

## **Editorial: *Geophysica* 1935–2006 and the Future**

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### *1. Geophysica story*

The Geophysical Society of Finland was founded in 1926 (*Kajander, 2001*). In the beginning it consisted of a small (26 members) and active group of geophysicists of a nation newly gained its independence. The society organized monthly meetings in Helsinki, where most of the members took part regularly. The idea of having own periodical also developed in the early years, and in 1933 the Ministry of Education gave a grant to start this. The first editorial board consisted of Oscar V. Johansson, Vilho Väisälä, Henrik Renqvist and Risto Jurva. The name *Geophysica* was proposed by the first editor Henrik Renqvist and executive editor Risto Jurva.

The first volume of *Geophysica* came out in 1935. Across the Second World War a gap of 12 years followed, the 2nd volume being published in 1947. Thereafter *Geophysica* continued in a regular manner. The number of issues ranged between one and four per volume until 1980, and each volume was completed in 1–4 years. The number of foreign authors increased, and the peer review procedure was taken into full action in the 1980s. Since 1981 there has been one volume and two issues per each year, but in practice many of the volumes have been double issues. Now, at the end of 2006, *Geophysica* is in a new turning point. The history of the first sixty years of *Geophysica* has been reported by *Tattari et al. (1995)*.

After Henrik Renqvist the editors of *Geophysica* were from the Finnish Meteorological Institute and from Department of Meteorology of the University of Helsinki (Veikko Rossi, Vilho Väisälä, Lauri A. Vuorela and Heikki Nevanlinna) for the period 1947–1989. Then followed Heikki Korhonen from the Institute of Seismology of the University of Helsinki and the present editor. The list of issues in Annex 1 and the list of editors is given in Annex 2.

### *2. Policy*

In the first and second volumes there were also summaries of geophysical research and literature in Finland, while the third one was a special issue containing

mainly meteorological articles. Then in 1949 the policy of *Geophysica* was revised. The goal was set to publish scientific geophysical articles and abstracts of the research in Finland, and it was further decided that an editorial board with representatives from the main branches of geophysics needs to be elected. The plan was to have three series: meteorology, general geophysics (other than meteorology), and the research abstracts. The last one was, however, never commenced. It was said that papers should be written in languages understandable to scientists in other countries as well. Four languages were consequently accepted: English, French, German and Esperanto. No papers were Esperanto and only one in French, and since 1990 only English texts have been taken.

The two series – meteorology and general geophysics – existed through the period 1951–1967. From 1968 or from volume 10 onwards only one series has been produced with 1–2 issues per volume. Since 1999 only one issue per year has been included. This is mainly due to the decreasing of the financial support for *Geophysica* and the decrease of the supply of good manuscripts.

A few special issues have been produced. Three issues have been devoted to honoured Finnish geophysicists: to professor Oscar V. Johansson on his 70th birthday in 1948, to academician Erik Palmén on the occasion of his 60th birthday in 1958 and to professor Heikki Simojoki on the occasion of his 75th birthday in 1981. One issue has been devoted to a foreign correspondent of the Geophysical Society of Finland, to professor Sergey A. Kitaigorodskii on his 60th birthday in 1994. In the last ten years there has been four topic related special issues: The Finnish Climate Research Programme SILMU (1996), Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory 85-year anniversary (1999), Finnish–Estonian research programme SUVI on optics of natural waters (2000), and the history of geophysics in Finland during the 1900s (2001).

The number of copies has been 500–600 in the last ten years. International science literature exchange has used about 200 copies and members of the Geophysical Society have taken about 150 copies.

### 3. *Future*

In recent years publishing systems have developed more toward electronic formats. This is a very effective and modern system, which makes fast processing of papers possible and also essentially lowers the publishing costs. In consequence, the Geophysical Society of Finland has made the decision in 2006 to go into electronic publishing in 2007. The number of paper copies will be limited based on orders by the members of the Geophysical Society of Finland, scientific libraries, and commercial demand.

The electronic publishing will be made so that *Geophysica* becomes an open access journal. This service is provided by the National Library of Finland under *Elektra* - Finnish scientific publications in electronic form. The resulting fast publishing procedure and free accessibility with possibility to download papers as pdf files is expected also to increase the activity to submit manuscripts and to use the published

papers as a source material in further scientific research. Also the plan is to put the earlier volumes of *Geophysica* in the same electronic library and freely available there.

The publishing policy will otherwise remain as before. *Geophysica* accepts research papers, review articles, notes and short communications on all geophysical subjects and it is open to anyone who wishes to contribute an original scientific paper. Emphasis is given to papers concerning geophysics in northern Europe as well as on articles relevant to Finland. In addition, the members of the Geophysical Society of Finland are welcome to give proposals for special issues of particular relevance to the geophysical research in Finland.

### *References*

- Kajander, J. 2001. Geophysical Society of Finland 1926–2001. *Geophysica* **37**(1-2), 5–31.
- Tattari, S., J. Kajander and H. Korhonen, 1995. Sixty Years of *Geophysica*. *Geophysica* **31**(1), 85.

*Annex 1. Geophysica 1935 – 2006*

1935	Volume 1	
1947	Volume 2	
1948	Volume 3	Special volume: Professor Oscar V. Johansson 70 years
1951–54	Volume 4	Meteorology: Four issues (1951, 1953, 1953, 1954)
1952–58	Volume 5	General geophysics: Four issues (1952, 1956, 1957, 1958)
1957–58	Volume 6	Meteorology: Three issues (1957, 1957, 1958) 6(3-4) is Special issue: Professor Erik Palmén 60 years
1959–63	Volume 7	General geophysics: Four issues (1959, 1960, 1961, 1963)
1961–66	Volume 8	Meteorology: (1961, 1962, 1963, 1966)
1964–67	Volume 9	General geophysics: (1964, 1965, 1966, 1967)
1968	Volume 10	
1970–71	Volume 11	Two issues (1970, 1971)
1972–73	Volume 12	Two issues (1972, 1973)
1973–74	Volume 13	Two issues (1973, 1974)
1976–77	Volume 14	Two issues (1976, 1977)
1978	Volume 15	Two issues
1979–80	Volume 16	Two issues (1979, 1980)
1981	Volume 17	Special volume: Professor Heikki Simojoki 75 years
1982	Volume 18	
1983	Volume 19	Two issues
1984	Volume 20	
1985	Volume 21	Two issues
1986	Volume 22	
1987	Volume 23	Two issues
1988	Volume 24	
1989	Volume 25	
1990	Volume 26	
1991	Volume 27	
1992	Volume 28	
1993	Volume 29	
1994	Volume 30	
1995	Volume 31	Two issues
1996	Volume 32	Two issues. Special issue: SILMU (Finnish Climate Research Programme)
1997	Volume 33	Two issues. 33(2) Special issue: Professor Sergey A. Kitaigorodskii 60 years
1998	Volume 34	Two issues
1999	Volume 35	Special issue: Sodankylä Geophysical Observatory – 85 years of geophysics
2000	Volume 36	Special half-issue: Underwater optics with applications
2001	Volume 37	Special volume: Geophysics in Finland during the 1900s
2002	Volume 38	
2003	Volume 39	
2004	Volume 40	
2005	Volume 41	
2006	Volume 42	

*Annex 2. Geophysica editors*

<i>Issues</i>	<i>Editor</i>	<i>Executive/associate editor</i>	<i>Technical editor</i>
1935	Henrik Renqvist	Risto Jurva	
1947–1948	Veikko Rossi	–	
1951–1958	Vilho Väisälä	Veikko Rossi (1951–1953) Lauri A. Vuorela (1954–1958)	
1959–1988	Lauri A. Vuorela	–	
1989–1990	Heikki Nevanlinna	Lasse Häkkinen	
1990–1998	Heikki Korhonen	Sirkka Tattari	Leena Roine
1999–	Matti Leppäranta	Jari Haapala (1999–2004)	Leena Roine