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Welcome

Welcome to this first edition of eGY News, the electronic newsletter for the **Electronic Geophysical Year** initiative.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep scientists and non-scientists alike informed about eGY and eGY -related developments and activities. We hope that by engaging in eGY activities and meetings you will benefit from shared expertise, better networking, more uniform standards, and reduced duplication of effort.

Please do make use **eGY News** for communicating your messages, and please circulate this newsletter to your acquaintances and colleagues. Add your name to any of the eGY mail lists (see below) if you wish to receive eGY News directly by email.

*Dan Baker, Chair of the eGY Task Group
 Charlie Barton, President of IAGA*

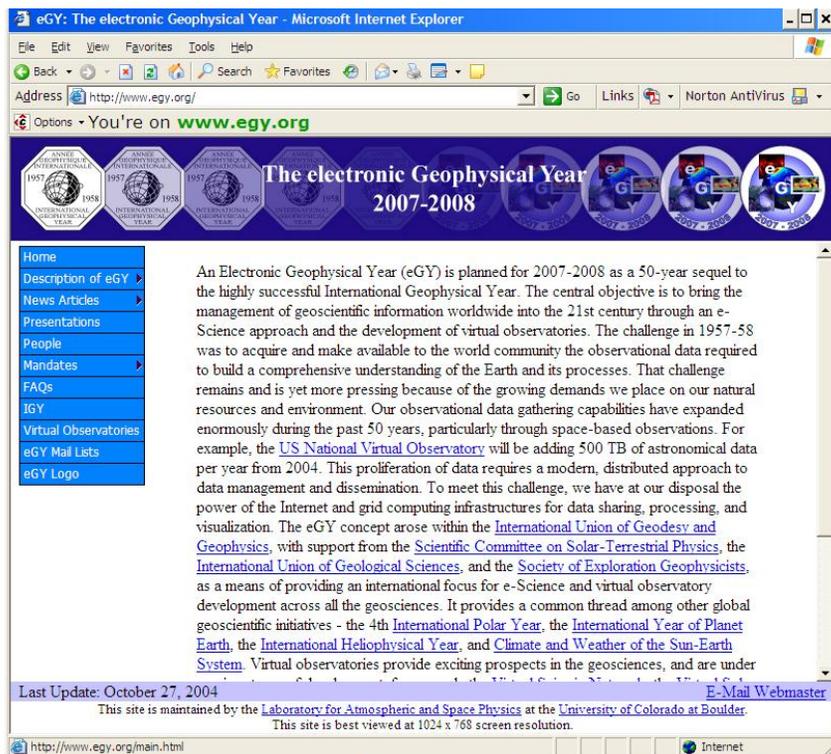
Overview of eGY

eGY provides an international framework for coordinating efforts to address data and information issues that face geoscientists and geospace scientists in the 21st Century – issues of ready and timely electronic access to data, data discovery, data release, and data preservation. Virtual Observatories are central to providing universal ready access to comprehensive data and information. eGY also serves to inform decision-makers and the public, provide educational materials, and expand scientific capabilities of developing countries.

The culmination of the eGY initiative will occur in 2007-2008, fifty years after the IGY, but the eGY program is already underway and developing rapidly.

eGY Website – www.egy.org

The eGY website currently contains descriptions of eGY – objectives, themes, operational models, activities, attractions - news articles, and downloadable copies of presentation material. The site will be developed as a portal for use by eGY participants. Please send content suitable for the website to: marissa.rusinek@lasp.colorado.edu



IGY+50

2007-2008 marks the 50-year anniversary of the highly successful International Geophysical Year (IGY). eGY is an initiative of the IUGG, driven by IAGA that grew out of

a quest for programs to mark this anniversary. Other “IGY+50” programs are:

IYPE – the International Year of Planet Earth

www.esfs.org

IPY - the International Polar Year

www.ipy.org

IHY - the International Heliophysical Year

ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov

CAWSES - Climate and Weather of the Sun-Earth System

www.ngdc.noaa.gov/stp/SCOSTEP/scostep.html

These programs, and many others, have data and information issues that can be address through eGY.

Logo competition

We have a banner for eGY, which appears at the top of this newsletter and the website home page. We also need a logo – something simple and visually striking that can be photo-reduced in black and white to a small size and still look good. Designs submitted so far can be viewed on the website. Please send suggestions for new designs and your comments about the existing ones to:

Bonnie.Grover@lasp.colorado.edu

U.S. Senate Resolution 466

The US Senate has passed a resolution on October 11, 2004 that says:

Resolved, That it is the Sense of the Senate that the President should –

- (1) endorse the concept of a worldwide campaign of scientific activity for the 2007-2008 timeframe;
- (2) direct the Director of the National Science Foundation and the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, in association with the National Academy of Sciences and other relevant governmental and nongovernmental organizations, to continue interagency and international inquiries and discussions that ensure a successful worldwide international science year in the 2007-2008 timeframe, emphasizing activities dedicated to global environmental research, education, and protection; and
- (3) submit to Congress at the earliest practical date, but no later than March 15, 2005, a report detailing the steps taken in carrying out paragraphs (1) and (2), including descriptions of possible activities and organizational structures for an international science year in 2007-2008.

The full text of the Senate Bill can be found on the IHY website (www.ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov) under Newsroom. The

Bill will benefit for all of the IGY+50 programs that are now under development, including eGY.

*From Barbara Thompson, IHY and JoAnn Joselyn,
IUGG Secretary General*

eGY email lists

To avoid eGY participants and signatories being inundated unnecessarily with eGY correspondence and notices, we have set up three tiers of email lists:

Tier-1: <eGY_Team@ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov> for those who wish to receive general business correspondence, all notices, and all newsletters (e.g., Task Group/Executive).

Tier-2: <eGY_Participants@ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov> for those who wish to receive copies of main items of communication, and all notices and newsletters.

Tier-3: <eGY_Observers@ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov> for those who wish to receive the main notices and newsletters.

Messages sent to Tier-2 will go automatically to Tier-1. Messages sent to Tier-3 will go automatically to Tier-2 and Tier-1. You can subscribe to one of the lists, or change your Tier's affiliation at these Web sites:

Tier-1: ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov/mailman/listinfo/eGY_Team/

Tier-2: ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov/mailman/listinfo/eGY_Participants/

Tier-3: ihy.gsfc.nasa.gov/mailman/listinfo/eGY_Observers/

For assistance, contact: barbara.j.thompson@nasa.gov

Virtual Observatories Workshop

A workshop: “Virtual Observatories in Space and Solar Physics” is being hosted by NASA, 27-29 October 2004, Greenbelt, MD at the Marriott Hotel. For details see: lwsde.gsfc.nasa.gov/. Vladimir Papitashvili will be presenting a talk with Dan Baker entitled “Virtual Observatories and Electronic Geophysical Year: Concept and Realization”.

CODATA Conference

The 19th International CODATA Conference takes place in Berlin, 7-10 November 2004. Bob Chen, Charlie Barton, and Herb Kroehl will be attending to represent eGY interests. Bob is chair of CODATA's Committee on Data for Science and Technology. Charlie Barton will be presenting a talk “Preparing for eGY”.

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