



400-1 Cascades Avenue, Carlsbad, NM 88220-6215 USA  
575.887.5518 • 575.887.5523 (fax)  
[info@nckri.org](mailto:info@nckri.org) • [www.nckri.org](http://www.nckri.org)

---

### ***NCKRI News and Announcements for 2022-10-20:***

#### **International Year of Caves and Karst: Returning to UNESCO!**

#### **Job, Student, and Researcher Opportunities:**

- **Job Opportunity: Physical Science Technician, Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve, USA**

#### **Recent Publications:**

- **Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection and Other UIS Books**

#### **Various News:**

- **Looking for a New UIS Informatics President**

#### **Conferences and Meetings**

- **Sinkhole Conference: Register Now Before Prices Increase**
- **Best Practices in Protecting and Managing Cave and Karst Waters: Free Webinar**
- **List of Upcoming Cave and Karst Meetings**

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: Returning to UNESCO!**

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

Last year the UIS was invited by UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, to celebrate the International Year at its headquarters in Paris. This was the first time caves and karst were presented to governmental leaders from around the world and the UIS has since continued to

strengthen its partnership with UNESCO and other global organizations. Our work is succeeding.

UNESCO is hosting the United Nations Water Summit on Groundwater at UNESCO Headquarters on 6-8 December 2022. Most of the summit will focus on high level global topics like water quality and sustainable use, but UIS was invited to organize a side event on “Karst Aquifers: the Most Prolific, Vulnerable, and Misunderstood” on 6 December. This will be another International Year event where we hope to teach more leaders in government, management, and industry about the importance of karst. For more information about the Groundwater Summit, visit <https://groundwater-summit.org/>.

As the UIS prepares for this major event, please continue organizing events through the end of the year and send your event results to our fabulous website manager, Jasmina Rijavec ([webmaster@uis-speleo.org](mailto: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](http://www.iyck2021.org)).

George Veni

UIS Past-President, 2017-2022

Executive Director, National Cave and Karst Research Institute

---

### **Job Opportunity: Physical Science Technician, Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve, USA**

Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve is recruiting a permanent (seasonal) Physical Science Technician GS-8/9 position for the Resource Management Division (Cave Junction, Oregon, USA). This position will coordinate cave management, GIS mapping, hydrology, and other projects at the park. Applications must be submitted before 24 October 2022.

Major Duties include:

- Perform a variety of complex functions in the physical sciences, and integrated biological sciences, and develop, manage, coordinate, and implement a parkwide Geographic Information System (GIS).
- Coordinate parkwide cave management and hydrology including: inventory & monitoring, operation of datalogging systems, and implementing approved management actions.
- Organizes, schedules, and conducts field surveys, and inventories within Oregon Caves, other park caves and on all park areas. Collects and organizes field data using standardized data collection procedures and equipment.
- Conducts literature review, and other research to produce GIS maps for NEPA environmental assessments, NHPA cultural assessments, and field investigations of all types as required to meet the needs of the park.

Duties will be developmental in nature when filled below the full performance level.

For more information and to apply: <https://www.usajobs.gov/job/682354300>

---

### **Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection and Other UIS Books**

The International Union of Speleology (UIS) has updated its website to include a section on books published by the UIS: <http://uis-speleo.org/index.php/uis-books/>. Three books are currently posted. The most prominent is *Guidelines for Cave and Karst Protection*. In 1997, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) released the first edition to support the growing international need for guidance in cave and karst management. In recognition of the International Year of Caves and Karst, the UIS has released this second edition, in cooperation with the IUCN, where 16 leading experts updated and expanded the guidelines to include new knowledge gained over the past 25 years. The second edition is being translated into multiple languages, all of which will be posted on this website. Currently, the summary of the guidelines are posted in 10 languages and more translations of the summary and full document will be posted as they become available.

Also available on the UIS website is *Karst, Caves, and People* by newly elected UIS President Dr. Nadja Zupan Hajna. This excellent and photo-rich book is designed to explain caves, karst, and their importance to the general public. Lastly, *Fifty Years of the UIS: 1965-2015*, by Past UIS President José Ayrton Labegalini, describes the origin and history of the first half-century of the UIS.

---

## Looking for a New UIS Informatics President

The founding President of the International Union of Speleology (UIS) Informatics Commission (UISIC), Peter Matthews, has stepped down after 36 years on the job in order to encourage someone more energetic and outgoing to now lead the Commission into the future.

There is plenty happening in the Commission, we have a very competent Vice-President, and we are now looking for a new leader who:

- is passionate about all aspects of cave and karst documentation
- has a vision for the future of the Commission and its work
- is keen to encourage our existing team of volunteers in their various projects
- and is keen to promote the benefits of our work to the general speleo community, and to the relevant scientific, management, and cave protection communities

You can find out more about the Commission and the range of work that our volunteers are doing from our website and our new *cavedata* forums:

Website: (<https://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org>)

Forums: (<https://www.uisic.uis-speleo.org/forum>)

### How to Apply

There may be more than one applicant for this position, so please send an email to Peter Matthews ([matthews@melbpc.org.au](mailto:matthews@melbpc.org.au)), setting out why you would be the best candidate. Also happy to discuss via Skype, Zoom, phone, or whatever.

---

## Sinkhole Conference: Register Now Before Prices Increase

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 on 1 December. For information about the conference and to register, visit <http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>.

---

## **Best Practices in Protecting and Managing Cave and Karst Waters: Free Webinar**

Dear CaveMAB members, partners, and friends,

We invite you to join us for a CaveMAB (Man And Biosphere) webinar series, *Best Practices in Protecting and Managing Cave and Karst Waters*. We will have four topical sessions occurring on October 25th and 27th as shown below. Participants to this free, interactive webinar series will hear from professionals around the globe working on water resource issues in Biosphere Reserves and other protected areas. We ask that you please register for each session separately and feel free to share this information with your colleagues, students, and other relevant networks.

Hydrology: October 25, 2022 • 8-9AM, US CDT

A bottom-up approach for the protection of urban groundwaters in a world's tourist destination (Cancun, Mexico). – Ana K. Celis, Alternative Tourism and Heritage Management, Universidad del Caribe.

Register at:

<https://wku.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMofuysqDMtHtBap9JVS504471IsOyn5b6J>

People and Culture: October 25, 2022 • 9-10AM, US CDT

Groundwater and livelihood in Gunungsewu karst area, Indonesia. – Eko Haryono, Karst Research Group, Faculty of Geography, Universitas Gadjah Mada.

Register at:

<https://wku.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUlduitqjwpGtF0VhIvg0NXePeOAFqQSOE1>

Biodiversity, October 25 • 11AM-12PM, US CDT

Spots of high diversity of subterranean aquatic faunas in Brazil: priority areas for conservation and water management. – Eleonora Trajano, Institute of Biosciences, University of São Paulo.

Register at: <https://wku.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkd-6oqD8pEtwTLxrqai0ihoghVW1Y6ldd>

Climate Change: October 27, 2022 • 9-10AM, US CDT

Decline of ice in caves in the Tatra Mountains as an indicator of climate change. The case of Ice Cave in Ciemniak, Poland. – Magdalena Sitarz, Zuzanna Palińska, Maria Król, Tatra Transboundary Biosphere Reserve.

Register at:

<https://wku.zoom.us/meeting/register/%20%20tJUrdOCspjwoHtPdyGrfOJmjZt6mrU-SW1tD>

Sincerely,  
CaveMAB Network Coordinators

---

### 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) Highlights of Geoscientific Cave Research Symposium: Austria, 11-12 November 2022 (Vienna, Austria),  
<https://www.oeaw.ac.at/geok/detail/event/highlights-of-geoscientific-cave-research>
- 2) 20<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Vulcanospeleology, 22-26 November 2022 (Dak Nong Province, Vietnam), <https://20isvdaknong.com/>
- 3) United Nations Water Summit on Groundwater, with side event on Karst Aquifers, 6-8 December 2022 (UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France),  
<https://groundwater-summit.org/>
- 4) 17<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Conference on Sinkholes and the Engineering and Environmental Impacts of Karst, 27-31 March 2023 (Tampa, Florida, USA),  
<http://www.sinkholeconference.com/>
- 5) 4<sup>th</sup> International Planetary Caves Conference, 4-7 May 2023 (Haria Municipality, Lanzarote, Spain),  
<https://www.hou.usra.edu/meetings/4thcaves2023/>
- 6) Clay Minerals Society Conference: Karst Trip, 20-25 May 2023 (Austin, Texas, USA), <https://cvent.utexas.edu/event/b8822615-d0e8-4730-89e4-2ef519cbeb5b/summary>
- 7) 14<sup>th</sup> International Symposium on Pseudokarst, 22-26 May 2023 (Sudetes, Poland), <https://14pseudokarst.wonders4you.com/>

- 8) US National Speleological Society Convention, 26-30 June 2023 (Elkins, West Virginia, USA), <https://nss2023.caves.org>
- 9) 37<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Congress of Speleology, 26-29 July 2023 (Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil), <https://www.cavernas.org.br/37-congresso-brasileiro-de-espeleologia/>
- 10) Geological Society of America Convention, 15-18 October (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA), <https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2023/home>
- 11) 3<sup>rd</sup> International Congress of Karst, Speleology and Enhancement of Natural Heritage, 2-5 November 2023 (Rabat, Morocco), <https://speleorabat23.sciencesconf.org/>
- 12) 9<sup>th</sup> US Geological Survey Karst Interest Group Workshop, 22-24 October 2024 (Nashville, Tennessee, USA), <http://www.usgs.gov/kig-workshop>
- 13) 19<sup>th</sup> 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>