



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEODESY AND GEOPHYSICS
UNION GEODESIQUE ET GEOPHYSIQUE INTERNATIONALE

President

Calgary, 8 January 2019

Dr. László SZARKA
Chair, Eötvös 100 Coordination Committee

Dr. József ÁDÁM
Chair, Hungarian National Committee for IUGG

Dear colleagues,

As you know, the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) was established in Brussels on 28 July 1919 at the general assembly of the International Research Council (now the International Science Council), to coordinate international research in the geosciences as an international, non-governmental, non-profit organization, in place of several pre-existing independent scientific organizations.

The Hungarian scientist Loránd Eötvös, who was very active in pre-IUGG international organizations, died 111 days earlier, on 8 April 1919. 2019 marks not only the 100th anniversary of IUGG, but also, as it is recently accepted by UNESCO, the 100th anniversary of the great Hungarian "physicist, geophysicist, and innovator of higher education".

I am very pleased that Roland Eötvös and his contributions will be commemorated throughout the year in Hungary and abroad. At our centennial IUGG General Assembly in Montreal this year, we will also celebrate the accomplishments of the previous century in Earth and space science research, and will look forward to the next century of scientific advancement. The oeuvre of Roland Eötvös belongs to the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries - Roland Eötvös presented his results at the General Conferences of the "Internationale Erdmessung" (one of the predecessors of IUGG) in Budapest (1906), in London and in Cambridge. These results are still with us in terms as the Eötvös effect, the Eötvös experiment, the Eötvös number, the Eötvös parameter, the Eötvös rule, the Eötvös tensor, the Eötvös torsion balance, and the Eötvös unit. Looking forward to our centennial IUGG General Assembly, I hope that you will be able to present the rich, multi-dimensional character of Roland Eötvös to the young Earth scientists of from all over the World.

I am really sorry that I cannot personally attend the Opening celebrations, but I wish you a very successful event and Eötvös centennial year.

Sincerely,

Prof. Michael G. Sideris
President of IUGG

International
Association of
Cryospheric
Sciences

International
Association of
Geodesy

International
Association of
Geomagnetism and
Aeronomy

International
Association of
Hydrological
Sciences

International
Association of
Meteorology and
Atmospheric
Sciences

International
Association for the
Physical
Sciences of the
Oceans

International
Association of
Seismology and
Physics of the
Earth's
Interior

International
Association of
Volcanology and
Chemistry of the
Earth's
Interior

President

MICHAEL SIDERIS
Canada

Vice-President

KATHRYN WHALER
United Kingdom

Secretary General

ALIK ISMAIL-ZADEH
Germany

Treasurer

AKSEL WALLOE HANSEN
Denmark

IUGG Secretariat • GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences • Telegrafenberg A17 • 14473 Potsdam • GERMANY

Phone: +49 331 288 1978 • Fax: +49 331 288 1759 • E-mail: secretariat@iugg.org

<http://www.IUGG.org>