

IAVCEI/IACS Commission on Volcano-Ice Interactions

Report on activities in 2008

Administration and membership

Chair: Magnús T. Gudmundsson (University of Iceland)
Vice-Chair: Chris Waythomas (USGS, Alaska)
Secretary: Mary Chapman (USGS, Flagstaff)
Ex-Officio Chair: Sarah Fagents (University of Hawaii)

Advisory Committee:

Ben Edwards (Dickinson College, USA), Ron Greeley (Arizona State University, USA), Christian Huggel (University of Zurich, Switzerland), Dave McGarvie (Open University, UK), Andres Rivera (Centro de Estudio Cientificos, Chile), John Smellie (British Antarctic Survey, UK).

Web page administrator: Ben Edwards.

In April the commission had 86 listed members.

Activities

1. Commission status

The commission started 2008 as a working group of IAVCEI. Work on obtaining a commission status had begun in 2007 and the status was granted by IAVCEI in March 2008. The need for closer links between volcanologists and glaciologists has been recognised by the working group since its establishment in 2005. With the foundation of a new IUGG association in 2007, the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS), it became apparent that formal links with this new association would be important to stimulate cross-disciplinary research on volcano-ice interaction. An application to IACS for a sponsorship was therefore sent in April 2008. IACS approved the sponsorship and our working group thus had become a joint commission of IAVCEI and IACS by the end of April. It is anticipated that the administration of the commission will in future reflect this by including members from both the glaciological and geological communities.

2. IAVCEI General Assembly

The IAVCEI General Assembly took place in Reykjavík, Iceland in August 2008. The commission sponsored a session on Glaciovolcanism within the symposia: Volcano – Ice – Water Interaction, and co-sponsored two more: Fire and Ice: Volcanism and cryovolcanism in the solar system, and Subaqueous explosive volcanism. All these sessions were well attended with over 40 contributions in the Glaciovolcanism session alone. A special fieldtrip to Grímsvötn, within Vatnajökull ice cap was organized in relation to the Assembly. A meeting of the commission was held during IAVCEI, on August 21.

3. Special volume on Volcano-Ice Interaction

Papers to appear in a special volume of JVGR began to show up on the journal's webpage near the end of 2008. These papers arise from the Volcano-Ice Interaction II meeting in Vancouver, Canada in June 2007. The editors of the volume are Ben Edwards, Ian Skilling, Hugh Tuffen and Lionel Wilson.

4. Web page

The web-page of the commission was maintained by Dickinson College under the supervision and editorship of Ben Edwards. A link to the commission image database was added to the IAVCEI photogallery in December.

5. Summer School on Volcano-Ice Interaction, planned for 2009

Preparations for the summer school are ongoing. It was decided to hold the school in Iceland in July 2009, under the Nordic Volcanological Center Summer School scheme. A successful grant application to the Nordic Countries Nordforsk academic programme has already secured partial financing for the School. It will take place at Laugarvatn, South Iceland 30 June – 9 July 2009. Organisers of the summer school are Magnús T. Gudmundsson, Ármann Höskuldsson, Dave McGarvie and Sarah Fagents. Information can be found at http://jardvis.hi.is/page/nordvulk_summerschool%202009 and the commission web page.

6. Committee on nomenclature

An ad hoc committee on volcano-ice interaction nomenclature was formed at the commission meeting in Reykjavík in August. Its members are: John Smellie, Ian Skilling, Dave McGarvie, Sarah Fagents and Kelly Russel (chair). The committee is expected to consult with members of the commission and to come up with recommendations in April 2009.

5 January 2009,

Magnús T. Gudmundsson, Chair
Chris Waythomas, Vice-Chair
Mary Chapman, Secretary