



International Association of Hydrogeologists

Polish National Chapter – Annual Report for 2013

- **Council of the Polish National Chapter of IAH (2010-2013)**

Andrzej J. Witkowski, President

Anna Kuczyńska, Secretary,

Jerzy Małecki, Member,

Jacek Rózkowski, Member,

Stanisław Staško, Member,

Andrzej Sadurski, Chairman of the Hydrogeological Commission of the Committee of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences

- **New elected Council of the Polish National Chapter of IAH (from October 2013 till new election in 2016)**

Andrzej J. Witkowski, President

Marek Marciniak, Vice-president

Sławomir Sitek, Secretary,

Stanisław Staško, Member,

Anna Żurek, Member,

- **Membership information:**

At the end of 2013, the Polish National Chapter consists of 49 members, including one honorary member – prof. Jan Dowgiałło. Most of the members are associated with academic centres and scientific institutions. Only three members drawn from the industry and also three members have student status. Majority of members are full time professionals. In 2012 we had 53 members.

- **Activities**

In 2013, the Polish National Chapter organised two board meetings and one general assembly for all members. The board meetings were held on the 1st of March and 29th June 2013 in Sosnowiec, and the General Assembly was held on the 16th of October in Jachranka, near

Warsaw. Reports from the above meetings are available at www.iahpoland.org (in *Z prac Zarządu*).

The most important activities of the Polish National Chapter during 2013 were:

I. Changes in constitution of Polish National Committee of IAH

According to the proposal of some changes in current constitution of Polish National Committee (expressed by management committee at the meeting on 29th June 2013) the on-line voting system was opened on 17th July 2013 and was closed on 1st October 2013. The total number of votes cast was 41 out of 49 members.

The results of voting for particular changes:

1. In Art.2, section 1, paragraph C should be cancelled (the Hydrogeological Commission of the Committee of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences currently is not exist) (40 votes),
2. In Art.2, section 2: Previously: *Ordinary members of the management committee of the Polish National Committee will normally serve for three years term beginning on the day of election. No ordinary members shall serve more than two terms consecutively.* Now is: ***All members of the management committee of the Polish National Committee will normally serve for three years term beginning on the day of election. They can serve for no more than two terms consecutively.*** (39 votes),
3. In Art.2, section 3: Previously: *The officers of the management committee shall be a Chairman and a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Polish National Committee from amongst their membership. The Chairman shall serve for three years term, which is not renewable; the Secretary, if elected, may serve for a further term.* Now is: ***The officers of the management committee shall be a President, Vice President and a Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Polish National Committee from amongst their members.*** (40 votes),
4. In Art.2, section 4: Previously: *The Chairman will preside over meetings of the Committee.* Now is: ***The President or Vice President (in case of President's absence) will preside over meetings of the Committee.*** (40 votes),
5. In Art. 3, section 2: Previously: *A quorum shall consist of four elected members of the Polish National Committee. Each member of the Committee, whether elected or otherwise, shall have one vote. Decisions will be made by a majority vote with the Chairman having the casting vote if necessary. If a quorum cannot be achieved, business may continue, but the next meeting of the Committee at which there is a quorum must ratify decisions.* Now is: ***A quorum shall consist of four elected members of the Polish***

National Committee. Each member of the Committee, whether elected or otherwise, shall have one vote. Decisions will be made by a majority vote with the President or Vice President (in case of President's absence) having the casting vote if necessary. If a quorum cannot be achieved, business may continue, but the next meeting of the Committee at which there is a quorum must ratify decisions. (41 votes).

Proposed changes in constitution have been made upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Polish National Committee (according to the constitution).

II. Election of Council for 2013 - 2016

Polish National Chapter of IAH is run by a Council of 5 members (President, Vice President, Secretary and 2 members) elected every three years (according to the new changed constitution).

The process of electing the new Council began with the call for nominations on 3rd September 2013. Nominations closed on 16th September.

Candidate list:

President	1	Andrzej J. Witkowski
Vice President	1	Marek Marciniak
Secretary	1	Sławomir Sitek
Members	3	Dariusz Dobrzyński, Stanisław Staško, Anna Żurek

The on-line voting system was opened on 19th September and was closed on 13th October 2013. The total number of votes cast was 41 out of 49 members.

The results were announced at the General Assembly held in Jachranka near Warsaw on 16th October 2013.

New elected Council:

President: Andrzej J. Witkowski (40 votes)

President: Marek Marciniak (37 votes)

Secretary: Sławomir Sitek (37 votes)

Members: Stanisław Staško (22 votes) **and Anna Żurek** (35 votes).

III. Co-organisation of conferences and workshops:

1. Co-organisation of the 4th International Field Workshop for Young Hydrogeologists on “*Geothermic*”. It was held on 24 - 26 of May 2013 in Łądek-Zdrój (charming and the oldest spa in Poland) and was organized by Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Wrocław. The theme of the workshop, which was attended by 45 participants, was problem of the geothermal waters. The extremely attractive part of the workshop was a lecture about the Łądek-Zdrój spa and its therapeutic waters presented in the "Wojciech" spa pool by Professor Wojciech Ciężkowski. Another attraction of the workshop was a visit of the largest cave opened for visitors in Poland – the Bear Cave in Kletno. Based on papers presented at the workshop special book, including 12 full papers and 7 abstracts, was published.



Fot. 1 Participants of the 4th International Field Workshop for Young Hydrogeologists.

2. Co-organisation of the XIVth International Conference “Hydrogeochemistry’13” which was held on 20 - 21 of June 2013 in Sosnowiec. Conference was attended by 40 participants from Poland, Slovakia and Czech Republic. These conferences are organised every two years alternately by co-operated Universities from Poland (University of Silesia, Katowice), Slovakia (Comenius University, Bratislava), and

Czech Republic (Technical University, Ostrava). There are a very good example of very effective co-operation between Polish, Slovak and Czech IAH national chapters.

3. Co-organisation of the XVI conference of “Current Challenges in Hydrogeology”, which is a national conference dedicated to professional hydrogeologists, organised every two years by various leading academic centres in Poland. The conference in 2013 was held from 16 to 18 October and was organised in Jachranka near Warsaw by hydrogeologists from the University of Warsaw in cooperation with the Polish Geological Institute and Polish National Chapter of IAH. Conference papers were published in the Bulletin of the Polish Geological Institute Special Issue No 456, Hydrogeology, z. XIV/1-2 (2013). Conference was attended by 260 Polish hydrogeologists.



Fot.2 XVI conference of the “Current Challenges in Hydrogeology”, Jachranka, Poland, 16-18.10.2013.

IV. Management of the website of the Polish National Chapter www.iahpoland.org.

The website contains up to date information about hydrogeological meetings and conferences held in Poland and in neighbouring countries, information about past conferences, an extensive database of hydrogeological publications, hydrogeological photo gallery, links to interesting hydrogeological websites – hydrogeological institutions in Poland and abroad, educational web pages. The web page contains full information about the board and its activities, as well as information about membership.

- V. Delegates of the Polish National Chapter participated in the 40th IAH Congress in Japan and in the IAH Central European Groundwater Conference held in Morahalom, Hungary. At this Conference the President of the Polish National Chapter attended the meeting of representatives of IAH National Chapters presenting the report on current activities of our chapter.



Fot.3 Polish delegates (Andrzej Kowalczyk, Andrzej Witkowski) and Jozsef Toth, Morahalom, Hungary, 8-10 May 2013

- VI. President of Polish Chapter, Andrzej Witkowski participated in works of IAH Working Group on Education leading by Bruce Misstear.
- VII. Editorial works on book “Calcium and Magnesium in Groundwater: Occurrence and Significance for Human Health” (Editor: Lidia Razowska-Jaworek) as a next volume of IAH - Selected Papers on Hydrogeology series. This book is based on papers presented at the international seminar: calcium and magnesium in groundwater – distribution and significance, which was held in Poland (in Katowice) in September 2012).