

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



2005-6

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.

Company Number 314400
Charity Number CHY 13580

April 2006

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CORPORATE DIRECTORY – 2005-6

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President:	EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo
Vice-President	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
Secretary	EurGeol Geoff Wright PGeo
Treasurer	EurGeol Michael Boland PGeo
Non-executive Directors	EurGeol Dave Blaney PGeo EurGeol Dr. John Colthurst PGeo EurGeol Garth Earls PGeo EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo EurGeol Dr. Frank McDermott PGeo EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo

STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Ballot Committee	EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo (Chair)
Ethics Committee	EurGeol Prof. Ben Kennedy PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Dr. John Ashton PGeo EurGeol Shane O'Neill PGeo
CPD Audit Committee	EurGeol Dr. David Naylor PGeo EurGeol Dr. Bettie Higgs PGeo (resigned February 2006)
Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Dr. Eibhlin Doyle PGeo (Chair) EurGeol John Arthurs PGeo EurGeol Dr. Stephen Daly PGeo
Nominating Committee	EurGeol Peter O'Connor PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Dr. Eibhlin Doyle PGeo EurGeol Eugene Daly PGeo
Validation Committee	EurGeol Dr John Colthurst PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo EurGeol G V Jones PGeo EurGeol Shane O'Neill PGeo EurGeol Dr Jonathan Derham PGeo EurGeol Hartmut Krahn PGeo EurGeol Eugene Daly PGeo EurGeol Dr John Walsh PGeo
Fundraising Committee:	EurGeol Kevin T. Cullen PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Michael Boland PGeo EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky, PGeo Sean Finlay PGeo EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

SPONSORING BODIES

Geophysical Association of Ireland
 Geotechnical Society of Ireland (Engineers Ireland)
 Irish Association for Economic Geology
 International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group)
 Irish Mining and Quarrying Society

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

Mrs. Susan Pyne

ACCOUNTS PERSON

Mrs. Ethel Stringer

REPRESENTATIVES ON EFG

European Federation of Geologists Delegates	EurGeol Kevin Cleary PGeo incoming EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo outgoing EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
EFG Resources And Reserves: Minerals Expert Panel	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo EurGeol Dr. Eibhlín Doyle PGeo EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
EFG CPD Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo
EFG Geological Heritage Expert Panel	EurGeol Dr. Matthew Parkes PGeo
EFG Natural Hazards Expert Panel	EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo
EFG Soil Protection Expert Panel	EurGeol Loreto Farrell PGeo
EFG Sustainable Use Natural Resources Expert Panel	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo
EFG Environmental Impact Expert Panel	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
EFG Geo-employment Survey Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Robbie Meehan PGeo
EFG Hydrogeology Expert Panel	EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo
EFG Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
EFG International Licensed Body	EurGeol Dr. Jonathan Derham PGeo
EFG Geothermal Expert Panel	EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo (Chair) EurGeol Róisín Goodman PGeo

REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

GSI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo
GSI National Landslide Working Group	EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo
GSNI Consultative Committee	EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
Committee For Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO)	EurGeol John A Clifford PGeo

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

Administration	Geoff Wright
Continuing Professional Development	Garth Earls
Conference	Nick O'Neill / Kevin Cullen
Communications	Frank McDermott
Courses	Dave Blaney
Drilling Guidelines	Geoff Wright
European Federation of Geologists	Kevin Cullen / Kevin Cleary, Gareth Ll. Jones
Finance	Mike Boland
Public Affairs & Information	Margaret Keegan & Kevin Cullen
Strategic Relations	Gareth Ll. Jones
Validation	John Colthurst

OTHER MEMBERS INVOLVED ON IGI WORKING GROUPS

Conference

EurGeol Stephen Bradley PGeo
 EurGeol Dr. Ronnie Creighton PGeo
 Seán Finlay PGeo
 EurGeol Yvonne O’Connell PGeo
 EurGeol Dr. Pat O’Connor PGeo
 Sarah Casey MIT

Drilling Guidelines

EurGeol Becci Cantrell PGeo
 EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo
 EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo
 EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo
 EurGeol Sean Moran PGeo
 EurGeol Shane O’Neill PGeo
 EurGeol John Pyne PGeo
 EurGeol Sean Moran PGeo
 EurGeol Eugene Daly PGeo

Employment & Industry Survey

EurGeol Dr. Robert Meehan PGeo

Continuing Professional Development

EurGeol Dr. Mark Holdstock PGeo
 EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo

NON-MEMBERS INVOLVED ON WORKING GROUPS

David Ball	Drilling Guideline
Padraig Briody	Drilling Guidelines
Vincent Fitzsimons	Drilling Guidelines
Turlough Johnston	Drilling Guidelines
Turlough Johnston	EFG Geotech WG representative

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 & Mining Division, DCMNR – 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

AUDITORS

Casey McGrath & Associates

BANKERS

Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin

REGISTERED OFFICE

6 Northbrook Road
Dublin 6

COMPANY NUMBER

31440

CHARITY NUMBER

CHY 13580

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The IGI continues to move forward, maintaining its core activities and developing in new areas. Highlight of the year, once again, was the now traditional annual conference. We have taken the example of the EFG Work Plan and Geoff Wright and Kevin Cullen are adapting the format to suit the IGI.

During the year a detailed review of the office was carried out by Geoff Wright, Mike Boland and myself. Although the financial position had improved following the successful annual conference, it was deemed that there were insufficient resources to employ an Executive Secretary full time. Consequently a part-time position was advertised. At the same time the possibility of sharing the position with Cré, the Irish Composting Association was explored, but in the end no appointment was made. We were grateful that both our Secretarial Assistant Susan Pyne and our Accounts Person Ethel Stringer were able to devote extra time to take care of our continuing business. It was decided to continue this arrangement for the time being.

Work by Margaret Keegan and Kevin Cullen resulted in the production of two excellent leaflets, one on Bottled Mineral Waters and another for IGI publicity. Both will help raise the profile of IGI and be an advertisement for it.

We were very slow in getting in our members' fees and CPD returns in 2005, which resulted in the waste of a lot of unnecessary time by our volunteers and staff. When this was eventually sorted out, a small number of members either resigned, retired or were delisted. The trend in overall numbers, however, remained upwards due to some success with our membership drive.

Following the completion of the period of financial sponsorship by our founder technical societies, we are now engaged in building our long-term relationship with them. A start was accomplished when the IAH and IMQS agreed to continue financial sponsorship for the moment. We hope to agree a more formal relationship later this year.

Our now annual conference was once again held in Dublin Castle. This year the topic was "Breaking Ground – The role of Geology in the successful delivery of major infrastructure projects". The meeting was well attended, was held to be a great success and was reported in the Irish Times.

The IGI previously had an appointed representative, Julian Menuge, on the Royal Irish Academy National Committee for Geology. During the year this committee was replaced by the National Geoscience Committee and members are elected to it by the geological community. Although we do not have an appointed delegate, we are fortunate that several of our professional members have been elected to the NGC: Garth Earls (Chair), Deirdre Lewis, Peadar McArdle, Julian Menuge, Matthew Parkes, Pat Shannon. We look forward to building our relationship with the NGC.

John Clifford's work on the Combined Reserves International Reporting Standards Committee (CRIRSCO) continues to move forward. Associated with this a successful informal workshop was held in conjunction with the IAEG in April in the Geological Survey of Ireland on the topic of Inferred Resources. The outcome of this meeting has been forwarded for consideration by CRIRSCO.

Submissions were made to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources on the amendments to the Minerals Development Acts 1940-1999, also to the European Commission on the forthcoming Flood Directive.

Kevin Cullen retired from the position of delegate to the European Federation of Geologists and was replaced by Kevin Cleary. As will be seen from the Corporate Directory above, apart from the delegates, the IGI holds some sixteen positions on EFG Working Groups / Expert Panels. We look forward to hosting an EFG Council Meeting in Ireland in the near future.

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo
President

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

This is in 11 point, yours was in 12 pt

2005 AGM:

The 2005 Annual General Meeting of IGI was held on Wednesday 11th May 2005 at 6.30 p.m. in the GSI Lecture Theatre, Beggars Bush, Dublin 4. It was attended by 18 members. Minutes of the meeting have been distributed separately. The meeting was chaired by the IGI President, EurGeol Peter O'Connor.

Members present were: Mike Boland, Stephen Bradley, Ronnie Creighton, Kevin Cullen, Eugene Daly, Dan Deeny, Jonathan Derham, Eibhlín Doyle, Loreto Farrell, Gareth LI Jones, Margaret Keegan, Frank McDermott, Robbie Meehan, Julian Menuge, Peter O'Connor, Nick O'Neill, Gerry Stanley, Geoff Wright. Susan Pyne (IGI Administration) also attended.

Apologies were received from: Oliver Bonham, Peter Bruck, John Colthurst, John Clifford, Donal Daly, Anthony Deevy, Garth Earls, George Emo, Anita Furey, Roisin Goodman, Teri Hayes, Mark Holdstock, Deepak Inamdar, Hartmut Krahn, Deirdre Lewis, Barry Long, Mike Lowther, Peadar McArdle, Yvonne O'Connell, Pat O'Connor, Noel O'Keefe, Shane O'Neill, John Pedersen, John Pyne, Graham Reid, Christian Schaffalitzky, Ed Slowey, Bruno Teillard.

Board meetings:

The Board met 10 times in 2005/6 between the 2005 AGM and 5th April 2006, on 17 June, 20 July, 23 August, 27 September, 2 November, 6 December, 10 January, 15 February, 15 March and 5 April. A further meeting was scheduled for May. The number of meetings (out of 10) attended by Directors at was as follows:

Gareth LI Jones 10; Kevin Cullen 7; Mike Boland 7; Geoff Wright 9; Dave Blaney 3; John Colthurst 6; Garth Earls 1; Margaret Keegan 5; Frank McDermott 7; Nick O'Neill 5.

Koen Verbruggen and Vincent Gallagher attended 1 meeting each as IAEG Observer and James Hodgkins attended 1 meeting as GAI Observer. Kevin Cleary attended 1 meeting as EFG Delegate. There were no meetings during the year of the Ethics or Disciplinary Committees.

Membership:

There are currently 125 Professional Members of the Institute, 13 Members-in-Training, 4 Retired Members and 3 Associate Members – totalling 145.

7 new Professional Members joined during the year:

Paul Tierney
Fiona McEvoy
Thomas Vainio-Mattila
Laz Fleming
Karen-Lee Ibbotson
Stephen Bradley
Feargal McNamara

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

Neil McNeilis
Brendan Almack
Claire Clifford
David McDermott
Barry Sexton

2 Associate members were elected:

Viv Byrne
Una Fitzgerald

5 PGeos were awarded the title of European Geologist (EurGeol) by the European Federation of Geologists (EFG) during the year, with two pending, bringing the total of Irish EurGeols to 108:

Kevin Cleary

Fiona McEvoy
Thomas Vainio-Mattila
Laz Fleming
Orla Dardis

Three members, including one MiT, resigned or were deemed to have resigned during the year.
Two members transferred to the Retired Member category.

Executive Secretary

The position of Executive Secretary (part-time) was advertised during the year and attracted only one serious application. After further consideration, the Board decided that the financial position of the Institute was not sufficiently robust to allow the recruitment to proceed at present, but that this would be reviewed in due course.

Membership Drive

About 115 letters were written to prospective members, providing information about IGI and inviting them to consider joining. So far, the response has been small but in practice, it may take a considerable time to emerge.

Submissions:

A submission was made to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources on the proposal to update and restate the Minerals Development Acts 1940-1999.

EurGeol Geoff Wright PGeo
Hon. Secretary

HON. TREASURER'S NOTE

A copy of the 2005 Audit Accounts prepared for the IGI by LHM Casey McGrath is attached at the back of this document. The Accounts show there was an operating profit of €8,064 generated for the year compared to a loss of €5,660 in 2004. The main reasons for the improvement in the financial position are due to:

- The decision taken not to replace the part-time executive secretary when the position became vacant.
- Changes in the organisation of the Annual Conference that resulted in a significant profit compared to the 2004 conference. In the 2005 accounts, some of the conference costs listed in the 2005 expenses relate to the 2004 conference.

The 2005 profit of €8,064 does not include 2005 conference sponsorship of €7,000, the invoices for which were only issued at the start of 2006.

The financial aim of the Institute going forward is to generate a profit of €10,000 - €15,000 per annum in order that improved services and regular courses can be provided for the members.

EurGeol Mike Boland PGeo
Hon. Treasurer

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

IGI VALIDATION COMMITTEE

The Validation Committee is the IGI sub-committee with responsibility for assessing and validating new applicants for membership of the IGI.

When potential new members seek to join the IGI they submit their application forms and the accompanying documentation to the IGI office which ensures that all of the required paperwork is complete and in order. This paperwork is then passed on to the Validation Committee who arrange an interview with the candidate as quickly as possible. The interview panel consists of at least two IGI members in good standing, at least one of whom is an expert in the main field of work of the applicant, and one of whom is a member of the Validation Sub-Committee.

In the last year seven validation interviews took place and all of the candidates were found to be qualified for membership. As a result the following were elected to membership of the IGI:- Thomas Vainio-Mattila, Karen Lee Ibbotson, Laz Fleming, Paul Tierney, Fiona McEvoy, Stephen Bradley and Feargal McNamara.

The Validation Committee also recommended that six applicants for Member in Training be accepted and the IGI ratified these:- Brendan Almack, Claire Clifford, David McDermott, Mairead Glennon, Neil McNeilis and Barry Sexton.

Una Fitzgerald and Viv Byrne were elected as Associate Members.

The IGI Validation Committee wish to thank everyone who served on an interview panel and in particular Shane O'Neill and David Blaney. We are also grateful to O'Neill Groundwater Engineering who made their offices available for the holding of interviews throughout the year.

EurGeol Dr. John Colthurst PGeo

IGI CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

As many disciplines in the scientific fields move towards greater engagement with regulatory authorities, industry and the general public, there is an increasing need to ensure relevant and up-to-date accreditation of professionals. The entrance requirements and vetting procedure of the IGI deal with the previous experience of applicants and 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 IGI's stated objective of improving professional standards, all IGI members must devise and carry out a CPD programme, and complete the CPD form annually. This approach is in line with best practice in professional geology organizations in other countries, and is similar to that operated by other professional bodies in Ireland such as Engineers Ireland and RIAI.

The majority of members successfully completed and returned CPD forms for 2004 in a timely fashion. Regrettably some members have to be reminded several times that they are in danger of being struck off as members due to non-submission of their CPD forms before the well-advertised deadline.

The 2005 IGI Board has facilitated a small rump of 2004 CPD defaulters and it is my strong recommendation to the 2006 IGI Board that (after appropriate reminders) any 2005 CPD defaulters are required to reapply for membership of the IGI. The IGI is a Professional Organization managed by an elected Board who give freely of their time to benefit the members they serve. To be reminding members in

February 2006 to submit 2004 CPD forms (and to be told 'I haven't had the time to fill it in!') is bewildering and is clearly not demonstrating professional practice on behalf of the individual members involved.

As reported last year, the CPD forms have been rationalized and are now less onerous to complete. CPD is for the benefit of the individual, for the benefit of the IGI and for the benefit of geology in Ireland. Please play your part in raising all our standards, and I encourage members to submit CPD in a timely fashion.

I am happy to report good progress to date on submissions for 2005 CPD.

The updated IGI web-site will provide help via example forms and FAQs. Additional queries from the membership regarding CPD will also be answered by e-mail via info@igi.ie

EurGeol Garth Earls PGeo

IGI PUBLIC AFFAIRS / PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Educational Series Pamphlet

A Bottled Mineral Waters leaflet was prepared by Kevin Cullen and was published and distributed at the IGI Conference and other suitable venues.

A 'Mining in Ireland' leaflet is in preparation. Other leaflets are planned, and suggestions for topics are welcomed.

Promotional Information and Leaflets

A promotional leaflet 'Joining the IGI – What will it do for you?' was published to attract new members and to disseminate information about the work of the IGI.

DCMNR Submission on Minerals Development Acts:

The IGI submission to the DCMNR focused on professional recognition, data release, and transparency/clarity. It can be viewed on the IGI website.

EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo

EurGeol Kevin Cullen PGeo

IGI COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Five electronic format IGI Newsletters were published and distributed to the membership during 2005 (Issues 5-9 inclusive). The Board continues to develop the Newsletter as a communications resource for the membership by publicising upcoming events (lectures, workshops, field-trips, courses), providing news of members and news from industry. The Newsletter is also a forum for open discussion among members on a variety of issues. It has been decided that in future, publication of the newsletter will be 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 (frank.mcdermott@ucd.ie) to upcoming events that may be of interest to members. A limited amount of corporate advertising was carried during 2005, and the Newsletter was produced at no cost to the Institute. All past Newsletters have been archived on the IGI website.

The third edition of the IGI Directory was published in 2005. This is a comprehensive record of the IGI membership, listing the main fields of expertise and specialist skills of each member. It has been distributed widely to the geoscience community in Ireland, as well as to local authorities and other public and private sector organisations that form the main client base of IGI members. The Board gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance provided by advertisers. As a result of this support, production of the 2005 Directory resulted in a small financial surplus for the Institute. Additional copies of the directory are still available for purchase and details are given on the Institute's website (www.igi.ie).

A complete redesign of the IGI website (www.igi.ie) to give it a cleaner more contemporary appearance has been undertaken during 2005 and this work is nearing completion. All current and past IGI Newsletters have been archived and will be downloadable from the website. Complete pdf copies of presentations given by most of the speakers at the IGI's 2005 Annual Conference on 'Breaking Ground' are also downloadable from the site.

Finally, the IGI had a poster display and distributed copies of the Directory at the 49th Annual Irish Geological Research Meeting at University College Cork on 24-26th February 2006. Thanks to Koen Verbruggen and Charise McKeon (GSI), the Institute was also represented at a recent one day Science and Technology Careers Fair at NUIG.

EurGeol Dr. Frank McDermott PGeo

IGI CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

A very successful conference entitled “Breaking Ground – The role of Geology in the successful delivery of major infrastructure projects” was held in Dublin Castle on 11th November 2005. The lunch and post conference reception were generously sponsored by Patrick J.Tobin and Co. and Applied Ground Engineering Consultants Ltd. Over a hundred delegates from industry, academia and the public sector attended. The conference generated a significant profit for the Institute and was reported in the Irish Times on the following day. The topics covered included waste infrastructure, energy, transport and natural resources. In organising the conference the Institute highlighted the contribution that our profession makes to the successful delivery of infrastructure under the NDP.

EurGeol Nick O’Neill PGeo

IGI COURSES COMMITTEE

Two one-day courses were held between May 2005 and May 2006:

A one-day course on Groundwater Recharge was presented by Dr Bridget Scanlon on Thursday the 19th January. The course was held in the GSI lecture theatre and was attended by a total of thirty six delegates.

A “Safepass 2” course was held on the 30th of January in Bewleys Hotel at Leopardstown Race Course in south County Dublin. This course was attended by fourteen delegates and presented by Anthony Deevy P.Geo.

A course on the engineering classification of soils, based on the BS 5930:1999 is scheduled for June. This event will be presented by Mr Peter Ruddy of AGECE and will be held in the Ambassador Hotel at Kill in County Kildare.

EurGeol Dave Blaney PGeo

IGI DRILLING GUIDELINES COMMITTEE

In 2005/6 AGM no meetings of the group were held but, as Convenor, I undertook further editing of the document, and received substantial additional text and figures from David Ball.

A generous offer of assistance with desktop publishing from GSI has been availed of and we hope to benefit from another offer to cover printing costs.

It is planned to have the finished document available for launching at the AGM

EurGeol Geoff Wright PGeo, Convenor

IGI EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRY SURVEY

This fine survey was completed by Robert Meehan and is now available for downloading from the website: www.igi.ie

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS

The EFG continues to promote the professional status of geologists in 19 countries across Europe through the promotion 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** and its Web Site at www.eurogeologists.de.

June 2005 Council Meeting

The 2005 EFG Council Meeting was held in Prague on June 10th to 12th and was attended by delegations from 16 countries with observers from Russia, Cyprus and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The IGI was represented by Gareth Jones, John Clifford (EU Delegate) and Kevin Cullen.

The EFG celebrated its 25th anniversary at the 2005 Prague meeting and presentations were made to past presidents, including Gareth Jones and to Eric Groessens as a founding father of the Federation. Medals of Merit were also awarded to Renzo Zia (in memoriam) and Gerald Clement.

The Prague meeting included the election to the incoming Board of:

Istvan Berci (Hungary) as President
Slavko Solar (Slovenia) as Vice President
David Norbury (UK) as General Secretary
Umberto Puppini (Italy) as Treasurer
Herald Ligtenberg (Netherlands) as EU Delegate.

The Prague Council identified the existing budgetary position as a barrier to the development of the Federation and a range of actions were agreed to assist in providing the Federation with a more secure financial foundation. Acceptance of the 2006 budget was postponed until the 2005 December meeting where the outcome of the fund raising activities would be presented to the Board and delegates.

The Council Meeting identified the following goals for 2006 as part of the EFG Strategic Plan:

- Completion of the geo-job market survey
- To prepare the ISO 9001 application
- To progress the Common Platform application, and
- To arrange and run the proposed TAIEX workshop.

December 2005 Council Meeting

The normal winter meeting was attended by 22 delegates and observers from 13 member countries and observer country Russia. France returned as a member, whilst applications are expected from Bulgaria, Serbia-Montenegro, Lithuania and Russia. This is normally an informal meeting, however, at the Prague meeting it was agreed that the winter meeting would be formal so that the budget could be agreed. Gareth L Jones and Kevin Cleary (who replaces Kevin Cullen) attended the meeting for the IGI.

The projected 2006 budget caused problems when presented in Prague in June, but these were eventually sorted out at the Brussels meeting in December. Treasurer Puppini has managed to solve the ongoing problem of fee calculation in a transparent manner.

The Brussels office continued contacts to the EU which have continued relationships with Directorates-General. These led *inter alia* to a TAIEX workshop in October to deal with Legislation and Initiatives to Training and Mobility of Professionals in Geology, Paul Ryan (NUIG) dealt with the Bologna Declaration. Expert Panels and Working Groups are being maintained, which contributed to the Flood Directive and experts have been assigned to Flood Risk Mapping and Land Use Management, whilst a new EP on Geothermal Energy is being led by Ireland. John Clifford is active with the Mineral Resources group.

There has been improved exposure of the EFG with representation at the following meetings: ProGeo in Portugal, Terrafirma kick-off meeting in Rome, World Petroleum Congress in Johannesburg, German Geology Day in Berlin, 80th Anniversary of Bulgarian Geological Society, EuroGeoSurveys Meeting in Brussels, and UN/ECE Reserves and Resources in Geneva attended by John Clifford. Secretary General Norbury dealt with progress on IYPE (International Year of the Planet Earth 2007–2009), in which EFG is an Associate Partner. **There is a proposal to have a unified National Geology Day during 2008 Year of Planet Earth.**

Twenty two new EurGeols were noted by the Council, including 5 IGI members. The Registration Authority audited the UK and the International Licensing Bodies. This highlighted the need for further resources for the International LB to undertake its duties, whilst The UK LB was largely operating correctly. **The IGI LB will be audited in 2006.** The forum for CPD held in London in September was attended by Julian Menuge.

It was agreed at the meeting to undertake a thorough review of all aspects of communication. D Doherr (past German Delegate) was appointed website manager. A road map for improving the web site which was approved at the Prague meeting is ongoing. The magazine continues to appear, edited by Maureen McCorry, but changes in funding and production are looming.

Medals of Merit were awarded to Manuel Regueiro (Spain) for his work with the EFG, for starting the European Geologist magazine and for setting up Geologos del Mondo (World Geologists) for disaster relief, and Pietro de Paola (Italy).

Ireland will be hosting the EFG Summer meeting either in 2008 or 2009.

EurGeol Gareth Ll Jones PGeo	conodate@mac.com	
EurGeol Kevin Cleary PGeo	kevin.cleary@wyg.com	incoming
EurGeol Kevin T. Cullen PGeo	kevintcullen@yahoo.ie	outgoing

EFG GEOHAZARD WORKING GROUP

Nick O'Neill made contributions to a document submitted by the EFG Geohazard Working Group to DG Research with recommendations for Research Framework Programme 7 (EUF7) to ensure that sufficient resources will be allocated for research into natural hazards. Our input was based on lessons learned and feedback from IGI's Geohazard Conference in 2004.

EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo

EFG GEOTHERMAL EXPERT PANEL

At the end of 2005 the EFG established a Geothermal Energy Expert Panel to be available to the European Commission to answer queries on geothermal energy. It has 20 members from 10 countries and made an introductory presentation in Orléans, France in February 2006 at the ENgine conference.

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo (Chair)

GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The Geological Survey of Ireland Consultative Committee met twice in 2005, on the 21st April and 9th November. Some of the main items discussed were:

- Staffing: the GSI may wish to call upon the IGI for support in relation to the need for Temporary geologists, Project geologists and replacement of retiring staff;
- A proposal on GSI changing its status (to a non-commercial semi-state agency);
- The Geoscience Initiative;
- A Teaching Pack (available by April 2006) and other schools initiatives;
- The 2006 Business Plan, and
- A new TGA scheme.

EurGeol Margaret Keegan PGeo

GSI LANDSLIDES WORKING GROUP

IGI is officially represented on this group by Nick O'Neill, while several other IGI members also participate. The main objectives of the Group are to build a national database of landslide events in Ireland; examine the geotechnics of landslide mechanisms; examine the feasibility of landslide susceptibility mapping in Ireland;

and make recommendations for the inclusion of landslide hazard issues in the planning process in Ireland. A database of 116 past events has been compiled.

Xavier Pellicer of GSI developed a landslide susceptibility methodology and mapped landslides in the Breifne Area, where there was good dataset control. Some 700 new events were identified and will be entered into the database in 2006.

The Landslides Booklet (70-80 pages) is well advanced and will go into publication soon.

EurGeol Geoff Wright PGeo

GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

EurGeol Garth Earls PGeo is the recently appointed Director of The Geological Survey of Northern Ireland. One of his initiatives was to establish a Consultative Committee. The President of the IGI was invited to become one of the committee members. The committee met for the first time on 31st May 2005 and then again on 29th November. The Director explained that the Committee's function is to give advice and guidance on GSNI's wide range of programmes and that it was a method of formalised feedback. Topics included:

- The 2004-05 Annual Report and a preview of the 2005-06 Report.
- An outline of the GSNI 2004/07 Programme
- The publication of "Our Natural Foundation" was one of the highlights of 2004/2005, and a tool to raise the profile of GSNI. 850 copies were sold in 2004/2005.
- The GSNI move to Colby House was now complete, where the Ordnance Survey were very welcoming
- The MDSG Conference had been a success and received fantastic feedback and Miller O'Prey was thanked.
- GSNI was awarded the 2006 International Geoparks Conference at the 2004 IGC Conference in Beijing where Patrick McKeever accepted the award. The main event will take place in Belfast's Waterfront Hall.
- There are some 2500 abandoned mine openings in Northern Ireland. GSNI are moving ahead with closing some mine adits, working closely with Construction Service, Environment and Heritage Service.

Presentations were also made:

- Tellus Project: This had just completed its first year of operation and will provide a high quality geophysical and geochemical breakdown of Northern Ireland
- GSNI's digital capture: GSNI Datasets include maps, borehole logs and site report logs. There are drawbacks to purely paper based archives, but there is progress towards building a digital archive.
- BGIS: BMap area. An insight into the use of geological information and the form of Geoscience data sets in the Belfast Map area.
- Minerals and Petroleum
- Mapping and Publications
- Landscape and Heritage
- New initiatives within GSNI / BGS
 - BGS Quarries, planning and the environment demo
 - Abandoned Mines Database

EurGeol Gareth Ll. Jones PGeo

REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

COMMITTEE FOR MINERAL RESERVES INTERNATIONAL REPORTING STANDARDS (CRIRSCO)

CRIRSCO, which was formed in 1994 under the auspices of the CMMI¹, is a loosely knit grouping of eight representatives of the national mineral reporting bodies of Australia, Chile, Canada, South Africa, the USA, UK, Ireland and Western Europe. The Committee was established to promote international best practice in the reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves by ensuring international compatibility of national reporting codes without compromising local regulatory requirements. Some of the Committee's current activities include:

The International Reporting Template

The CRIRSCO Template, which is scheduled to be published on CRIRSCO's web site in mid-2006, is intended to be a guideline for countries newly developing their own reporting codes, and a benchmark for comparison with other international reporting systems. It is not intended as a replacement for existing well-established national reporting codes.

Alignment with the United Nations Framework Classification

The UNFC was developed by the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) in 1997 with the intention of providing a single global system for harmonising all existing national and international mineral resource and mineral reserve reporting systems across the full spectrum of governmental and commercial requirements and for both the hydrocarbon and solid minerals sectors. In 1999 CRIRSCO reached agreement with the UNECE that CRIRSCO definitions would be incorporated in the UNFC for those categories of mineral resources and reserves used for market-related reporting.

While few individual companies report their resources and reserves using the UNFC, the system is accepted by some governments, most notably those of Russia, China and India. The relevance of these countries to future mining developments including stock exchange listings is clear and CRIRSCO is working to promote the use of consistent and readily understood definitions and guidelines in these countries. CRIRSCO has committed to lead efforts to produce definitions and guidelines based on the CRIRSCO Template that are compatible with the needs of the users of the UNFC.

International Financial Reporting Standards for the Extractive Industries

During 2005, CRIRSCO has been involved in discussions with the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), which is developing a new Accounting Standard for the Extractive Industries as part of its International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The current phase of the development involves a review by the IASB of existing resource and reserve definitions for hydrocarbons and solid minerals. The hydrocarbon industry has been similarly involved.

Convergence of Definitions between the Hydrocarbon and Solid Minerals Industries

CRIRSCO has participated in discussions with each organisation to demonstrate the similarities, and considerable differences, between reporting systems in the two industries. As a result, contact has been established with the SPE Oil and Gas Reserves Committee with a view to examining the extent to which convergence of definitions might be possible.

EurGeol John Clifford PGeo

¹ Council for Mining and Metallurgical Institutions, disbanded in 2002

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 17th 2006 at the Geological Survey, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 for the following purposes:

1. To receive and consider the Directors' Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended December 31st 2005.
2. To elect Directors.
3. To re-elect Casey McGrath and Associates as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.
4. To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

Geoff Wright
Secretary

Dated April 4th 2006.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

