

Minutes
M-001-2025-IUGS-COGE
COGE General Assembly Meeting 2025

Date:	28 th March 2024
Time:	07.00 hours (AWST)
Place/Type (chair):	Virtual (Microsoft Team meeting), hosted by Elvaene James)
Attendees:	Sandra Villacorta (SV), Elvaene James (EJ), Susana Alaniz (SA), Young-Shin Park (YP), Liliana Corona (LC), Roberto Greco (RG), Gary Lewis (GL), Rodrigo Gutierrez (RG)
Apologies:	Ian Clark (IC), Susanna Occhipinchi (SO), Kholoud.Mohamed (KM), Sharon Locke (SL), Sepah (MS), Clara Vasconcelos (CV), Scott Miller (SM)

Item	Description		
1	Quorum: There being seven (6) committee members present, and two (2) guests attended, a quorum was declared, and the meeting proceeded.		
2	Business arising from previous meetings/communications		
	Resolution	Responsible	Status: Complete (C), Ongoing (O), Pending (P)
	Submit the 2024 Report of Activities and 2025 Working Plan to IUGS	SV	C
	Organising the General Assembly scheduled for Jan 2025.	EJ	C
	Contribute to the 2024 Report of Activities and 2025 Working Plan to IUGS	COGE Leaders	C
	Coordinate with Spanish-speaking commissioners for and plan the webinar series focused in Latin-America and The Caribbean region.	SV / Romina Celabe	C
	Incorporating feedback from Dev survey 24-3 into the ToR and send a new one for member approval.	EJ	C
	Implementing feedback from Dev survey 2024 -3 in the GEFO Programme	SO	C
	Complete budget calculation for the GEFO Workshop 2025 in Africa	MS	C
	Preparing advertising for the launch of our special issue in IUGS Journal Episodes	EA	C
	Informing COGE Bord which sub-commission/committee she will be integrating	Daniela Mateus	C
	To organise POC series of webinars	KM	O
	Plan and conduct activities for EDI in the year 2025	LC	O
	To monitor membership activity and request information from inactive members	EJ	O
	To program a webinar on geoscience education to feature the Chris King medal winner	RG	O

	Prepare the Video for Dr Lacreu speech at the Argentinian Geological Congress 2024 when receiving CK medal	LC	P
	Follow up the MoU with EGU-COGE	SL	P
	Uploading edited videos on COGE YouTube channel	EA	P
	To promote COGE in different languages	Soc Media Team	P
	Submit national reports of involvement or representation of COGE locally	Voting Members	P
	Inform on the progress of new MoUs	SL	P
	Submitting a short video on their experience as COGE member	All	P
	Preparing a future survey strategy to start working on advocating for geoscience education policies	KM	P
	Implementing the outreach strategy to raise awareness of geoscience education worldwide and collaborating with the COGE Board to internationalise efforts.	KM	P
	Inform COGE Board on the pending task of the POC subcommission	KM	P
	Submitting a report of COGE Activities to IUGS E-Newsletter editor	EA	P
	Changing the COGE bank account to an international one	IC	P
	Implementing feedback from the Development survey 2024 -3 in the Finance management of the commission	IC	P
3	Review of agenda subjects		
	Agenda subject	Action	Responsible
	COGE General updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SV extended a warm welcome to all attendees at the first meeting of 2025. SV also welcomed GL, one of the founders of COGE, and RG for attending the meeting. SV reported that COGE submitted its 2024 Achievements Report and a four-year Master Plan to IUGS. She emphasized that COGE's strategic focus will be on strengthening collaboration with key international partners. As priorities include improving content delivery, enhancing operational coordination, and reinforcing global partnerships to advance geoscience education initiatives, she asked for collaboration from the leaders of the commission to achieve our annual goals. EJ provided general updates based on the previous meeting, particularly regarding the revised Terms of Reference (ToR) aimed at improving the management of COGE. Additionally, SV noted that this version of the ToR is currently under evaluation by the IUGS Executive Committee. 	To prepare minutes of this meeting	EJ [done]
		Inform on approval of 2025 Plan and new ToR from IUGS Exec Committee	SV
		Follow up on the activities of the new COGE leaders	SO

<p>Sub-commissions' Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equality, Diversity and Inclusion LC spoke about the exhibition "The Girl Who Brought Me Here", which was co-organized by the Institute of Geoscience and COGE to commemorate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science. LC further elaborated that the event was well received by the community, and the authorities have shown interest in introducing the exhibition in schools to promote geoscience education. Furthermore, she mentioned that extra material that was not published on the date of International Women's Day would be made available as part of the GEM campaign. Publicity, Outreach and Communication SV shared updates on the development of the COGE-POC webinar series for the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region, which was successfully launched during a dedicated week in March 2025. She also noted that Egyptian universities and academic institutions participated in February in a workshop co-organized by COGE and held at Cairo University, highlighting COGE's growing role in advancing geoscience education globally. Although this event has not yet been published on our platforms, a detailed recap is planned for release in April. International relations SV reported that the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IGEO and the European Geosciences Union (EGU) has evolved into a formal agreement, aimed at further strengthening collaborative efforts between both organizations. She also noted that the document has been submitted to the IUGS Executive Committee for the necessary paperwork and formal review, and we are currently awaiting their feedback. Finally mentioned that the new leader of this subcommission is SL, who will report soon on coordinations on the matter in the USA. GEFO Program SV, on behalf of SO, reported the success of the February 2025 GEFO workshop in Accra, attended by 40 participants. YP was pleased to contribute to this event, highlighting the need for more in-person workshops, highlighting that it paved the way for future events. Additionally, SV mentioned that new applications from Libya and Nigeria have been received, as have those from Slovenia and Tanzania; and plans for a second workshop in LAC are underway. New directives include quarterly activity reports from Field Officers, building subcontinental networks with regional coordinators, and designing a logo to strengthen GEFO's identity and cohesion. 	Coordinate with EA to publish material for the EDI campaign into GEM campaign	LC
	To share the recap post on the event in Egypt	EA
	To provide an update on the status of the proposed formal agreement between COGE and EGU, submitted to the IUGS Executive Committee for feedback.	SV
	Report on coordination on next MoUs with organisations in the USA	SL
	To present the project for the next GEFO workshop in LAC	SO

<p>Committees reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Media SV mentioned that flyers for the Chris King Medal will be posted on social media platforms to encourage nominations from around the world. Finances SV, on behalf of IC, shared the projected 2025 budget and anticipated expenses to support COGE's planned activities. She clarified that the budget is still pending formal approval from the IUGS Executive Committee. Additionally, SV noted that IC will report on how feedback from the 2024 Development Survey will inform financial management improvements, and mentioned that transitioning COGE's bank account to an international one is being considered to enhance transparency and accessibility. Awards RG spoke about the Chris King Medal, noting that the Award Committee is currently overseeing the nomination process and receiving candidate submissions. He requested that the webmaster and the Social Media Committee update the flyers and related information about the Medal on the website and social media platforms. The publications SA formally announced her retirement from the committee. She highlighted the special publication featured in Episodes, and the committee's growing presence in the Spanish-language journal Enseñanza y Comunicación de las Geociencias. SA also explained the committee's work in developing and implementing a diploma program in Earth Sciences teaching, which has benefited the Latin American community. Additionally, the committee organized the March 2025 Colloquium on Teaching and Learning Geosciences. Membership EJ highlighted changes in leadership within the Sub-commissions and Committees due to other commitments, with new members appointed from within the same committees. SV emphasized the importance of maintaining a steady workflow in IUGS-COGE to ensure smooth management. In her remarks, she reminded everyone to remain active in IUGS-COGE to accomplish our shared goals. 	To launch campaign for the Chris King Medal applications	EA
	Report on new financial management improvements	IC
	Report on new international COGE's bank account	IC
	Update the Chris King medal section on COGE Website	LC
	Launch the campaign for Chris King Medal 2025	EA
	Inform on the replacement for SA in the leadership of the COGE Publications committee	EJ
	<p>Summary of the IUGS EC meeting in Paris, France. SV reported on behalf of SO, our Vice Chair, regarding her participation in the 81st IUGS Executive Committee Meeting held in Paris on October 17–18, 2024. During the session, the Vice Chair delivered a 10-minute presentation outlining COGE's 2024 achievements, the strategic plan for 2025, key operational challenges, and expectations from IUGS. She emphasized the successful</p>	

	<p>GEFO workshop in Ghana, the need to better showcase Field Officers activities, issues encountered in advancing collaboration with IGEO, and the encouraging response from EGU towards a formal cooperation agreement.</p> <p>SV finalised mentioning that the IUGS Executive Committee is yet to confirm its approval of COGE’s proposed plans and budget; and that EJ will inform the Commission as soon as a communication is received from IUGS representatives.</p>			
	<p>Other of interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• RG, a new applicant to the COGE membership and an engineering geologist from Mexico, introduced himself and shared his previous collaboration with SA on publication initiatives. He expressed interest in contributing to the Publication Committee, when his membership would be formally approved.• GL conveyed his appreciation for COGE’s continued commitment to the mission initiated by the late Chris King and extended his warm greetings to all participants.			
4	<p>Closing of General Assembly</p> <p>SV thanked everyone for their continuous support and collaboration towards the commission. SV also wished everyone a good weekend.</p>			
5	<p>Next meeting: to be organised by EJ</p>			
	Time	TBA		
	Date			
	Place/Type	Virtual (Microsoft Team meeting)		
6	<p>Meeting close: 08:00 hours (AWST)</p>			
Minute taker:		EJ		
Review:				
Date:				