

IACS



International Association of Cryospheric Sciences

<http://www.cryosphericosciences.org>

IACS is a constituent Association of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics IUGG and aims at promoting the study of the cryosphere in all of its aspects

PRESIDENT

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Training Course on Mass Balance Measurements and Analysis 2016

Dear participants

The International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS) is proud to be among the sponsors of this training course on mass balance measurements and analysis organized in the Bolivian Andes. Looking through the list of Teaching Team members, I have no doubt that you will enjoy a fruitful, valuable and enjoyable week.

As you may know, IACS and the World Glacier Monitoring Service (WGMS) are intimately linked both historically and from an organizational point of view. Indeed, IACS runs the Global Terrestrial Network for Glaciers (GTN-G) Steering Committee that acts as link between the scientific community and the three operational organizations WGMS, the Global Land Ice Measurements from Space (GLIMS), and the National Ice and Snow Data Centre (NSIDC); data producers, you, and data users, scientists worldwide, are well represented in that committee. The work of the three GTN-G operational bodies thus forms the basis for numerous scientific publications but also for assessment reports, for example, reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

IACS also runs Working Groups (WG), two of which currently address glacier monitoring questions; more are to come. Participating in WGs is probably the best way to be involved in IACS activities. In the near future, however, IACS will introduce a free individual membership to allow for a simpler and straightforward communication between cryospheric scientists and the IACS Bureau, its governing body. Indeed, not all Latin American countries can afford to be members of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) and thereby of IACS. In addition, many member countries don't even have IACS representatives in their National Committees. IACS anticipates that the individual membership will help overcome these deficiencies and I encourage you becoming a member as soon as IACS is ready for it. We will let you know for sure but keep also an eye on www.cryosphericosciences.org.

With this I would like to wish you a successful training course.

Best regards



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