or jointly running, professional workshops or conferences could be a meaningful way of generating extra income for CRIRSCO. This would in effect generate payment for services to the industry (training and education etc) rather than seeking hand-outs. This approach was favoured by Members who agreed to examine the details further.

#### **International Reporting Template**

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<sup>1</sup> Note that the figures presented to the EWG in October suggested that the total ICMM contribution would be £70,689. This discrepancy is still to be resolved.

The International Reporting Template remains a reference point for reporting standard developers as intended and forms the basis for discussion with the IASB, UNECE and others on international classification systems.

The SAMREC Code was published in July 2007. The Template Sub-Committee reviewed a late stage draft of SAMREC and did not proposed any changes to the Template for now. However, SAMREC introduces a number of new ideas in the content and layout of the reporting standard that could result in changes to the Template in future.

The SME Guide (2007) has now been published in the USA without a formal prior review by CRIRSCO or its other members. While the document was seen in draft and no major issues arose; the SME Guide moves into uncharted territory in its attempt to address concerns of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC see below).

Further dialogue is needed to evaluate the changes proposed in the SME Guide to see if they have international as well as national application.

### **Joint CRIRSCO/UNECE Committee**

Dealings with the UNECE continue to occupy a large amount of time for CRIRSCO, with regular teleconferences of the AHGE Bureau, meetings and workshops, all of which have the aim of agreeing an updated UNFC that is consistent with solid minerals systems represented by the Template, and petroleum, represented by the SPE Petroleum Resource Management System (PRMS).

Following a positive set of meetings in Washington in June, where representatives of UNECE, IASB, SPE and CRIRSCO were together, the annual meeting of the AHGE took place in October in Geneva. At this meeting a range of proposals were presented to the AHGE members emanating from the Task Force established to align the minerals and petroleum classification systems with the UNFC. The results of the Task Force work clearly showed that significant changes would be needed for the UNFC to perform its new role as an 'umbrella' document encompassing (and not contradicting) underlying more detailed systems.

Extensive communications took place in the months following the October meetings, with comments invited from all AHGE members on the draft Task Force report and recommendations. Only a small number of countries responded but it still remains an aim of the UNECE to resolve any concerns they may have. A further two-day workshop was held in Geneva in February where Ferdi again represented CRIRSCO. The following comments from Ferdi illustrate some of the issues to be resolved if the Task Force Report is to be finalised (scheduled by end of March):

Russia has aligned itself with Ukraine in stating that there is no need to change the 2004 UNFC (for metals). They are therefore against any change in the new UNFC that would modify the 2004 UNFC version.

The basic Mapping Task Force report is accepted with minor cosmetic changes. Editing is in progress and the edited version will be circulated to the AHGE Bureau for approval before the April meeting.

Differences between the meaning of 'in place' as applied in petroleum and 'in situ' as used in minerals and what is meant by 'recoverable' have emerged. While this has resulted in extensive discussions among the petroleum representatives, the situation is still unclear on how to accommodate different sub-categories of material in the UNFC. CRIRSCO's view is that this is an unnecessary complication of what is supposed to be a high level simple document and that the definitions as originally mapped (SPE-CRIRSCO-UNFC) are adequate in their current form for minerals.

The project development status route for mapping and for the new UNFC was not supported (this is still to be confirmed by meeting minutes).

Insertion of the Russian Federation mapping into the main text of the Task Force Report is problematic without further work as although there is a comparison between the RF system and UNFC (2004) the mapping between CRIRSCO and the RF system still requires considerable work.

The Bureau Chairman asked for 'commodity-specific specifications' (guidelines) to be added to the new version of the UNFC. In CRIRSCO's view detailed guidelines on solid minerals would reside in the Template and be referred to in the UNFC. Any other higher level guidance will take some time to develop and would best be done when the final form of the 'new' UNFC is clearer.

As can be seen from the list of issues above, while there is a significant amount of mutual agreement on the report, several issues remain as sticking points. The next round of AHGE meetings in Geneva was brought forward to 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> April. Ferdi, Niall and Roger will attend.

#### **IASB Matters**

Interaction with the IASB has continued since the last report, with a number of informal contacts with the Extractive Activities Research Project team.

Of particular note is a submission made by CRIRSCO in response to an IASB request for comments on the issue of asset recognition in minerals and petroleum (available in the Members area of [www.crirSCO.com](http://www.crirSCO.com)). The comments were the result of a large amount of work, mainly by Harry, and his contribution has been acknowledged and appreciated by the IASB.

As the IASB moves slowly through its deliberations, the relevance of resources and reserves to defining, recognising and measuring mining company assets is very clear. It is not yet clear how the IASB will respond to this although we currently have a clear acknowledgement that the CRIRSCO system is the preferred one in terms of application in accounting.

An IASB meeting will be held in London in the week of March 10<sup>th</sup> with a session on the SPE-CRIRSCO convergence exercise scheduled for Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Niall will participate in this meeting by videoconference from Perth.

## **CRIRSCO-SPE Convergence Team**

CRIRSCO's relationship with SPE continues to be very strong despite a change in the leadership of the SPE Oil and Gas Reserves Committee, where Dolores Hinkle has replaced John Ritter. John continues to work in the background and will represent the SPE at the IASB meeting noted above. CRIRSCO and SPE continue to liaise closely on matters where it is considered by both that a united front is beneficial.

With CRIRSCO and SPE having successfully 'mapped' their respective systems to each other, the thrust is now to map them to the UNFC as noted above. This is not as straightforward as hoped, largely because the petroleum people involved, particularly on the UNECE side, appear to need to classify to a much greater level of detail than CRIRSCO. There is also a debate between SPE and UNECE on the basis of the classification systems (resources and reserves or project status) which is providing a distraction.

The SPE-CRIRSCO Mapping documents developed last October and being used in discussions with the IASB and UNECE are lodged in the Members Only area of the CRIRSCO web site.

## **SEC Developments**

As noted above, what was to be SME Guide 2008, became SME Guide 2007 when SME management agreed to publish the document despite the continued lack of any response from the SEC to its contents.

In a separate development in December, the SEC issued a Concept Release with a call for comments on a proposal to review and possibly update its oil and gas disclosure regulations. The Concept Release recognised the fact that many changes had taken place in the industry since the regulations were last updated around 1980. For example, current regulations do not allow the reporting of oil sands, despite the significant growth in this industry.

As with minerals, the oil and gas regulations are still a product of the Securities and Securities Exchange Acts of 1933 and 1934, and an examination of the Concept Release showed many similarities with the situation in minerals. For that reason it was decided that a response from CRIRSCO would be warranted, in parallel with, but independent of a submission by the SME. This response was circulated to members in draft and submitted to the SEC on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2008. It is publicly available on the SEC web site ([SEC Concept Releases](#)).

The thrust of the response is a request to the SEC to simultaneously address the issues raised by the Industry Working Group and the SME Guide and to update Industry Guide 7. After several years of non-engagement with the minerals industry, this move by the SEC, albeit in oil and gas, may provide the breakthrough SME and CRIRSCO have been seeking to bring US reporting standards into line internationally. CRIRSCO will continue to offer SME any help it can provide to advance this process.

## **CRIRSCO Communications**

We are working on using the facilities of ICMM to promote CRIRSCO activities through the ICMM web site (and vice versa), but no significant progress has been made to date. A draft CRIRSCO 'page' has been provided to ICMM.

The ICMM may also be able to offer the facility to upgrade the presentation of the Template to give it a more professional appearance. This is under discussion.

A number of 'Action Items' listed following the October meetings in London relate to compiling a basic set of data sheets that describe current practices in each member country or area. These would include information on the relationship between the reporting standards (and NROs) and the national regulatory bodies, what each NRO currently does in terms of promotion and education of its standard, and what each area has in terms of a ROPO or similar agreement for reciprocal recognition of Competent Persons. Roger is taking a lead in compiling this information and members who have not already done so are requested to provide him with relevant materials as soon as possible.

### **Invitations to Comment on Code Revisions**

The following text is reproduced from the previous report as no responses were received:

It is current CRIRSCO policy not to provide a single response to calls for comment on National Code revisions, although members are encouraged to do so as individuals or through their professional and National bodies. The reason for this is that the CRIRSCO Template is seen as reactive to National changes and not proactive in introducing these changes.

We have received comments from various quarters that CRIRSCO should take a more obvious lead in promoting international reporting changes as part of best practice development. While we do not propose to act on this in the short term, members views would be welcomed on the extent to which CRIRSCO should promote discussion on reporting issues in the international arena with a view to eventually incorporating these (with member NRO agreement) into the International Reporting Template.

### **Web Site management**

We still have no 'official' Web master at the moment. Can members please pass any items of interest to Niall Weatherstone in the interim for posting on the CRIRSCO web ([www.crirSCO.com](http://www.crirSCO.com))?

The web site continues to be run by Tatiana Feldman of the AusIMM. There are not many regular updates needed, but where these are needed, Niall is acting as temporary link between CRIRSCO and Tatiana. In order to keep the Web pages fresh and interesting, it would be appreciated if other Committee members could contribute discussion topics, papers etc as well as ideas for the future direction of the site.

### **Russian and Chinese Sub-Committees**

CRIRSCO provided feedback to Steve Henley, Chairman of the Russian sub-committee, following receipt of the sub-committee's report on progress during 2007. While this has been good, there are some key issues to be resolved during continued work with the Russian members of the sub-committee. Niall met briefly with senior members of the GKZ in Geneva in October and they indicated that a face to face meeting of the sub-committee in Moscow would be a good way of moving discussions forward. They also indicated their concerns that the Russian system might be significantly altered by 'merging' in some way with CRIRSCO, but Niall reassured them that this was not the intention.

In other developments, Russian members of the sub-committee have indicated that they are keen to see future Russian membership of CRIRSCO and are in the process of aligning the Russian system with the West by taking membership of the European Federation of Geologists. As previously noted steps are also being taken to set up a professional body in Russia (Russian Society of Subsoil Use Experts) that could qualify as a ROPO for the provision and recognition of Competent Persons in future.

Progress with the formation of a Chinese sub-committee has progressed more slowly, with the main difficulty being trying to establish which of the many government departments involved in resource and reserve matters are responsible for setting reporting standards.

Peter visited China in November and took the opportunity to make contact with a number of interested Chinese officials. It is hoped that this will consolidate into Chinese representation on the sub-committee in the near future so that discussions can begin in earnest about mapping the CRIRSCO and Chinese systems.

SAMREC met with a Chinese delegation in Johannesburg in early December 2007. The revised SAMREC code was discussed and the relationship with CRIRSCO. South African Members of the IASB research project also gave a brief update of their activities. A copy of the current Chinese reporting Code was received

## **Other News**

John Clifford will participate and present on CRIRSCO's behalf at a Workshop in CESCO Week in Santiago, Chile in early April.

Niall Weatherstone has been invited to present a keynote address at the World Mining Congress and Expo in Krakow, Poland in September.

## **6.2 PERC**

### **PAN-EUROPEAN RESERVES COMMITTEE**

During 2007 the Pan-European Reserves Committee ("PERC") concentrated its efforts on two issues. Firstly, the up-dating of The Reporting Code and, secondly, acting on behalf of the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards ("CRIRSCO") in mapping the CRIRSCO Template against the Russian Reserve Classification system.

The Reporting Code was adopted by the IGI, EFG, IOM3 and Geological Society in 2001. Since then reporting code up-dates in Australia and South Africa have required that certain guidelines in the Code be re-visited and up-dated. At the same time the opportunity is being taken to incorporate suggestions emanating from the IAEG/IGI 2006 Dublin meeting on Inferred Resources and the discussions from the two resource sessions at the 2007 SGA Conference. A discussion draft of the Code, which will be known henceforth as the PERC Code, will be released in mid-June. Members are requested to review and comment on this draft as it will, once it is formally ratified by the IGI Board, be the resource reporting standard to which IGI members will adhere.

One of the issues arising during the revision is the relationship between PERC and the stock exchange regulatory authorities. Such a relationship is well entrenched in Australia, Canada and South Africa. Regrettably, the UK authorities have yet to respond in a meaningful way to invitations from PERC.

On the international scene PERC is acting as a sub-committee of CRIRSCO in mapping the CRIRSCO Template against the Russian classification system. This task is taking longer than anticipated. However, it is hoped that a preliminary report will be completed by the end of 2008.

**EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo**

**EurGeol Kerr Anderson PGeo**

March 30<sup>th</sup> 2008.

## **7. NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited will be held at 7.00 p.m. on May 15th 2008 at the Geological Survey, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 for the following purposes:

- i) To receive and consider the Directors' Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 2007.
- ii) To elect Directors.
- iii) To re-elect Casey McGrath and Associates as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
- iv) To transact any other ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

Yvonne O'Connell

Secretary

Dated April 4<sup>th</sup> 2007.



## **8. NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS**

The Nominations Committee, under the Chair of Gareth Jones (immediate Past-President), has presented the following list of candidates to stand for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in May 2008.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

President	Kevin Cullen (2 <sup>nd</sup> year of term)
Vice President	Fionnuala Collins
Secretary	Craig O'Connor
Treasurer	Stephen Bradley (2 <sup>nd</sup> year of term)

### **NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Barry Balding

Morgan Burke

John Kelly

Deirdre Lewis

Sean Moran

Marie Ryan

### **NOMIATIONS COMMITTEE**

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones BSc, MSc, PGeo (Chair)

EurGeol Garth Earls BSc, PGeo

EurGeol Kevin Cleary BSc, MSc, PGeo

## **9. AUDITOR'S REPORT**

## **10. IGI CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

<b>IGI OFFICE</b>	UCD School of Geological Sciences, Belfield, Dublin 4 tel 01-716 20 85; fax 01-283 7733; admin@igi.ie; <a href="http://www.igi.ie">www.igi.ie</a>
<b>AMININISTRATIVE SECRETARY</b>	Mrs. Susan Pyne
<b>ACCOUNTS PERSON</b>	Mrs. Ethel Stringer
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Casey McGrath & Associates, 6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6
<b>BANKERS</b>	Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin
<b>IGI REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6
<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	31440
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	CHY 13580

## **IGI Board Members**

### **Executive Directors**

President:	EurGeol Kevin Cullen, PGeo
Vice President:	EurGeol Piers Gardiner PGeo
Secretary:	EurGeol Yvonne O'Connell, PGeo
Treasurer:	EurGeol Stephen Bradley, PGeo

<b>Non-Executive Directors:</b>	EurGeol Barry Balding, PGeo
	EurGeol Fionnuala Collins, PGeo
	EurGeol Deirdre Lewis, PGeo
	EurGeol John Kelly PGeo
	EurGeol Cecil Shine, PGeo
	EurGeol John Walsh, PGeo

### **Board Responsibilities**

Administration	Yvonne O'Connell
Continuing Professional Development	John Kelly, John Walsh
Conference	Kevin Cullen
Communications	Fionnuala Collins
Courses	Cecil Shine
Education	John Walsh
European Federation of Geologists	F. Collins, Piers Gardiner
Finance	Stephen Bradley
Mineral Reporting Codes and Legislation	Piers Gardiner
Promotion of P.Geol. and EFG (EurGeol) Titles	John Kelly
Public Affairs and Information	Barry Balding
Representation on Other Bodies	Kevin Cullen, Piers Gardiner
Standing Committees	Kevin Cullen
Strategic Relations	Kevin Cullen
Validation	Piers Gardiner

### **EFG National Licensed Body**

The IGI is licensed by the European Federation of Geologists to award the professional title of European Geologist (EurGeol)

## **Standing Committees**

### **Ethics Committee**

EurGeol Professor Ben Kennedy, PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Dr John Ashton, PGeo  
EurGeol Shane O'Neill, PGeo

### **Disciplinary Committee**

EurGeol John Arthurs, PGeo  
EurGeol Dr Eibhlín Doyle, PGeo

### **Nominating Committee**

EurGeol Gareth Jones, PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Kevin Cleary, PGeo  
EurGeol Garth Earls, PGeo

### **Validation Committee**

EurGeol Mark Conroy PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol David Blaney PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. John Colthurst PGeo  
EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Robert Meehan PGeo

### **CPD Audit Committee**

EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge, PGeo  
EurGeol Dr David Naylor, PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Ian Somerville, PGeo

## **The IGI is represented on the following bodies:**

### **Organisation**

### **IGI Representative**

European Federation of Geologists

EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo,  
EurGeol Dr. Piers Gardiner PGeo

EFG CPD Working Group  
EFG Disciplinary Committee  
EFG International Licensed Body  
EFG Geo-employment survey Working Group  
GSI Consultative Committee  
GSNI Consultative Committee

EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo  
EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Jonathan Derham PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Robbie Meehan PGeo  
EurGeol Fionnuala Collins PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo

## **Founding Sponsoring Bodies**

The IGI was established in 1999 with the support of the following sponsoring bodies :

The Irish Association for Economic Geology (www.iaeg.org )

The Geophysical Association of Ireland. ([www.gai.ie](http://www.gai.ie))

The International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group).  
(www.iahireland.org )

The Irish Mining and Quarrying Society. (www.imqs.ie )

The Geotechnical Society of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland. (www.iei.ie )

## **Bodies with Reciprocal Links and/or Co-Operation Agreements**

American Institute of Professional Geologists  
Canadian Council for Professional Geoscientists  
Geological Society of London

## **Bodies Recognising PGeo**

### **Ireland**

Exploration and Mining Division, DCENR – required for licence reports

Environmental Protection Agency – preferred for professional reports

## **Stock Exchanges**

Ireland, Dublin Stock Exchange

UK, London Stock Exchange

Australian Stock Exchange

Canadian Securities Administrators

South Africa, JSE Securities Exchange