



Informatics Commission

Publications Exchange Working Group

Chairman: Trevor Faulkner (UK)

Sydney 2017 Workshop minutes

These are the minutes of the Publications Exchange Working Group (PEWG) workshop held at the Panthers Event Centre, Penrith, Sydney at 12.15 pm on Friday 28 July 2017. The Workshop was part of the 17th International Congress of Speleology from 23-29 July 2017. It was a formal meeting of the UIS PEWG that was established within the UIS Informatics Commission at the 2013 International Congress of Speleology in Brno, Czech Republic. The Terms of Reference of the PEWG at Issue 2 were available on its website, together with Appendices that gave previous Recommendations and information. The latest report of its progress at Issue 2 was published in UIS Bulletin 59 (1), 42-43, June 2017, just prior to the Congress, and presented to Congress attendees by the Chairman on 27 July 2017.

List of participants

Name	Country
Cathy Brown	Australia
John Dunkley	Australia
Scott Engel	United States
Trevor Faulkner	United Kingdom
Ernest Geyer	Austria
Friedhart Knolle	Germany
Peter Matthews	Australia
Greg Middleton	Australia
Zdenek Motycka	Czech Republic
Ulla Pettersson	Sweden

1. Review of the Speleological Publications Exchange Guidelines Issue 3

Trevor Faulkner presented the latest PEWG Observations and Recommendations, and thanked Peter Matthews for suggesting the revised format, now that this work was basically complete. Significant new information at Issue 3 includes: UIS Documentation Centres in Chapter 4, OCR in Chapter 7 and Open Access in the Chapter 8 preamble. In Chapter 5, point 5.3, it is pointed out that each country must decide which information about the location of caves to publish on paper and electronically. This issue has immediate impacts. For example, it has been reported that NSS has taken away much information from the Karst Information Portal (KIP), because it contains too much “sensitive” information about locations. Regarding Chapter 7, Peter Matthews commented that the problem with scanning documents as TIFF-files is that it is not possible to add comments to the file (meta-data, keywords and so on). In a JPG-file this is possible. PM offered to write something about this for inserting in the guidelines.

2. Review of progress recorded in the spreadsheets

Trevor Faulkner then presented the various spreadsheets. The PEWG Contacts and the PEWG Journal Titles sheets are quite well populated. The PEWG Paper Exchanges Received data has now been split into three sheets: Excluding from Europe, From Austria to Italy, and From Netherlands to UK. He commented that there is still much information missing in these sheets at present. All PEWG supporters were invited to fill in missing contact persons, titles of publications, and especially the journal exchanges received, and send updates to the Chairman. Peter Matthews thanked Trevor Faulkner for the work he had done to get the PEWG to its present position.

3. Other Business

3.1 Consequences of the new UIS statutes

In the new statutes there are no “Working Groups”, so should the group change its name? Is the PEWG still a part of the UIS Informatics Commission? This must be clarified. Peter Matthews has since suggested that the PEWG should become a Sub-Commission of the Informatics Commission, which seems very sensible.

3.2 UIS Documentation Centers.

It was noted during the Workshop that the 34th Brazilian Congress of Speleology approved a motion in June 2017 “*To support the proposal for recognition of National Documentation Centers for UIS through the Publications Exchange Working Group of the Informatics Commission*”. This proposal was sent to the President, Vice-President and Secretary General of the UIS on 17 July 2017, but probably arrived too late to be actioned officially at the UIS General Assemblies during the 17th ICS held in Sydney. The key questions are: which person or group shall decide which libraries fulfil the requirements to be new (national) Documentation Centers, and what is the process for making that decision? The Proposal was discussed at the PEWG Workshop and the meeting found that this was a good suggestion. Perhaps the way forward is for applications to continue to be sent to Lucas Malafaia in Brazil, and his recommendations should be underwritten by the Chairmen of the Informatics Commission and the Bibliography Commission.

3.3 New Chairman for the PEWG.

At the end of the Workshop, Trevor Faulkner reported that he will retire from the post of BCRA Foreign Secretary at the end of 2017, and it will not be appropriate to continue as Chairman of PEWG after that. Nominations for the post of Chairman were invited, and Michele Sivelli, the Librarian for the Societa Speleologica Italiana, was proposed. The meeting unanimously agreed to this nomination, and we wish Michele every success in chairing the PEWG from the start of 2018.

The workshop closed at 1.15 pm.

As a consequence of the change of Chairman, would PEWG supporters please send email correspondence to both Trevor Faulkner and Michele Sivelli during the rest of 2017, and then just to Michele Sivelli after that time.

Minutes recorded by Ulla Pettersson (Meeting Secretary) and Trevor Faulkner (Chairman).

Useful websites

UIS: www.uis-speleo.org

UIS Informatics Commission: www.uisic.uis-speleo.org

17th International Congress of Speleology 2017: www.speleo2017.com

PEWG: www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/publexch

UIS Bulletin: www.uis-speleo.org/downloads/uis-bulletins/uisb581.pdf

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