



## **2021 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Covid-19 pandemic had also in 2021 major impact on INQUA's activities. The INQUA Board did not meet in person; instead 5 virtual ZOOM meetings took place. The INQUA Commissions received several project applications; almost all have been awarded including the two that have been send in from the ECR community. And as in 2020, most of the meetings did not take place due to the pandemic situation and the related travel restrictions. Some of the meetings have been turned into a virtual meeting. SACCOM initiated a seminar *Advances in Stratigraphy and Geochronology*; a weekly series of interesting lectures that started April 22, 2021.

### **INQUA Foundation**

The INQUA Foundation applied for the status of a, financially attractive, "Public Benefit Organisation". We received a positive reply in December 2021. In 2021, an INQUA Foundation webpage has been added to the INQUA Website. The webpages includes the mission statement of the INQUA Foundation as well as information for a broader public.

### **INQUA Executive Committee**

December 17, Brian M. Chase, one of the Vice-Presidents of INQUA, informed the INQUA Executive Committee (EC) that he is obliged for personal health reasons to step down from his position on the INQUA Executive Committee as Vice-President. Maria Fernanda Sanchez-Goni (Bordeaux, France) will replace Brian M. Chase; she has been appointed as Vice-President by April 1, 2022.

### **INQUA Secretariat**

In order to improve the visibility of INQUA and to improve the communication between the INQUA EC and the global Quaternary Research Community, the EC decided to appont a secretary to support the INQUA Executive as well as the organisation of the INQUA Rome 2023 Congress. The Eötvös Loránd University (Budapest) offered to host the secretariat and Aritina Haliuc (Romania) has been appointed as INQUA secretary.

### **The INQUA Sir Nicholas Shackleton Medal for outstanding young Quaternary scientists**

The INQUA Award Committee has decided to award Julie Loisel with the 2021 Sir Nicholas Shackleton Medal.

### **INQUA 2023 Congress**

The organizing committee of the INQUA 2023 Congress in Rome decided, despite the fact that the pandemic situation and the many restrictions continued, to start the organization of the next in-person INQUA Congress

in July 2023. The theme of the Congress is “Time for Change” emphasizing the critical role of Quaternary sciences in contributing the knowledge we need to face current societal and climate challenges.

### **INQUA Funding Structure/Project applications**

The simplification of INQUA’s funding structure continues in 2021.

- An electronic application form will be introduced.
- The initial (2 – 4 months) application phase is no longer a mandatory part of the procedure.
- The applications will be approved/rejected within 2 months after the deadline of the application.
- The current deadline, January 31, will be changed to September 30, approval/rejection before the end of November.

### **INQUA Finances**

The increased positive balance [for details see 2021 Financial Report of the INQUA Treasurer] offers the INQUA Executive Board to expand, at least in the coming years, the funding options.

### **INQUA Publications**

Our INQUA/Elsevier journal Quaternary International published in 2021 a total of 36 issues. A more extensive QI annual report will be presented at the next INQUA Board meeting. INQUA’s Newsletter Quaternary Perspectives published two issues with many interesting contributions reporting about ongoing projects.

Utrecht, May, 9, 2022  
Thijs van Kolfschoten  
INQUA President

