

Dear Newsletter readers,

Our homepage has been open for the submission of paper and poster proposals since 1st July. As of today it is now possible to register for the Congress using our online system. On the Congress homepage ([www.igc2012.org](http://www.igc2012.org)) you can register for the Congress and book other events, including the various components of the social programme such as the official opening ceremony, the Lord Mayor's reception or the Conference Dinner. From today it is also possible to book field trips. On the first day of the Congress there will be a number of workshops for young scientists (postgraduates, post-docs). These can also be booked from today. Early registration is advisable as there are only a limited number of places on the field trips and workshops.

We are particularly pleased to have acquired a prominent patron for the International Schools Olympiad (iGeo). We are glad to welcome 200 participants to Cologne for iGeo, which takes place in the week before the IGC; its closing event coincides with the opening event of the IGC 2012.

Finally we would like to remind you of the deadline for the Call for Papers and the Call for Posters: Contributions may be submitted up to and including 15.12.2011.

*With best wishes from Cologne*

*The Local Organizing Committee IGC 2012*

### **Online registration**

Registration for the Congress is possible from today. Early registration has several advantages. Early registration is possible up to 10 April at the special rate of 295 EUR (postgraduates 145 EUR / undergraduates 100 EUR). Some events have a limited number of places and should be booked early (e.g. field trips over several days). To register for the congress please use our homepage ([www.igc2012.org](http://www.igc2012.org)). To register you need a valid credit card.

### **Royal opening**

Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn of Thailand will address the congress participants at the official opening of the IGC 2012 on 26 August. The princess teaches history at the Chulachomkiao Royal Military Academy and is very involved in supporting science. We are very pleased that Princess Sirindhorn will honour the IGC 2012 in this way.

### **iGeo**

Sylvia Löhrmann (Minister of Schools and Further Education in North Rhine-Westphalia) is the patron of the International Schools Olympiad which will take place in Cologne in the week before the IGC. Minister Löhrmann will officiate at the iGeo prize-giving at the official opening of the IGC 2012. We are pleased to announce that iGeo has been recognized by UNESCO as an event in the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.

### **YRF Programme**

The workshops for young scientists can be booked from today, at no further cost apart from the regular congress fee. The following workshops will take place on the first day of the congress: "Managing a PhD thesis", "Project management", "Publishing in English: Why, where, and how", "Academic writing for young researchers", "Funding opportunities in Germany", "Funding opportunities in the EU", "Strategic decisions: the path to university career" and "Careers in science". These workshops can be booked at no extra cost when registering for the congress. For further information please see the congress homepage.

### **Science Slam and student poster competition**

The University of Cologne geography students' council will provide an opportunity for undergraduates and postgraduates to present their projects in an unusual format. They will have five minutes to convince the audience – with no limits to creativity with regards to the form of the presentation.

The students' council is also organizing a poster competition. For further information please see the homepage of the geography students' council ([www.fs-geographie.uni-koeln.de/joom/index.php/igc2012/scienceslam.html](http://www.fs-geographie.uni-koeln.de/joom/index.php/igc2012/scienceslam.html)).

### **IGC 2012 at the FIG and RGS**

Valerie Viehoff took part in the conference of the Royal Geographical Society and the Festival international de géographie in Saint-Dié-des Vosges on behalf of the Local Organizing Committee of the IGC 2012. There she presented information about the IGC 2012 concept and participation in the IGC 2012.