

Ad hoc Committee eGY 2007-2008



SOCIETY OF EXPLORATION GEOPHYSICISTS

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee Chairman

eGY 2007-2008

Ralph W. Baird, chairman

The purpose of the ad hoc committee is to recommend to the SEG Executive Committee the role that SEG should play and how to participate in activities related to the 2007–2008 Electronic Geophysical Year (eGY) and what activities to plan to honor the 50-year anniversary of the International Geophysical Year (IGY). The committee may plan the second International Geophysical Year (IGY-2) activities independent of those planned by eGY, International Polar Year (IPY), International Year of the Planet Earth (IYPE), and International Heliophysical Year (IHY).

The central objective of an eGY is to bring the management of geoscientific information worldwide into the 21st century through an e-Science approach and the development of virtual observatories. The challenge in 1957–1958 was to acquire and make available to the world community the observational data required to build a comprehensive understanding of the earth and its processes. That challenge remains and is yet more pressing because of the growing demands we place on our natural resources and environment.

The SEG Executive Committee passed the following resolution: "SEG, noting the approach of the 50-year anniversary in 2007 of the International Geophysical Year (IGY), which was outstandingly successful in advancing our knowledge of the earth and geospace through the provision of comprehensive geoscientific observational data, noting the vast increase in observational data since the IGY, much of them available in near real-time, and the limitations on progress posed by the ever-growing problems of data storage, maintenance, and access, noting the unprecedented potential of modern information management methodologies, based on the Internet, to overcome these limitations through sharing of information, software, and hardware, and supports the adoption of 2007 as the eGY—to be used as a focus for providing ready access to geoscientific data and processing capability using the electronic means now at our disposal."

Committee members are: Dave K. Agarwal, Ralph W. Baird, Arthur C. H. Cheng, David Forel, Tom K. Fulton, Robert A. Greenwald, Jack D. Hall, Gabriel Perez, Jeff M. Rayner, Scott C. Sechrist, Brian R. Spies, and executive committee member David J. Monk.

The following are the recommendations to the SEG Executive Committee by the eGY 2007-2008 ad hoc committee:

- IGY Gold History Program. As a part of the International Geophysical Year 50th anniversary, the committee recom-

mends that SEG join the American Geophysical Union, European Geosciences Union, and the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) as host organizations and offer a certificate of recognition to members of the IGY Gold Club. To facilitate this recommendation, the committee requests that the president of SEG send a letter to the organizer of the IGY Gold Program requesting that SEG and SEG's logo be added to the host organizations. Additional follow-up and publicity will follow through THE LEADING EDGE. SEG members can qualify for a prestigious certificate of participation in the IGY.

- In July 2007, create the eGY workshop to start off (kick-off) the 2007-2008 eGY. Consider this topic as a joint workshop proposal to the joint workshop committee.
- U.S. Postage Stamp commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the IGY. The committee requests a letter from the president of SEG to the U.S. Postal Service's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee (CSAC) stating that SEG requests that the United States create such a stamp to be published in 2008.
- Create a technical session at the 2007 SEG Annual Meeting titled "The Electronic Geophysical Year."
- Suggest that the theme or umbrella slogan of the 2007 and/or 2008 SEG Annual Meeting be named "Electronic Geophysical Year."
- Associate the following existing SEG initiatives to be eGY initiatives/activities. The SEG.org Global Project, the Virtual Geoscience Center, the Humanitarian Applications of Geophysics Initiative and the Numerical Modeling Consortium Initiative.
- SEG to prepare a resolution endorsing data stewardship by creating a committee to establish guidelines for data stewardship. The AAPG guidelines are recommended in lieu of a new committee.
- Identify an event of great visibility for October 4, 2007, in commemoration of the successful launch of the Russian satellite Sputnik. Formalize an advertising campaign titled, "Where Will You Be on October 4, 2007?" to attract SEG membership to this noteworthy event. Sputnik was actually launched on October 5, Russian time.
- Establish a direct communication from SEG and eGY Education/Public Outreach (E/PO) to the American Geological Institute's (AGI) E/PO group in Washington, D.C. The E/PO programs should be coordinated and expanded by combining the resources of selected geophysical and geological associations.
- Begin a notification process through the SEG Global Affairs Committee to include announcements at local soci-

ety meetings of the existence and purpose of the eGY and how SEG members shall benefit from eGY. All initiatives by United States' associations are recommended to be duplicated by each international association/SEG affiliate.

- The committee shall research and write a history of the SEG and IGY to act as a documentation of the historical significance of participation by SEG members in the legendary IGY. This manuscript shall be provided to the editor of SEG's primary journals.

- Notify the SEG Exhibitors Committee that the 2007 and 2008 Annual Meetings shall have a booth or booths dedicated to the activities of the eGY, IPY, IHY, and IYPE as they relate to the IGY-2. Historical data shall be exhibited about IGY 1957–1958. The committee shall invite representatives from the four groups to present materials at this/these booth/booths.

SEG eGY Initiatives

- Special Issue of Monthly Journal THE LEADING EDGE dedicated to the eGY
- SEG Members and the IGY Gold Program
- Where will you be on October 4, 2007 ?
- SEG/AGU/AGI Congressional Visits Day
- SEG/AGI/NSTA Education Exchange
- eGY Data Stewardship Policy

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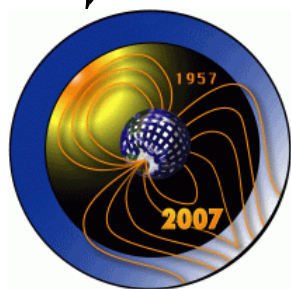
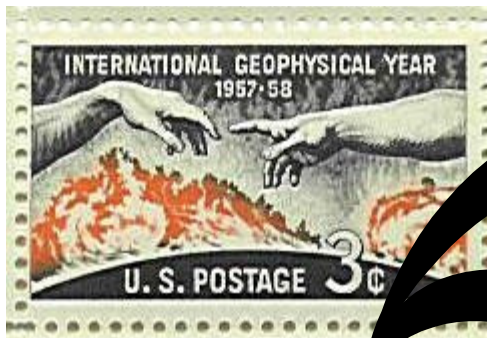
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Magnetic gradiometry

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The Leading Edge

eGY Issue

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- Barbara Thompson, NASA
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OCTOBER 4, 2007

