

11th International Conference on Gas in Marine Sediments

Nice, France

September 4- 7, 2012

First circular

Dear colleagues,

We are inviting you to participate to the 11th International Conference on Gas in Marine Sediments that will take place in Nice, France, from Tuesday 4th September to Thursday 6th September, 2012. An optional field-trip/excursion day will be proposed on Friday 7th September 2012.

The conference will be held in « la Maison du Séminaire », situated on the Mediterranean sea front, at a walking distance from the harbour of Nice. The residence has conference rooms, a panorama restaurant and about 40 rooms. You can visit the following web site (<http://www.maisonduseminaire.fr>) to learn more about this quiet and beautiful place.

Local organizing committee

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Scientific program

The Nice conference follows 10 successful GIMS conferences in Edinburg, UK (1990); Hirtshals, Denmark (1992); Texel, the Netherlands (1994); Varna, Bulgaria (1996); Bologna, Italy (1998); St Petersburg, Russia (2000); Baku, Azerbadijan (2002); Vigo, Spain (2005); Bremen, Germany (2008) and Listvyanka, Russia (2010).

The research fields covered by the « GIMS » conferences were traditionally related to methane-rich marine environments until the last meeting in lake Baïkal where fresh water lake environments were also considered.

Similarly to previous GIMS meetings, the topics we will cover are multidisciplinary and will include :

- formation of shallow gas in sediments
- subsurface fluid flow, geochemical and thermal gradients
- formation and destabilisation of gas hydrates
- diversity and functioning of gas seeps, bubble sites, pockmarks and mud volcanoes
- Imaging subseafloor gas structures by seismic studies
- Regional studies on gas and gas hydrate distribution and quantification
- Seafloor emissions to the water column and the atmosphere
- Biological, microbiological and biogeochemical processes at seep ecosystems

- Methane derived authigenic carbonates
- CO₂-hydrate for CH₄-hydrate exchange : option for carbon Storage in marine sediments.
- Sediment-water column gas fluxes in the future ocean

Practical informations

- Web site installation: September 30, 2011
- Pre-registration: October 15-December 1, 2011 : this step is very important since it will provide a first estimate of the number of participants ; abstract titles will be requested.
- Second circular : December 15, 2011 : at this point, and depending on the number of participants, the registration fee will be defined.
- Final registration: January 1, 2012 to May 1, 2012. Payment of registration fee and abstracts submission.
- Room reservation: this has to be done individually by contacting the hotel (we will also provide a list of hotels nearby the Maison du Seminaire).
- Third circular : July 01, 2012 : final program of the conference.

Registration fee

The registration form will be posted on the conference website (deadline for preregistration: December 1, 2011).

The registration fee will include the attendance to all sessions, the program and abstract volume, coffee breaks, two appetizers and lunch meals for the three days. A preliminary cost estimate based on 120 participants (same as for GIMS 10) gives a registration fee for each participant of 150€.

We consider looking for external support for organizing this conference from sponsors; this would help us to lower the registration fee (especially for students) and/or to participate to funding of the gala dinner.

With our best wishes,