





College on Soil Physics

30th Anniversary (1983 - 2013)

Energy and mass balances at the Land-Water-Atmosphere continuum -

25 February - 1 March 2013

(ICTP, Trieste, Italy)

The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, will organize a College on Soil Physics, to be held from 25 February to 1 March 2013.

The College aims to provide participants with a knowledge of soil physical properties and processes so that they may understand and solve engineering, agronomic and environmental problems and activities such as soil water flow, drainage, irrigation, land degradation, pollution, solute transport, and this in different climate regions.

The College also aims at contributing to the training of participants and to give them understanding of fundamental soil physical processes and to apply gained knowledge and skills to solving world problems in 'climate change', 'loss of biodiversity', and 'land degradation and desertification', referring to the UN '3 Rio Conventions' and the 'Millennium Goals'.

The College will celebrate in 2013 its 30th Anniversary, and during one week focus will be put on the 'Development and challenges of Soil Physics in the last 30 years' around the central theme: 'Energy and mass balances at the land-water-atmosphere continuum' covering topics as:

- Soil-water balance factors: rainfall characteristics, infiltration and runoff, soil water storage, evaporation and evapotranspiration
- Modeling soil physical processes
- · Scaling and spatial variability of soil physical properties
- Regional Climate Downscaling: How can Soil Physics and Earth System Physics contribute?

An important aspect of the College is the interaction/discussion with the participants and ICTP Soil Physics Associates, and time will be made available for the participants to give 15' oral or poster (including 5' oral) presentations. Therefore the participants are encouraged to prepare a short summary of their work and research activities to be submitted together with their application form. Contacts are made to publish after the College on Soil Physics the full papers resulting from the presentations.

PARTICIPATION

The College is intended for students and professionals with varied background in physics, mathematics, soils, engineering, agricultural and environmental sciences. Scientists and students from all countries that are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA may attend the College. As it will be conducted in English, participants should have an adequate working knowledge of this language. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries, through a programme of training activities within a framework of international cooperation, a limited number of students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by the home institution. Every effort should be made by candidates to secure support for their fare. Limited funds are available for the participants to cover subsistence expenses (board: meal tickets; and lodging: double room sharing) during their stay at the College of Soil Physics. Such support is available only for those who attend the whole activity. There is no registration fee.

HOW TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION

The on-line application form can be accessed at the activity website:

http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?2444

Once in the website, comprehensive instructions will guide you step-by-step, on how to fill out and submit the application form. Please send all file attachments in PDF format.

Contact Information:

ICTP Home page: http://www.ictp.it

Directors

D. Gabriels

Department of Soil Management, UNESCO Chair on Eremology, Ghent University, Belgium

E. Skidmore

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Manhattan, Kansas, USA

D. Nielsen

Department of Land, Air and Water Resources, University of California, Davis, USA

I. Pla Sentis

Departament de Medi Ambient i Ciencias del Sol, Universitat de Lleida, Leida, Spain

Local Organizers

G.C. Ghirardi ICTP, Italy

F. Giorgi

Lecturers

to be announced on the web site

Application Deadline 31 October 2012