

IAVCEI/IACS Commission on Volcano-Ice Interactions

Report on activities in 2009

Administration and membership

Chair: Chris Waythomas (USGS, Alaska)

Vice-Chair: Mary Chapman (USGS, Flagstaff)

Secretary: Christian Huggel (University of Zurich)

Ex-Officio Chair: Magnús T. Gudmundsson (University of Iceland)

Advisory Committee:

Ben Edwards (Dickinson College, USA), Ron Greeley (Arizona State University, USA), Sarah Fagents (University of Hawaii), 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.

Call for Nominees for Commission Secretary

The Volcano-Ice Interactions Commission of IAVCEI and IACS are soliciting nominations for an opening on its Executive Committee beginning in January 2010. The open position is that of commission secretary. The individual selected for this position, by vote of the commission membership, will serve a one-year term as secretary, followed by a year as vice chair, and finally a year as commission chair. To maintain appropriate discipline balance among members of the executive committee, we seek individuals with strong backgrounds in field-volcanology.

Please forward letters of nomination to the commission secretary, Christian Huggel (christian.huggel@geo.uzh.ch) or commission chair, Chris Waythomas (chris@usgs.gov). The deadline for receipt of nominations is January 6, 2010.

2010 Meeting Announcements

EGU, General Assembly, 2-7 May 2010, Vienna, Austria, session GMPV12

“Glaciovolcanism as a climate proxy: progress and problems.”

This session seeks contributions that present field, analytical and/or theoretical studies using glaciovolcanism as a climate or environmental proxy. We especially encourage contributions describing new isotopic dating methods or protocols that can yield sub-glacial-cycle age-precision for Miocene to Pleistocene eruptions, particularly for basalts; new and/or improved compositional proxies that can identify a glacial eruptive setting; examples of palaeo-ice thickness estimates from field and/or volatile measurements; and results of well-developed palaeoenvironmental case studies, including studies of erosional histories that document extent of edifice modification by post-eruption glaciations. By showcasing these field- and laboratory-based advances at EGU, we hope to raise the profile and further establish the application of glaciovolcanism as a

mainstream palaeoclimatic proxy methodology of similar credibility and utility as more orthodox methods, such as studies of glacigenic sediments. about the General Assembly and guidelines regarding abstract format, submission and oral/poster presentations are available on the Assembly Web Site: <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2010>. Deadline for receipt of abstracts is 18 January 2010. The session is organized by Ben Edwards and John Smellie.

2009 Activities of the Commission

·The NORDVULK Summer School on Volcano-Ice Interaction, co-sponsored by the IAVCEI-IACS Commission on Volcano-Ice Interactions was a big success!

·Presentation on Commission status and activities to the IACS bureau meeting during the IAMAS-IAPSO-IACS Joint Assembly (MOCA-09) in Montreal, Canada, 19-29 July 2009.

·Co-sponsoring of International Meeting on Climate Forcing of Geological and Geomorphological Hazards 15-17 September 2009, University College London

·Co-sponsor of International Workshop on Glacier, Permafrost and GLOF Hazards 10-13 November 2009, Vienna.

The Workshop was organized by the IACS/IPA joint Working Group on Glacier and Permafrost Hazards in Mountains (GAPHAZ), the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences, Vienna (BOKU) and the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI). Five keynote lectures on each morning provided sufficient time for plenum discussions, and were followed by several break-out sessions and dedicated poster sessions in the afternoon and evening. Over 70 scientists and practitioners from nearly 20 countries covering all the continents joined the workshop and gave very positive response on the event. Many participants had extensive experience working with, and managing high mountain hazards in different regions of the World. One keynote lecture and a poster session was dedicated to hazards from volcano-ice interactions, emphasizing the enormous destructive potential of such hazards that has been experienced in recent events, and highlighting possible changes of hazard situations in view of climate change. Current and future effects of climate change on high-mountain hazards was a consistent subject through a large number of presentations and discussions. In many plenum discussions, in break-out sessions and keynote lectures the importance of the human dimension for risk reduction was stressed, along with the need to better integrate the social, cultural, economic and political dimension on the one hand and the physical and engineering approaches on the other hand. The workshop organization committee produced a press release for the international media that summarized the most important findings. Furthermore, a multi-author paper on pertinent aspects of the subject including recommendations for the assessment and management of glacier, permafrost and high-mountain hazards in general will be prepared. This paper will be submitted to the *The Cryosphere* around mid-2010 and be open to the scientific community for discussion.

Planning for VII3

The time is upon us to plan the next Volcano-Ice Interaction on Earth and Mars Conference. Although no formal cycle has been established, having this meeting about every five years or so, seems to agree with most people. This would be a good time to solicit input about possible meeting venues, program topics, and potential field excursions. If you have thoughts or ideas about this meeting, please contact one of the commission officers.