

INSTITUTE OF GEOLOGISTS OF IRELAND



2011-2012

ANNUAL REPORT

and

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

MISSION

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

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

April 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	PRESIDENT'S REPORT	3
	HIGHLIGHTS OF 2011-12	3
2	HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT	6
3	HON. TREASURER'S REPORT	8
4	COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS	9
4.1	VALIDATION COMMITTEE	9
4.2	CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)	10
4.3	CPD COURSE REPORTS	11
4.4	ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT 2011-12	11
4.5	COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE	12
4.6	PUBLIC OUTREACH	13
4.7	UPDATING OF IGI GUIDELINES 'GEOLOGY IN EIS'	13
4.8	GUIDELINES FOR DRILLING OF SHALLOW GEOTHERMAL BOREHOLES	14
4.9	EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS	14
4.10	GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE	15
4.11	GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE	16
4.12	JOINT MEETING OF THE GSI & GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES	16
4.13	RIA GEOSCIENCES COMMITTEE	16
4.14	IRISH GEOSCIENCE NETWORK	17
5	REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES	18
5.1	RESOURCE REPORTING – PERC AND CRIRSCO	18
6	REPRESENTATIONS TO OTHER BODIES	20
7	NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	24
8	NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING	24
9	NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS	25
10	IGI CORPORATE STRUCTURE	26
11	AUDITOR'S REPORT	30

1 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

IGI Board 2011-2013

It has been a busy year at the helm of the Institute and as President, I would personally like to thank the Board members for their excellent contributions and commitment throughout the year: Vice President Gerry Stanley; Secretary Jonathan Derham; Treasurer Barry Balding and Board Members Andy Bowden, Marie Fleming, Ric Pasquali, Bruce Misstear and Paul Gordon.

Susan Pyne and Ethel Stringer continue to support the operations of IGI Administration and Accounting respectively, while Eamonn Kelly is our Webmaster; many thanks to each for their diligence and loyalty.

The IGI welcomes the continued 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). The Institute is particularly fortunate to have the support of the UCD School of Geological Sciences in hosting the IGI office. Also, we are indebted to SLR Consulting and Golders for hosting monthly meetings and the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI) for hosting the annual AGM. These supports play an important role in the sustenance of the Institute's affairs.

Many of our members actively contribute to the work of committees and working groups in the fields of governance, policy development, European and international affairs, public advocacy, outreach and corporate citizenship, for which support the Board is extremely grateful.

Highlights of 2011-12

The **Irish Geoscience Network** (IGN) was formed in early 2012 from a gathering of active, voluntary geoscience bodies working across the island of Ireland. An inaugural forum was held on 15th February last, among 25 executive representatives from IGI's five sponsoring bodies and the Irish Geological Association (IGA), GeoParks Network, Earth Science Ireland (ESI), Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (RIAGC), Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland (MHTI), Irish Quaternary Association (IQUA), 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. The forum agreed to form the IGN to address communications, events & calendar planning, geoscience education and training, and matters of public interest with a more united approach. The IGN is in its infancy, but we will work to develop this forum to become a strong, representative voice for geosciences in Ireland.

The Institute is pleased to report that considerable progress was made during the year in having the IGI title of **Professional Geologist** (PGeo; or mutually recognised equivalent) recognised as 'Competent Person' and 'Qualified Person' by the Department of Education and Skills; the Exploration and Mining Division (EMD) of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources; and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Each of these bodies has committed to working towards preferential recognition of professionally qualified geoscientists for the purposes of geoscientific technical advice and reporting.

On the international front, our **Mutual Recognition Agreements** (MRA) with UK, South Africa, USA and Australia continue to operate successfully. The Board is pleased to report that IGI is nearing completion of a MRA with Canada with our colleagues in 'Geoscientists Canada', following a thorough due diligence exercise by both parties on geoscience education, codes of conduct and continuing professional education (CPD). We will be keeping you updated as the MRA progresses.

Membership: Following last year's AGM, our membership continues to grow and we are delighted to welcome new Professional Geologists and members-in-training to the Institute, thanks to the work of the Validation Committee. Our Membership Directory is currently being updated and will be uploaded to the website in due course.

IGI Ethics and Disciplinary Matters: Following last year's AGM, a review of our Code of Ethics and Disciplinary procedures was carried out by Past President John Kelly on behalf of the Board and relevant Committees, comparing IGI's procedures to similar organisations in Ireland, UK and Australia. The outcome was that our procedures are robust, but that timelines for dealing with complaints when they arise must be more clearly defined to provide both prompt and transparent responses. The Chairman of the Ethics Committee recommended adoption and the Board voted to adopt the recommendations of the review in early 2012.

Continuous Professional Development (CPD):

As part IGI's ongoing commitment to CPD, three well-attended technical courses were held during the term on *Managing your Business for Geoscientists* (Tullamore, 2011); *Databases/ Mapping Short Course* (TCD, November 2011); and *PERC Resources Reporting Workshop* (Athlone, April 2012). Further courses are planned through 2012/13.

While the aim of IGI courses is primarily to educate, CPD actively contributes to improved standards of practice for our members, as well as mobility and mutual recognition internationally in a more highly regulated global resources industry. They also provide useful financial income to the Institute through the freely given input of the organisers and lecturers. Thus, I would sincerely thank our Board members who voluntarily organise these workshops, and to the many presenters for their informed contributions. All course presentations are available on the IGI website at <http://www.igi.ie/cpd-and-training.htm>. Further workshops, to address training needs of members, are planned through 2012-13.

IGI Representation: IGI members continue to represent the Institute at regular consultative meetings of the Geological Survey of Ireland (Bruce Misstear), Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (John Kelly), and the Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (Deirdre Lewis). The IGI is represented on the Board of the European Federation of Geologists by Andy Bowden and Marie Fleming, who have actively contributed to recent discussions concerning the EFG constitution, financing, engagement with the European Commission, as well as attending EFG meetings in Europe throughout the year. Thanks must also go to Gareth Ll. Jones and Piers Gardiner who continue to offer their expertise to the Board on all matters European. Paul Gordon represents the IGI on the PERC Committee at European level. Prof. Ben Kennedy represents IGI on the *EuroAges* project. The IGI was represented at the 4th *International Professional Geology Conference* (4ipgc) in Vancouver in January 2012 by Anthony Deevy and local Vancouver IGI members Mark Cruise and Keith Henderson. Many thanks to all of these members, who give their time freely to represent the interests of IGI at these meetings.

Website: The IGI website www.igi.ie continues to provide information to the membership and promote the Institute and its objectives. In particular, this year we have developed a shared *Calendar of Events* for all-island Ireland geological events and sister geo-organisations are asked to send details of upcoming events/ field trips/ lectures / courses to webmaster Eamonn Kelly at ekelly@slrconsulting.com. As well as an information point, this should be a useful planning tool for geo-organisations to avoid clashing of events.

Newsletter: The IGI publishes its Newsletter regularly with articles and news on topical geological items of interest to the membership. Articles are always welcome and can be submitted at any time to the Newsletter Editor, Marie Fleming (Marie.Fleming@arup.com).

Outreach: Deirdre Lewis and Marie Fleming volunteered to join the GSI/ GSNI's 'Geology' Stand at the BT Young Scientist Exhibition in January 2012 to meet and interact with senior cycle students. As President, I was also invited to meet Minister Pat Rabbitte T.D. at the Petroleum Infrastructure Programme (PIP) stand.

Advocacy: The IGI continues to advocate on behalf of its members. In 2012, Board members made written submissions to the Department of Education and Skills, Exploration and Mining Division, An Bord Pleanála and the EPA, respectively, concerning professional recognition of holders of the IGI title PGeo as 'competent person' and 'qualified person' for the purposes of technical work and reporting. The IGI also made written submissions to both the Minister and Minister of State respectively at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources concerning the retirements of senior staff at the GSI and the need for permanent replacements as a matter of urgency. A working group of the IGI prepared a formal response to the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government on the consultation paper concerning the establishment of a Public Water Utility, and at the time of writing, IGI is preparing a response to the EPA on the issue of contaminated lands and groundwater at licensed facilities. IGI is also represented on the recently formed, cross-disciplinary *Pyrite Working Group*, while IGI members continue to engage with the media on scientific facts pertaining to the issue of 'hydraulic fracturing' (fracking). We will continue to make such submissions and representations as issues arise.

IGI Members were delighted when **Dr John Ashton**, Chief Geologist at Tara Mines and Tara Exploration, was awarded the *Medal for Excellence for 2011* from the Institute of Material, Minerals and Mining (IMMM). The award is given to those who have given a "...conspicuous contribution, either during the year or cumulatively over a number of years, to the art, science and practice of the mining industry". The IGI is delighted to congratulate John on receipt of this well-deserved recognition.

Our sincere sympathies to our colleagues in the Geological Survey of Northern Ireland on the loss of their esteemed colleague and friend, **Dr W. Ian "Mitch" Mitchell**, in the past year. Mitch's geological contributions will live on through his excellent mapping and print legacy. Our sympathies also to OMAC Laboratories staff on the loss of **John McHugh**, their colleague in HUMAC Laboratories in Mwanza, Tanzania during the year. John will be remembered fondly by friends and colleagues across the Irish geological diaspora. Finally our sympathies to all at White Young Green on the sudden loss of their esteemed colleague, **Michael Cunningham**, who died tragically in early March 2012. Michael was the MD of WYG's environmental team and is great loss to them both in Ireland and internationally.

Many of the issues touched on above are reported in more detail below by the IGI Board members. We look forward to another successful and active year in supporting our members' interests and promoting geosciences in Ireland and abroad.

EurGeol Dr Deirdre Lewis PGeo
President

2 HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT

2011 Annual General Meeting

The 2011 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the IGI was held on Wednesday 1st June 2011 at 7pm in the GSI Lecture Theatre, Beggars Bush, Dublin 4. The meeting was chaired by the IGI President, EurGeol **Dr John Kelly** 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 2011/2012:

<i>Dr Deirdre Lewis</i>	<i>President</i>	<i>Andy Bowden</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Gerry Stanley</i>	<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Prof. Bruce Misstear</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Dr Jonathan Derham</i>	<i>Honorary Secretary</i>	<i>Riccardo Pasquali</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Barry Balding</i>	<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>	<i>Paul Gordon</i>	<i>Board Member</i>
<i>Marie Fleming</i>	<i>Board Member</i>	<i>Lloyd Twomey</i>	<i>Board Member*</i>

* Lloyd subsequently resigned due to overseas posting.

Board Meetings

The IGI Board met ten times in 2011/12 between the 2011 AGM and 31st April 2012, on the following dates 1st June (AGM), 12th July, 13th September, 11th October, 8th November, 6th December, 17th January, 15th February, 13th March and 17th April. At the date of this report, one further meeting is scheduled to take place in May in advance of the 2012 AGM, comprising eleven meetings in all over the year.

The number of meetings (out of ten to date) attended by Directors and Board Members was as follows:

Deirdre Lewis (9), Gerry Stanley (10), Jonathan Derham (9), Barry Balding (2) (Barry working overseas for a good part of 2011), Marie Fleming (9), Andy Bowden (7), Ric Pasquali (9), Paul Gordon (5), and Bruce Misstear (7). Lloyd Twomey resigned his Board position to take up employment overseas.

Membership

As of the 1 April 2012, there are 160 Professional Members of the Institute, 22 Members-In-Training, 5 Retired Members and 2 Associate Members.

Sixteen new Professional Members were elected during the year. Three new Members-In-Training were elected during the year. No persons transferred to Retired status. One person transferred to temporary Associate Membership status. Two members resigned during the year.

Three members were delisted during 2011 for non-submission of CPD.

Secretaries Appreciation

The Board is supported in their work by a large number of members in various committee and interview Boards (refer section 4 of this report), and this is gratefully acknowledged. Members also represent 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 giving of IGI training courses and workshops, and otherwise supporting the Board, this too is acknowledged.

All Board Members attend committee meetings in their own time and at their own expense. On behalf of IGI, I would like to gratefully acknowledge the support of SLR Consulting in

providing the Board meeting venue, and to Golder Associates, Naas, for similar on occasion. The support of UCD Geology Department in hosting the IGI offices is also acknowledged.

My role as Honorary Secretary is greatly assisted through the efforts of the IGI office staff Susan Pyne & Ethel Stringer, for which I am grateful.

In 2011 the Board voted to recognise the contribution of the Presidents of IGI (past and present) through the striking of a silver membership pin. This small token is a modest though sincere reflection of our appreciation for their efforts.

The major issues coming before the Board in 2011/ 2012 are presented in the Presidents report herein, however as Honorary Secretary, and in relation to the business of the Board, there is one matter that merits mention here. The committee and the IGI office spend an inordinate amount of time dealing with matters associated with Members who do not submit their annual subscriptions and/or their CPD records. These are matters that Members must address in timely fashion not only as a professional necessity, but also as a courtesy to your colleagues who volunteer to administer the Institute. Three colleagues had their membership cancelled in 2011 for non-submission of CPD records. You will be assured that repeated efforts were made to encourage those individuals to submit the necessary documentation before the Board moved to this position of finality. Whilst we regret this course of action, it is necessary in order to uphold the standards of the Institute and the good standing of its Members. I would urge any Members who have yet to submit their 2011 CPD record (overdue since 1st quarter 2012) to do so without further delay

EurGeol Dr Jonathan Derham PGeo
Hon. Secretary

3 HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy of the 2011 Financial Statement for the IGI as prepared by Kieran Ryan & Co., Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, is attached to the Annual Report. This is the second year Kieran Ryan & Co. has audited the Institute's accounts and prepared its financial statement. I am glad to report that this firm have been very helpful and supportive throughout the past year.

The financial statement reflects the Institute's financial position in the year 2011 to the 31st of December.

The Institute realised a surplus of €4,574 between its income and expenditure in 2011. This figure excludes income receivable from interest on investments of €717, which when included increases the retained surplus for 2010 to €5,291. This compares to a retained surplus of €890 in 2010.

Total income for 2011 including bank interest is €31,756 versus €26,465 expenditure for the year.

The forecast deficit of €890 for 2010 was not realised due largely to an increase in Professional Membership applications and less expenditure during the year than was forecast, particularly on course conference expenses.

Income and expenditure for 2012 is conservatively predicted to have a small surplus primarily based on retaining the current number of Professional Members (at 161) and running 3 courses or seminars providing an operating surplus of €1,670 forecast.

The budget aims to meet the Institute's day to day running costs from membership subscriptions and application fees. The budget for the calendar year 2012 was approved at a Board meeting held on the 17th of April 2012.

EurGeol Barry Balding PGeo
Hon. Treasurer

4 COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS

4.1 VALIDATION COMMITTEE

The Validation Committee held two validation interview sessions since the last Annual General Meeting in June 2011.

On the 18th October 2011 a panel comprising Morgan Burke, Sean Finlay and John Pyne interviewed three candidates:

- i) Stephen Tenant
- ii) Catherine Maguire
- iii) Thomas Moore

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

On the 19th October 2011, a panel comprising Morgan Burke, David Blaney and Roísín Goodman interviewed four candidates:

- i) Gwyneth Murtagh
- ii) Katherine Ault
- iii) Hilary Clarke
- iv) Grainne Byrne

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

The Validation Committee has also recommended the re-admission of resigned member Richard German as a Professional Geologist. Richard 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 the time of his resignation.

The mix and competence of candidates interviewed and assessed in the past year has demonstrated the varied disciplines reflected in the IGI, extending from mineral geology, to hydrogeology, to engineering geology.

The elected candidates are a welcome addition to the collective experience of IGI members.

**EurGeol Morgan Burke PGeo
(Chairman)**

4.2 CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

The IGI is committed to the promotion of the professional practice of geology, and as part of its drive to improve professional practice standards, the IGI has adopted codes and guidelines to assist the membership, statutory authorities and the general public. The Continuing Professional Development programme of the Institute of Geologists is compulsory for all Members on an annual basis.

The IGI is affiliated to the European Federation of Geologists and has mutual recognition agreements with similar professional bodies internationally. The CPD requirement plays a significant part in the IGI's professional standing internationally through these mutual recognition agreements, thus permitting our members to report professionally in other jurisdictions.

The CPD Programme of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland is compulsory for all Professional Members and Members-in-Training (MITs) on an annual basis. Each year's completed CPD spreadsheet should be submitted before the end of April in the following year. Guidelines and spreadsheets are accessible on the website www.igi.ie. The aim of the CPD Personal Plan is that what we learn and gain in additional training should be structured.

CPD 'Formal Training Courses' include all lectures and courses run by the Sponsoring Bodies¹ and courses and lectures organised by other bodies that have been designated by the IGI Board or the EFG as qualifying for formal CPD status. It also includes courses for which you have received a certificate of completion or a formal qualification.

CPD 'Informal Activity': includes technical and scientific reading, library research and web research, and attending lectures, conferences, seminars, trade shows and field trips, which have not been organised by any of the sponsoring bodies and which do not require any direct input from you.

As the Board member responsible for CPD, I wrote an article in the IGI's 2010 Annual Report reflecting some concerns which members and the CPD auditing panel had raised. As you may be aware, each year 25% of the CPD returns are selected at random and audited. A recurring comment of the auditors is that Formal Training and Informal Activity undertaken seem to have little relevance to the personal goals and aims of the member.

The Board would like to reiterate the requirement for both professional members and MITs to make their annual CPD returns in a timely fashion to ensure that the professionalism of the organisation and the IGI's international mutual recognition agreements are strongly maintained. Where a member has difficulties in fulfilling CPD requirements for e.g. reasons of illness, family or study leave, they are urged to contact the office (info@igi.ie) and the Board will consider issues on a case-by-case basis.

I would urge any Members who have yet to submit their 2011 CPD record (overdue since 1st quarter 2012) to do so without further delay. It is a matter of considerable frustration to the IGI office and the Board that we have to 'chase' professionals and members to maintain their standing.

EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo

¹ The Sponsoring Bodies are:

The International Association of Hydrogeologists – Irish Branch (IAH)

Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG)

Irish Mining and Quarrying Society (IMQS)

Geotechnical Association of Ireland (GAI)

4.3 CPD COURSE REPORTS

In January 2011, the IGI held a successful workshop in Tullamore focused on *Managing your Business* for geoscientists. With practical presentations by a number of geo-business experts, attendees were exposed to business planning, management, risks and key legal and accounting aspects of setting up a geological business. Additionally, Enterprise Ireland provided valuable advice on business supports for SMEs. Reflecting the economic climate, this course was well attended with sole traders finding it particularly useful. Thanks to Gerry Stanley who planned and organised this event.

A successful short course on *Online Geosciences Databases and Mapping* was held in November 2011 in Trinity College Dublin, focused on improved usage of the excellent, publicly available geoscience databases in Ireland, with contributions from Ray Scanlon, Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI); Wayne Cox of the Exploration & Mining Division (EMD) of the Department of Communications, Energy & Natural Resources; and Aisling McEwan of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Current and proposed mapping, visualisation and data download options in relation to a wide range of geosciences applications were reviewed during the course, which was attended by over 30 delegates. Feedback was very positive. The course was organised by Bruce Misstear and Ric Pasquali and thanks to all our contributors for their time and effort.

In April 2012, a Resources Reporting Workshop focused on the updated *Pan-European Reporting of Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee* (PERC Standard) was held in Athlone. Excellent papers were presented by John Clifford, John Kelly (SLR Consulting) and John Barry (Rathdowney Resources) on all aspects of reporting, particularly on the requirements of the 'Competent Person' for expert reporting and stock exchange listings of metalliferous and aggregate minerals. Paul Gordon devised challenging group exercises which ensured that we all fully understood the demanding requirements of the various exchanges. Thanks to Paul for organising the course and to all the presenters for their contributions.

Susan Pyne is also thanked for her administrative support to each of these events.

A subsequent 2012 workshop is planned to focus on *Risk Assessment* methodologies.

All course presentations are available on the IGI website at <http://www.igi.ie/cpd-and-training.htm>. Further workshops, to address training needs of members, are planned through 2012-13. The details of these workshops will be circulated in due course.

Bruce Misstear PGeo
EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo

4.4 ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT 2011-12

No formal complaints were received by the Ethics Committee during the 2011-2012 period.

Further to a proposal at last year's AGM to review our Code of Ethics and Disciplinary procedures, Past President Dr. John Kelly completed a review during the year on behalf of the Board and relevant committees, comparing IGI's procedures to similar organisations in Ireland, UK and Australia, including Geol. Soc. London, Engineers Ireland and AusIMM.

The outcome of the comprehensive review was that our procedures are comparable to other organisations and are comparably robust, but that timelines for dealing with complaints when they arise must be more clearly defined to provide both prompt and transparent responses.

The Chairman of the Ethics Committee, Prof. Ben Kennedy, recommended that the recommendations of the review be accepted. The Chairman furthermore recommended that a complainant should submit a formal statement of the complaint to the Ethics Committee within one month of notification of the complaint to the IGI Board.

The Board of the IGI voted to adopt the recommendations of the Review of the Ethics and Disciplinary Procedures in 2012. A copy of the Review by John Kelly is available on the website www.igi.ie.

EurGeol Professor Ben Kennedy PGeo

4.5 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The IGI communicates with its membership throughout the year via the IGI's website www.igi.ie, direct emails from the IGI office and the IGI Newsletter (e-zine).

As well as up-to-date information on news, employment opportunities, upcoming events and training courses the IGI website also contains copies of all of the IGI's publications. These include a membership directory, IGI codes and guidelines, published papers, past conference presentations and other documents, all available for free download.

Members are encouraged to send any activities or positions that they wish to advertise on the website to admin@igi.ie. Geological photographs are also welcome as the IGI continues to compile an image library of Irish geological photographs for non-commercial downloading.

A major advance this year was the development of a more advanced 'Calendar of Events' online to attempt to create an all-island geoscience calendar to permit more efficient planning and promotion of events, and prevention of clashing field trips/ lectures by different organisations. Full marks must go to Eamonn Kelly for keeping this up-to-date, given the volume of activity across all the geoscience bodies active in Ireland (see also note in Section 4.14).

This year also saw the addition of 'PayPal' facilities on the IGI website to ease payments of subscriptions, application fees, course fees etc. electronically via the website. This has considerably reduced administration time at the office.

Three newsletters were published in 2011-12, at approximately quarterly intervals. The 2012 Summer newsletter will be published shortly. We invite all members to forward items of news or general interest for inclusion in the newsletter to marie.fleming@arups.com

As reported in the Spring 2012 newsletter, the Institute has come to an arrangement with the Geological Society of London whereby IGI members can now subscribe to the *Journal of the Geological Society* and/or the *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology and Hydrogeology*. Further information about these long-standing and well-regarded journals can be found at: <http://jgs.lyellcollection.org>
<http://qjegh.lyellcollection.org>

EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo
Bruce Misstear PGeo

4.6 PUBLIC OUTREACH

BT Young Scientists Exhibition: The Geoscience multi-partner stand at the BT Exhibition in January 2012 was excellent and gets stronger each year. The IGI was represented by Marie Fleming and Deirdre Lewis, who spent an enjoyable few hours answering queries, facilitating the mineral quiz, and chatting to students on matters geological.

IGI President, Deirdre Lewis, was also formally invited to attend the Petroleum Infrastructure Programme (PIP) Stand, to meet Mr. Pat Rabbitte T.D. Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and Mr. Noel Murphy, PIP Programme Manager and other officials from the Department of the Marine.

Full marks must go to our geological colleagues at GSI and GSNI for their organisation and commitment to this essential promotion of Geoscience.

4th International Professional Geology Conference (4ipgc): Vancouver 2012

The IGI was represented at the 4th International Professional Geology Conference (www.4ipgc.org) in Vancouver in January 2012 by Anthony Deevy and local Vancouver IGI members Mark Cruise and Keith Henderson. The aim of the conference is to strengthen links among professional geological associations around the world.

Many thanks to our members who attended the Vancouver meeting on behalf of the Board.

EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo

4.7 UPDATING OF IGI GUIDELINES 'GEOLOGY IN EIS'

The IGI's *Guidelines for Geological Contributions to Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)*, published in 2002, is currently under review to reflect significant changes in environmental legislation, reflecting developments in public perception, risk assessment and understanding both in Ireland and across EU member states. Since the original guidelines were developed, there have been enormous changes in EIA and general demands of environmental management for natural resources through EU Directives and corresponding national legislation.

A Working Group of volunteer members was recently formed under the Chairmanship of Andy Bowden, comprising 9 members (Sophie Preteseille, Emer Blackwell, Catherine Buckley, Kevin Cullen, Eugene Daly, Aldona Binchy, Suzanne Tynan, Mike Boland, Eamonn Grennan), who work across the environmental geoscience disciplines. The strength and depth of experience among this group is outstanding and the Board looks forward to delivering the revised guidelines before end of calendar year 2012.

The consensus is that the Guidelines require a new approach, one that would both act as a guide to our members as to what is required in the geological part of an EIS, but also to act a guide for planners as to what they would need. A risk-based matrix approach will be taken for the Guidelines where project type will be contrasted with geological risk. This approach is similar to that taken by other agencies, such as NRA, for equivalent guidelines.

We hope to have Draft Guidelines in place by Autumn 2012 for consultation and final Guidelines in place by end of year.

EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo

4.8 GUIDELINES FOR DRILLING OF SHALLOW GEOTHERMAL BOREHOLES

The Geological Survey of Ireland has initiated a national programme on shallow geothermal energy resources in Ireland. IGI members have been engaged by the GSI to work with the Groundwater Section of the GSI to produce:

- 1) Best practice guidance for installation of shallow geothermal systems in Ireland;
- 2) An installations database that will contain system information about geothermal installations and any new geothermal data;
- 3) A set of national shallow geothermal energy resources maps.

The objective of the project is to address the limited national, geological information relating to geothermal energy, the lack of regulation and legislation for the installation of shallow systems through the introduction of best practice guidelines for the installation and operation of ground source heat pump systems. The guideline documentation is aimed at installers and professionals as well as potential end users.

The project deliverables are being achieved in consultation and collaboration with government departments/agencies (e.g. SEAI, DCENR, EMD, EPA), local authorities and geothermal and other professional organisations including the IGI, the Geothermal Association of Ireland, Heat Pump Association of Ireland. Additional information and input is being provided by academic institutes, professional service providers and consultants (e.g. drilling, hydrogeologists, architects).

The IGI is being consulted as part of the best practice guideline development process and hopes to endorse the final documents to be published by the IGI.

EurGeol Ric Pasquali PGeo

4.9 EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS

The European Federation of Geologists (EFG) is a non-governmental organisation that was established in 1981 and includes today 21 national association members.

During 2011-12, the EFG continued to promote the professional mobility and status of geologists in 21 member countries across 'Europe' through the expanding use and recognition of the **EurGeol** title; involvement in two EU-funded projects; making representations to the EU Commission; and, liaising with other international geological bodies. National and international awareness of the profession is maintained through its 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.

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 IGI delegates for 2011 were Andy Bowden, Gerry Stanley and Marie Fleming (who replaced Gerry Stanley for the December meeting).

The Council meets once a year in one of the member countries, usually in June. There is also a working Council Meeting in Brussels in November or December. 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 EFG maintained within the Board by email.

The Office of the EFG is based in Brussels, where the Office Director is based. The EFG Office Director is the staff member responsible to the EFG Board for the day-to-day management and operation of the EFG Office.

There were two meetings of Council in 2011-12 as follows:

1. May 2011 Summer Council Meeting

Andy Bowden attended the formal summer meeting which was held in Budapest on 21st May 2011.

2. November 2011 Winter Council Meeting

Marie Fleming and Andy Bowden attended the regular winter meeting held in the Belgian Geological Society in Brussels on the 26/27th November. 22 No. Council members from 13 No. countries attended, together with 3 EFG officials. This was a formal meeting authorised to make decisions binding on the Federation as a motion was submitted by the UK National Association to amend Regulation N2.

Others members of IGI are active on EFG Expert Panels as needs arise. Nick O'Neill and Deirdre Lewis continue to be active with the EFG CCS Expert Panel which will be reporting in the next issue of *European Geologist*. Prof. Ben Kennedy continues to represent IGI on the *EuroAges* project.

EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo

EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo

4.10 GSI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

The GSICC normally meets on a six-monthly basis. The GSICC last met on 20th October 2011 and the next meeting is due in the second quarter of 2012.

Presentations were made by senior members of the GSI on current activities including the INFOMAR project, the Tellus Border project, groundwater vulnerability mapping, Geoparks, carbon capture and storage potential, and current Griffith-funded research.

Members of the committee were asked to complete a questionnaire in relation to the GSI's activities, and the results will be presented at the next meeting.

One of the key topics for discussion at the October 2011 meeting was the impending retirement of several senior staff members of the GSI. In response to this, the IGI wrote to Minister Pat Rabbitte, T.D. in the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, stressing the importance of the GSI to the sustainable management of Ireland's natural resources and economy, and urging the Minister to strengthen the GSI through the filling of key posts. A further letter was sent to Minister of State Fergus O'Dowd T.D. at the Department of Natural Resources, urging him to address the loss of key GSI management staff to early retirements in early 2012 and the need to appoint a permanent Director of GSI.

Prof. Bruce Misstear PGeo

4.11 GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

A meeting of the GSNI Consultative Committee was held in Colby House, Belfast on the 11th of January 2012. Unfortunately the IGI representative was unavailable, as was our proposed replacement. Minutes of the meeting have been forwarded to IGI by GSNI.

The draft GSNI Report for 2008-2011 was circulated to the committee members and GSNI sought comments from the committee as an audit procedure. Members were encouraged to respond. The GSNI programme for the forthcoming period 2011–2014 was outlined, together with a SWOT review of core GSNI strengths, opportunities and identified weaknesses in GSNI. The passing of Dr W. Ian “Mitch” Mitchell was deeply regretted and the departure of Garth Earls was noted.

Individual aspects of the forthcoming programme were then outlined, including natural resources, geology, environment and heritage, TELLUS Border and Communications. Discussion focussed on environmental issues in relation to minerals and hydrocarbon exploration and possible development, linkups of geological data with external bodies, enhanced data delivery and the role of GSNI with water management, planning and as an advisory service.

Progress of Tellus Border and research progress and opportunities were detailed and GSNI's outreach activities with stakeholders, schools, the public and the media and GSNI work in other scientific fora were detailed.

The next GSNI Consultative meeting will be held in October or November 2012.

EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo

4.12 JOINT MEETING OF THE GSI & GSNI CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEES

A joint meeting of both Committees is planned for end of Quarter 2, 2012, an important event in the geoscience calendar in promoting north-south policy and prioritisation of joint initiatives.

Prof. Bruce Misstear PGeo

4.13 RIA GEOSCIENCES COMMITTEE

The Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (RIAGC) advises the RIA on policy and research issues pertaining to minerals, water, marine, energy and also geo-related climate issues, such as carbon capture and storage, across the island of Ireland. The Committee meets on a six-monthly basis and comprises representatives of the academic, public and private geoscience sectors, including both Geological Surveys, EPA, Meteorological Office, Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies and each of the Universities.

Deirdre Lewis represents the IGI on the Committee. For more information see:

<http://www.ria.ie/our-work/committees/committees-for-science/geosciences.aspx>.

During the 2011-12 period, the Chairperson of the RIAGC, Professor John Gamble of UCC, retired and has been replaced by Professor Pat Shannon of UCD. The RIAGC has engaged with Tellus Border, the annual Irish Geological Research Meeting (IRGM), the Irish

Geoscience Network, among other initiatives. A meeting was held in late 2011 with the Director of the Directorate of National Emergency Planning & Management to ensure that the Directorate are aware of the range of expertise available to advise on mitigation of geological hazards.

Much of the focus of the committee's work this year has been on the celebration of 'Dublin City of Science' through the organisation, with GSI and GSNI, of the '**Safe Cities**' conference on 18 April 2012, which focused on the importance of geosciences in the sustainable management of our cities. Papers were presented from the Netherlands, Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Ireland, highlighting the need for inter-agency collaboration through integrated data collection, parameterisation, interpretation and 3D /4D modelling. Importantly, communication of our geo-knowledge is critical – there is no use having excellent data if planners, architects and policy makers do not know about it.

To partially address just such concerns, the RIA Geosciences Committee is also organising an innovative Science in the Media event, '**Introduction to the News Media for Ireland's Geoscientists**', in the Royal Irish Academy on 17th May to focus on how geoscience can be better communicated to both policy decision makers and the general public. All are welcome.

EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo

4.14 IRISH GEOSCIENCE NETWORK

The IGI organised and hosted the inaugural meeting of the **Irish Geoscience Network (IGN)** in early 2012, from a gathering of active, voluntary geoscience bodies working across the island of Ireland. An inaugural forum was held on 15th February last, among 25 executive representatives from IGI's sponsoring bodies Irish Mining & Quarrying Society (IMQS), Irish Association for Economic Geology (IAEG), International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH; Irish Group), Geotechnical Society of Ireland (GSI) and Geophysical Association of Ireland (GAI); as well as representatives of the Irish Geological Association (IGA), GeoParks Network, Earth Science Ireland (ESI), Royal Irish Academy Geosciences Committee (RIAGC), Mining Heritage Trust of Ireland (MHTI), Irish Quaternary Association (IQUA), Speleological Union of Ireland (SUI), and Geothermal Association of Ireland (GAI). Through their voluntary engagement with these bodies, members of the Geological Survey of Ireland (GSI), Geological Survey of Northern Ireland (GSNI) and Museum of Natural History (MNH) were also in attendance.

The forum agreed to form the IGN to improve our communications, events & calendar planning and to address issues of geoscience education and training collaboratively, as well as advocacy in relation to matters of public interest with a more united approach.

Given that we are a small community of geoscientists within the island of Ireland, there may be scope for the IGI to provide 'umbrella' administrative, calendar and governance support to some of the smaller learned societies to allow them to focus on their scientific endeavours. This would require an increased allocation of financial and administrative resources from IGI to support the Network, with contributions from the other organisations to specific yet-to-be-defined elements.

The IGN is in its infancy, but we will work to develop this forum to become a strong, representative voice for geosciences in Ireland.

EurGeol Deirdre Lewis PGeo

5 REPORTS FROM OTHER BODIES

5.1 RESOURCE REPORTING – PERC AND CRIRSCO²

The PERC (Pan-European Reserves and Resources Reporting Committee) Code is binding on all those members of its sponsoring bodies (IGI, Geol. Soc. London, IMMM, EFG), who act as Competent Persons in the field of resource reporting. Once the code had been established and formally adopted by the sponsoring bodies, the next step was to promote its use in mineral reporting across Europe, through stock exchanges and securities regulators.

Following a consultative process in 2011, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) decided that only CRIRSCO-aligned codes should be used for minerals reporting purposes in the EU. ESMA was not prepared to recommend that PERC be the preferred code, but the recommendation that only CRIRSCO codes be used is seen as a significant step forward. The committee believes that this is as far as it is likely to get in the short term and that this was a major milestone in the development of the PERC code.

It was decided in 2011 that the committee needs to be re-constituted on a more formal basis, with four nominees from each of its sponsoring bodies. In addition, the sponsoring bodies have agreed to give PERC a small amount of seed money to allow it to set up a permanent office in Brussels, in conjunction with the EFG. Meetings of the committee will be rotated between Dublin, London and Brussels, as the home cities for the parent organisations. It is believed that a permanent presence in Brussels will add significantly to PERC's profile.

As ESMA has decided on its 'menu' approach to codes/standards and it is unlikely that the subject will be re-visited in the near future, PERC will now focus on the development and provision of professional training in the use of CRIRSCO-aligned reporting standards. It will of course continue to maintain and develop the PERC Standard as well as maintaining the list of Recognised Professional Organisations (RPOs). PERC will continue to be represented on CRIRSCO, providing input as and when needed.

In January 2012, CRIRSCO revised a number of definitions³ to be incorporated into the codes or standards of its member organisations. In addition, CRIRSCO also modified the Terms of Reference, primarily to cater for Russia's entry⁴. A number of changes to the PERC code are proposed, with a consultation underway and due to close in June of this year. The main changes are:

- That the Code be re-named as a Standard, as the use of the word 'code' implies that it has legislative standing.
- That the new CRIRSCO definitions be adopted.
- That the Competent Person (CP) definition includes recognition of other professional organisations, to be maintained in an appendix to the Standard.
- That the Standard be expanded to include tar sands, oil shales and other energy minerals extracted by mining methods.
- That the Standard be expanded to include minerals extracted by means of solution mining.

2 Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards

3 http://www.crirSCO.com/news_items/revised_standard_definitions2011.PDF

4 http://www.crirSCO.com/news_items/CRIRSCO_terms_of_reference_2012.PDF

These last two additions are significant, as they are not currently covered by petroleum or other reporting standards, so PERC is leading the way in responding to recent developments. The consultation documents may be viewed at www.perc.com

EurGeol Paul Gordon PGeo

6 REPRESENTATIONS TO OTHER BODIES

Mutual Recognition Agreements

On the international front, our mutual recognition agreements (MRA) with UK, South Africa, USA and Australia are renewed following due diligence reports annually and continue to operate successfully.

The Boards of both IGI and Geoscientists Canada recently independently recommended to move towards the development of an MRA. This follows a lengthy due diligence exercise by both parties on geoscience education, codes of conduct and continuing professional education (CPD). We will be keeping you updated as the MRA progresses.

Many thanks to Vice President Gerry Stanley, Past President Dr John Kelly and our academic colleagues for their collaboration during the due diligence process: Dr. Julian Menuge (UCD), Dr. Ben Kennedy (DIAS), Dr. John Graham (TCD), Dr. Eve Daly (UCG) and Dr. Bettie Higgs (UCC). Table 1 overleaf summarises the 'geoscience subject content' for each of the four Irish major universities offering Geology as a primary degree.

It is apparent that the Irish geoscience education system compares very favourably to that in other jurisdictions, particularly in the additional levels of field work and independent projects undertaken at undergraduate level. This has served our graduates well over the years, reflected in the international success of many Irish geoscientists particularly in the field of mineral exploration.

Recognition of Professional Qualifications

The Institute is pleased to report that considerable progress was made during the year in having the IGI's unique title of **Professional Geologist (PGeo)**; or mutually recognised equivalent) recognised as 'Competent Person' and 'Qualified Person' by the Department of Education and Skills (as the administering body for the EU Directive on Recognition of Professional Qualifications across Member States⁵); the Exploration and Mining Division (EMD) of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources; and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Each of these bodies has committed to working towards preferential recognition of professionally qualified geoscientists for the purposes of geoscientific technical work, advice and reporting. A letter was also sent to An Bord Pleanála on the same topic.

A delegation comprising President Deirdre Lewis and Vice President Gerry Stanley met a senior representative at the Department of Education & Skills to discuss the issues of mutual recognition and use of 'competent person' professional geologists (PGeo) in commissioning technical projects across the full range of geoscientific disciplines. The IGI made a full submission to the DES pursuant to the discussion. A further delegation, comprising Past President Kevin Cullen, Seán Finlay and Deirdre Lewis wrote to and met senior representatives of the EPA to discuss 'competent/ qualifying person' for technical work and reporting on behalf of the Agency. The IGI made a subsequent written submission on the subject to the Director of the EPA.

⁵ EU Directive 2005/36/EC

Table 1: GEOSCIENCE SUBJECT CONTENT FOR DEGREE PROGRAMMES IN IRISH UNIVERSITIES OFFERING GEOLOGY AS PRIMARY DEGREE								
<i>Data gathered January 2012 by IGI</i>								
UNIVERSITY (Data supplied by)	Degree Programme	Duration (yr)	ECTS GEOLOGY CREDITS PER YEAR OF DEGREE				TOTAL ECTS	COMMENT
			YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4		
DUBLIN UNIVERSITY								
Trinity College Dublin (Dr. John Graham)	B.A. (mod) Natural Sciences (Geology)	4	10	20	60	60	150	1 Geology ECTS credit = 25 hours average. Note also that Field Mapping projects in Yrs 3, 4 take considerably more time than the max. 15 credits assigned.
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND (NUI)								
University College Dublin (Dr. Julian Menuge)	B.Sc. Geology	4	15	20	50	60	145	<i>Each undergrad year has minimum of 60 credits</i> . Figures refer to minima of credits in Geology per year of degree programme. 180 credits min for 3-year degree; 240 credits min for 4-year degree. 5 ECTS = 100 hours (20h per ECTS), amounting to 40-hour study week for 30 weeks of formal tuition. These figures do not take into account the time spent in group study outside of classes.
University College Cork (Dr. Bettie Higgs)	BSc. Geology	4	15	35	50	60	160	5 ECTS = min. 100 hours of study time (face-to-face and private study). These figures do not take into account the time spent in group study outside of classes.
University College Galway (Dr. Eve Daly)	BSc. Earth & Ocean Science (EOS)	4	15	40	36	60	151	<i>Each undergrad year has minimum of 60 credits</i> . Year 1: must take min 15 ECTS in first year (25%) - 4 courses each worth 15 ECTS available. Year 2: must take min 30 credits (50%) - 4 courses available, each 10 ECTS. Year 3: must take min. 3 courses, each worth 12 ECTS, but in reality most students take 4 courses. Year 4: 60 as 100% EOS courses.

European Geosciences Union (EGU)

Marie Fleming will represent the IGI 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 on 23rd April 2012.

Submissions on Public Matters Pertaining to Geoscience

The IGI made written submissions to both Minister Pat Rabbitte T.D. at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources and Minister of State Fergus O'Dowd T.D. Department of Natural Resources, respectively, concerning the recent retirements of five senior and managerial staff at the GSI, including that of Dr. Peadar McArdle as Director of GSI in 2011. The IGI letters pointed out the importance of a public geoscience agency such as GSI in the sustainable development and management of our natural resources, as well as in the rebuilding of the Irish economy. IGI urged the Ministers respectively to address the need for permanent replacements as a matter of urgency, particularly at Directorial level.

A working group of the IGI prepared a formal response to the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government on the consultation paper concerning the establishment of a *Public Water Utility*, with strong recommendations on the need for characterization of the nation's water resources as well as the need for integrated chain of management from source to delivery. We also emphasized the roles and technical expertise of the Geological Survey, the EPA and our sponsoring body, the IAH (Irish Group) in assessment, characterisation and protection of groundwater resources and the need to incorporate this expertise at Board level in any future national water utility.

At the time of writing, IGI is preparing a response to the EPA on the issue of *contaminated lands and groundwater at EPA licensed facilities*. We also sought an extension to the deadline for response, given the short timeframe allowed over the Easter period.

IGI is represented by Dr John Kelly on the recently convened national inter-disciplinary (geology, engineering, surveying & valuation) *Pyrite Working Group*, to address the issue of pyrite in aggregates and the development of common Guidelines on the characterisation and use of aggregates in construction in Ireland. Members also attended a specialised workshop in TCD on the topic on 20th April 2012.

IGI members continue to engage with the media on geoscientific facts pertaining to the contentious issue of *hydraulic fracturing ('fracking')* in the exploration for shale gas. While the IGI has not developed a formal stance on the subject, we intend to set up a database of key scientific references on the topic on our website. WE will review the soon-to-be-published independent research on the methodologies and risk assessments of 'fracking' by the EPA and we will advise the national authorities where we feel our members can contribute on the basis of facts. Copies of radio interviews given independently by past President Gareth L.I. Jones on the topic can be accessed on the www.igi.ie website.

Education: Teaching of Geography at Second Level

The issue of teaching of geography and its role in introduction of many students to geology and related disciplines in Irish education continues to be debated among many practicing geoscientists.

In August 2011, the President of the IGI responded to comments made by the Minister of Education, Ruairí Quinn T.D. at the McGill Summer School regarding the teaching of STEM (science, maths, engineering and technology) subjects at second level in our education system, by writing a letter to the Irish Times on 29/8/2011, which is reproduced in full below for your perusal.

Letter to Irish Times 27/8/12

In his recent excellent address to the Magill Summer School, as reported in IT 28/7/11, Minister for Education, Mr. Ruairí Quinn, highlighted the seven challenges of modern education in Ireland. In reflecting on the curriculum challenge, he suggested potential reform of CAO point allocations for Leaving Cert. science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) subjects. However, he then went on to say that more students take Geography or French at higher level in the Leaving than the combined totals taking physics and chemistry. The current Geography syllabus comprises almost 30% of physical geography / geology. For many practising earth scientists (geoscientists) in Ireland, Geography provides the only second level scientific introduction to the tertiary study of Geology and related geosciences (such as hydrogeology, geochemistry, geophysics etc.) in our universities. These subjects address perhaps the greatest challenge of the twenty first century: the environmental challenge.

The practice of Geoscience in modern Ireland includes a diverse array of activities, including mapping of our soils, seabed and mineral resources, mining and quarrying, protection of our groundwater, monitoring of earthquakes and tsunamis, characterisation of renewable and clean energy sources such as natural gas, wave, tidal and geothermal, as well as world-class collaborative research by our tertiary institutions in understanding earth processes. A small army of geoscientists work across the island of Ireland in both public and private sectors to ensure sustainable management of our precious natural resources and compliance with EU water, soil, mining and waste Directives. A study undertaken by the Geological Survey of Ireland in 2007 valued the geosciences' direct and indirect contribution to the Irish economy to be €4.24 billion, or 3.0% of GNP, creating over 30,000 jobs, many in rural areas.

The Institute of Geologists of Ireland would wish to see Geography enhanced and promoted to students as a challenging Leaving Cert. STEM subject by the Department of Education, rather than dismissed as a 'soft' non-science option. Ireland's response to increasing environmental challenges will depend on fostering and developing excellence in education of young earth scientists, critically from secondary through to tertiary and fourth levels.

Yours sincerely,
Dr Deirdre Lewis
President, Institute of Geologists of Ireland

We will continue to make such submissions and contributions on issues of public concern as they arise.

EurGeol Deirdre Lewis 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 23rd May 2012** at the Geological Survey of Ireland, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 for the following purposes:

- i) To receive and consider the Directors' Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended December 31st 2011.
- ii) To elect Directors.
- iii) To transact any other ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Board

Dr Jonathan Derham
Secretary

Dated April 15th 2012

8 NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Institute of Geologists of Ireland Limited will be held at **6.30 p.m. Wednesday 23rd May 2012** at the Geological Survey of Ireland, Beggars Bush, Haddington Road, Dublin 4 for the following purposes:

- i) To consider proposed changes to Articles 64, 65, 70 and 76 of the Constitution.

By Order of the Board

Dr Jonathan Derham
Secretary

Dated April 15th 2012

9 NOMINATIONS FOR DIRECTORS

The Nominations Committee, under the Chair of Dr John Kelly (immediate Past-President), has presented the following list of candidates to stand for election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting on 23th May 2012.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

President	Dr Deirdre Lewis (2 nd year of term)
Vice President	Gerry Stanley (2 nd year of term)
Secretary	Dr. Jonathan Derham (2 nd year of term)
Treasurer	Barry Balding (2 nd year of term)

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Marie Fleming (2nd year of term)
Andy Bowden (2nd year of term)
Prof. Bruce Misstear (2nd year of term)
Paul Gordon (2nd year of term)
Riccardo Pasquali (2nd year of term)
Dr Jim Hodgson (1st Year as a Committee Member)

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

EurGeol Dr John Kelly PGeo (Chair)
EurGeol Kevin Cullen
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 Friday, 10th April 2009.

10 IGI CORPORATE STRUCTURE

IGI OFFICE	UCD School of Geological Sciences, UCD, Belfield, Dublin 4 Tel. +353 1 716 20 85; Fax +353 1 283 7733 admin@igi.ie www.igi.ie
ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY	Ms. Susan Pyne
ACCOUNTS PERSON	Ms. Ethel Stringer
AUDITORS	Kieran Ryan & Co. Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors 20 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2
BANKERS	Bank of Ireland, College Green, Dublin 2
IGI REGISTERED OFFICE	6 Northbrook Road, Dublin 6
COMPANY NUMBER	31440
CHARITY NUMBER	CHY 13580

IGI Board Members

Executive Directors

President:	EurGeol Deirdre Lewis, PGeo
Vice President:	EurGeol Gerard Stanley, PGeo
Secretary:	EurGeol Jonathan Derham, PGeo
Treasurer:	EurGeol Barry Balding, PGeo

Non-Executive Directors:

EurGeol Riccardo Pasquali, PGeo
EurGeol Andy Bowden, PGeo
Prof. Bruce Misstear, PGeo
EurGeol Paul Gordon, PGeo
EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo
EurGeol Lloyd Twomey PGeo (resigned)

EFG National Licensed Body

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

Standing Committees

Ethics Committee

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

Disciplinary Committee

EurGeol John Arthurs, PGeo
EurGeol Dr Eibhlín Doyle, PGeo

Nominating Committee

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 Eugene Daly PGeo
 EurGeol Dr Julian Menuge, PGeo
 EurGeol Gareth V. Jones, PGeo
 EurGeol Dr Ian Somerville, PGeo

IGI Representation on Geoscience Bodies

Organisation	IGI Representative
European Federation of Geologists	EurGeol Andy Bowden PGeo EurGeol Marie Fleming PGeo
EFG CPD Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Julian Menuge PGeo
EFG CCS Working Group	EurGeol Dr. Deirdre Lewis PGeo EurGeol Nick O'Neill PGeo
EFG Disciplinary Committee	EurGeol Christian Schaffalitzky PGeo
GSI Consultative Committee	Prof. Bruce Misstear PGeo
GSI 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)
The Geophysical Association of Ireland.	(www.gai.ie)
The International Association of Hydrogeologists (Irish Group).	(www.iahireland.org)
The Irish Mining and Quarrying Society.	(www.imqs.ie)
The Geotechnical Society of the Institution of Engineers of Ireland.	(www.iei.ie)

Bodies with Reciprocal Links and/or Co-Operation Agreements

American Institute of Professional Geologists

Geoscientists Canada

Geological Society of London

Bodies Recognising PGeo (or mutually recognised equivalent)

Ireland

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

Environmental Protection Agency – preferred for professional work and reports

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

An Bord Pleanála – preferred for professional work and reports

Stock Exchanges

Ireland, Dublin Stock Exchange

UK, London Stock Exchange

Australian Stock Exchange

Canadian Securities Administrators

South Africa, JSE Securities Exchange

11 AUDITOR'S REPORT