

Monday, 06 August, 2001

**Workshop on “Earth Gravity Field From Space – From Sensors to Earth Sciences”  
at ISSI in Bern, Switzerland, 11–15 March 2002**

Dear

With this letter we should like to invite you to ISSI – the International Space Science Institute – and ask you to participate in one of its activities: a workshop on *Earth Gravity Field From Space – From Sensors to Earth Sciences* to be held in Bern in the Spring of 2002.

For information about ISSI please refer to our WWW homepage at <http://www.issi.unibe.ch/>.

Following some general enquiries with the scientific community concerning the desirability of organising a workshop on the proposed topic, a group of four convenors,

Gerhard Beutler (Univ. of Bern),  
Mark Drinkwater (ESA-ESTEC, Noordwijk),  
Reiner Rummel (Techn. Univ. Munich),  
Rudolf von Steiger (ISSI)

formulated the aims and goals of the workshop, structured the workshop into six sections, nominated a list of session chairs,

Georges Balmino (GRGS-CNES, Toulouse),  
Roberto Sabadini (Univ. of Milano),  
Christian Le Provost (Obs. Midi-Pyrenees, Toulouse),  
Christian Tscherning (Univ. of Copenhagen),  
Philip Woodworth (Bidston Observatory, Birkenhead),  
Miguel Aguirre (ESA-ESTEC, Noordwijk),

who recently met at ISSI to set up a programme of introductory talks (see the attached first circular). The six sessions will probably be interleaved in the programme so as to emphasise the inter- and cross-disciplinary aspects, and to entice the participants to attend the complete 5-day workshop. For each section there will be also a concluding, moderated discussion session. This format should leave ample time for open, informal discussions, which is one of the principal aims of ISSI.

The list of the sessions and talks is attached, and the topics of the talks as well as the names of the speakers are indicated. The duration of the talks will be some 30 minutes including discussion. Most of the speakers were already informally contacted by one of the session chairs and have agreed to attend.

**We have pleasure of formally inviting you to attend this workshop on “Earth Gravity Field From Space – From Sensors to Earth Sciences”.**

Participation at this workshop is by invitation only. The convenors have endeavoured to create a list of participants who are currently very active in this field and who will cover the relevant topics without making the workshop unwieldy.

ISSI offers to cover your subsistence costs (hotel and daily allowance) during the time of your stay in Bern. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to cover your air and/or train fares.

If you can accept this invitation, we ask you to kindly fill in the preregistration form attached to the circular. Also, please indicate if you agree with the proposed title of your talk.

A proceedings volume will be published after the workshop in the *Space Sciences Series of ISSI* by Kluwer Academic Publishers. The proceedings will be issued both as a hardcover book in our series and as a volume of *Space Science Reviews* (editor C. de Jager). Manuscripts will be due only some 6–8 weeks after the workshop so they can reflect the discussions during the workshop. All papers will be reviewed, and the volume is then expected to appear 9–12 months later.

We hope very much that you will be able to attend this workshop and contribute to the volume described above. At ISSI, Rudolf von Steiger is the responsible local organiser. Please let us know at your earliest convenience of your decision, either by fax (+41-31-631-4897) or by e-mail ([vsteiger@issi.unibe.ch](mailto:vsteiger@issi.unibe.ch)). We will then contact you again in a few months with a second circular by e-mail giving more detailed information about the workshop.

We are looking forward to welcoming you in Bern at the workshop next Spring.

With best regards,  
Yours sincerely,

Johannes Geiss  
Executive Director

Rudolf von Steiger  
Director