

# INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



**2013 - 2014**

## **ANNUAL REPORT and FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### ***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 2014**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>In Memoriam .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2 HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>3 HON. TREASURER'S REPORT.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>4 IGI COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUP REPORTS .....</b>	<b>14</b>
4.1 VALIDATION COMMITTEE.....	14
4.2 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT .....	10
4.3 CPD COURSES .....	11
4.4 ETHICS & DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEES 2012-13 .....	13
4.5 COMMUNICATIONS .....	14
4.6 IGI EIS Guidelines .....	18
4.7 PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE SCHEME FOR MEMBERS .....	19
4.8 THE IGI LANDFILL REGISTER .....	20
<b>5 REPRESENTATION: DELEGATE REPORTS.....</b>	<b>21</b>
5.1 EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS .....	21
5.2 GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE .....	22
5.3 GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE .....	22
5.4 RIA GEOSCIENCES COMMITTEE .....	23
5.5 IRISH GEOSCIENCE NETWORK .....	24
<b>6 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.....</b>	<b>26</b>
6.1 MRA WITH CANADA.....	26
6.2 MOU with EAGE.....	27
6.3 OTHER MRAS.....	27
<b>7 NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING .....</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>8 NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS.....</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>9 IGI CORPORATE STRUCTURE .....</b>	<b>30</b>

## **In Memoriam**

*The IGI would like to offer our sincere sympathies to the families of our friends and geological colleagues, Eugene Daly and Ben Kennedy. Both were involved in the IGI from its earliest days. Eugene represented the IAH on the Professional Affairs Committee (PAC) in the lead up to the formation of the Institute and prepared the Proposal Document for the setting up of the IGI. Eugene was a Board Member for several years serving on the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Committee as Chair; the CPD Audit Committee; the Membership Validation Committee; the Committee on Geology in EISs; the Drilling Guidelines Committee; and Vice President at different times.*

*Ben served on the Institute's Ethics Committee as Chair and was the IGI's representative on the EurAges project. Ben provided liaison on the development of the Mutual Recognition Agreement with Geoscientists Canada signed last year and graciously provided the Institute with its first office within the School of Geosciences in UCD.*

## 1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It has been my great honour to be elected as President of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland and to serve you in this the first year of my two year term. This has been an extremely busy year with four short courses and another one planned for later this year in June; re-branding the image of the Institute; moving office; the launch of the Institute's Guidelines for the Preparation of Soils, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Environmental Impact Statements by Minister of State Mr. Fergus O'Dowd T.D.; participating in the GeoGathering in Galway; and hosting the PERC AGM.

### IGI Board 2013 - 2014

The work of the IGI is carried out by its Board and three part time contract staff. Those serving on the current Board were elected in May 2013. The following table lists the Board members and their specific responsibilities.

Board Member	Title	Responsibilities
EurGeol <b>Gerry Stanley</b> PGeo	President	IGN*; Membership; Comms† strategy; Education & outreach; Course accreditation.
EurGeol <b>Andy Bowden</b> PGeo	Vice-President	EFG rep; CPD.
EurGeol <b>Marie Fleming</b> PGeo	Hon. Secretary	EFG rep; Comms† strategy; Education & outreach.
EurGeol <b>Paul Gordon</b> PGeo	Hon. Treasurer	PERC rep; Comms† strategy; Education & outreach.
EurGeol <b>Catherine Buckley</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	EIS Guidelines.
Dr. <b>Marie Cowan</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	Comms† strategy; Education & outreach.
EurGeol Dr. <b>Peter Glanville</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	Membership; Comms† strategy; Education & outreach; Course accreditation.
Ms <b>Mairéad Glennon</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	Comms† strategy; Education & outreach.
Dr. <b>Jim Hodgson</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	CPD; Newsletter.
EurGeol <b>Ric Pasquali</b> PGeo	Non-Executive Director	EFG rep; Insurance matters; IT.

\*IGN – Irish Geoscience Network. †Comms – Communications.

I would like to sincerely thank the members of the Board, who continue to work voluntarily on behalf of our membership. Our office staff; Susan Pyne and Ethel Stringer have continued to support the Administration and Accounting functions, respectively, while Eamonn Kelly, as Webmaster, has continued to update and build our website [www.igi.ie](http://www.igi.ie) and I also thank them for their continued hard work.

The IGI continues to enjoy the support of our sponsoring bodies, the Irish Mining & Quarrying Society (IMQS), Geophysical Association of Ireland (GAI), Geotechnical Society of Ireland (GSI),

Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG) and the International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group; IAH). Also, we are indebted to SLR Consulting and Arup's for hosting monthly meetings.

## **Registers**

### ***Hydrogeologist Register***

The IGI Register of Professional Hydrogeologists (in respect of environmental risk assessment for unregulated waste disposal) was initiated in 2012. This Register is updated regularly and is available on the IGI website – [www.igi.ie](http://www.igi.ie). There are currently 34 Hydrogeologists on the Register. To apply for entry to the register please see the IGI website.

### ***Pyrite Register***

Following the recent controversies of damage caused to homes and buildings by pyrite induced heave a Pyrite Resolution Board (PRB) has been set up by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Mr. Phil Hogan T.D. The PRB will consider applications for funds to carry out repairs to homes that have been affected by such damage. Applications will have to be accompanied by reports by Competent Persons. There are both engineering and geological experts required and Engineers Ireland has set up a Register of competent engineers to carry out assessment in this area. In response to a request from the Pyrite Resolution Board the IGI is developing a Register of Professional Geologists competent to carry out work relating to the occurrence of pyrite in hardcore material used in under concrete floor slabs.

The National Standards Authority of Ireland has developed two standards to deal the issue of reactive pyrite. The first is 'IS 398-1:2013 Reactive pyrite in sub-floor hardcore material Part 1: Testing and categorisation protocol'. This Standard has been developed for use by those intending to provide testing and categorisation services for buildings suspected of being affected by pyrite. The standard:

- a) establishes a comprehensive structured protocol for assessing and determining whether or not a building has been damaged by reactive pyrite or is likely to be in the future, and
- b) categorises buildings, in accordance with this standard.

The second standard is EN 13242 Aggregates for unbound and hydraulically bound materials and its Guidance document SR 21. This standard addresses the issue of specifying material for use as hardcore under concrete floors in buildings and footpaths.

As I write the IGI is setting up the operating mechanisms for the Register and competent professional geologists will be invited to join the Register, shortly. The Register will be managed by Eoin Wyse PGeo, EurGeol Gareth LI Jones PGeo and EurGeol John Kelly PGeo

## **Courses**

An important service offered by the Institute to its members is the organisation of courses on topics of relevance and recent developments in the geosciences. This year we have run four courses to date with another course on drilling due to be delivered in June. I would like to thank the organisers of each of the courses and the presenters who shared their experiences and expertise with us.

## **Mutual Recognition Agreements**

### ***Geoscientists Canada***

The signing of the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with Geoscientist Canada (GC) was held in May last year. Following the signing GC recommended that each provincial association within GC recognise the MRA. To date 4 associations have considered the MRA and have determined as follows: in favour – British Columbia and Manitoba; against – Nova Scotia and Quebec.

### **Irish Geoscience Network**

The fourth Irish Geoscience Network (IGN) meeting took place in February at the offices of the IGI in Merrion Square. The meeting was chaired by Gerry Stanley. Almost every geoscience body on the island of Ireland was represented. Also present were representatives from both Geological Surveys as well as a number of the Universities. A wide range of issues were discussed including insurance, use of IGI's PayPal account by IGN member associations, course accreditation, possible use of IGI as a Secretariat for IGN member associations, the GeoGathering, and upcoming meetings. Other topics included the vexed question of clashing of events – the IGI does have a calendar of events where such clashes could be avoided. It was agreed that all bodies would endeavour to keep this on-line calendar up to date by informing the IGI of planned events.

### **Communications**

Communicating with Members and the wider public is vital for the Institute and its relevance. This year a sub-committee of the Board was appointed comprising Marie Cowan, Peter Glanville and Mairead Glennon. Their remit was to develop a communications strategy for the IGI. Practically this resulted in the development of a LinkedIn Group, new promotional pamphlets, pop up stand, and a PowerPoint template. The subcommittee reports separately in the Annual Report. In addition, the website and the IGI Newsletter remain important means of communicating with our Members. Eamonn Kelly looks after the website from the technical point of view and Jim Hodgson and Claire Clifford produced the Newsletter.

### **Insurance**

The issue of insurance can be a difficult and understanding your PI from your PL or EL can be a mystery for the uninitiated. Thanks to the hard work of Board Member Ric Pasquali, the IGI now offers a one stop shop for insurances not only for individuals in their work but also for Associations. There is a link on the Institute's website <http://www.igi.ie/resources.htm> for any Member seeking insurance.

### **Reserves and Resources**

The IGI is one of four sponsoring bodies of the pan European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee (PERC). The others are the Geological Society of London (GeolSoc), The Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining (IoM3), and the European Federation of Geologists (EFG). This year the AGM of PERC was hosted by the IGI in Dublin (in March at the IGI Offices). The meeting was preceded by the course on 'Best Practice for Assessment and Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves' presented by EurGeol Ed Sides PGeo. The AGM was a success with discussions on the mapping of the PERC Standard to the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC); the inclusion of dimension stone to the PERC Standard; changes to the PERC Statutes; training; and attending CRIRSCO meetings.

During the year the Board received a representation concerning the incorrect usage of reserve and resource terminology. A small group comprising Andy Bowden, Paul Gordon and David Dingemans are preparing a pamphlet which will assist those geoscientists not familiar with the terminology to understand the usage, definitions and where to get further information.

## **Other Activities**

### ***Summer Event***

This year we held what we described as a Summer Event. This was primarily to acknowledge the contribution of EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo to the Institute over many years. However, we also used the occasion to introduce the Membership to our new office at 63 Merrion Square and to bring Members together in a more social setting. I would hope that the event will become a fixture in the calendar of the IGI and plans for this year's event are being developed and will be announced shortly.



*Gareth Ll Jones and Gerry Stanley and the IGI Summer Event*

The 2013 Summer Event was held on 21st June with an attendance of approximately 50 persons in 63 Merrion Square. The IGI's immediate Past President EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo made the presentation of the IGI Medal of Honour to Gareth. Deirdre marked the occasion with an excellent citation covering Gareth's long career in promoting the profession of geology. Gareth responded with an entertaining account of some of the milestones and memorable events throughout his involvement in working on improving the lot of the professional geologist.

The President then provided some background on our new office. The office is being rented from the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland (RSAI) and provides the IGI with a prestigious address in downtown Dublin. This was followed by a reception. The evening was very pleasant – made the more so by the reasonably cooperative weather and the sound of the live performance of Figaro emanating from Merrion Square (Dublin City Council's Opera in the Park Series).

### **Secrets to a Successful Geoscience Career**

The IGI hosted a talk by Patrick McAndless of Imperial Metals, Canada on Wednesday 31st July 2013 at the Geological Survey of Ireland. Patrick shared his secrets for geoscientific career development to an audience of over 20 geoscientists and geoscience students of all ages from around the country. In his presentation Patrick's provided advice for effectively promoting personal skills, experiences and achievements in an eye-catching way. He emphasized the importance of the CV and spent some time on describing how it could be improved and encouraged participation in LinkedIn as a modern-day portal to your online CV. Patrick's take-home message was the importance "being successful" rather than "achieving success" – that through passion, hard work, personal improvement and persistence, the quality of your work will stand to you every day of your career. As the saying goes, 'if you enjoy your job, you'll never have to work a day in your life!'

### **EIS Guidelines Launch**

The revised Guidelines for the Preparation of Guidelines for the Preparation of Soil, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Environmental Impact Statements were formally launched by the Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and at the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Mr. Fergus O'Dowd T.D. at a ceremony at our offices in Merrion Square on 21st October.

The Minister observed that the Guidelines would become the source of choice for guidance on the Chapters on Soils, Geology and Groundwater and congratulated the Institute for the work carried out in preparing the Guidelines. He thanked the Committee which prepared the Guidelines and in particular Catherine Buckley and Kevin Cullen. The Minister also noted the important contribution of Board Members Deirdre Lewis, Andy Bowden, and Jim Hodgson in having the Guidelines completed.

Catherine Buckley as coordinator of the group compiling the Guidelines made a short presentation on the Guidelines summarising the recommended approach to be adopted. This was followed by a reception in the Boardroom/Library. The IGI would like to thank the EPA for financial assistance in having the Guidelines printed.

### **GeoGathering**

Throughout 2013 a tourism initiative known as The Gathering 2013 was run to invite the Irish international community to return home to meet their friends and family in 2013. To celebrate the contribution of Irish geoscientists to the advancement of geosciences internationally in exploration, palaeontology, geo-policy, mining, hydrogeology, engineering, geo-tourism and finance across academia, society and business, four of Ireland's leading geoscience organisations (GSI, IAEG, IMQS and the IGI) organised the Geo-Gathering over the weekend of 19-20th October 2013 at the Menlo Park Hotel in Galway.

Highlights from the talks included 30 years ago we all looked like extras from 'The Quiet Man', insights into salting, the distribution of jobs in the minerals sector, we are a good sector for Ireland's finances, we should all get a good pair of walking boots, fossils are weird and wonderful, we need to be more proactive with the community/governance, fracking does not have to be bad, discover – and production will take care of itself, keep drilling and work as a team, and we definitely shouldn't be called Earth Scientists!





*Speakers at the GeoGathering: back row (left to right) – Christian Schaffalitzky (Eurasia Mining), Kevin Quinn (Tullow Oil), Adrian Black (Newexco Services), Derek Briggs (Yale Peabody Museum); front row (left to right) – Koen Verbruggen (GSI), Murray Hitzman (Colorado School of Mines), Maeve Boland (American Geosciences Institute), Eibhlin Doyle (EMD), and Dale Hendrick (Hendrick Resources)*

Reaction to the event was really positive and all agreed that as a formula for future meetings it was worth repeating – perhaps at an interval of 5 years. Another observation is that we certainly can't dance the Siege of Ennis – perhaps the Walls of Limerick is our dance.

## Representation

IGI members continue to represent the Institute at regular consultative meetings of the Geological Survey of Ireland (Marie Fleming), Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (John Kelly), and the Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (Deirdre Lewis). Paul Gordon represents the IGI on the PERC Committee at European level and other IGI Members involved include John, Clifford, Andy Bowden, John Barry, Eibhlin Doyle and Gerry Stanley.

The IGI continues to be an active National Association Member, as well as a National Licensed Body Member, of the European Federation of Geologists (EFG). The IGI is represented at the EFG by Andy Bowden and Marie Fleming, who have actively contributed to recent discussions concerning policy development, memberships, engagement with the European Commission, as well as attending EFG meetings in Europe throughout the year. Marie is also Chair of the Registration Authority of the EFG. Late in the year Catherine Buckley was nominated to replace Andy Bowden as one of our representatives on the EFG Council.

The IGI was represented by Marie Fleming at the Round Table meeting of the European Geosciences Union, a convening of the national geoscientific societies of Europe, at the General Assembly of the EGU in Vienna in April 2013 and again in April 2014.

IGI members Billy O'Keeffe and Gerry Stanley were active on the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) inter-disciplinary panels pertaining to Aggregates. This included representing IGI on the development of the standards relating to the pyrite issue already referred to in this Presidential Report. Gerry Stanley continues to represent the IGI and geologists at the NSAI

with respect to the review and revision of standards and guidance documents in relation to aggregates.

Marie Fleming assisted at the BT Young Scientists Exhibition on the GSI coordinated stand on the geosciences at the RDS in January 2014. Gerry Stanley also assisted but primarily wearing his GSI hat.

### **Final words**

I would like to sincerely thank all on the outgoing Board for their hard work and support to me over the year. In particular, I would like to thank Marie as Secretary and Paul as Treasurer for their contribution to the smooth running of the Institute. I would also like to pay a special tribute to the retiring Members of the Board – Andy Bowden, Ric Pasquali and Paul Gordon. Andy served as Vice-president this past year and has carried the significant workload of being Chair of the CPD Committee, one of our representatives on the Council of the EFG, representing the IGI at the UNFC on reserves and resources, and standing in for me when I was unavailable. Ric has for many years worked tirelessly on insurance related matters. This has resulted in the Institute now having a dedicated resource for insurance related matters. Ric also worked on developing various short courses over his time on the Board and will still be delivering on the upcoming course on drilling. Paul as Treasurer worked hard to keep the Institute's finances on track. In addition, Paul has worked on developing and running a number of short courses and is the official IGI representative at PERC. All three have contributed to the discussions at Board meetings and all are deserving of your appreciation. Catherine Buckley, Marie Cowan, Peter Glanville, Mairead Glennon and Jim Hodgson all assisted in the smooth running of the Institute by organising courses, participating in specialist areas and contributing to Board discussions on many and varied issues throughout the year.

It has been my great pleasure to work with the members of the IGI Board, a committed and energetic group of geoscientists, over the past year, and I am sure that the incoming Board will be every bit as hard working and will contribute to the ongoing success and development of the Institute.

To all members, who give freely of their time to IGI, whether they are Board Members or not, who attend conventions at home or abroad, who participate in working groups or on committees I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude.

**EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo**  
**President, 22 April 2013**

## 2 HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

### 2013 Annual General Meeting

The 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the IGI was held on Wednesday 1st June 2013 at 7pm in the GSI Lecture Theatre, Beggars Bush, Dublin 4. The meeting was chaired by the IGI President, EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo. Minutes of the meeting have been distributed separately.

At the AGM the following were elected to the Board of the IGI to serve during the year 2013/2014:

<i>Gerry Stanley, President</i>	<i>Dr. Jim Hodgson, Board Member</i>
<i>Andy Bowden, Vice President</i>	<i>Dr. Marie Cowan, Board Member</i>
<i>Marie Fleming, Honorary Secretary</i>	<i>Mairead Glennon, Board Member</i>
<i>Paul Gordon, Honorary Treasurer</i>	<i>Catherine Buckley, Board Member</i>
<i>Riccardo Pasquali, Board Member</i>	<i>Peter Glanville, Board Member</i>

### Board Meetings

The IGI Board met ten times in 2013/14 between the 2013 AGM and April 2014, on the following dates 18<sup>th</sup> June, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 5<sup>th</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> December, , all in 2013, 21<sup>st</sup> January, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup> April and 28<sup>th</sup> April in 2014. At the time of writing, one further meeting is scheduled to take place on the 21st May in advance of the 2014 AGM, comprising eleven meetings in all over the year. In addition the Board held a number of virtual meetings through electronic resolution and voting.

The number of meetings (out of ten to date) attended by Directors and Board Members was as follows: Gerry Stanley (9), Andy Bowden (7), Marie Fleming (9), Paul Gordon (6), Jim Hodgson (9), Ric Pasquali (7), Marie Cowan(7), Peter Glanville (5), Mairead Glennon (7) and Catherine Buckley (3). Attendance at meetings is not a measure of the entire contribution of members, much of which is undertaken between meetings. All Board Members attend committee meetings in their own time and at their own expense.

The Past Presidents of the IGI also convene annually to answer any request for advice from the current IGI Board for which we are very appreciative.



**IGI Past Presidents (L-R)** Gareth LI Jones, Eibhlin Doyle, John Clifford, John Kelly, Deirdre Lewis, Peter O'Connor and Kevin Cullen

**Membership**

As of the 1 April 2014, there are 170 Professional Members (PGeo) of the Institute, 18 Members-In-Training (MIT), 6 Retired Members and 2 Associate Members. At time of writing there were 4 applications for PGeo status and 3 for MIT in hand. The figures demonstrate the continued and steady growth of the institute.

Fourteen new Professional Members were elected during the year, one member was re-admitted and 3 new Members-in-Training were elected during the year. One member transferred to Retired status. Five members resigned during the year, 4 P.Geos and one MIT. Two Founder Members; Eugene Daly and Ben Kennedy, passed away. No members were delisted for the payment of subscriptions or the non-compliance with CPD requirements.

**Secretaries Appreciation**

The Board is supported in their work by a large number of members in various committees, panels and working groups (refer section 4 of this report), which is gratefully acknowledged.

Members also represent the IGI with distinction on national and EU committees (GSI and GSNI consultative committees; Geology in EIS working group; National working group on Pyrite in engineering fill; PERC; EFG; etc). Members also contribute to the delivery of IGI training courses and workshops, and otherwise supporting the Board, this too is acknowledged.

On behalf of the IGI, I would like to gratefully acknowledge the support of Arup, SLR Consulting and the GSI in providing the Board meeting venues. The role of Honorary Secretary is greatly assisted by the efforts of the IGI office staff, Susan and Ethel and for this I am very grateful. This year we had a quite a bit of upheaval in relocating to our new offices in Merrion Square which was greatly accommodated and assisted by the IGI Board members past and present and the IGI office staff.

Our new office location in Merrion Square is proving more than adequate in that it also provides us with adequate space in which to host events and lectures. However, in echo of our previous Honorary Secretary the ideal would be to find a permanent home for the Institute in the coming year.

As reported over the last number of years, the committee and the IGI office spend a great deal of time dealing with matters associated with Members who do not submit their annual subscriptions and/or their CPD records. I repeat the message of the last few years that Members must address their professional responsibilities in a timely fashion, not only as a professional necessity, but also as a courtesy to your colleagues who volunteer to administer the Institute.

To all members, who give freely of their time to IGI, whether they are Board Members or not, who attend conventions at home or abroad, who participate in working groups or on committees I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude. For anyone who would like to get involved in the Institute please feel free to contact us, all contributions are gratefully accepted.

**EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo**  
**Honorary Secretary**

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

A copy of the 2013 Financial Statements for the IGI as prepared by Kieran Ryan & Co., Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, will be circulated at the Annual General Meeting and available online after that. The statement covers the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2013. We continue to be pleased with the service and value offered by Kieran Ryan & Co.

The Institute realised a deficit (income less expenditure) of €10,800 in 2013. The deficit realised in 2012 was €1,033. The budgeted deficit for 2013 was €3,727.

Total income for 2013, including bank interest, is €39,763 versus an expenditure of €50,569 for the year. Income was higher than budgeted, despite reduced receipts from subscriptions (€5,670 less than budgeted).

Expenditure was substantially higher than expected, largely due to course/seminar costs being higher than anticipated and to a number of unforeseen items, including engraved medallions for the 2013 and future Medals of Honour, costs associated with the summer event and some computing costs.

2013 was the second year running in which the Institute made a loss, and further losses are budgeted for 2014. Losses beyond 2014 will begin to put the Institute in a precarious state. Income (which is largely realised from membership subscriptions) will need to increase. A tighter rein will also need to be kept on expenditure. It should be possible to bring in a balanced budget for 2015 if subscriptions fees are increased, but it will equally be necessary to ensure that the budget is adhered to. If an item of expenditure is not in the original budget it must either be foregone, or take the place of another item. This may result in disappointment for those members whose requests need to be turned down, but that cannot be helped until the organisation returns to a more secure financial footing.

**EurGeol Paul Gordon PGeo**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

## 4 IGI COMMITTEE / WORKING GROUP REPORTS

*Volunteers for each of the following IGI Committees are always welcome, so if you would like to participate, please contact the Honorary Secretary, or any Board member.*

### 4.1 VALIDATION COMMITTEE

The Validation Committee held five validation interview sessions since May 2013.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Gerry Stanley and Dave Blaney interviewed four candidates:

- i) **David Dingemans**
- ii) **Robbie Goodhue**
- iii) **Marie Cowan**
- iv) **Laurena Leacy**

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

On the 13<sup>th</sup> May 2013 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Mark Conroy and Kevin Cullen interviewed three candidates:

- i) **Eamon O'Loughlin**
- ii) **Mairead Glennon**
- iii) **Conor McKeown**

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

On the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2013 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Deirdre Lewis and Kevin Cullen interviewed two candidates:

- i) **Siobhan Tinnelly**
- ii) **Colman Gallagher**

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

On the 26<sup>th</sup> November 2013 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Gerry Stanley and Mark Conroy interviewed two candidates:

- i) **Brian Rouse**
- ii) **Eoin Wyse**

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

On the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Gerry Stanley and Sean Finlay interviewed three candidates:

- i) Damien Gasse**
- ii) Graham Parkin**
- iii) Emma Sheard**

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

The Validation Committee also recommended the re-admission of one resigned member as a Professional Geologist in 2013.

- i) Koen Verbruggen**

The applicant had previously met the required education and technical criteria for acceptance as a Professional Geologist and had continued to work on a fulltime basis in geosciences since his original membership lapsed.

Three applicants for the MIT category were approved during the past year:

- i) Denise Taylor**
- ii) Jennifer Allen**
- iii) Ciara Bannon**

The mix and competence of candidates interviewed and assessed in the past year has demonstrated the varied disciplines in the IGI, extending from minerals geology, to hydrogeology, to environmental geology. The elected candidates are a welcome addition to the collective experience of IGI members.

**EurGeol Morgan Burke PGeo**  
***Chair of the Validation Committee***

## 4.2 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

At last year's AGM the subject of CPD was hotly debated. It was not the principle of CPD – it appeared that it was unanimously agreed that CPD was a very good thing and that the IGI's apparent robust approach to CPD was one of the main contributing factors to our good standing in the international geological community. Nor was our system criticised – in fact, in passing, the current template was praised as being easy to use and taking just a few minutes each year to complete. No, what was strongly criticised was the IGI's poor record of getting its members to submit their CPD returns on time each year.

As a response to this criticism the IGI Board decided, starting this year, to combine the due date for submission of CPD to that of subscription, i.e. at the end of February of each year, and then create a register of Members in Good Standing (a certificate of Good Standing is also available). This process is currently suffering some teething problems in that subscriptions and CPD have to be submitted separately and at present cross referencing has to be carried out manually. It is hoped that some method can be devised in the future to link CPD submission and subscription payment electronically.

Despite the teething problems it does appear that our membership has responded to this new system. At this time of writing, 118 members have made their CPD returns for 2013, and although this is not the 100% of members that would be ideal, it is a huge improvement on the situation this time last year.

A CPD audit is carried out each year on a random 25% of the returns. This is an absolutely necessary part of the process and is a requirement by other bodies for mutual recognition. The Audit committee is composed of two senior figures in the profession but from different specialities, for instance this year's committee is composed of a hydrogeologist and a minerals geologist. The results of this year's audit were on CPDs submitted last year which refer to 2012. Most CPD submissions appear to be completed satisfactory and honestly and only minor inconsistencies or misunderstandings regarding categories of hours were highlighted. The only follow-up that is required is that members whose CPD have these inconsistencies or misunderstandings will be contacted so that they may improve any future submissions.

**EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo**  
***Chair of CPD Committee***



### 4.3 CPD COURSES

As part of the IGI's commitment to Continuing Professional Development, four courses were held in 2013-4, which are summarised below. Relevant course presentations are available on the IGI website at <http://www.igi.ie/cpd-and-training.htm>. Further workshops and courses, to address the CPD needs of members, are planned through 2014-15. The details will be circulated in due course.

#### **GIS for Geoscientists, NUI Maynooth, October 31<sup>st</sup> 2013**

This one day course was run in October 2013 in the National University of Ireland, Maynooth by Drs. Gill Scott and Ainhoa Gonzalez. The course was hands on with the excellent facilities of the University providing work stations for each participant. Following introductory talks it was all hands on to cover the basics of GIS using actual geological data (from the GSI) and not your normal 'site a supermarket' exercises. The course was extremely well received and we will consider holding the same again for novices and perhaps asking the same instructors to cover more advanced topics.

#### **Pyrite Course, IGI Offices December, 4<sup>th</sup> 2013**

This course was run in December and covered the recently developed National Standards Authority of Ireland standards on the use of pyrite as hardcore in buildings in Ireland. These standards arose from the problems associated with a number of houses built during the early part of the century in North Co. Dublin and adjoining areas. The course was presented by experts in the area from Golder Associates, Arup, SLR Consulting, IGSL as well as consultants and representatives from the NSAI and GSI.

#### **Communicating Geoscience course, UCD, February 28<sup>th</sup> 2014**

On 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014, the IGI hosted a seminar on Communicating Geoscience as a special event of the Irish Geological Research Meeting in University College Dublin. The seminar, the first of its kind in Ireland, featured public relations professionals and geoscientists sharing their experiences communicating geoscience to the media, the public and elected representatives.

78 attendees, including Nic Bilham from the Geological Society of London, had the opportunity to hear several key case studies on geoscience communication at home and abroad, covering the successes and challenges faced by geoscientists in communicating complex science in an effective way. Thirty 'free' places were ring-fenced for undergraduate and post-graduate students and were all filled with representation from universities across the island of Ireland and as far as the University of Plymouth.

- **Dr Alessandro Amato**, Director of the Italian National Earthquake Centre, had some fascinating insights into the communication of earthquake risk in Italy. Social media now drives two-way stakeholder communication, with the benefits of instant updates of Twitter uniquely suited to the need for authorities to keep the public informed about seismic risk as well as public reporting of seismic activity. The importance of accurate information coupled with effective communication was emphasised in relation to the infamous L'Aquila case, which held several Italian geoscientists accountable for a failure to effectively convey seismic risk in advance of the deadly 2009 earthquake.
- **Conall McDevitt** of Hume Brophy drew on his political experience to tease out the factors which influence public affairs engagement in Ireland. His insights helped explain the motives of politicians, interest groups and industry who advocate for or against issues like shale gas exploration. Conall also outlined the Irish political structure and explained that key players are on a variety of levels for engagement purposes.
- **Sonya Cassidy**, Cassidy PR, had some valuable tips to share with geoscientists on how to successfully engage the media, including crafting a story, considering how the story will be seen by the public and interview tactics. Interestingly, Sonya pointed out that only 20% of voices on the radio are female – she noted that all geoscientists, especially female, should take the opportunity to have their professional voice heard if invited.

The second half of the seminar showcased examples of successful stakeholder and media engagement in major private sector, public sector and academic geoscience projects. **Mairéad Glennon**, Geological Survey of Ireland, described the award-winning communications strategy behind the publicly-funded Tellus Border project, including some of the challenges faced on the ground. **Sean Finlay** drew on his 40 years of experience in the geoscience sector to illustrate the planning and consultation issues encountered in some of Ireland's best known mining and resource infrastructure projects including Tara Mines and Corrib Gas. **Prof. Andy Wheeler**, University College Cork, finished on a high with one of Irish geoscience's most high profile media stories of recent years on the Moytirra black smoker which was covered by National Geographic as well as the Irish media.

Discussion during the seminar was lively, with many delegates remarking on the palpable need for more media training and awareness amongst Irish geoscientists at all levels, including undergraduate. The IGI hopes to keep developing this aspect of training for geoscientists in the coming years. Presentations from the seminar are now available to download at [www.igi.ie](http://www.igi.ie).



Dr. Alessandro Amato presents "*INGV terremoti: communicating earthquakes in a 2.0 world*" at the IGI Communicating Geoscience seminar, 28 February 2014.

#### ***Reserves and Resources, IGI Offices, March 2014***

In March 2014 the IGI in conjunction with the Pan European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee (PERC) organised and ran a short course on 'Best Practice for Assessment and Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves'. The course was delivered by EurGeol Dr. Ed Sides PGeo. The course was comprehensive and covered the full range of topics associated with reporting reserves, resources and exploration results. Some 33 people attended the course at the IGI offices in Merrion Square.

#### **4.4 ETHICS & DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEES 2012-13**

The Board is happy to report that the Ethics Committee did not receive any complaints, including any that may require a disciplinary response during the year. Neither the Ethics nor Disciplinary Committees met during the year.

The Members of the Ethics Committee are EurGeol Dr. Jonathan Derham PGeo (Chair), EurGeol Dr. John Ashton PGeo, EurGeol Shane O'Neill PGeo and EurGeol Dr. Matthew Parkes PGeo.

The Members of the Disciplinary Committee are EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo (Chair), EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo and EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo.

#### **EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo**

## 4.5 COMMUNICATIONS

In October 2013 a new sub-committee on communications was established in order to review and develop the IGI's communications strategy with its stakeholders, including members, prospective members, the wider geoscience community, elected representatives and the general public. The committee, consisting of President Gerry Stanley and Board members Marie Cowan, Mairead Glennon and Peter Glanville, progressed several initiatives during 2013-2014 towards this goal.

### ***Corporate communications***

In order to replicate a single corporate image across different IGI communications media, such as banners, flyers, presentations and letters, the Communications group has sought to bring in line all IGI media. The rationale behind the IGI communication has been to create a clean and identifiable IGI image in the media.

### ***Banner stand and flyer***

A new IGI banner stand and flyer were developed during 2013 and printed in the Geological Survey of Ireland. The new materials represent the first update to the Institute's public publicity materials in several years, providing the organisation with a quick-reference flyer and exhibit/podium backdrop for use at events. The flier was distributed by board members at IGI courses and externally run events, including the International Association of Hydrogeologists annual conference and the Irish Geological Research Meeting during 2014. Flyers are available from the IGI office or to download from [www.igi.ie/about.htm](http://www.igi.ie/about.htm).

### ***Power point template***

An IGI PowerPoint template was developed and set up, to be used at IGI events and presentations in order to ensure that the same IGI image can be used by IGI board members across all IGI and public events run by the IGI. The IGI PowerPoint presentation template was first used at the successful Communicating Geoscience course run on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2014. It is envisaged that the IGI PowerPoint template can be used by any IGI member when making a presentation to or on behalf of the IGI.

### ***Weekly email digest***

With the view to streamlining email contact with members a 'digest' style email news bulletin has been implemented, on a weekly basis or more often if necessary. The new email bulletin provides relevant news while minimising the number of emails to members and allowing members to more easily review news items at a glance.

### ***LinkedIn group***

In April 2014 a LinkedIn group was established with the view to opening better lines of communication with members and facilitating networking between members. The group provides a discussion forum for items of interest to members including events, jobs and geoscience news; this is in addition to the existing communications media including emails and the newsletter. A LinkedIn profile is required to join the group and membership is restricted to members in good standing. Both joining and posting to discussions are subject to moderator approval, with moderator roles held by Board members Peter Glanville and Mairéad Glennon.

The group has 28 members as of 22<sup>nd</sup> April, with 29% of members in the research field, 21% in

consulting, 11% in entrepreneurship and the remaining 16% in engineering, project management or administrative disciplines. Currently 86% of group members are based in Ireland, with 7% in Northern Ireland and 4% in Australia.

The communications group strongly advises IGI members to use the LinkedIn group page as a method of communicating with other IGI members and the IGI Board.

## **North-south and east-west relations**

### Earth Science Week 2014

The IGI will work in partnership with organisations in the Irish Geoscience Network on an initiative led by Earth Science Ireland and initiated by the Geological Society of London. Earth Science Week (ESW) will come to the island of Ireland for the first time in October 2014. Dr. Kirstin Lemon will co-ordinate this and will engage with geoscience partner organisations to host fieldtrips, lectures, exhibitions, events, open days etc. during Earth Science Week and will market all under the ESW 2014 banner.

### GSL 100 geosites

IGI is also working directly with Nic Bilham of the Geological Society of London on its recently launched '100 geosites in the UK and Ireland' (<http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/100geosites>) project together with other partners on the island of Ireland which will see the public being actively engaged in nominating, voting for and visiting their favourite geosite. This will raise awareness of natural heritage at community level and is sure to be a media success.

### GSL Regional NI Group

The IGI Board is discussing the potential for a jointly hosted fieldtrip or conference with founding members of a NEW! Northern Ireland Regional Group of the Geological Society of London. This group is expected to be formalised in May 2014 and up and running in the autumn and the IGI Board is looking forward to collaboration with this new partner

## **Political affairs**

The IGI is working with the Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee on a NEW! MLA Scientist Pairing Scheme, the first of its kind in Northern Ireland, the first devolved assembly region to do so since the Royal Society's Westminster scheme began in 2001.



*EurGeol Ric Pasquali PGeo and Jonathan Craig MLA (DUP) pictured in Stormont at the MLA Scientist Pairing Scheme Finale on 19 March 2014*

Ric Pasquali, an IGI Board member, took part in the scheme which saw him paired with Jonathan Craig MLA (DUP) and together they worked on a paper with Bob Dickey, Dr. Kirstin Lemon and Dr. Marie Cowan of Earth Science Ireland/IGI entitled *The Role of Earth Sciences in the Primary School Curriculum in Northern Ireland* which Ric presented to the Northern Ireland Assembly (NIA) Committee for Education on 19th March 2014. A recording of the presentation may be seen at (<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=TuVeCulaO9s>).



*MLA Scientist Pairing Scheme organiser Dr. Marie Cowan PGeo pictured with Rebecca Gageby Senior Programme Officer at the Royal Irish Academy and Kevin Shiels of the Northern Ireland Assembly Legislative Strengthening Trust.*

Following the presentation, the NIA Education Committee sent a follow-up letter requesting more information. Our response will be considered with those of other key STEM organisations in the context of the Education and Training Inspectorate review of “The World Around Us”, expected in the Autumn.

**EurGeol Mairéad Glennon PGeo and Dr. Marie Cowan PGeo**



#### 4.6 IGI EIS Guidelines

The revised Guidelines for the Preparation of Guidelines for the Preparation of Soil, Geology and Hydrogeology Chapters of Environmental Impact Statements were formally launched by the Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and at the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government Mr. Fergus O'Dowd T.D. at a ceremony at our offices in Merrion Square on 21st October.



*Photographed at the launch of the EIS Guidelines were: EurGeol Catherine Buckley PGeo, Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Mr. Fergus O'Dowd T.D., EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo, EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo and EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo.*

The Minister observed that the Guidelines would become the source of choice for guidance on the Chapters on Soils, Geology and Groundwater and congratulated the Institute for the work carried out in preparing the Guidelines. He thanked the Committee which prepared the Guidelines and in particular Catherine Buckley and Kevin Cullen. The Minister also noted the important contribution of Board Members Deirdre Lewis, Andy Bowden, and Jim Hodgson in having the Guidelines completed.

Catherine Buckley as coordinator of the group compiling the Guidelines made a short presentation on the Guidelines summarising the recommended approach to be adopted. This was followed by a reception in the Boardroom/Library. The IGI would like to thank the EPA for financial assistance in having the Guidelines printed.

The intention is the guidelines will be a live document to allow it to remain current. A call will be put out to members on an annual basis to request comments on the document, both in terms of its practicality and to account for legislative changes.

**EurGeol Catherine Buckley PGeo**  
**Coordinator of the EIS Guidelines Group**



#### 4.7 PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY INSURANCE SCHEME FOR MEMBERS

The IGI has been working in collaboration with Thompson Insurances in the development of a dedicated Professional Indemnity (PI) insurance application process for the members of the IGI and affiliated organisations.

PI Insurance cover protects PGeos and professional persons against legal liability to pay damages to clients or persons who have suffered financial loss arising from professional negligence, irrespective of whether this has occurred through negligence, lack of care or skill or through genuine mistake.

Whilst IGI and Thompson Insurances had originally hoped to be able to provide a dedicated application process as part our collaboration during the 2013 and 2014 period, this proved difficult mainly as a result of the wide range of disciplines that IGI members are involved in.

Following further consultations with insurance providers in 2012 and 2013 expressing interest in providing PI Insurance to IGI Members a dedicated scheme could not be put in place, with insurance providers preferring a case by case assessment for individual applications. The IGI and Thompson Insurance developed a dedicated application and proposal form for IGI Members wishing to secure PI insurance. This has not been done before, with geoscience professionals being asked to present applications on forms designed for engineers and architects.

The dedicated application form proved very successful, with members being given an opportunity to comprehensively present their professional background, experience and project operations to an insurer. This has resulted in more successful evaluations of applications for PI insurance by members with 12 individual members to date having secured PI Insurance cover in the 1st year of this facility being available.

During the early part of 2014, Thompson Insurances put out further requests to large insurance companies who already provide PI cover and dedicated schemes to engineering and geoscience professions. One of these companies with experience in providing different insurance products including PI to many geoscience sectors has recently established its headquarters in Ireland and is focussing on providing cover to the Irish market.

The XL Group originally expressed interest in providing a dedicated PI scheme to the IGI for its members. A presentation of the IGI, its membership application process and code of ethics in March of 2014 was positively received by the insurer. The XL Group already provides dedicated PI schemes to professional organisations for architects and engineers who also have a broad range of professional sub-disciplines. This context is similar to that of the IGI. However, following a review by senior underwriters at XL Group, the broad skill set combined with the low number of potential take up to a dedicated scheme, would result in not amassing a critical level of premium to sustain any potential exposure. Despite this, XL Group remain keen to provide cover on a case by case basis to IGI members through the existing dedicated application process.

Whilst it has not been possible to secure a dedicated PI scheme for IGI members to date, it is important to note that four major insurers (AIG, Lloyds, Hiscox and XL Group) can now provide a competitive PI market through the dedicated application process currently in place to IGI members. This is a significant improvement on the original service that was made available last year. IGI and Thompson will continue to search for a way to set-up a dedicated.

In advance of any further updates, the current dedicated application process will remain available to IGI members seeking PI cover for their professional activities.

### **EurGeol Ric Pasquali PGeo**

#### **4.8 THE IGI LANDFILL REGISTER**

##### **IGI Register of Professionally Qualified / Competent Persons for Hydrogeological Assessment of Historic Landfill Sites**

In September 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in response to evolving EU requirements, sought clarification on the expertise of professionally qualified geoscientists (PGeo) to carry out hydrogeological assessments at historical landfill sites. The IGI, in response, convened an expert Working Group chaired by the President (at the time – EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo), to determine the optimum means of meeting the EPA request. The Group proposed that a Register which would be set up providing a list of competent professionals in this area. The Membership would be canvassed to self-nominate themselves, i.e., those with the requisite qualifications and experience would nominate themselves to be entered onto the specialist register of **‘Professionally Qualified / Competent Persons to carry out Hydrogeological Assessments at Historical Landfill or Contaminated Sites’**; the so-called **‘Landfill Register’**.

Each self-nominated candidate was vetted via rigorous assessment and defined procedures by the Working Group, to validate suitably qualified candidates by December 2012. Candidates indicated that they would be available for interview by the Working Group if the need arose. In total, 33 professionally qualified IGI members are entered onto the Register at time of writing. The ‘Landfill Register’ is regularly updated to facilitate new entrants. All suitably qualified professional registrants must commit to maintaining their CPD in this area of expertise.

The EPA and local authorities have been notified of this formal validation process. From 2013, only those who have been so validated and entered to the ‘Landfill Register’ (see <http://www.igi.ie/cpd-and-training.htm>) and in receipt of an official IGI letter of verification, are qualified and competent to work on behalf of Local Authorities and EPA in the hydrogeological assessment of historical landfill sites in Ireland.

Unfortunately, some nominated candidates, who are active members of the IAH (Irish Group) and who may have the requisite expertise and experience, cannot be entered to the ‘Landfill Register’ as they are not members of the IGI (or Members of a body with whom the IGI has a mutually recognised agreement, such as The Geological Society of London), and thus are not ‘professionally qualified’ (PGeo, or mutually recognised equivalent e.g. CGeol). We would urge such persons to apply for membership of the IGI forthwith. See <http://www.igi.ie/cpd-and-training.htm> for details on how to join the ‘Landfill Register’.

### **EurGeol Catherine Buckley PGeo**

## 5 REPRESENTATION: DELEGATE REPORTS

### 5.1 EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS

The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) is a non-governmental organization that was established in 1981 and currently includes twenty-one (21) European national associations as members. The IGI Delegates to the EFG for 2013 were Andy Bowden, Marie Fleming and Ric Pasquali.

Marie Fleming took over as Chair of the Registration Authority of the EFG at the Summer Council Meeting in June 2013, succeeding David Norbury of the UK and assumes the role for the next three years. As the role is directly for the EFG, Marie has had to relinquish her role as IGI Delegate to the EFG. Ric Pasquali has taken over the role of IGI Delegate from Marie, and Andy Bowden who retired at the Winter Council Meeting in 2013 will be succeeded by Catherine Buckley.

During 2013-14, the EFG continued to promote the professional mobility and status of geologists in twenty-one countries across Europe, through the expanding use and recognition of the EurGeol title, involvement in two EU funded projects, making representations to the European Commission (EC) and liaison with other international geological bodies. National and international awareness of the profession is maintained through publication of the *European Geologist* magazine and the EFG newsletter, close liaison with the EU parliament and via its own web site at [www.eurogeologists.eu](http://www.eurogeologists.eu).

The Federation is run by a Council consisting of delegates from all member national associations such as the IGI, from which a 5-member Board is elected. Each member country has one vote at Council Meetings. The current EFG President is Vitor Correia from Portugal who succeeded Ruth Allington of the UK at the Summer Council Meeting of 2013.

The Council meets twice a year with a Winter Council meeting held in November/December in Brussels and a Summer Council meeting held in June in one of the member countries. The executive authority of the Council is enacted by the Board, which is appointed for a two year term and comprises a President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer and EU Delegate. The Board meets four to six times per year, mostly in Brussels, with the day to day business of the EFG carried out by the Board by email. Two meetings of Council were held in 2013 as follows:

#### 1. May '13

Marie Fleming and Andy Bowden attended the Summer Council meeting which was held in Stockholm in May 2013. The main focus of the meeting was to work on establishing a rolling 5-year strategic planning cycle for the EFG and to set the EFG's strategic objectives for 2013 to 2016. A workshop on Radioactive Waste Disposal and a field trip to Forsmark, the SKB Spent Fuel repository currently under construction was organized for the days preceding the Council meeting.

#### 2. November '13

Marie Fleming attended the Winter Council meeting in the Belgian Geological Society in Brussels on the 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

The upcoming Summer Council Meeting will be held in Palermo on 29<sup>th</sup> May to 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014.

## 5.2 GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) convened the 5th Joint Consultative Committee meeting of the two Geological Surveys on the island of Ireland in Beggars Bush, Dublin, on the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013. The meeting covered key project updates from the GSI senior management team including:

- The Flagship Infomar and INTERREG IVA Inish hydro marine mapping projects;
- The Geoscience Initiative Programme: Aggregate Potential Mapping for quarry planning, National Groundwater Vulnerability Mapping, Landslide Susceptibility Mapping, and Quaternary Geological mapping;
- The INTERREG IVA Tellus Border project;
- Geoscience Ireland;
- Research collaborations and initiatives;
- Unconventional Gas Exploration & Extraction;
- The INTERREG V proposed projects;
- A GSNI update; and
- Cross-border outreach and collaboration.

In summary, GSI has secured DCENR funding going forward from 2014; is leading or co-partnering EU projects; running research calls and leading funding bid collaborations, including the Science Foundation Ireland Centres Call 2013; creating jobs with Geoscience Ireland and setting EU-standard best practice in online data delivery.

**Dr. Marie Cowan PGeo**

## 5.3 GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland Consultative Committee (GSNI-CC) met in Colby House, Belfast, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March, 2014. The meeting covered matters arising from the previous meeting in September 2013 and a review of the GSNI Annual Report for 2012/2013 prior to its final issue.

GSNI Team leaders outlined GSNI progress against stated objectives for the DETI/NERC Contract for the period 2011 -2014. Presentations were given on progress in areas covering energy and minerals, geology and landscape, environment and hazards, Tellus Border, and Communications including cross-border collaborations.

Most objectives continue to be met with any delays largely out of GSNI control. Staff changes include retirements of Terry Johnston and Geoff Warke, resignation of Claire McGinn, new staff member Kieran Parker who will oversee the risk from abandoned mines and the retirement of Mike Young, as Director, from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2014.

Mike Thompson, assistant secretary for DETI emphasised the importance the Department places on energy and minerals and abandoned mines whilst also acknowledging the ongoing collaboration GSNI has with BGS, GSI and many universities to produce peer-reviewed research which supports and enhances the main contract.

In summary, GSNI has agreed its main contract with DETI for 2014-2017 and has extended its service level agreement with the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) – with both water management and natural heritage units. Looking ahead to INTERREG V, together both GSNI and GSI have submitted 5 outline proposals to the Special EU Programmes Body in anticipation of its call in Autumn 2014. Whilst there have been a number of staff changes over the last contract, GSNI is skilled to deliver the outputs agreed with DETI, NIEA and lead an INTERREG V project over next three years.

**Dr Marie Cowan PGeo**

#### **5.4 RIA GEOSCIENCES COMMITTEE**

The Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (RIA-GC) is a highly active RIA committee which was formed through the amalgamation in 2008 of the Geology Committee and the Geophysics and Geodesy Committee. The Geosciences Committee elects its membership and spans academic, government and industry geoscientists, which has really strengthened its deliberations, public contributions and outputs. Importantly, the RIA GC is an all-island body and works closely with the Geological Survey of Ireland and the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland on many joint initiatives.

The GC achieved demonstrable success over its term and ran a number of major conferences and public discourses during last few years e.g. co-hosted the *Safe Cities Conference*; hosted *Introduction to the News Media for Irish Geoscientists*; hosted an international conference on *Carbon Capture and Storage*; and presented workshops on *Geosciences in the Media* and an *Information Briefing on 'Fracking'* for policymakers. The GC also provides topical Information Statements and influences national policy through for example, the joint publication of *'Putting our Knowledge of the Earth to Work for Ireland' – the National Geoscience Programme (2007-2013)* with the Geological Survey of Ireland, which firmly put the geosciences onto the national political and scientific research agenda. The singular focus of the Geosciences Committee (and other bodies such as the IGI and the Irish Geosciences Network) has ensured that over the past decade the Geoscience sector in Ireland has begun to develop a real cohesion and continues to make a significant contribution to the economic and societal development of Ireland. As a result of hard work by the Geosciences Committee and sustained representations, *"Geosciences Underpinning Sustainable Economic Development"* was included as one of the themes in the Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Centres Call for 2013. It is one of only two themes that were not included in the 14 National Research Priorities list that achieved this status and reflects the growing national recognition of the importance of the Geosciences.

In 2013, the Royal Irish Academy undertook a full review of its Committee structures as part of the implementation of its revised Strategic Plan. As a result, it has moved from many single discipline committees, in Sciences, Politics, Literature and Arts to more functional multi-disciplinary Committees. The GC made a submission to the Academy<sup>1</sup> prior to the final decision on the configuration of the new Committees, as the members felt that merging of committees might dilute both the focus and stakeholder representation, resulting in the undesirable distancing of the Committee from the discipline practitioners.

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<sup>1</sup> Thanks to the Chair of the RIA Geosciences Committee, Professor Pat Shannon and the other members of the Geosciences Committee. I have liberally used the summary data of that submission in this short article and fully acknowledge their contributions.

As the IGI representative on the RIA Geosciences Committee since 2009, I am happy to report that the new structure retains our focus in the **Geosciences and Geographical Sciences Committee** (GGSC) into the future. The new GGSC will continue to promote excellence in research and applied disciplines across the geological and geographical sciences at the highest academic and political levels to ensure that Geoscience is fully recognised for the contribution it makes to citizens' economic and environmental wellbeing across the island of Ireland.

## **EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo**

### **5.5 IRISH GEOSCIENCE NETWORK**

The **Irish Geoscience Network** (IGN), convened by the IGI, was formed in early 2012 from a gathering of active, voluntary geoscience bodies working across the island of Ireland. The IGN provides a unitary forum for communication and sharing of ideas and resources, and a **Geo-Calendar of Events** [http://www.igi.ie/events\\_calendar.htm](http://www.igi.ie/events_calendar.htm) to inform planning and promotion of events.

Our third annual meeting was held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014, with executive representation from IGI's five sponsoring bodies (IAEG, IAH, IMQS, GAI *geophys*, GSI *geotech*) and the Irish Geological Association (IGA), Earth Science Ireland (ESI), Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (RIA-GC), Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland (MHTI), Irish Quaternary Association (IQUA), Open University Geological Society (OUGS) Irl Branch, Soil Science Society of Ireland (SSSI), Speleological Union of Ireland (SUI), and Geothermal Association of Ireland (GAI). Members of the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) and Museum of Natural History (MNH) were also in attendance. Each of the four main geology teaching universities (UCD, TCD, UCG, UCC) was also invited to participate.



*Some attendees at the Irish Geoscience Network Meeting 2014*

A wide range of issues were discussed including insurance, use of IGI's PayPal account by IGN member associations, course accreditation, possible use of IGI as a Secretariat for IGN member associations, the GeoGathering, and upcoming meetings. Other topics included the vexed question of clashing of events – the IGI does have a calendar of events where such

clashes could be avoided. It was agreed that all bodies would endeavour to keep this on-line calendar up to date. Geoscientific matters of current public interest, such as pyrite in aggregates and hydraulic fracturing ‘fracking’, require to be addressed scientifically in the public domain with a more unified approach.

The IGN has the potential to become a strong, representative voice for geosciences in Ireland and we will examine more active engagement of IGI and IGN members .

### **EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo**

#### **5.6 RESOURCE REPORTING; PERC AND CRIRISCO**

The PERC Standard was formally adopted in March 2013, at the AGM in Brussels by the PERC Committee. The committee, under the chairmanship of Eddie Bailey was required to implement the agreed new direction of training, engagement with ESMA and with other bodies involved in resources reporting (e.g. CRIRISCO, the Fennoscandian Review Board) and to deal with any other issues regarding reporting of resources in Europe.

PERC now has an office which is kindly provided by the EFG, as well as highly efficient secretarial support, also provided by the EFG and at a very reasonable rate. A major achievement during the year was the co-opting of the IGI’s Ed Sides (AMEC) onto the board to address the training aspect of PERC’s activities. Ed has many years of experience in resource & reserve reporting, as well as providing in-house training courses across the industry. Ed has been a Professional Member of the IGI since the early years of the organisation.

Engagement with the Fennoscandian Review Board (FRB) continued, with the hope that it will sign up to PERC and we will be closer to achieving a truly Pan-European standard. There are a few issues to be addressed but it is hoped by both sides that a solution can be found. It is possible that a fifth sponsoring body may be added to PERC.

The reporting of dimension stone reserves according to the 2013 standard arose during the year. In previous versions, dimension stone was treated as a separate category, but in the 2013 standard it was included with aggregates. The difficulty in including dimension stone with aggregates is that in addition to volume and quality, there is an element of ‘fashion’ which must also be included to accurately assess reserves. Marco Cosi, who initially drew this to the attention of committee, has been co-opted to help deal with the issue for a future update of the standard.

PERC has also engaged with the United Nations Framework Classification (UNFC) in attempting to explain the needs of industry in resource reporting. This is also important at EU level, as the MinVentory Project seeks to develop a method of national mineral resource reporting, and is currently moving in the direction of using the UNFC, a move that is being resisted by Ireland (through EMD, the IGI and the GSI) and PERC but very few other countries. There are numerous drawbacks to the UNFC, not least the fact that it is unwieldy, includes some speculative classifications, and has no requirement for a competent person’s report.

Increased collaboration with the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI) has also occurred during the year and is a very welcome development. The input of mining engineers to reserves reporting is extremely important and there is an increasing recognition of the need for cooperation between the two bodies.

### **EurGeol Paul Gordon PGeo**



## 6 INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

### 6.1 MRA WITH CANADA

On the international front, the Board is delighted that in March 2013, the IGI concluded our **Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)** with our colleagues in *Geoscientists Canada*, following lengthy due diligence procedures by both parties on geoscience education, codes of ethics and continuing professional education (CPD).

The MRA allows for the recognition of geoscience degrees in each others country and for professional members of each organisation to fast-track application for membership in each other's country.

The agreement took considerable time to negotiate due to the requirement for each Provincial organisation in Canada and the IGI in Ireland to agree to the terms of the MRA. Many thanks to all previous Board members and our academic colleagues for their assistance and collaboration during the due diligence process: in particular, Dr. Julian Menuge (UCD), Prof. Ben Kennedy (DIAS), Dr. John Graham (TCD), Dr. Eve Daly (UCG) and Dr. Bettie Higgs (UCC), without whom this would not have been achieved.

A formal signing ceremony was held in early May 2013 when the President of *Geoscientists Canada*, Professor Greg Finn, Vice-Provost of Brock University in Ontario, visited Ireland to mark this major milestone for both organisations.



*Past President Deirdre Lewis signing the MRA with Professor Greg Finn (Geoscientists Canada)*

**EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo**



## 6.2 MOU with EAGE

During the year we were approached by the European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers (EAGE) to sign an Agreement of Association. The mission of the EAGE is stated as follows:

*The objectives of the Association shall be to promote the development and application of geosciences and related engineering subjects, to promote innovation and technical progress and to foster the communication, fellowship and cooperation between those working in, studying or otherwise being interested in these fields.*

All members of EAGE are professionally involved in (or studying) geophysics, petroleum exploration, geology, reservoir engineering, mining and civil engineering. The Association is strong in the fields of hydrocarbon exploration and production and in geophysics. EAGE has approximately 17,000 Members and has Agreements of Association with some 56 other bodies around the world.

The Agreement facilitates cooperation between the two bodies; publicising each other's events and meetings; links to each other's web site; exchange of certain publications (EAGE First Break and EAGE Newsletter; IGI Newsletter and IGI Annual Report); and prerogative to choose one lecturer per year from the EAGE Distinguished Lecturer Programme.

The IGI Board has agreed to the Agreement which will be signed in June at the EAGE's 76th Conference and Exhibition in Amsterdam.

### **EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo**

## 6.3 OTHER MRAS

The IGI's MRAs with the UK, South Africa, USA and Australia continue to operate successfully.

The importance of maintaining these MRAs, based on continuing professional development (CPD) and ethically good professional practice cannot be underestimated, given the international nature of geological practice and the mobility of IGI's membership.

### **EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo**

## **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. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2014** at the **IGI Offices, 63 Merrion Square Dublin 2** for the following purposes:

- i) To receive and consider the Directors' Reports.
- ii) To receive and consider the Audited Accounts for year ended December 31<sup>st</sup> 2013.
- ii) To elect Directors.
- iii) To transact any other ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board



**EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo  
Honorary Secretary**

Dated April 20<sup>th</sup> 2014

## 8 NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

The Nominations Committee, under the Chair of EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo (immediate Past-President), has presented the following list of candidates to stand for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting on 21st May 2014.

### **Executive Directors**

<b>President:</b>	EurGeol Gerry Stanley PGeo	(2 <sup>nd</sup> year of 2 year term)
<b>Vice-President:</b>	EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo	(1 <sup>st</sup> year of 2 year term)
<b>Treasurer:</b>	EurGeol Jim Hodgson PGeo	(1 <sup>st</sup> year of 2 year term)
<b>Secretary:</b>	EurGeol Peter Glanville PGeo	(1 <sup>st</sup> year of 2 year term)

### **Non-Executive Directors**

EurGeol Catherine Buckley PGeo	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Year as a Board Member)
EurGeol Claire Clifford PGeo	(1 <sup>st</sup> Year as a Board Member)
Dr Marie Cowan PGeo	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Year as a Board Member)
EurGeol Mairéad Glennon PGeo	(2 <sup>nd</sup> Year as a Board Member)
EurGeol Catherine Maguire PGeo	(1st Year as a Board Member)
EurGeol Dr. Billy O'Keefe PGeo	(1st Year as a Board Member)
EurGeol Graham Reid PGeo	(1 <sup>st</sup> Year as a Board Member)

### **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE (*Comprising Past Presidents*)**

EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo (Chair)  
 EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo  
 EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo  
 EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo  
 EurGeol Dr Eibhlín Doyle PGeo  
 EurGeol Peter O'Connor PGeo  
 EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

No additional nominations to those above made by the Nominations Committee were received by the IGI Secretary by the deadline of Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

## **9 IGI CORPORATE STRUCTURE**

<b>IGI OFFICE</b>	<i>No. 63 Merrion Square, Dublin 2</i>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<a href="http://www.igi.ie">www.igi.ie</a>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY</b>	Ms. Susan Pyne <a href="mailto:admin@igi.ie">admin@igi.ie</a>
<b>ACCOUNTS</b>	Ms. Ethel Stringer
<b>WEBMASTER</b>	Mr Eamonn Kelly <a href="mailto:ekelly@slrconsulting.com">ekelly@slrconsulting.com</a>
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Kieran Ryan & Co. Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors 20 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2
<b>BANKERS</b>	Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin 2
<b>IGI REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6
<b>COMPANY NUMBER</b>	31440
<b>CHARITY NUMBER</b>	CHY 13580

## **IGI Board Members (2013-2014: Outgoing)**

### **Executive Directors**

President: EurGeol Gerry Stanley, PGeo  
Vice President: EurGeol Andy Bowden, PGeo  
Secretary: EurGeol Marie Fleming, PGeo  
Treasurer: EurGeol Paul Gordon, PGeo

### **Non-Executive Directors:**

EurGeol Catherine Buckley PGeo  
Dr. Marie Cowan PGeo  
EurGeol Peter Glanville PGeo  
EurGeol Mairéad Glennon, PGeo  
EurGeol Jim Hodgson, PGeo  
EurGeol Riccardo Pasquali, PGeo

## **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 (2013- )**

### **Ethics Committee**

EurGeol Dr. Jonathan Derham PGeo (Chair, June 2013+)  
EurGeol Dr. John Ashton PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Matthew Parkes PGeo

### **Disciplinary Committee**

EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo (June 2013+)  
EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo

### **Nominating Committee**

EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo (Chair)  
EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo  
EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo  
EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo  
EurGeol Peter O'Connor PGeo  
EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

**Validation Committee**

EurGeol Morgan Burke PGeo (Chair)  
 EurGeol Mark Conroy PGeo  
 EurGeol David Blaney PGeo  
 EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo  
 EurGeol Sean Finlay PGeo

**CPD Audit Committee**

EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo (Chair)  
 EurGeol John Pyne PGeo  
 EurGeol Gareth V. Jones PGeo

**IGI Representation on Geoscience Bodies**

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>IGI Representative</b>
European Federation of Geologists	EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo
EFG CCS Working Group	EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo
EFG Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
GSI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo
GSNI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Dr. John Kelly PGeo
RIA Geosciences Committee	EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis 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](http://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](http://www.iahireland.org)

The Irish Mining and Quarrying Society [www.imqs.ie](http://www.imqs.ie)

The Geotechnical Society of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland [www.iei.ie](http://www.iei.ie)

**Affiliated Bodies**

The Geothermal Association of Ireland [www.geothermalassociation.ie](http://www.geothermalassociation.ie)

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

American Institute of Professional Geologists

Australian Institute of Mining & Metallurgy (JORC Committee)

European Association of Geoscientists and Engineers

Geological Society of London

Geoscientists Canada

South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions

South African Institute of Mining & Metallurgy (SAMREC Committee)

## **Bodies Recognising PGeo (or mutually recognised equivalent)**

### **Ireland**

Exploration and Mining Division, DCENR – required for prospecting licence work reports.

Environmental Protection Agency - preferred for professional work and reports; obligatory for hydrogeological assessment of historic landfill sites

Department of Education and Skills - preferred for professional work and reports

An Bord Pleanála – preferred for professional work and reports

Local Authorities - preferred for professional work and reports; obligatory for hydrogeological assessment of historic landfill sites

### **Stock Exchanges**

Ireland, Dublin Stock Exchange

UK, London Stock Exchange

Australian Stock Exchange

Canadian Securities Administrators

South Africa, JSE Securities Exchange