



SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

HASSAN II CASABLANCA UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF SCIENCES

**in partnership with the
ARAB UNION FOR ASTRONOMY AND SPACE SCIENCES**

ORGANIZES THE

SECOND ARAB IMPACT CRATERING AND ASTROGEOLOGY CONFERENCE (AICAC II) 13-20 November 2011, CASABLANCA, MOROCCO

The Faculty of Sciences, Casablanca Hassan II University, in partnership with the Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences (AUASS) and the Arab Geologist Association (AGA), organizes the **2nd ARAB IMPACT CRATERING AND ASTROGEOLOGY CONFERENCE (AICAC II)**. The conference will open in the evening of 13 November 2011 and involves talks on 14 and 15 November at the Faculty of Science of the Hassan II Casablanca University. This is followed by a 5-day excursion through Morocco.

This conference comes after the first AICAC meeting that was initiated by the AUASS and took place at the University of Jordan in Amman on 9-11 November 2009. AICAC I was a highly successful meeting with participants from 22 countries, including 6 Arab countries.

AICAC II aims at establishing cooperation between well-established groups in the fields of Impact Cratering and Astrogeology and researchers from the Middle East and North Africa, where many impact craters exist and numerous meteorites have been collected. The conference will be a unique opportunity for Arab researchers to meet experts of the analysis of terrestrial impact structures and meteorite collections and will promote exchanges about the most advanced techniques for the characterization of shocked material. The conference will increase awareness in Arab countries, where meteorites abound and impact craters exist or have yet to be discovered, but where the scientific importance of this research field has not been systematically pursued yet. The objectives are to stimulate careful documentation of impact craters, to promote new research in Astrogeology and Meteoritics, and to increase interest among universities and scientific institutions in the Arabic countries.

ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS:

Laboratoire “Géosciences Appliquées à l’Ingénierie et à l’Aménagement GAIA”, Equipe Patrimoine Géologique du Maroc, Faculty of Sciences Ain Chock, Hassan II University Casablanca
Arab Union for Astronomy and Space Sciences AUASS
Meteoritical Society
Arab Geologist Association AGA
Association Marocaine des Sciences de la Terre AMST
Association Marocaine pour la Protection du Patrimoine Géologique du Maroc APPGM

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

Hasnaa CHENNAOUI AOUDJEHANE, Laboratoire GAIA (Chairperson), Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Khalil KONSUL, AUASS, Amman, Jordan
Wolf Uwe REIMOLD, Museum of Natural History Berlin, Germany
Maria KHIRFAN, Amman, University of Jordan
Assia LAROSSI, Laboratoire GAIA, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Samira MAKHOUKHI, Laboratoire GAIA, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Faouzi BERRADA, Laboratoire GAIA, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Fouad EL AMRAOUI, Laboratoire GAIA, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Najia EL BOUDALI, Laboratoire GAIA, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Noureddine NAJID, Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco, and AUASS
Zouhair BENKHALDOUN, Cadi Ayad University Marrakech, Morocco
Moha IKENNE, Mineralogy and Geoheritage, Ibnou Zohr University, Agadir, Morocco
Atmane LAMALI, Geophysics, CRAG Algeria

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE:

Hamid M. K. ALNAIMY, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at University of Sharjah and AUASS President Amman, Jordan
David BARATOUX, Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées, Toulouse, France
Hasnaa CHENNAOUI AOUDJEHANE (Chairperson) Casablanca Hassan II University, Morocco
Alvaro CRÓSTA, University of Campinas, Brasil
Albert JAMBON, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris 6, France
Thomas KENKMANN, Freiburg University Germany
Christian KOEBERL, Naturhistorisches Museum/University of Vienna, Austria
Jay MELOSH, Purdue University, USA
Joanna MORGAN, Imperial College, London, UK
Wolf Uwe REIMOLD, Museum of Natural History Berlin, Germany
Elias SALAMEH, Amman, University of Jordan
Kai WÜNNEMANN, Museum of Natural History Berlin, Germany
Nassreddine YOUBI, Cadi Ayad University Marrakech, Morocco

CONFERENCE TOPICS:

- (1) Impact cratering as an astronomical and geological phenomenon
- (2) Structural features of impact structures
- (3) Economic mineral associations related to impact structures
- (4) Effects of impacts on the atmosphere, landscape, life, land stability
- (5) General Astrogeology science
- (6) Desert meteorites
- (7) Geotourism and Heritage Conservation related to impact craters
- (8) Asteroids, with a focus on Near-Earth Objects
- (9) Comets

The main topics will be introduced by keynote addresses.

CONFIRMED KEYNOTE AND INVITED TALKS

- David BARATOUX**, Past and present impact rates in the Solar system, issues and controversies. *Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées, Toulouse, France. Invited talk.*
- Maria Antonietta BARUCCI**, "Rosetta mission from Steins to Lutetia and beyond". *LESIA-Observatoire de Paris, France, Keynote speaker.*
- Zouhair BENKHALDOUN**, Moon and Solar project at Oukaimeden Observatory (Morocco). *Cadi Ayad University, Marrakech, Morocco, Invited talk.*
- Elmer BUCHNER**, The status of the Rieskrater museum Nördlingen. *Ries Crater Museum, Nördlingen, Germany, Invited talk.*
- Alvaro CRÓSTA**, Remote sensing and geophysical characteristics of some Brazilian impact structures. *Institute of Geosciences, University of Campinas, Brazil, Invited talk.*
- Henning DYPVIK**, Sedimentological and stratigraphic studies on impact structures. By Henning Dypvik and Elin Kalleon. *Department of Geosciences, University of Oslo, Norway, Invited talk.*
- Ludovic FERRIÈRE**, Recent work and confirmation of Congolese meteorite impact structure(s). *Museum of Natural History, Vienna, Austria, Invited talk.*
- Luigi FOLCO**, The Kamil Crater in Egypt: discovery and geophysical investigation. Luigi Folco on behalf of the 2010 Italian-Egyptian geophysical expedition members. *Museo Nazionale dell'Antartide Università di Siena, Italy. Invited talk.*
- Jérôme GATTACCECA**, Meteorite recovery in the Atacama Desert (Chile): results and comparison with other hot deserts. *CEREGE (CNRS / Aix-Marseille University), France, Invited talk.*
- Roger GIBSON**, Geotourism and geo-education in the Vredefort Impact Structure – an update. *School of Geosciences, WITS University, Johannesburg, South Africa, Keynote speaker.*
- Abdeslam HOUMMADA**, Progress on the neutrino telescope project in TAZA (Morocco). *Hassan II University Casablanca, Faculty of Sciences Morocco, Invited talk.*
- Albert JAMBON**, Impact effects and shock metamorphism in meteorites "Achondrites". *ISTEP, Université Pierre et Marie Curie Paris 6 France, Invited talk.*
- Thomas KENKMANN**, Oblique Impact Craters: Planetary and Terrestrial Case Studies. *Institute for Geosciences – University of Freiburg, Germany, Invited talk.*
- Olivier MOUSSIS**, Formation conditions of comets in the primordial nebula. *Institut Universitaire de France, Université de Franche-Comté & OSU THETA de Franche-Comté, Besançon, France. Keynote speaker.*
- Jayanta Kumar PATI**, The Ramgarh north-western India, and Dhala, north-central India, structures. *University of Allahabad, India, Invited talk.*
- Jeff PLESCIA**, Lunar Impact Craters: Constraints on the Terrestrial Cratering Process. *Johns Hopkins University, USA, Keynote speaker.*
- Michael POELCHAU**, Impact Cratering Experiments: Implications for Natural Processes. *Institute for Geosciences – University of Freiburg, Germany, Invited talk.*
- Wolf Uwe REIMOLD**, Economic potential of impact structures. *Museum für Naturkunde – Leibniz-Institute at Humboldt University Berlin Germany, Keynote speaker.*
- Kai WÜNNEMANN**, Oceanic impacts and their environmental effects. *Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany, Keynote speaker.*

ABSTRACT FORMAT:

The abstract is two pages format; a template will be downloaded from the AICAC II website.

REGISTRATION FEES:

- 270 € for early registration prior to 15 October 2011.
- 100 € for registered students (provide a letter of confirmation from your supervisor upon registration)
- For late registration after 15 October 2011 add €25.

Local Moroccan currency is the Dirham (MDH): 1 € equals about 11.15 MDH or 1 US\$ equals about 8.5 MDH.

Registration fees include all conference materials such as abstract volume, lunches, gala dinner, and local transport.

The Organizing Committee is actively engaged in securing sponsorship funds for the support of students and young researchers (**if you would like to apply for a student travel grant, please contact the chairperson**).

WEATHER, TRANSPORTATION:

Casablanca is the economic capital of Morocco and is reachable via its international airport Casablanca Mohamed V. The Casablanca Mohamed V Airport is connected by regular direct flights to numerous major cities around the world. Transport from the airport to the city centre is available by train or taxi and takes about 20 minutes. There will be a shuttle service to and from the airport (330 Dh one way) the participants can book themselves directly through the travel agency ICO TOURS International:

E. mail: ico.tours.cas@icotours.com

elhazzaz@icotours.com

Website: www.icotours.com

Casablanca offers a range of prestigious hotels at reasonable fares. Morocco is a safe travel destination. It is a major target for worldwide tourism and geotourism and a hub of geoscientific research. The hospitable people of Morocco are looking forward to hosting you. The average weather conditions in mid-November are around 20 degrees during the day in Casablanca, and some 15 degrees at night. In the southern part of the country, daytime temperatures may reach 25 degrees and at night it may cool to less than ten. Snow on the High Atlas is quite possible.

ACCOMMODATION:

The organizers made a special deal with the ICO TOURS International travel agency that will organise hotels booking at:

- **Hotel Val D'Anfa 4*** (<http://www.valdanfahotel.com/fr/index.aspx>)
1080 DH TTC BB single/night, 705 DH TTC BB double/night/person
- **Hotel Suisse 4*** (<http://www.hotelsuisse-casablanca.com/home.htm>)
585 DH TTC BB single/night, 410 DH TTC BB double/night/person

The booking form can be downloaded from the website and sent directly to ICO TOURS. Conference presentations will be held in the Val D'Anfa Hotel, except for the opening talks that will take place at the Faculty of Sciences Ain Chock auditorium, at Hassan II University Casablanca. A transportation service from hotels to this function will be provided (details in the Final Announcement).

E. mail: ico.tours.cas@icotours.com, elhazzaz@icotours.com

Website: www.icotours.com

IMPORTANT DATES:

1 April 2011 Deadline for indication of interest form

5 August 2011 Second Announcement

15 September 2011 Deadline for abstract submission

10 October 2011 Final Announcement and program with abstracts

15 October 2011 Deadline for early registration

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE:

The conference language will be English.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM:

Registration will start at 7:00 am in the evening of Sunday, 13 November 2011, with a reception ceremony in the Val d'Anfa Hotel. Registration will continue through November 14 and 15, 2011. Oral sessions will be held on Monday and Tuesday in the Val d'Anfa Hotel; posters will be on display throughout 14 and 15 November, and a dedicated poster session will be scheduled for the afternoon of 14 November, prior to the gala dinner at the Moroccan restaurant "Basmane" which is very close to the Hotel Suisse and in the Val d'Anfa Hotel.

FIELD TRIP:

Wednesday 16 to Sunday 20 November are reserved for a geological and cultural tour of Morocco. The route planned will connect Casablanca-Rabat-Fes-Erfoud-Rissani-Merzouga-Ouarzazate-Marrakech. Amongst the sites to be visited are the Old City of Fes (World Heritage), the High Atlas Mountains, the Sahara desert and fossiliferous sites around Erfoud and Merzouga with its enormous sand dunes, Ouarzazate Kasbah, and the Marrakech imperial city. The details of the tour will be downloaded from the AICACII website sooner.

The maximum number of participants is 40; allocation of field trip places will be on a first-come (confirmation of participation, payment of participation fee) basis.

Participation fees for the field trip are **550 Euros** for five days and nights, including the last night accommodation in Casablanca. This includes bus transport, accommodation, all meals, as well as cool drinks during travel.

CONTACT:

Conference chair – Hasnaa Chennaoui Aoudjehane

Casablanca Hassan II University, Faculty of Science, Laboratoire GAIA, Equipe Patrimoine Géologique du Maroc (Moroccan Geoheritage)

Km 8, Route d'El Jadida, BP 5366 Maârif Casablanca Maroc

Tél : +212 661 31 71 06 / +212 522 23 06 80/72 Fax : +212 522 23 06 74

E-mail : chennaoui_h@yahoo.fr, h.chennaoui@fsac.ac.ma

WEBSITE: <http://www.fsac.ac.ma/aicaii/index.html>

REGISTRATION FORM

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Title: _____

Affiliation: _____

Arrival date: _____

Departure date: _____

Arrival time at the airport: _____

Company and n° flight: _____

Registration fees:

- 270 € for early registration prior to **20 October 2011**.
- 100 € for registered students (provide a letter of confirmation from your supervisor upon registration).
- For late registration after **20 October 2011** add €25.

Field trip fees:

- 550 € prior to 20 October 2011.

Registration and field trip fees have to be send to the “AICAC II” bank account:

BANK NAME: Banque Marocaine pour le Commerce et l'Industrie BMCI
BANK AGENCY ADDRESS: BMCI Agence Casa Ghandi, 92 Boulevard Ghandi,
Casablanca, 20070 Morocco.
ACCOUNT NAME: AICAC II
SWIFT Code: BMCIMAMCXXX
Bank account number: 013 780 01091 202572 001 72 48

Proof of payment has to be sent to the organisers (chennaoui_h@yahoo.fr or laroussi_assia@yahoo.fr)