

Gradually returning to work in the office

ISC-GEM Ver.9 released

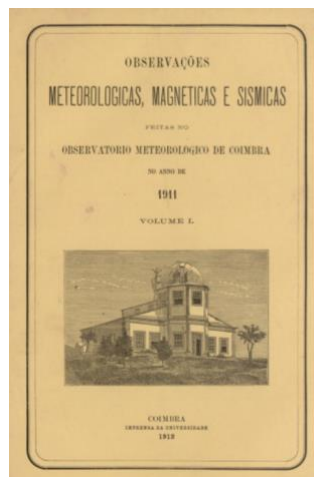
On March 15, we released the next major version (Ver. 9.0) of the ISC-GEM Global Instrumental Earthquake Catalogue. It features ~5900 relocated earthquakes that occurred during 1976-2017 and 922 earthquakes added for 2018. Improvements to earthquakes previously listed were done by updating the magnitude and/or location for ~100 earthquakes. We also reprocessed 127 earthquakes between 1964 and 2009 benefiting from the work done in the ISC Bulletin Rebuild project and the ISC-EHB dataset. In addition, we sourced from literature 91 direct M_0 values (hence M_w) and source mechanisms for earthquakes with no Global CMT solution.

New issue of the Summary

The Summary of the ISC Bulletin is a biannual printed and on-line publication that describes each six month data period along with procedures used to put these data together. It also includes invited articles that describe seismic networks or notable seismic events. This time we published a rather unusual article. The ISC Bulletin is a complex set of information on phase arrivals, hypocentres, amplitude measurements etc. reported by a large number of agencies using different procedures. The article "Using ISC data" by *Jens Havskov* of the **University of Bergen**, Norway and ISC's *Kathrin Lieser* in the 2019-I issue of the Summary of the ISC Bulletin is there to help navigate through this non-uniform substantial data set: <http://publications.isc.ac.uk/index.php/summary/article/view/38>

New scanned station bulletins

The **Electronic Archive of Printed Station / Network Bulletins** is a very recent ISC service that predominantly benefits from scans of the paper bulletins collected and stored in the ISC warehouse. We aim to enrich this collection with scans available at other institutions. We appreciate the cooperation of *Susana Custódio* in facilitating



*Coimbra Observatory,
Portugal, 1911*

the exchange of Portuguese bulletins now included in the ISC Archive. In particular, we are grateful for the Coimbra scans to *Décio Martins* and *Carlos Fiolhais* who raised funds and coordinated the scanning of the yearbooks of the **Geophysical Institute of the University of**

Coimbra (IGUC), through FCT project HC/0119/2009 and **Infante D. Luiz Geophysical Institute** in Lisbon, for providing scans as reproduced in 2005 by SGA Storia Geofisica Ambiente (Bologna), on behalf of the **Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia** (Rome), in the frame of the EUROSEISMOS project.

Further work on depth phases

In early March, *Peter Charalambides*, a volunteer consultant Seismologist, visited the ISC as part of an ongoing collaboration to improve the detection and picking of depth phase arrivals at the ISC. The depth phase picking procedures currently undertaken by part of the ISC Analyst Team were demonstrated to him and further discussions followed. By increasing the automation of these procedures, we hope to be able to cover a greater range of earthquake depths and magnitudes.



Tom Garth (ISC, left) and Peter Charalambides

Daniela Olaru departs



Daniela Olaru, originally from Romania, has worked at the ISC as a Historical and Bibliographical Data Officer since November 2013 when she joined us to work on the ISC-GEM project. Her hands went through many tens of thousands of pages of historical seismic station bulletins and her input in running the ISC Event Bibliography was invaluable. Daniela has been the soul of the ISC by keeping most kind and friendly relations with everyone on the team. In recent years, Daniela underwent training in HR matters at Newbury College and finally, after eight years of excellent service at the ISC, decided to move on to new challenges in the bigger nearby town of Reading.

New ISC Staff



Following the departure of Gary Job in early January, we were fortunate to hire a new Data Collection Officer, *Calum Clague* who holds a bachelor's degree in Development and Environment with an additional Honours year

in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) from the Stellenbosch University in South Africa. His career involved several GIS and environment related consultancy projects in South Africa as well as teaching English as a foreign language in Ho Shi Minh City in Vietnam. Calum's current job at the ISC involves collection of earthquake bulletin data from ~150 institutions worldwide. In the long-term, Calum is also expected to extend and improve this important part of the ISC operations.



Rian Harris was hired in February to help with further improvement of the ISC-GEM catalogue, co-sponsored by **FM Global**, **Lighthill Risk Network** and **AXA XL**. At present, Rian is involved in digitising the volumes of the Bureau Central International de Sismologie, Strasbourg, France (BCIS) to recover station arrival times that will help to reassess earthquakes in the ISC Bulletin and ISC-GEM catalogue in early 1960s.

Rian holds a BA degree in Biological Sciences from University of Oxford and MSc degree in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation from University of Bristol. Rian works at the ISC part-time. His other days are spent monitoring populations of Ethiopian wolves and other endangered species at the Ethiopian Wolf Conservation Programme run by University of Oxford. In the past, data on Hebridean whales, dolphins and various other wildlife also benefitted from Rian's care.



International
Seismological
Centre

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Tel: +44 (0) 1635 861022
Email: admin@isc.ac.uk
www.isc.ac.uk