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NCKRI News and Announcements for 2022-11-28:

International Year of Caves and Karst: Start Planning for the Future

Job, Student, and Researcher Opportunities:

- **Saint Louis University WATER Institute Graduate Research Fellowship**

Various News:

- **EuroSpeleo Newsletter, November 2022**
- **EuroSpeleo Protection Label 2023: Call for Projects**

Conferences and Meetings

- **Sinkhole Conference: Prices Increase after December 1st!**
- **28th International Cave Bear Symposium: First Circular and Registration**
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Please contact the people and organizations listed below for more information, and feel free to share this message with anyone who may be interested.

International Year of Caves and Karst: Start Planning for the Future

The International Year of Caves and Karst is organized by the International Union of Speleology (UIS) to teach the world about the importance of caves and karst. Organized. It was extended through 2022 because of the COVID pandemic.

As the end of the International Year approaches, I encourage everyone to start thinking about what comes next. We have built interest and support for caves and karst through our nearly 800 events around the world. Now we must continue to remind those people and engage them with caves and karst. Otherwise, they will forget what they have learned. The best way is to connect to them as partners. There are many non-cave and non-karst organizations that we have reached which are natural partners as they work to study and protect water, wildlife, cultural resources, parks, etc. Make them aware their work already involves caves and karst, and the special needs of those resources.

Through their efforts, and your leadership to build new partnerships, the message of the International Year of Caves and Karst will continue far into the future.

In the meantime, we still have one month to plan more events before the International Year is over. And please don't think your events are over until you send a report for the International Year website. One at a time, your events have reached millions of people and at the end of the year they will be compiled into a report to reach even more so you can continue to "Explore, Understand, Protect" (the International Year's theme) with more support far into the future.

Please continue organizing events and send your event results to our fabulous website manager, Jasmina Rijavec (webmaster@uis-speleo.org), in the simple format you see on the website:

Location:

Date:

Event name:

Event description:

Event report: [usually one or more simple links to websites, social media, and/or news media reports]

To learn more about the International Year and its many events and activities, visit the website (www.iyck2021.org).

George Veni

UIS Past-President, 2017-2022

Executive Director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute

Saint Louis University WATER Institute Graduate Research Fellowship

Graduate Fellowship for Fall 2023

WATER Institute

Saint Louis University

Saint Louis University's Water Access, Technology, Environment, and Resources (WATER) Institute invites applications for a two-year Graduate Research Fellowship, which includes tuition and a competitive stipend. The Fellowship is designed for students who have an interest in water-related research topics and are seeking a graduate degree in Geoscience with a concentration in

Environmental Geoscience or Engineering with a concentration in Civil Engineering.

Details for the fellowship can be found in the attached documentation and at <https://www.slu.edu/research/research-institute/big-ideas/water/fellowship.php>. To be considered for the fellowship, students must apply to an approved program by January 2, 2023, and to the WATER Institute Fellowship program by February 1, 2023.

WATER Institute research areas in the Geosciences program (through the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences) broadly relate to the transport and fate of pollutants (including toxic metals, microplastics, and nutrients) in cave, karst, and carbonate critical zone systems. Students who are interested in applying to the Geosciences program should have a B.S. in environmental science, geoscience, geology, or related field, GPA of at least 3.0, and strong work ethic. For more details on the Geoscience program and application process, students should reach out to Dr. Liz Hasenmueller (elizabeth.hasenmueller@slu.edu), who is the Associate Director of the WATER Institute and faculty in the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences. Inquiries should include an overview of research interests and a current CV that includes the prospective applicant's GPA.

For additional information about potential research projects, the WATER Institute, the Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences, and Saint Louis University, please see:

Dr. Hasenmueller's research website: <https://hasenmuellerlab.weebly.com/>
WATER Institute: <https://www.slu.edu/water>
Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences: <https://www.slu.edu/science-and-engineering/academics/earth-atmospheric-sciences/index.php>
Saint Louis University: <https://www.slu.edu/>

EuroSpeleo Newsletter, November 2022

It is with great pleasure that the European Speleological Federation (FSE) publishes the next EuroSpeleo Newsletter in year 2022. This Newsletter will be exclusively available in electronic form, and it will be distributed through the FSE mailing lists, website, and Facebook page. It will be edited by the FSE Bureau and will inform member countries and individual speleologists about important events nationally and internationally as well as new developments and the

initiatives of the FSE and its member countries. This Newsletter will be released on an occasional basis.

You can download the English version of the November 2022 Newsletter here:

https://www.eurospeleo.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Newsletter_2022_11_EN.pdf

With cordial regards,
The FSE Bureau, November 2022

EuroSpeleo Protection Label 2023: Call for Projects

Call for Cave Protection Projects

It is with great pleasure that the FSE (European Speleological Federation) announces the next call for Cave Protection projects to receive the Label “EuroSpeleo Protection 2023” from the ECPC (the European Cave Protection Commission of the FSE).

The EuroSpeleo Protection Label is a European Speleological award managed by the ECPC, financed by the FSE budget. The EuroSpeleo Protection Label will help to promote among the speleological clubs of Europe, Cave Protection activities that are designed in an integrated ecological way, taking into account EU environmental directives, the principles of administration of the Natura 2000 sites, and the IUCN Guidelines on caves and karst protection.

With what kind of projects can you apply?

The EuroSpeleo Protection Label will be awarded every year to one unique Cave Protection project. A European speleological jury established by the ECPC Board will make the selection. Any project aiming at protecting caves developed by a club, a local committee, or a national commission from a member country of the FSE can apply.

What are the criteria to receive the FSE EuroSpeleo Protection Label and what is the prize?

There is no need include covers from different countries in a project, but the application should be a quality project and the broadcasting of the project presentation and results should be made in a spirit that can be reproduced in other European regions and countries. The application should be sent to protection@eurospeleo.org before **30th of April 2023**, in the English language.

The project must receive the approval from its national speleological organization, i.e., a letter of support from its national organization, member of the FSE.

The prize for the label 2023 is **800.- EUR** plus one caving gear from our FSE-sponsor **Aventure Verticale**.

Please refer to the ESPL- Guidelines and Application Form published on the FSE site at: <https://www.eurospeleo.eu/ECPC/espl/>

Best Speleo Wishes
The ECPC team

Sinkhole Conference: Prices Increase After December 1st!

The *Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst* (usually referred to as “the Sinkhole Conference”) is the longest-running international conference of its type. Since 1984, engineers, geologists, hydrologists, land managers, biologists, and many others have gathered at these meetings to exchange cutting-edge information on karst and its many benefits and challenges.

The 17th Sinkhole Conference will be held at the University of South Florida campus in Tampa, Florida March 27-31, 2023. Many great papers have been submitted, two excellent field trips are planned, and there will be much more to see and do.

Register now while prices are low. They go up after 1 December. For information about the conference and to register, visit <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>.

28th International Cave Bear Symposium: First Circular and Registration

Dear Cave Bear Friends,

Time flies fast and next year is already upon us. We are already in the middle of preparations for the next Cave Bear Symposium, which will take place in on 21-24 September 2023 in Bayreuth, Germany. More precisely, at the Urwelt-Museum

Oberfranken, a regional museum for natural history and mineralogy. We can expect exciting excursions into caves in the surrounding area.

To receive a copy of the first circular and to register, contact:
nadja.kavcik@univie.ac.at

We look forward to your coming,

The Organizing Committee

List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings

If you are interested in any of the following events, contact the following websites or organizers directly for more information.

- 1) United Nations Water Summit on Groundwater, with side event on Karst Aquifers, 6-8 December 2022 (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France), <https://groundwater-summit.org/>
- 2) 17th Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 27-31 March 2023 (Tampa, Florida, USA), <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>
- 3) 4th International Planetary Caves Conference, 4-7 May 2023 (Haria Municipality, Lanzarote, Spain), <https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/4thcaves2023/>
- 4) Clay Minerals Society Conference: Karst Trip, 20-25 May 2023 (Austin, Texas, USA), <https://cvent.utexas.edu/event/b8822615-d0e8-4730-89e4-2ef519cbeb5b/summary>
- 5) 14th International Symposium on Pseudokarst, 22-26 May 2023 (Sudetes, Poland), <https://14pseudokarst.wonders4you.com/>
- 6) US National Speleological Society Convention, 26-30 June 2023 (Elkins, West Virginia, USA), <https://nss2023.caves.org>
- 7) 37th Brazilian Congress of Speleology, 26-29 July 2023 (Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil), <https://www.cavernas.org.br/37-congresso-brasileiro-de-espeleologia/>
- 8) Geological Society of America Convention, 15-18 October (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA), <https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2023/home>
- 9) 3rd International Congress of Karst, Speleology and Enhancement of Natural Heritage, 2-5 November 2023 (Rabat, Morocco), <https://speleorabat23.sciencesconf.org/>
- 10) 9th US Geological Survey Karst Interest Group Workshop, 22-24 October 2024 (Nashville, Tennessee, USA), <http://www.usgs.gov/kig-workshop>

- 11) 19th International Congress of Speleology, 20-27 July 2025 (Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil), for preliminary information see volume 63-1 of the UIS Bulletin at <http://uis-speleo.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/uisb631.pdf>