

NEWSLETTER

New Concepts In Global Tectonics

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FROM THE EDITORS

Two historic NCGT meetings successfully held in Italy!

he first meeting was held in Florence on August 25 as part of 32nd International Geological Congress's special session, and the second in Urbino, a peaceful countryside in central Italy between 29 and 31 August.

Many excellent papers have been presented and discussed in both meetings. They provided ideal opportunities to develop stronger personal bonds and rapport as well as exchanging scientific ideas among participants.

The special session at the IGC had 12 oral presentations. Structure of deep Earth's interior which controls surface tectonic movements and resulting tectonic models were discussed intensively in many papers; they will set the trend of future direction of research in geodynamics of the Earth. This trend is reflected in the articles in this Newsletter number too. Most of the sessions of this IGC were still dominated by dogmatic plate tectonics. However, many of NCGT members at the congress felt a subtle difference from the previous IGCs in the general mood among plate tectonics adherents; clearly they have started to feel uneasy and to wonder whether they are really on the right track or not. We believe our sessions have given a penetrating impact on the main stream thinkers.

Both meetings were celebrated by the first official recognition of the NCGT group by international authorities. This is very encouraging and is a historic achievement by our members

since the establishment of our group in 1996. We have to continue and further develop our group's activities.

Following the Florence event, we had a very exciting meeting with heated discussions in all presentations in Urbino where over 40 participants from all corners of the world were lavished with warm hospitality by the Urbino University and the City. Readers are urged to read next "Episodes" in which Prof. Wezel will report the results of this workshop.

The next IGC is to be held in Oslo, Norway in 2008. This will be followed by the 34th IGC in Brisbane, Australia in 2012. Of course we are planning to have our sessions in both congresses.

We look forward to meeting more number of colleagues, old and new, and having more innovative ideas and data exchanged. We hope all of you will stay healthy and meet again in both congresses.

We are still negotiating with publishers to publish selected papers of the meetings. They are imposing rigorous selection criteria in quality of papers and reviewers. We will inform you when the dust is settled.

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