

*Antarctic Geodesy Symposium - AGS'02
Wellington, New Zealand
25-27 November 2002*

Another successful Antarctic Geodesy Symposium, this time being held in Wellington, New Zealand saw two days of presentations finishing with a short a business meeting of the Geodesy Program element of the Expert Group on Geospatial Information (under the SCAR Geoscience Standing Scientific Group).

Attendees included twelve representatives from six nations: NZ, Australia, Indonesia, China, United States and Japan - a number of New Zealanders also attended the whole or part of the symposium. Notable late withdrawals were from Germany, Poland and Italy who all sent presentations and papers as they were unable to attend.

A major focus of the symposium was the status of regional geodetic networks in Antarctica and their future integration. Tide gauge operation and calibration were discussed at length, as were the new advances in remote GPS operational technology for antarctic sites. The good work of Glenn Johnstone in the establishment and maintenance of the working group web site and the on line geodetic control index project for Antarctica was noted.

Despite the reduced attendance, the event was successful in maintaining contact with key members of the Geodesy group. The attendance of a person from Indonesia, as an observer, was indicative of the growing Indonesian interest in Antarctic research and their intention to become involved in SCAR.

Outcomes from the symposium were a series of papers for publication by SCAR as a record of AGS'02 and a strategy for development of a set of guidelines for tide gauge calibration on Antarctic sea ice.

Progress on the Geodesy Program work plan was reviewed, all projects are progressing well apart from the Physical Geodesy Project which has stalled.

The next Geodesy meeting of the Geospatial Information Group is scheduled for Lviv in Ukraine in September 2003, immediately following the International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences (ISAES) in Potsdam, Germany.

John Manning
Chairman
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