

Ian Jackson



Ian Jackson is the Chief of Operations for BGS. He began his career in 1972 on mineral assessment programmes in the UK and overseas and moved in the early 1980s to work as a field geologist in the North-East England coalfield. Application of early computing systems to geology led to his appointment as the manager of a corporate project to introduce digital mapping across BGS and he was responsible for the development of the UK geological map and geohazard digital databases. A dominant theme in his career is the wider exploitation of geoscience data for societal benefit. Ian is Secretary General of the International Union of Geological Sciences Commission for Geoscience Information and a member of an EC Directive (INSPIRE) regulation drafting team. He compiled an atlas of UK geoscience spatial data entitled 'Britain beneath our feet' and is currently coordinating OneGeology.

John Broome



John Broome is the Acting Director of the Data Management Division and Head of Data Management Policy and Strategy for the Earth Sciences Sector of Natural Resources Canada. After graduation in 1975, John worked in the private sector until 1983 when he joined the Geological Survey of Canada where he has held a series of positions focused on the application of computer technology for geoscience interpretation and the policies and standards necessary for the integration, management, and dissemination of digital geoscience data. He has been a member of numerous international groups focussed on the management of digital geoscience data. He is currently the Canadian member of the International Union of Geological Sciences 'Commission for Geoscience Information' (CGI) Council, and the International Union of Geological Sciences Delegate to the multidisciplinary 'Committee for Scientific and Technical Data'.

Harvey Thorleifson



Harvey Thorleifson was appointed Director of the Minnesota Geological Survey, State Geologist of Minnesota, and Professor in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Minnesota in 2003. Following a University of Colorado PhD, and 17 years with the Geological Survey of Canada, Harvey now serves the subsurface information needs of the people of Minnesota, while also fulfilling the role of Geological Mapping Committee Chair with the Association of American State Geologists. Previously, he was 2003–2004 President of the Geological Association of Canada, and 2004–2006 President of the Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences. Harvey has coordinated regional soil and water mapping projects, onshore and offshore, over large regions of Canada and the US. He is pleased to have joined the exciting work of the OneGeology team.

Luca Demicheli



Luca Demicheli is Secretary General of the Italian Commission for the International Year of Planet Earth (2007-2009) and is responsible for the coordination of the international activities of the Geological Survey of Italy. He has been recently appointed incoming Secretary General of EuroGeoSurveys, the Association of the Geological Surveys of Europe. A geologist specialised in environmental engineering and environmental management and planning, has served for many years within the European Commission where launched and coordinated the environmental strategy of several major international scientific projects. He is member of several both national and international task forces, committees and management boards, such as the European Topic Centre on Land Use and Spatial Information of the European Environment Agency and the Science and Technology Committee of the Group on Earth Observation (GEO), where he represents both Italy and EuroGeoSurveys.

François Robida



François Robida is the Deputy Head of the Information Systems and Technologies Division of BRGM (French Geological Survey), coordinating the research and European activities. He began his career as a mining engineer and geostatistician and has 28 years of experience in computer science applications to earth sciences (R&D, marketing of software in the areas of geology and mining). François has been involved in numerous projects and coordinated for BRGM several European R&D programmes in the field of information technology. He has been representing EuroGeoSurveys (the Association of European Geological Surveys) in the preparation of the INSPIRE EC Directive, which aims at developing interoperability in the environment domain. He is now Chair of the EuroGeoSurveys INSPIRE Working Group. He is involved in international activities of standardisation as a member of the IUGS/CGI Council, chair of the OGC France Forum (French branch of OpenGeospatial Consortium). He coordinates the development of the OneGeology Portal, hosted by BRGM.