

Letter from the Editor,

Greatly appreciated readers of ESRJ,

I am pleased to bring you Vol. 16(2) 2012 which contains interesting articles related to applying methods regarding seismic prospecting, geotechnics, geomorphology, seismology and geochemistry in such varied countries as Japan, Turkey, Iran, Nigeria and Cameroon. Procedures for suitably treating seismic signals by using discrete wavelet transform (DWT), or treating clays aimed at modifying their physical attributes form part of the basic contributions regarding seismic engineering and geotechnics' immense usefulness.

This issue also contains the results of geomorphological analysis carried out on the NW coast of Kyushu, Japan, inferring paleoclimatic conditions and the configuration of the paleoshoreline during the Holocene age. Such information contributes towards knowledge concerning coastal dynamics and its relationship with ancient populations' evolution in the Japanese archipelago.

A systematic analysis concerning instrumental seismicity led to inferring conditions regarding the Turkish peninsula's fracture regime. Such work illustrates the concentration of events and their fractal characterisation, possibly being related to this active region of the world's seismotectonic conditions.

Four pieces of geochemical work, one of them related to the effects of runoff from a coal mine in Iran and the other three related to the environmental characterisation of several Mesozoic and Palaeozoic formations in Nigeria and Cameroon, emphasise new geological knowledge emerging from Asia and Africa.

We would like to thank all our authors who submitted work for making their contributions and their willingness to support ESRJ, and invite the whole community to continue sending us new research work coming within the scope of our geoscientific journal.

On a different matter, I would like to take this opportunity to invite the geoscientific community to participate in two interesting events to be held in Colombia during 2013:

- The 14th Colombian Congress of Geology to be held in Bogota (July 31st to August 2nd 2013) will offer an appropriate scenario for presenting and discussing recent results regarding knowledge of Colombian geology, associated with this traditional meeting, will be held the Simposio de Exploradores, that will allow to identify new exploration horizons in O&G and mining in Latin America and Caribbean. and
- The AAPG ICE will be held in Cartagena (8-11th September) where topics related to Latin-American basins and petroleum systems, unconventional resources, challenges concerning heavy

oil, mature fields, deep water exploration and production, and environmental geology will be dealt with within the framework of the O&G industry, as well new academic foci and government interests.

The aforementioned events will surely enable new advances to be made which will be of interest to all. We hope to see you in Colombia during these events and the Scientific Workshop and commemorating of the first 100 years of San Calixto Observatory in La Paz, Bolivia.

Other important events in Latin America will be:

- The Meeting of the Americas, a Joint Assembly that covers topics in all areas of the geophysical sciences. The meeting will be held at the Cancun Center in Cancun, Mexico, 14–17 May 2013. This important meeting is leadership by the AGU and also sponsored by institutions like: Asociación Argentina de Geofísicos y Geodestas (AAGG), Asociación Latinoamericana de Geofísica Espacial (ALAGE), Asociación Latinoamericana de Paleomagnetismo y Geomagnetismo (LatinMag), Chilean Geological Society (CGS), Centro Regional de Sismología para América del Sur (CERESIS), Geochemical Society (GS), Mexican Association of Exploration Geophysicists (AMGE), Mexican Geological Society (SGM), Mexican Union for Quaternary Studies (UMEC), Mineralogical Society (MS), Sociedade Brasileira de Geofísica (SBGf), Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) and Unión Geofísica Mexicana (UGM).

Finally I shall mention the official opening of the National Laboratories Network of Geosciences of Colombia, an initiative sponsored by the Colombian State through the National Hydrocarbons Agency, Colciencias (National Science Foundation of Colombia), five colombian universities (National University of Colombia, Caldas University, Universidad Industrial de Santander, UPTC, EAFIT) as well other local institutions associated to the Geosciences (the Colombian Geologic Survey, the Cartographic Institute and the International Center of Physics). A large, complete networking, of last generation, distributed countrywide, that support specialized analyses for the O&G and mining industries, academy and research centers. Many of our lectors may find in this networking an interesting source of mediums for new studies along the worldwide.

Carlos A. Vargas  
Editor