



International Association of Hydrogeologists

Polish National Chapter

Report 2017-2019

Council of the IAH Polish National Chapter 2017-2019

President: dr Adam Porowski, Polish Academy of Science

V-ce President: prof. Jacek Rózkowski, University of Silesia

Secretary: dr Anna Kuczyńska, Polish Geological Institute – National Research Institute

Board Member: prof. Ewa Krogulec, Warsaw University

Board Member: dr Anna Żurek, AGH University of Science and Technology

1. Membership information

During the period of 2017-2019 the number of members of the Polish chapter varied between 41-45. At the end of September 2019 the Polish National Chapter comprised of 41 members, including one institutional member (Polish Geological Institute-National Research Institute). Most of members of the chapter are associated with academic centres and scientific institutions and are full time professionals. At the end of the reporting period only two of our members were students. Comparing to previous data, decrease of student members has been noted.

During the reporting period, two National Honorary Memberships were appointed to prof. Andrzej Witkowski, University of Silesia and prof. Stanisław Staśko, University of Wrocław. The National Honorary Memberships were proposed by members of the Council for an outstanding contribution in hydrogeological developments on a national scale as well as promotion of the Polish Chapter on the international scene. Awards were voted by all members in an open voting during the General Assembly Meeting held on the 10th of October 2016 in Zakopane. The Honorary Memberships were presented the laureates during the following General Assembly Meeting held on the 16th of November 2017 in Wojanów.

In the reporting period 2017-2019 the Polish Chapter has suffered a loss of two outstanding Polish hydrogeologists, members of the Polish chapter, recognised nationally and worldwide for their tremendous contribution in the development of the hydrogeological science – prof. Andrzej Rózkowski (2018) and prof. Jan Dowgiałło (2019). For many years Professors Rózkowski and Dowgiałło have been involved in activities of the IAH at both national and international levels. Prof. Dowgiałło was one of initiators of the IAH Commission on Mineral and Thermal Waters and was honoured by the IAH with the Honorary Membership in 2005.

2. Activities:

The Polish National Chapter organized General Assembly Meetings for all members in each year of the reporting period. These were held on the 16th of October 2017 in Wojanów, on the 17th of October 2018 in Będlewo, and on the 11th of September 2019 in Toruń. Reports of the above meetings, as well as other meeting of the Council held throughout the reporting period, are available at <https://poland.iah.org/polski-komitet-narodowy-iah-informacje/z-prac-zarzadu>

2.1. Scientific contribution of the Polish National Chapter: The most important role of the national chapter is to promote professional activities to deepen knowledge about groundwater and related technologies. For that reason the Chapter's Council contributes to national and international hydrogeological conferences held in Poland. During the reported period the following conferences organised in Poland were supported by the IAH Council members:

1. Conference Hydrogeology in Practice – Practice in Hydrogeology; May 2017, Polanica
2. The XVIIIth National Conference of the Current Challenges in Hydrogeology; 15-17 October 2017, Wojanów
3. New Approaches to Groundwater Vulnerability; 4-8 June 2018, Ustroń
4. The VIIIth National Conference on Groundwater Flow Modelling; 16-17 October, 2018, Będlewo
5. Conference “Applied geomorphology - Natural and activated processes”; 5-7 June 2019, European Center for Geological Education, Chęciny
6. The XIXth National Conference of the Current Challenges in Hydrogeology, 10-12 September 2019, Toruń

All the above meetings are major, well known national conferences which gather ca. 200-300 participants from all national scientific centres as well as industry in Poland. Council members were among scientific committees of these conferences. The Council organised also a special session on international projects conducted within the polish scientific centres that was held in Wojanów, during the XVIIIth National Conference of the Current Challenges in Hydrogeology, 15-17 October 2017. The session included 5 presentations of EU funded projects that were currently being developed with contribution of polish scientists. The specific projects were:

- WATERPROTECT – Innovative tools enabling drinking WaterProtection in rural and urban environments - Marzena Nowakowska, Zenon Wiśniowski, Ryszard Hoc, Anna Kuczyńska, Małgorzata Woźnicka, Polish Geological Institute-National Research Institute
- AquaNES Demonstrating synergies in combined natural and engineered processes for water treatment systems – Krzysztof Dragon, University of Adam Mickiewicz in Poznań
- Infiltration recharge in sandur areas - Adam Szymkiewicz, Beata Jaworska-Szulc, Małgorzata Pruszkowska-Cacarse, Anna Gumuła-Kawęcka, Wioletta Gorczevska-Langner, Gdańsk University of Technology
- M4ShaleGas - Measuring, Monitoring, Mitigating and Managing the environmental impact of shale gas – Monika Koniecznyńska, Polish Geological Institute-National Research Institute

- PROLINE-CE – Efficient Practices of Land Use Management Integrating Water Resources Protection and Non-structural Flood Mitigation Experiences - Joanna Czekaj, Mirosława Skrzypczak, Górnośląskie Przedsiębiorstwo Wodociągów S.A.
- Bonus - Soils2Sea Reducing nutrient loadings from agricultural soils to the Baltic Sea via groundwater and streams – Przemysław Wachniew, Anna Żurek, Jarosław Kania, Grzegorz Malina, Kazimierz Różański, Stanisław Witczak, Dominika Bar-Michalczyk, Tomasz Michalczyk, Damian Zięba; AGH University of Science and Technology

2.2. Participation in the IAH Congresses: delegates of the Council represented the Chapter in the 44th IAH Congress in Montpellier, France and the 45th IAH Congress in Daejeon, Korea.

2.3. Management of the Polish National Chapter website: In 2018 the national chapter's website was transferred to the IAH server and is currently available at the following address: <https://poland.iah.org>. The website was created from the beginning and contains full information about the Council's activities, as well as information about members of the chapter (on members request only). The webpage contains up to date information about hydrogeological meetings and conferences held in Poland and in neighbouring countries, an extensive database of hydrogeological publications, links to interesting hydrogeological websites – hydrogeological institutions in Poland and abroad, educational web pages.

2.4. Participation in the IAH working groups: Some of the members of the Polish National Chapter took part in activities of the IAH commissions and working groups.

The Commission of Mineral and Thermal Waters of IAH (CMTW IAH) was the most supported by our members. Dr Adam Porowski (President of the Polish Chapter) is the secretary of the CMTW and activities in the framework of this group were announced and welcomed each year. The CMTW organized the thematic scientific sessions during the following international events: the 44th IAH Congress in Montpellier, France (2016), MinWat 2017 in Luso, Portugal, the 45th IAH Congress in Daejeon, Korea (2018), the 5th Geological Congress in Velenje, Slovenia (2018), the 3rd International Conference "Groundwater", Pyatigorsk, Russia (2019). Reports from the CMTW activities concerning scientific sessions, field trips and publications are sent each year to the IAH, and are accessible on the new website <https://cmtw.iah.org>. The 3rd international conference MinWat2020 is organized in Italy, with major initiative of the CMTW IAH <https://www.minwatitaly2020.org/>

3. Awards

In 2018, during the 19th Slovak Hydrogeological Conference; 6-9 November, Kupele Nimnica. prof. Jacek Rózkowski, the V-ce President of the Polish Chapter, was awarded the medal of the Slovak Association of Hydrogeologists (SAH). The award was a tribute to the long lasting cross-border cooperation of prof. Rózkowski with the SAH.