



25 April 2012

Professpr Patricia Vickers Rich  
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Dear Professor Vickers Rich:

On behalf of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) I wish to extend my thanks for your presence at the Celebration of the IGCP 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, which was held at UNESCO Headquarters on 22 February 2012.

Since its inception in 1972 the IGCP has been a research programme directed to attain global homogeneous advancement of the geosciences so as to improve the prosperity of nations and the quality of human life. Over 300 projects in about 150 countries with the participation of thousands of earth scientists, and a continuous flow of published results, attest to the scientific and applied quality of this programme. Yet the main and perhaps unique component of IGCP has been its cooperative character, which crosses natural, political, economical, and knowledge boundaries at a grass-roots level, and facilitates cooperation and understanding amongst geoscientists of all different ages, from various regions, countries, cultures and diverse education backgrounds.

Your presence at this event reinforced the significance of this Programme globally. It is my hope that you and your country will continue supporting IGCP and other IUGS initiatives in order to promote the development of the earth sciences as well as to improve the prosperity and the quality of human life.

With kind regards,

Professor Alberto C. Riccardi  
President IUGS

cc: IUGS EC

[www.iugs.org](http://www.iugs.org)

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