

The Secretariat
International Space Weather Initiative (ISWI)
Code 671, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center
Greenbelt, MD 20771, USA



January 15, 2018

Dear ISWI colleague,

Happy New Year 2018!

The past year was extremely active for ISWI. The ISWI instrument network is ever expanding: two new networks have been added in 2017 - Realistic Ionosphere (RI) headed by Drs Bodo Reinisch and Dr. Ivan Galkin from the University of Massachusetts Lowell, and BU All Sky Imagers headed by Carlos Martinis and Michael Mendillo from Boston University. Another network is preparing to become a member, which will be announced at a later date.

There was a productive mini ISWI/SCOSTEP workshops on Solar Eruptions and Radio Bursts at the Mekelle University attended by about 40 participants. During this workshop, a CALLISTO antenna was installed in Mekelle University and is providing data to the data base.

The year 2018 marks the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE+50). The UN/USA Workshop in Boston during July 31- August 4 was a Flagship meeting for UNISPACE+50 that brought out extensive discussion on the economic impact, global response to space weather impact, and the need for a global policy. The workshop also marked IHY+10 as ISWI transitioned from IHY at the end of IHY 2007. The Boston workshop also featured the traditional ISWI workshop with oral and poster papers dealing with science, capacity building, and outreach. Based on these presentations, a special issue in Sun and Geosphere will be published this year. Details of the Boston Flagship meeting including observations and recommendations can be found in the United Nations General Assembly Report A/AC.105/1160.

ISWI will be supporting several activities in 2018 and will be announced in one of the future ISWI Newsletters.

The ISWI Newsletter with George Maeda as editor and the ISWI web site (iswi-secretariat.org) with Mitko Danov as web master are going strong. Please make use of these channels to share anything of interest to the space weather community.

Finally, I would like you to take note of the Annual ISWI Steering Committee meeting to be held at the Vienna International Center, Vienna, Austria on January 31, 2018 (in two weeks). If any of you can attend, please do so, and let me know if you would like to make a short presentation on any aspect of space weather. The tentative agenda is as follows:

ISWI Steering Committee Meeting 2018
Conference Room C5, 7th floor, C-building
Vienna International Centre (VIC), Vienna Austria
9 AM to 6 PM, January 31, 2018
Agenda

1. Introduction & Report (Nat Gopalswamy, Chair)
2. Secretariat update (Newsletter: George Maeda; Website: Mitko Danov)
3. Steering Committee update; SC member remarks
4. ISWI National Coordinators (Report by Christine Amory)
5. ISWI Instruments update (Shing Fung)
6. Data Subcommittee Report (Shing Fung)
7. ISWI – UNOOSA Collaboration (Sharafat Gadimova – Baku School)
8. Expert Group update (Ian Mann)
9. ISWI/NASA report: Elsayed Talaat
10. UN/US Workshop on ISWI in Boston (Nat Gopalswamy, Patricia Doherty)
11. SunGeo Special Issue (Shing Fung)
11. ISWI/Mekelle Workshop report (Christian Monstein, Nat Gopalswamy)
12. VarSITI Report Katya Georgieva
14. National/Regional Coordinator reports
15. Baku School, COSPAR Capacity Building, COLAGE mini school (2018)
16. Any other matter

Once again wish you a productive 2018 in doing your science for the benefit of humanity.

Sincerely,



Nat Gopalswamy
Executive Director
ISWI