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To:
Subject: February 2025 KC News



January 2025 KC News

Chairs: Peter Malik (Europe/Africa, 9/21 -12/22); Avi Burg (Asia/Oceania, 1/23 - 4/24); Benjamin Tobin (Americas. 5/24 -8/25)

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A Message from the Chairs

We are starting to look for volunteers to run for the chair positions (from September 2025 to September 2029) and will send out a follow up email soliciting volunteers.

Following our charter, we are looking for three candidates, with one representing each of our three global regions: Europe/Africa, Asia/Oceania, and the Americas. Please consider nominating colleagues you believe can help us continue to grow.

The announcement of the candidates will be at our annual meeting in Postojna on June 18.

Ben, Avi, and Peter

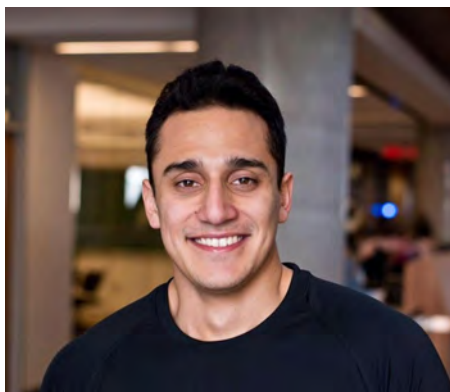
Request for Volunteers

Our website needs an update!!! As a volunteer organization, we are currently looking for assistance in updating and maintaining our website. If any members are interested in assisting with this effort and are proficient in WordPress, please reach out to the co-chairs for information.

Karst Commission Annual Meeting

The next KC annual meeting will be hosted by the International Karstological School as part of the 32nd IKS, see below for more information on the IKS meeting.

The KC meeting will be on the evening of June 18. We encourage our members to raise topics for discussion at our meeting. If you intend to raise a topic, please send it in an email to Peter Malik (peter.malik@geology.sk) or Avi Burg (burg@gsi.gov.il) in advance.



New Member Welcome

We have one new member this month, please welcome Daniel Orjuela to the group:

Daniel is a hydrogeologist, project manager, and a registered professional geoscientist (P.Geo) in the province of Ontario, Canada. He obtained his Bachelor of Science (specialization in geology) at the University of Ottawa. Daniel has over 6 years of experience in the field of hydrogeology and has contributed to projects involving landfill siting studies, groundwater site assessments, groundwater taking permits, monitoring well design, and geological and groundwater flow modeling. Karst has played an important role in several projects he has completed, particularly those located in the Kingston and Ottawa areas, where there are regions of thin overburden and exposed carbonate formations (i.e., limestone). Daniel understands the importance of studying karst formations to protect the groundwater resources of any given community.

Climate Impacts on Karst Water Resources: Special Issue call for papers

KC member, Attila Kovacs, is editing a special issue of the journal *Water* and is currently open for submissions. Submission deadline is 20 April 20250

Please find additional information here:

https://www.mdpi.com/journal/water/special_issues/BV3UV791W0

Inception Horizon in Earth Futures Festival

Inception Horizon is a choral piece of music that was created as a unique collaboration between scientists / engineers and artists to increase public perception and understanding about the fascinating subterranean karst network beneath the ground, as well as providing a stimulating artistic experience. The work was composed to bring the listener on the journey of water through a karst network, from the time when rain droplets first enter the ground, via percolation through the vadose zone before joining conduit flow brings it to its final re-emergence at a spring. The rhythms and pacing follow the journey of the water and the natural flow of the text which has been taken from the karst lexicon and several passages from academic texts. The work was first performed as part of a wider creative public engagement experience on karst in 2020 at Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) which took the audience on a journey

deep underground, following the flow of water through song, sculpture, visual projections and spoken word. The film was then made based upon the music, which was a finalist at the UNESCO Earth Futures Festival 2022, ranked third in the Peoples Popular Choice and can be seen at this link: <https://www.earthfuturesfestival.com/the-films/v/inception-horizon>

Upcoming KC Events

Visual Karsys Courses

The next dates for Visual karsys & GeoModelling courses are:

- April 23 -24, 2025

The courses are aimed at geologists and hydrogeologists working on "complex" geological environments or "heterogeneous" aquifers. They provide access to the online tool [visualkarsys.com](https://www.visualkarsys.com) for their academic or applied projects. [visualkarsys.com](https://www.visualkarsys.com) has over 1,400 users and a large network of specialists worldwide.

For more details on the courses see: <https://www.visualkarsys.com/courses>

Contact for registration /questions: info@visualkarsys.com

In addition, you are invited to have a look at the visual karsys webinar, which was recorded during the EuroGeo Surveys GMMEG Group Webinar, on October 12th, 2023:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5892kiqPA5g>

Mammoth Cave National Park 12th Research Symposium

The 12th Mammoth Cave Research Symposium, celebrating more than 100 years of scientific research and resource management in the Mammoth Cave Region will be held May 13 – 14, 2025. Sponsored by Western Kentucky University and the Cave Research Foundation, the symposium is open to talks and posters on research on any aspect of the Mammoth Cave area (cave, surface, science, history, humanities, etc.). More information can be found at: <https://dyetracing.com/mammoth-cave-symposium>

Characterization and Engineering of Karst Aquifers -CEKA

Dates: May19 – 24, 2025

Location: Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina

This international course includes theoretical lectures on the basic concepts of karst hydrogeology and a few practical demonstrations and field trips within the territories of Dinaric karst. The course will be organized by The Centre for Karst Hydrogeology of the University of Belgrade and Geological Survey of the Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, supported by UNESCO-IHP and several other institutions. The course is open to all, but is especially devoted to younger and talented karst researchers. Number of participants is limited to 20.

For more information: <http://www.karst.edu.rs/en/index.html>

The 32nd International Karstological School: extreme conditions and events in karst

Dates: June 16 – 20, 2025

Location: Postojna, Slovenia

The school offers a framework in which both, young and established karstologists from all over the world present new research in the field of karstology, socialize and get to know Classical karst. This meeting will focus on the increased frequency, intensity, and impact of extreme events in karst regions.

For more information: <https://iks.zrc-sazu.si/en/>

Student Support: The meeting will also host the annual meeting of the Karst Commission. As such, the KC has funding to support student attendance of the meeting. Please encourage students to apply. For eligibility criteria and rules, see:

<https://karst.iah.org/funding-for-young-scientists-to-attend-conferences>

19th International Congress of Speleology

The 19th ICS is being hosted by the Brazilian Speleological Society and the National Cave Research and Conservation Center from July 20 – 27, 2025, in Belo Horizonte,

Brazil. The ICS will be celebrating the 60th anniversary of the UIS, with the theme “60 Years of the UIS: History for the Future.”

For more information: <https://speleo2025.org/>

International Association of Geomorphologists/ Romanian Association of Geomorphologists Regional Conference on Geomorphology

This conference, scheduled for September 16-18, 2025, is organized around 23 thematic scientific sessions covering a wide range of geomorphology-connected topics, including Karst Geomorphology: A modern perspective.

Session description: We seek integrated analyses of karst landforms, aquifers, and cave deposits addressing topics such as Quaternary paleoenvironments, neotectonics, modern investigation techniques, and geomorphological issues in karst management and karst-related hazards. By fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and showcasing innovative approaches, this session aims to expand our understanding of karst systems and their significance in contemporary scientific and societal contexts.

We are also welcoming you to participate in the pre- and post-conference fieldtrips, which include visits to many interesting karst landmarks of Romania (Apuseni Mountains, Southern Carpathians).

You can find more details here: <https://rcg2025.geomorphology.ro/field-trips/pre-conference-2/>, <https://rcg2025.geomorphology.ro/field-trips/post-conference/>.

National Cave & Karst Management Symposium

The 26th National Cave & Karst Management Symposium will be held 6 – 10 October, 2025 in Ely, NV, USA. This conference will include a day of short courses, three days of talks, and a field trip. In addition, there will be an Orientation to Cave Rescue course hosted by the National Cave Rescue Commission the weekend before the conference. For more information see:

<https://ely2025.nckms.org/>

IAH 2025 congress

The website for the IAH-2025 conference to be held in Melbourne, Australia, is now open and invites participants to express their interest today. For details see:

<https://iah2025congress.com/>

Call for abstracts closes today, 28 February 2025

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