



International Association of Hydrogeologists

Polish National Chapter – Annual Report for 2012

Council of the Polish National Chapter of IAH

Andrzej J. Witkowski, President

Anna Kuczyńska, Secretary,

Jerzy Małecki, Member,

Jacek Rózkowski, Member,

Stanisław Staśko, Member,

Andrzej Sadurski, Chairman of the Hydrogeological Commission of the Committee of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences

Membership information:

At present, the Polish National Chapter consists of 53 members, including one honorary member – prof. Jan Dowgiałło. Most of members are associated with academic centres and scientific institutions. Only four members come from the industry. Majority of members are full time professionals. Full list of current members presents table 1.

Tab. 1 List of members of the Polish National Chapter, 8.04. 2013

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Activities

In 2012, the Polish National Chapter organised two board meetings and one general assembly for all members. The board meetings were held on the 23rd of March and the 26th of October in Warsaw, and the GA was held on the 15th of November in Ustroń. Reports from the above meetings are available at www.iahpoland.org (in *Z prac Zarządu*).

The important activities of the Polish National Chapter during 2012 were:

- 1) co-organisation of the 3rd International Field Workshop for Young Hydrogeologists on “*Groundwater monitoring and protection*”, which was held between 1 - 3 of June 2012 in Ustroń. The workshop was attended by 40 students from Poland, Slovakia and Nigeria. Students gave 7 presentations and presented 13 posters. Two field sessions were held, one on groundwater monitoring in Goczałkowice and one on mineral waters in Ustroń. The workshop was organised in cooperation with the Student Scientific Association of Hydrogeologists “AQUA”; Department of Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology, Faculty of Earth Science, University of Silesia; Innovation, Technology Transfer and Development Center, Foundation of the University of Silesia.
- 2) co-organisation of the international seminar: calcium and magnesium in groundwater – distribution and significance, which was held in Katowice from the 27th to 29th of September. The main objective of the seminar was not only to present results of research on calcium and magnesium in groundwater, but also to discuss their influence on human health. Therefore, the event had a multidisciplinary character, and was attended by hydrogeologists and hydrochemists as well as by physicians. The seminar was attended by 45 specialists from 11 countries, some from countries as distant as Nigeria and Thailand. Twenty-two presentations were given in four thematic sessions: methodology of testing for calcium and magnesium content in groundwater; calcium and magnesium content in groundwater in different aquifers; calcium and magnesium in drinking water and bottled mineral water and influence of calcium and magnesium in groundwater on human health. Two field trips were organised.
- 3) co-organisation of the Vth conference on groundwater flow modelling held in Ustroń, from 14th to 16th of November. The conference was organised in association with the Department of Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology, Faculty of Earth Science, University of Silesia and the Polish Geological Institute – National Research Institute. The workshop is dedicated to professional mathematicians - hydrogeologists, organised every two years by various leading academic centres in Poland. The main topics discussed during the conference were groundwater flow modelling, contaminant transport, hydrochemical modelling, groundwater management, mining applications and groundwater-surface water interactions. The conference was very successful gathered about 150 participants. There were two full days of presentations (4 keynote presentations, 15 oral presentations and 23 posters). As a preconference event, a half-day introduction course to groundwater flow modeling in FEFLOW environment was given. As a postconference event, a half-day course for application Arc Hydro Groundwater for GIS analysis. The interest in both training courses was very high (30 participants). Conference papers were published in the Bulletin of the Polish Geological Institute Special Issue No 451, Hydrogeology, z. XIII/ (2012).
- 4) management of the website of the Polish National Chapter www.iahpoland.org. The website contains up to date information about hydrogeological meetings and conferences held in Poland and in neighbouring countries, information about past conferences, an extensive database of hydrogeological publications, hydrogeological photo gallery, links to interesting hydrogeological websites – hydrogeological institutions in Poland and abroad, educational web pages. The web page contains full information about the board and its activities, as well as information about membership.

5) delegates of the Polish National Chapter participated in 39th IAH Congress in Canada. At this Congress President of Polish National Chapter attended the meeting of representatives of IAH National Chapters presenting the report on current activities of our chapter.