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President's Column

By Hannah Hamalainen

"I do not share your view that the scientist should observe silence in political matters ... Does not such restraint signify a lack of responsibility?" Einstein

Scientists nationally are posting their responses to the recent Trump Administration's Executive Orders and potential legislation, some of which include a federal hiring freeze, the [removal of mentions to climate change](#) on the EPA's website, the introduction of a congressional bill to [eliminate the EPA](#), and academics hit hard by Trump's travel ban.

In a short roundup of what's been going on recently: government agencies led a twitter protest against Trump as a result of denial and misinformation on climate science ([EOS](#)), while some created [rogue twitter social media profiles](#). Concerned professional blog posts ([Scientific American](#), [Nature](#)) and political engagement strategies in Congress ([AGU](#)) followed. Internationally, fellow scientists donated [lab space for scientists stranded from the United States](#). The AGU sent a letter to federal agencies urging protection of scientific integrity on the

behalf of the EPA ([AGU](#), Jan 26, 2017) – the result of which led to the introduction of bill [S.338](#), legislation that aims to promote and protect scientific integrity. [AGI and AGU](#) posted an upcoming May webinar on the new administration's budget and what it means for the geosciences.

Our sister societies – AGI and GSA – were among over 150 scientific societies, universities and associations which recently signed a letter in opposing immigration restrictions, arguing that scientific progress depends fundamentally on an open exchange of ideas and that the Trump executive order on immigration and travel will have the effect of limiting scientific scholarship and interaction among scholars ([Multisociety Letter Jan 31, 2017](#)). Several geoscience societies (AAPG, AGU, AGI, AIPG, GSA, and SSA) released a must-read [consensus document that makes policy recommendations](#) to the new Republican Administration and the 115th Congress.

Continued on page 3

Geoscience Information Society 2016 Officers

President

Hannah Winkler Hamalainen
Geospatial and Earth Sciences Librarian,
Geospatial Services Center
University of New Hampshire
Durham, NH 03824
Phone: 603-862-1631
e-mail: hannah.hamalainen@unh.edu

Vice President (President-Elect)

Robert Tolliver
Head, Science & Engineering
Stony Brook University Libraries
N2001B Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794
Phone: 631-632-1122
e-mail: robert.tolliver@stonybrook.edu

Immediate Past President

Matt Hudson
Publications Manager,
Geological Society of America
Phone: 303-357-1020
e-mail: mhudson@geosociety.org

Secretary

Samantha Teplitzky
UC Berkeley
Physics and Astronomy Library
351 Le Conte Hall
Berkeley, CA 94720
Phone: 510-664-7158
e-mail: steplitz@library.berkeley.edu

Publications Manager

Richard Huffine
Phone: 202-253-3511
e-mail: richardhuffine@yahoo.com

E-mail List:

<https://lists.princeton.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A0=Geonet>

Moderator: Louise F. Deis

Publicity

Shaun Hardy
Carnegie Institution for Science
DTM-Geophysical Laboratory Library
5241 Broad Branch Road, N.W.
Washington, DC 20015
Phone: 202-478-7960
e-mail: shardy@carnegiescience.edu

Treasurer

Lori Tschirhart
Science Librarian
University of Michigan
3026E Shapiro Science Library
Ann Arbor, MI 48109
Phone: 734-936-3079
email: ltz@umich.edu

Web Site: <http://www.geoinfo.org/>

Courtney Hoffner
Science and Engineering Librarian
University of California - Los Angeles
8251 Boelter Hall
Box 951598
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1598
Phone: 310-825-0190
email: choffner@library.ucla.edu

Newsletter Editor

Robert Tolliver
Head, Science & Engineering
Stony Brook University Libraries
N2001B Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library
Stony Brook University
Stony Brook, NY 11794
Phone: 631-632-1122
e-mail: robert.tolliver@stonybrook.edu

Newsletter Reviews Editor

Vacant

The GSIS Newsletter is published quarterly, in March, June, September, and December by the Geoscience Information Society. A digital subscription is included with GSIS membership (individual or institutional). All correspondence regarding dues, membership status, and address changes should be directed to the GSIS Secretary. GSIS members are encouraged to contribute content for publication. Material for the December issue should be received no later than March 15, 2017. Please send submissions by e-mail to Robert Tolliver, robert.tolliver@stonybrook.edu

President's Column, continued

In addition, ALA responded by posting an opposition to new administrative policies that contradict core library values.

Meanwhile many scientists, archivists, and librarians are working around the clock to safeguard federal government climate change data and to ensure continual access to government data and publications (Washington Post, VICE). Other librarians are working towards combating the deluge of politically-motivated fake news (Seattle Times).

The Geoscience Information Society isn't immune to the tides of political change. We

encourage all librarians, data and information specialists and library school students to feel welcome in our society. We can do this many ways – but first and foremost we must be willing to embrace diversity within our organization. As we consider our profession and work towards recruiting and retaining new members, we will need to stay informed and steadfast in upholding our values, to continue to have a vigorous and open dialogue amongst ourselves, unsilenced.

Hannah Hamalainen, GSIS President

Vice President's Column

By Bob Tolliver

Initial planning is under way for our events at the 2017 Geological Society of America annual meeting in Seattle, WA this coming October 22-25. I'm very happy to have Clara McLeod and Chris Badurek continuing with their contributions to our annual meeting. Clara will once again organize our Geoscience Librarianship 101 course on Saturday. We will have some great instructors covering just about any topic a geoscience librarian would want to know about. So if you're new to geoscience librarianship or you want to update your knowledge, please join us. Chris is once again putting together our technical sessions and has been working with GSA's Geoinformatics Division to co-sponsor some sessions. Start thinking about what you want to present at this year's meeting. We look forward to seeing you in Seattle. Now, I just need to think of a good place for a field trip. Let me know your ideas.

This past year was the first year for our new mentorship program and it's off to a good start. We had five mentors volunteer to work with beginning and mid-career geoscience librarians. Thank you to our mentors: Hannah Hamalainen,

Shaun Hardy, Matt Hudson, and Samantha Teplitzky. (Okay, that was only four. I volunteered, too, but it doesn't seem right to thank yourself, so I'll pass.) And no, your last name doesn't have to start with an "H" or a "T" to be a mentor. We had six mentees sign up, including Sarah Barbrow, Rebecca Hamburgess, Amy Koshoffer, Jessica Simpson, Bridget Thrasher, and Mea Warren. Thank you to everyone who has participated. If you would like to participate in the GSIS mentorship program in 2017, either as a mentor or as a mentee, please let me or Hannah know and we will be glad to include you.

I've enjoyed being the editor of the GSIS Newsletter, but my focus is now on planning our events at the annual meeting, which means we're looking for a new newsletter editor, as well as a new reviews editor for the newsletter. If you would be interested in contributing to GSIS through either of these positions, please let me know. I would be glad to help you get started.

Bob Tolliver

GSIS 50th Anniversary Celebration – Housewarming Speech

By Michael Mark Noga, 27 September 2016, The Broker Restaurant, Denver, CO

GSIS: Great service is sustainable.

You may remember the field trip that Rich Spohn organized for the 1992 meeting in Cincinnati. Remember, the bus took the ferry across the Ohio River at Anderson Ferry, just west of the city. The river flowed to the west, and we just went right across it.

GSIS encounters all kinds of flows in facilitating the exchange of information in the geosciences. I will give some examples of the streams of the Society's activities that met the continuing challenges of filling the information needs of scientists, educators, librarians, and sometimes the general public.

Preservation stream – GSIS fostered projects to preserve classic geological literature and scan the older reports and maps from state surveys. GSIS organized thematic sessions on preservation at GSA annual meetings. One session dealt with physical samples and collections. Another focused on imagery. Recently the focus has been on data discovery and preservation. GSIS preservation efforts move against the flow leading to decay.

Education stream - The GeoRef Users Group used to organize training sessions for GeoRef end- users when searching was done on DIALOG or another vendor. For over 10 years, GSIS members have presented the short course, Geoscience Librarianship 101 before every GSA meeting. There been several instructors including a couple stalwarts to keep the course going and share their knowledge to local librarians, students, and seasoned geoscience librarians. Since GSA meetings move around, several local librarians and library science students have been able to get a strong view of geoscience librarianship without having to travel too far.

Collections stream - GSIS has a long tradition of identifying and promoting field trip guidebooks. A committee did a yeoman's work in producing 6 print editions of the **Union List to Field Trip Guidebooks to North America**. The printed Union List not only identified guidebooks, but also included library holdings. In the last decade, the Society provided better searching by moving the print editions and new guidebook entries to the **Geologic Guidebooks of North America database**, with the support of AGI.

GSIS has had a strong interest in keeping track of the price of the literature and providing input to the major producers of the literature. Several forums have invited societies, publishers, and vendors to present their new product information with feedback from the GSIS audience. GSIS has long been involved with GSA, AGI, and more recently GSW.

Access stream - During the 50 years of the Geoscience Information Society's existence, discovery of geoscience literature has moved from the **Bibliography and Index of Geology**, to **GeoRef** online through DIALOG and other providers, to CD-ROMs, to the various flavors of GeoRef on the Web. There has long been a strong relationship with AGI and Georef, leading to significant, continuing GSIS participation on the AGI **GeoRef** Advisory Committee.

In the last ten years GSIS members have presented talks and done analysis for the open access movement.

Recognition - The Society has long recognized achievements in geoscience information through the awards program. The **Best Paper Award** has honored a recent paper in the field every year since 1986. The **Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Resource Award** has recognized major reference works for almost as long. This

award is particularly useful for libraries that don't have a specific geoscience librarian.

Next, GSIS created the **Best Field Trip Guidebook Award**, which is very useful to geoscience libraries and geologists for identifying outstanding guidebooks that not only work in the field but also have good metadata to discover them. There is now a separate award to honor guidebook series. Yes, GSIS has long had a strong interest in guidebooks.

GSIS promoted excellent Web resources for 12 years with the **Best Website Award**. That was a growth period for geoscience information library guides

Finally, the Society recognizes individual achievement in the profession with the **Mary B.**

Ansari Distinguished Service Award. There have been ten honorees.

For 50 years, the Geoscience Information Society has sustained excellence in service in the wake of reduced membership, staffing changes in libraries, and significant changes in the institutions that the members serve.

All these activities were accomplished with interest, passion, may I even say, some joy in accomplishing the Society's mission to provide exchange of geoscience information. Remember all these achievements were done by volunteer effort, which suggests to me –

GSIS: Great service is satisfying.

GSIS Annual Meeting, Denver, CO - Photos

By Shaun Hardy



Participants and instructors in the pre-conference workshop “Geoscience Librarianship 101” at the Auraria Library, Denver. (photo by Louise Deis)



Linda Zellmer chronicles “50 Years of Advances in Geoscience Information” at the GSIS booth in the exhibit hall.



Members networking during a break in the Business Meeting.



Matt Hudson passes the gavel to incoming president Hannah Hamalainen at the close of the Business Meeting.



2017 Executive Board. Front: Hannah Hamalainen, Bob Tolliver. Back: Samantha Teplitzky, Matt Hudson, Lori Tschirhart.



Members and guests socialize at The Broker Restaurant before the 50th Anniversary Dinner.



Members and guests socialize at The Broker Restaurant before the 50th Anniversary Dinner.



50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Awards Ceremony.



G. Salim Mohammed (David Rumsey Map Center, Stanford University) gives the keynote talk at the 50th Anniversary Dinner.



50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner and Awards Ceremony.



Michael Noga congratulates Leslie Hsu (USGS) on receiving the Best Paper Award.



Rusty Kimball presents the Ansari Best Research Resource Award to W. Jack Rink (McMaster University) for *Encyclopedia of Scientific Dating Methods*



Peter Hollings (Lakehead University) accepts the Best Guidebook Series Award from Linda Musser on behalf of the Institute of Lake Superior Geology.



Emily Wild (USGS) accepts the Best Guidebook Award from Linda Musser on behalf of the authors of *Geologic Field Trip Guide to Lassen Volcanic National Park*.



GSIS field trip to the USGS Denver library.



Shaun Hardy, recipient of the 2016 Ansari Distinguished Service Award



GSIS field trip to the USGS Denver library.

AIP Grant Awarded to the Carnegie Institution for Science Library

By Shaun Hardy

The American Institute of Physics (AIP) Center for History of Physics has awarded a \$10,000 grant to the library at the Carnegie Institution for Science to organize and preserve the archives of geophysicist Oliver H. Gish and open them for research. Gish was a prominent figure in American geophysics in the early 20th Century and an authority in the study of electricity in the atmosphere and in the Earth. He was a staff scientist at Carnegie's Department of Terrestrial Magnetism (DTM) in Washington, DC from 1922 to 1948 and also worked in academia, industry, and government research. His papers are held in the DTM archives.

Gish conducted some of the first cosmic-ray research in the United States under Robert A. Millikan at the University of Chicago during World War I. At DTM he designed and built instruments for the *Explorer II* manned balloon flight into the stratosphere in 1935. In the 1940s, Gish and collaborator George R. Wait led a pioneering, joint DTM-U.S. Air Force investigation of the electrical fields in thunderstorms using instruments mounted on B-

29 bombers. He also contributed to our understanding of magnetic storms and the daily variation of the geomagnetic field.

Gish died in 1987 at the age of 103. His extensive files, containing five decades of his professional correspondence, research notes, instrument designs, and photographs, were donated to DTM in 2015 by his granddaughters, Nancy R. Crow and Dorothy C. Crow-Willard.

The AIP's Grants to Archives program supports projects to make accessible records, papers, and other primary sources that document the history of modern physics and allied fields, such as astronomy and geophysics. Its funding to Carnegie will enable the DTM archives to organize and catalog the Gish Papers and to create a website to showcase Gish's career and scientific contributions. Shaun Hardy, head of the DTM-Geophysical Laboratory library, will lead the project.

Shaun Hardy

Guidebooks Awards for 2016

By Linda Musser

Via the Best Guidebook Award, the GISIS seeks to recognize the value of geologic guidebooks and reward examples of excellence. The recipient of the 2016 award is:

"Geologic field-trip guide to Lassen Volcanic National Park and vicinity, California" by L.J. Patrick Muffler and Michael Clynne, USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2015-5067. This geologic field-trip guide provides an overview of quaternary volcanism in and around Lassen Volcanic National Park in northern California. The guide begins with a comprehensive overview of the geologic framework and the stratigraphic terminology of

the Lassen region, followed by detailed road logs describing the volcanic features that can readily be seen in the park and its periphery. Twenty-one designated stops provide detailed explanations of important volcanic features. The guide also includes mileage logs along the highways leading into the park from the major nearby communities. The field-trip guide is intended to be a flexible document that can be adapted to the needs of a visitor approaching the park from any direction. It is available in print or as a free publication online.

The Guidebooks Committee found this work to

be informative, authoritative, featuring excellent road logs and descriptions of stops.

Supplemental fact sheets, photos and maps added to the richness of the work. In response to news of the award Michael Clynne said “Thank you very much. The Lassen guidebook was many years in the making and it is indeed rewarding to be recognized for our efforts.”

The Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series award was created to recognize organizations that have made continued contributions to the geologic field trip genre over time. The 2016 recipient of the award is the **Institute on Lake Superior Geology**. The Institute on Lake Superior Geology is a non-profit professional society with the objectives of providing a forum for exchange of geological ideas and scientific data, and promoting better understanding of the

geology of the Lake Superior region. The ILGS has held meetings annually for over 60 years featuring field trips for myriad interesting locations in their region. Comprising over 100 individual titles and trips, these geologic field trip guidebooks are excellent signposts to the local geology, well produced and illustrated, and freely available online to amateur and professional geologists alike. We are pleased to recognize the excellent work of the current and past members of the Institute of Lake Superior Geology for creating and sharing this wonderful wealth of geologic field trip options. Peter Hollings, secretary of the board of directors of the Institute, accepted the award on behalf of the organization and its members, past and present.

Linda Musser, chair, GSIS Guidebooks Committee

Guidebooks Recently Reported

By Monica Pereira

The following geology field trip guidebooks have been received and/or identified, by GSIS Guidebooks Committee members:

Beard, R.D. (2015). Rockhounding Delaware, Maryland, and the Washington, DC metro area: A guide to the areas' best rockhounding sites. Guilford, CT: FalconGuides.

Beard, R.D. (2014). Rockhounding New York: A guide to the state's best rockhounding sites. Guilford, CT: FalconGuides.

Braun, D.D., & Braun, R. (2016). Guide to the geology of Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park. Berkeley, CA: North Atlantic Books.

Browne, M.A.E., & Gillen, C. (2015). A geological excursion guide to the Stirling & Perth area. Edinburgh, Scotland: NMS Enterprises.

Bryan, T.S. (2013). Arizona Rocks! A Guide to Geologic Sites in the Grand Canyon State.

Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company.

Chávez, W.X.J., Petersen, E.U., Thoms, J.A., Putnam, B.R., & Riedell, K.B. (2015). Copper-gold-silver-molybdenum metallogeny of northern Chile (March 6-14, 2015). *Guidebook of the Society of Economic Geologists*, 49. (CD-ROM). [Littleton, CO]: Society of Economic Geologists.

Clark, R.J., ed. (2015). Return to Klein Quarry: Glaciers, carbonates, and fossils. Iowa City, IA: Geological Society of Iowa.

Cochran, F. (2015). Wonders of the National Parks: A geology of North America [online]. Holland, OH: Midwest Tape/hoopla.

Cristofono, P. (2014). Rockhounding New England: a guide to 100 of the region's best rockhounding sites. Guilford, CT: Falcon Guides.

- Davis, R.A., Jr., Dott, R.H., & Dalziel, I.W.D. (2016). *Geology of the Baraboo, Wisconsin, area. GSA Field Guide, 43*. [Boulder, CO]: The Geological Society of America.
- Dennis, A. (2014). Recognizing the Cambrian Rheic margin of Carolina in the Kings Mountain terrane. *2014 Annual Meeting & Field Trip (October 31-November 2)*. Raleigh, NC: Carolina Geological Society. URL: http://carolinageologicalsociety.org/CGS/2010s_files/gb%202014.pdf
- Devon, E., Parkins, J., & Workman, D. (2001). *Bath in stone: A guide to the city's building stones*. Oxfordshire, U.K.: Thematic Trails.
- Dickas, A.B. (2015). *Ohio Rocks! A guide to the geologic sites in the Buckeye State*. Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company.
- Eyers, J. (1998). *The building stones of Reading town centre*. High Wycombe, U.K.: Chiltern Archaeology.
- Fürsich, F.T., Alberti, M., & Pandey, D.K. (2013). Stratigraphy and palaeoenvironments of the Jurassic rocks of Kachchh. *Beringeria series, Special issue, 7*. Erlangen, Germany: Freunde der nordbayerischen Geowissenschaften.
- Goudie, A., & Viles, H.A. (2015). *Landscapes and landforms of Namibia. World Geomorphological Landscapes series*. Netherlands: Springer.
- Hennings, P.H. (2014). Introduction to the geology and geomechanics of 4 of Wyoming's most important reservoirs: Tensleep, Frontier, Madison and Mowry. [WY]: ConocoPhillips.
- Hudak, G.J., & Peterson, D.M. (2014). Non-ferrous mineralization associated with the Wawa-Abitibi Terrane and Duluth Complex Cu-Ni-PGM deposits, northeastern Minnesota (September 22-24, 2014). *Guidebook of the Society of Economic Geologists, 47*. (CD-ROM). [Littleton, CO]: Society of Economic Geologists.
- James Hutton Institute. (2015). Guide for the James Hutton trail Euroclay field trip (July 8, 2015). *Euroclay Meeting, Edinburgh, Scotland*. Aberdeen, Scotland: James Hutton Institute.
- Janousek, V., & Zak, J. (2015). Eurogranites 2015: Variscan plutons of the Bohemian Massif. *Post-conference field trip, 26th IUGG General Assembly, Prague*. Prague: Czech Geological Survey.
- Jones, H. (2011). *A ramblers' guide to building stones in Warwickshire: Conserving Warwickshire's geological heritage*. Kenilworth, U.K.: Warwickshire Geological Conservation Group.
- Kramer, J., & Martinez, J. (2009). *California underground adventures: A guide to caves, mines and lava tubes*. Cambridge, MN: Adventure Publications.
- Mosolf, J., & McDonald, C. (2015). Geology of the Elliston Area, Montana and other papers. *40th Field Conference, Tobacco Root Geological Society. Northwest Geology, the Journal of the Tobacco Root Geological Society, v. 44*. Butte, MT: Tobacco Root Geological Society.
- Muffler, L.J.P., & Clyne, M. A. (2015). Geologic field-trip guide to the Lassen Volcanic National Park and vicinity. *Scientific Investigations Report, 2015-5067*. Reston, VA: U.S. Geological Survey. URL: <https://permanent.access.gpo.gov/gpo63356/sir20155067.pdf>
- Pandey, D.K., Fürsich, F.T., & Alberti, M. (2014). Stratigraphy and palaeoenvironments of the Jurassic rocks of Jaisalmer basin. *9th International Congress on the Jurassic System, Jaipur, India*. Erlangen, Germany: Freunde der nordbayerischen Geowissenschaften.
- Robin, A., ed. (2016). *Energy & environments: geology in the "nether world" of Indiana County, Pennsylvania. 81st annual Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists*.

[Harrisburg, PA]: Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists.

Rygle, K.J., & Pedersen, S.F. (2016). The treasure hunter's gem & mineral guides to the U.S.A. Vol. 2, Southwest states: where & how to dig, pan, and mine your own gems & minerals, 6th ed. Woodstock, VT: GemStone Press.

Rygle, K.J., & Pedersen, S.F. (2016). The treasure hunter's gem & mineral guides to the U.S.A. Vol. 3, Southeast states: where & how to dig, pan, and mine your own gems & minerals, 6th ed. Woodstock, VT: GemStone Press.

Rygle, K.J., & Pedersen, S.F. (2016). The treasure hunter's gem & mineral guides to the U.S.A. Vol. 4, Northeast states: where & how to dig, pan, and mine your own gems & minerals, 6th ed. Woodstock, VT: GemStone Press.

Rygle, K.J., & Pedersen, S.F. (2016). The treasure hunter's gem & mineral guides to the USA. Vol. 1, Northwest states : where & how to dig, pan, and mine your own gems & minerals, 6th ed. Woodstock, VT: Gemstone Press.

Sampsell, B.M. (2014). *Geology of Egypt: A traveler's handbook*. Cairo, Egypt: American University in Cairo Press.

Scholle, P.A. (2010). *A geologic guide to the Quebradas back country byway*. [Secorro,

NM]: New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources. URL: <http://geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/guides/quebradas/QuebradasGuide2010.pdf>

Skelton, L.H. (1997). *Wichita's building blocks: A guide to building stones and geological features. Educational series, 11*. Lawrence, KS: Kansas Geological Society.

Sylvester, A.G., & O'Black Gans, E. (2016). *Roadside geology of southern California*. Missoula, MT: Mountain Press Publishing Company.

Watson, M. (2015). *Touring the springs of Florida: A guide to the state's best springs*. Guilford, CT: FalconGuides.

Wyse Jackson, P. (1993). *The building stones of Dublin: A walking guide*. Dublin, Ireland: Town House and Country House.

Please report any newly received or identified guidebooks, including online guidebooks. Provide as much information as possible, including the full citation, and where they can be ordered, if known, and the DOI/URL if online.

Let us know if you think a guidebook should be considered for the GSIS Guidebook Award, and why. Send information to monica.pereira@csuci.edu.

GSIS Guidebooks Committee Annual Report for 2016

By Linda Musser

Membership: Linda Musser (chair), Lura Joseph, Amanda Bielskas, Marie Dvorzak, Thelma Thompson, Monica Pereira, Dwight Hunter, Cheri Folkner

The Guidebooks Committee wrapped up our contributions to the migration of the *Geologic Guidebooks of North America* to a new system, identified new geologic field trip guidebooks to share with the GSIS members, implemented a

new workflow to gather guidebook information using a shared spreadsheet, and selected the recipient of the Best Guidebook award and the Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series award.

The title selected for the Best Guidebook award was: **Geologic field-trip guide to Lassen Volcanic National Park and vicinity, California** by L.J. Patrick Muffler and Michael

GSIS Newsletter Number 272, December 2016

Clyne, USGS Scientific Investigations Report 2015-5067. The recipient of the Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series award was the **Institute on Lake Superior Geology**.

The committee discussed the challenge of comparing guidebooks developed for the professional to those for the general public and proposed to the Executive Committee that two Best Guidebook awards to given, one for each

audience. This proposal was approved and will be implemented for 2017.

Activities for this year will include updating the webpage for the Guidebook awards, continuing our investigation of how to preserve online-only guidebooks, and monitoring the migration of the Geologic Guidebooks database.

Linda Musser, Chair, Guidebooks Committee

GSIS Membership Committee Annual Report for 2016

By Cynthia Prosser

The Membership Committee has been working on several items this year. To recap activities from the first part of the year: After a brainstorming session via email with members of the Executive Board, we decided on tackling reasons to join/remain a member of GSIS, creating an online form for ease of joining/renewing membership, and reviewing the various membership categories. Shaun Hardy assembled a list of reasons for being a part of GSIS which has since been incorporated into the updated Membership brochure and it has been further updated with our incoming President, Hannah Hamalainen of the University of New Hampshire and Secretary, Samantha Teplitzky of Berkley. The Membership Brochure is available via the Society's wiki. We are happy to report an online form (as a Google form) is now available on the Society's website, thanks to Courtney Hoffner. We have had several members join/renew and it has been reported that it is helpful to the Board. The Committee restructured the membership dues and sent the proposal to the Board. The Board has accepted our proposal and the dues restructuring was

accepted by the General Membership in a vote at the General Business Meeting in Denver. The new structure follows. Moving forward we hope to tackle outreach for new members. Many thanks to Committee for their hard work and valuable input: Amanda Bielskas, Louise Deis, Shaun Hardy, Dorothy McGarry and to the Executive Board for their support.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia L. Prosser, Chair, Membership Committee

Proposal New Dues Structure:

\$25 for Personal Members
\$20 for First Year Members
\$10 for Students
\$10 for Retired Members
\$50 for Institutional Members

We have eliminated the Sustaining Member category because members can give unlimited amounts, if they so wish, through our Gift options.