

Minutes
M-008-2025-IUGS-COGE
COGE –End of Year Meeting – Nov/2025

Date & Time (Start)	28 th November 2025, 21.00 hours (AWST)
End of the meeting (time)	22.00 hours (AWST)
Location / Platform / Chair (lead)	Virtual (Microsoft Teams), hosted by Elvaene James
Attendees	Sandra Villacorta (SV), Elvaene James (EJ), Rok Brajkovic (RB), Susanna Occhipinti (SO), Maria Solari (MS), Clemencia Gomez (CG), Sharon Locke (SL)
Apologies / Absentees	Romina Celabe (RC), Clara Vasconcelos (CV), Roberto Greco (RG), Agogo Abraham (AA)

Item	Description
1	Quorum: . With seven (7) committee members in attendance, a quorum was established, allowing the meeting to proceed.

2	Review of Previous Action Items / Follow-up			
	Action Item / Decision	Responsible	Status	Deadline
	Follow up on the LoC with the EGU Ed-COGE and coordinate communication with Stavros Stathopoulos	SV	C	N.A
	Send information about COGE activities to the AGU leadership.	SL	C	N.A
	Set up another meeting of the INR Team and inform the board of the progress of the new MoUs.	SL	C	N.A
	To submit the 2026 EOP regional webinar series plan	Kholoud M	C	N.A
	Develop a collaboration framework to operationalise MOUs (beyond formal signing)	SL	O	Jan, 2026
	To monitor membership activity and conduct formal follow-up with inactive members.	R Baskar	O	Jan, 2026
	To promote COGE in different languages	Social Media Team	O	Feb, 2026
	Oversee and delegate social media tasks; maintain coordination with the Board and inform regularly on progress and pending tasks.	Rodrigo G	O	Jan, 2026
	Support the assessment of potential sponsorship pathways for Latin American participation in IESO	SV	O	Feb, 2025
	Assess the potential for a white paper in Geoeducation in 2026	SV	O	Feb, 2026
	To coordinate sharing recap posts for past events that were not published on time.	Social Media Team	O	Jan, 2026
	Plan the 2026 activities for EDI	Liliana C	P	Jan, 2026

Gather short videos from members about their experience	Social Media Team	P	Jan, 2026
Gather relevant activities to be featured on COGE platforms	Social Media Team	P	Jan, 2026
Coordinate the GEM campaign	EOP Team	P	Jan, 2026
Prepare the video for Dr Lacreu's speech at the Argentinian Geological Congress 2024 when receiving the CK medal	LC	P	Jan, 2026
Follow up on the Paraguay collaboration initiative	RC	P	Jan, 2026
Follow up on potential collaboration with the DAAD-affiliated education group	Enas A	P	Jan, 2026
Consider regular reporting to MoU partners to promote joint visibility and activity.	SL	P	Jan, 2026
Formalise a collaboration model for GEFO to avoid fragmented regional operations	EOP Team	P	Jan, 2026
Coordinate with the GEFO Programme leader the plan for the 2026 workshops for FOs	AA	P	Jan, 2026
Inform the COGE Board of the progress of pending tasks for the EOP subcommission	Kholoud M	P	Jan, 2026
Preparing a survey on the EOP strategy to work on advocating for geoscience education policies	Kholoud M	P	Jan, 2026
Implementing COGE's global outreach strategy and supporting the board in internationalising geoscience education efforts.	EOP Team	P	Jan, 2026
Define the Public Awareness Campaigns	Paul P	P	Jan, 2026
Inform on approval of 2026 Plan and new ToR from IUGS Exec Committee	SV	P	Jan, 2026
Define the guidelines for the GeoArt competition for its launch in early 2026.	CG	P	Jan, 2026
Define a responsible for the Wikipedia Projects on Geoscience Education	EOP Team	P	Jan, 2026
Follow up on the activities of the COGE subcommissions	SO	P	Dec, 2025
Update the Google Sheet planner to include platform-specific columns and posting deadlines.	Social Media Team	P	Jan, 2026
Coordinate with the SM team, EOP chair/COGE Board for the interviews/webinar featuring the 2025 CK Medallist.	RG	P	Jan, 2026
Coordinate with the Board to provide finalized webinar schedules	EOP Team		Jan, 2026
formalize the GEM process/nomination form	EOP Team	P	Jan, 2026

3	Review of agenda subjects			
	Agenda Topics Discussion	Action / Key Decisions	Responsible	Deadline

	<p>Welcoming New Members</p> <p>SV welcomed all participants and acknowledged members' continued contributions to COGE. She gave the word to our new regular members:</p>	Submit details of new members to the Social Media Team to create campaign to welcoming them	EJ	Jan 2026
	<p>MS introduced herself as an expert in Environmental Geology from the National University of La Plata, having dedicated her career to scientific education across various academic levels. She also oversees programs designed to promote vocational aspirations among high school students, provides training to educators and develops courses tailored for senior citizens. She also holds the position of President of the Argentine Network of Earth Science Educators (REDCITIA).</p>	Incorporate activity reports from chair/group leaders into the 2025 report	EJ	Jan 2026
	<p>CG is a palaeontologist and currently holds a position as a lecturer at the National University of Colombia. She mentioned being keen to engage in COGE, given its considerable importance for the advancement of education within the college and the School of Geology, especially in regions such as South America.</p>			
	<p>COGE General updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SV reported that COGE activities over the past year have been increasingly aligned with the IUGS mission and the expectations of the IUGS Executive Committee. She emphasized the importance of coordinated work across subcommissions and committees to strengthen global impact, visibility, and effectiveness in geoscience education. Key outcomes of the Development Survey 2025-2 were presented, noting that proposed updates to the COGE Terms of Reference aim to improve balance, clarity of roles, and governance efficiency. SV confirmed that new members are strategically assigned by the Governance - membership committee to teams requiring additional capacity. The Chair also noted COGE's active support for GeoSciEd X (Adelaide, 2026) through coordinated promotion, global networking, and facilitation of international participation. SV congratulated Baskar R. on his appointment as Compliance Advisor and welcomed him to the COGE Board, and also welcomed Xavier Juan (Spain) as a newly appointed Regular Member. 	Coordinate with the Board and the INR Team and continue promotion of GeoSciEd X through social media and targeted outreach, with emphasis on underrepresented regions.	Rodrigo G	Jan, 2026

<p>Sub-commissions' Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) SV provided an overview of the EDI webinar, which has been successfully uploaded to the COGE YouTube channel as part of the commission's outreach and knowledge-sharing activities. Education, Outreach and Policy (EOP) SV reported on key developments within the EOP Subcommission. Following the outcomes of the Development Survey 2025–2, the subcommission was formally renamed from Public Outreach and Communication to Education, Outreach and Policy, reflecting its expanded scope and closer alignment with COGE's strategic priorities. She highlighted the recent EOP webinar by Paul Claverley addressing challenges and opportunities related to the integration of Artificial Intelligence in geoscience education, which fostered discussion on emerging pedagogical approaches and responsible innovation in teaching practices. Outcomes from the latest EOP Team meeting included clarification of leadership roles and responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CG will lead the GeoArt Project, including development of its conceptual framework and preparation for its launch in early 2026. Paul Palma will coordinate EOP awareness campaigns, working closely with the COGE Social Media and Communications team. SO continues as GEFO Programme Leader, working with Marian Selorm, Monica Guzman, and Young Shin Park, and in coordination with AA on the planning and delivery of Field Officer training activities. <p>It was noted that responsible leads still need to be assigned for the Wikipedia Project, and that RG is expected to identify and commit to leading one EOP project. Additionally, a GEFO-related event is being organised in Libya, with outcomes to be disseminated through COGE communication platforms. Monica Guzman (Bolivia) represented COGE at the IWA Congress.</p> <p>Planned EOP activities for 2026 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interview with Dr. Amelia Calonge, recipient of the 2025 Chris King Medal. Scheduled webinars featuring invited speakers from partner organisations, starting with Dr. Amelia Calonge, to strengthen 	<p>Submit EDI relevant activities to be featured on COGE platforms.</p>	Liliana C	Dec, 2025
	<p>Set up a meeting for the EOP Team to clarify roles, reporting lines, and expectations within the EOP Subcommission.</p>	EJ	Dec, 2025 [Done}
	<p>Coordinate the preparation of the certificates for the GEFO event in Libya and support participation of the COGE member in Bolivia.</p>	Rodrigo G	Jan, 2025

	<p>inter-institutional collaboration and knowledge exchange.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International relations SL reported that the IR team will act as liaisons with designated partner organisations. For 2026, proposed collaborations focus on organisations in Asia and Europe. The team will also update the partnership framework and expand social media engagement to strengthen COGE’s international visibility. She noted that agreements with REDCITIA (Argentina) and EGU Education (Europe) will expand collaborative initiatives in geoscience education. Ongoing engagement in the LAC region includes support for IAEG Peru’s 2026 Geoscience Olympiad and the inclusion of LAC colleagues in the forthcoming Geoscience Journal Special Issue. A follow-up IR team meeting is scheduled for December 2 to continue advancing these actions. 			
	<p>Committees reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Media SV reported that the Social Media Team has been strengthened with the appointment of Rodrigo Gutiérrez as Social Media Coordinator. This reinforcement has enabled the reactivation of communication channels, improved coordination with Subcommissions, and progress on previously pending tasks. Finances SV informed members that preparation of the 2026 budget proposal, to be included in the report to the IUGS, is underway. All Subcommissions and Committees have been formally requested to submit their respective budget estimates to ensure timely consolidation and submission in line with IUGS requirements. Awards SV confirmed that the Chris King Medal 2025, awarded to Prof. Amelia Calonge, will be formally presented during the <i>XXIII Symposium on Teaching Geology</i>, to be held in Almería, Spain, 6–11 July 2026 and that this is being coordinated with AEPECT thanks to the support of our new member from Spain, Xavier Juan. Publications SV reported on behalf of CV that the forthcoming COGE Special Issue in the Geoscience Journal will involve publication fees. CV will submit a formal request for a full waiver, highlighting COGE’s mandate and contribution to advancing 	<p>Provide an update on the progress of the COGE-led Special Issue in Geoscience Education.</p>	<p>CV</p>	<p>Jan, 2026</p>
		<p>Report on logistics and coordination for the 2025 Chris King Medal Award Ceremony, to be held during the <i>XXIII Simposio sobre Enseñanza de la Geología</i>.</p>	<p>RG</p>	<p>Jan, 2026</p>
		<p>Coordinate the preparation of welcoming flyers for new COGE members.</p>	<p>Rodrigo G</p>	<p>Dec, 2025 [Done]</p>
		<p>Coordinate the preparation of the December contribution to the IUGS E-Newsletter editor</p>	<p>MS</p>	<p>Dec, 2025 [Done]</p>
		<p>Submit the December contribution to the IUGS E-Newsletter editors</p>	<p>SV</p>	<p>Dec, 2025 [Done]</p>

	<p>geoscience education at the international level. CV will report on the outcome soon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership EJ reported that COGE welcomed new Regular Members from Argentina and Spain, while a member from Sri Lanka concluded their long-standing membership with the Commission. She also confirmed the appointment of Rodrigo Gutiérrez as the new Social Media Coordinator. Members were informed of the vacancy for the Treasurer position on the COGE Board, and Regular Members were invited to express interest. Finally, EJ noted that membership processes are under review in line with governance requirements, and welcomed Baskar R. as Compliance Advisor. 			
	<p>2025 Report SV outlined the status of the 2025 Activity Report to be submitted to IUGS and confirmed that the reporting template and submission link had been circulated to all team leaders and members. Subcommission and Committee leads were requested to complete and validate their respective activity entries to enable timely consolidation in accordance with IUGS deadlines.</p>	<p>Compile leaders reports and submit the December 2025 COGE Activity Report</p>	EJ	<p>Dec, 2025 [Done]</p>
	<p>2026 Working Plan SV provided an update on the preparation of the 2026 Work Plan and associated budget, noting that the plan will reflect COGE's strengthened strategic direction. Increased emphasis will be placed on International Relations (IR) and the Education, Outreach and Policy (EOP) Subcommission, in line with IUGS priorities and recent internal assessments.</p> <p>Members were invited to complete and submit their respective work plan and budget inputs to support finalisation and submission within the required timeframe.</p>	<p>In coord. with the Board, finalize the 2026 Work Plan, including the budget for each subcommission/committee</p>	EJ	<p>Dec, 2025 [Done]</p>
4	<p>Any Other Business It was mentioned, a coordination meeting with COGE members from the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region is under initial planning to establish a collaborative working space and define priorities for 2026. Paul P, RC and SV are overseeing this subject.</p>			
	<p>Closing of General Assembly SV encouraged members to continue exchanging ideas and maintaining active communication through official email channels. She thanked all participants for their commitment and ongoing support throughout 2025 and</p>			
5	<p>Adjournment / Meeting Closure The meeting was formally adjourned by the Chair who extended best wishes for the year-end and the holiday season to members and their families.</p>			

6	Next Meeting Information		
	Date/Time	TBA	
	Place/Type	Virtual (Microsoft Team meeting)	
	Organizer	EJ	

Minute taker	EJ
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Date of Submission to attendees	20/12/2025
Date of Approval by the COGE Board	30/12/2025

Status Completed (C), Ongoing (O), Pending (P)

