# IAGA Interdivisional Commission on Education and Outreach

Dear Colleague

I am writing to introduce myself and make a request.

My name is Edgar Bering and I am a Professor of Physics and Electrical Engineering at the University of Houston. At the recent IUGG Assembly in Prague, I was chosen to be the Chair of the IAGA Interdivisional Commission on Education and Outreach (IDCEO) for the 2015-2019 term. I am deeply honored by this decision and will do my utmost to be worthy of your trust.

I have a request to make. It is unfortunately the case that very few Education programs include budgets for international travel. Consequently, IDCEO meetings have been very sparsely attended in recent years. Since the Commission’s membership consists of people who come to the business meeting, IDCEO membership is very sparse. On the other hand, I am fairly confident that there are people who would like to be active corresponding members of the Commission in most IAGA member countries. My requests are obvious. Would you be interested in being a member of the Commission? Who else should I contact? Please send me the names and contact information for colleagues in your country who are eager to contribute to the deliberations and work of the IDCEO.

You are probably wondering what an IDCEO member might be asked to do. Fundamentally, so am I. Our first step will be to define the roles and functions of the Commission. At minimum, we need to be convening symposia at IAGA conferences. We will be in charge of organizing the IAGA Summer Schools in 2019 and thereafter. Education of young scientists and enhancing the opportunities to obtain international experience will be a major goal of IDCEO. Generally, we need to reach out to and listen to user groups in our member nations to identify their needs and expectations of the IDCEO.

Sincerely yours

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