

## *Preface*

# 4th EGU Alexander von Humboldt Conference “The Andes: Challenge for Geosciences”

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This special volume of *Advances in Geosciences* is devoted to some of the papers presented during the 4th EGU Alexander von Humboldt Conference on, “The Andes: Challenge for Geosciences” held 24–28 November 2008 in Santiago de Chile. We hope this volume will become a valuable reference for scientists engaged in understanding some of the many questions and challenges posed by the impressive Andes Cordillera.

Co-organized by the European Geosciences Union (EGU) and the Universidad de Chile, the conference was attended by more than 200 scientists from 28 countries worldwide.

Topics covered during this 5-day-long interdisciplinary meeting were:

- Cryosphere and Hydrology
- Climate, Climate Variability and Climate Change
- Tectonics and Geodynamics
- Climate-Tectonics-Surface Processes
- Water Resources in Future Climate Scenarios

- Impact of Subduction on Tectonics, Volcanism and Atmospheric Chemistry
- Geo-Ecology and Sustainability
- Risk in the Geosciences

These topics were introduced by keynote and invited speakers, who, in concert with the highly interdisciplinary audience, set the scene for vivid discussions.

The organizers of the 4th EGU Humboldt Conference, now in the role of Guest Editors of this special volume of *Advances in Geosciences*, like to use this opportunity for thanking the numerous sponsors and all those who helped in the organization. We particularly like to thank the keynote speakers most of whom have given valuable additional help towards setting up the scientific program and in the review process for this volume. Last but not least we thank all authors who provided their papers for this proceedings volume.

**P. Fabian, R. Garreau, C. Schneider  
and R. Tilling**

*Special Volume Editors*

