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President's Column

By Amanda Bielskas

The summer seemed to come and go very quickly! I can't believe its September already (almost October!) Over the course of my time spent as GSIS President, I have been continually impressed by the work of the members of this organization. It has absolutely been a pleasure to work with such dedicated colleagues. It has been exciting to witness the activities of our many committees doing their work to choose awardees, and get the business of the Society accomplished. I have been very impressed by the caliber of the award winners chosen by our committees. It will be wonderful seeing all of them acknowledged at the GSIS Annual Meeting in Vancouver.

The Society's business is only accomplished by the hard work of members who often contribute their own time to the tasks at hand. I would once again like to thank all the committee members and chairs, as well as the executive board and other officers and GSIS volunteers for their dedication and hard work over the course of the past year.

I was very pleased to hear the results of the GSIS election. I would like to thank and congratulate Louise Deis and Matt Hudson for being willing to serve positions on the executive committee and am looking forward to working with them in the following year. I was very excited to learn that the membership voted in favor of making the *GSIS Proceedings* an open access publication. While work is still being done to figure out a hosting platform and other details, it's great to know that the society's publications will be made more widely available in the future, which will help further the goals of the society.

The GSIS Strategic Planning group's work has been underway and has constructed a questionnaire to survey members and non-members to help inform the strategic planning process. We are hopeful that the preliminary survey results will be ready to share with membership by the fall meeting.

continued on page 3

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President's Message, cont.

The survey will be open through the end of September, please take the time to answer it. The more responses we have the more useful a tool it will be to during the strategic planning process. Thanks in advance for taking the time to respond!

The Fall GSA/GSIS conference will be here shortly and I'm sure it will be a great conference in Vancouver! We have many planned

activities to look forward to, technical sessions, a poster session, numerous GSA activities, as well as the beautiful Pacific Northwest. I hope everyone has a great summer, and I'm looking forward to seeing many of you in October at GSA/GSIS in Vancouver!

Wanted: GSIS Publicity Officer

By Amanda Bielskas

GSIS is in need of a Publicity Officer, as the current one (many thanks to Adonna Flemming for her years of service in this position) would like to step down. Duties and responsibilities are described below.

Please contact: Amanda Bielskas (asb2154@columbia.edu) if you are interested or have any questions about serving as the GSIS Publicity Officer.

Purpose of the Appointment:

1. Centralize and standardize the release of publicity and information concerning GSIS, its members, activities and events.
2. Work with the Publications Manager to coordinate publicity, review, and announcements of GSIS publications as needed.

Composition and Term: The Publicity Officer is appointed by the President of GSIS for a two-year term (renewable as appropriate). Generally, appointments are for two years with no limits on the number of terms a member may serve as Publicity Officer.

Duties:

- Shall follow the "Guidelines for GSIS Committee Chairs."
- Plans and implements strategies, with approval of the Executive Board.
- Builds a database of publicity outlets.
- Maintains a manual of procedures and policies for publicity for the Society.
- Serves on the Program Committee of the annual meeting and provides publicity services for annual meeting activities as designated by the Vice President.
- Prepares and distributes press releases concerning GSIS activities, events and members. Examples: news on elections, awards, or jointly-sponsored events and activities.
- Responds to directory questionnaires (such as the Encyclopedia of Associations).
- Submits press releases to Webmaster to post on GSIS website.
- Submits publications list, awards announcements, and other GSIS information to *GeoSpectrum*

Free Seminar on Geoscience Librarianship

By Clara McCleod

Geoscience Librarianship seminar to be held October 18, 2014

Come and join professional librarians, information specialists, and students in library and information science for "Geoscience Librarianship 101" -- a free one day seminar, held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) for the ninth consecutive year. The workshop sponsored by the Geoscience Information Society and Woodward Library at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2014, from 10 am - 4:30 pm. Participation in this offsite event does not require registration for the GSA Annual Meeting and the event is free of charge.

The seminar provides an opportunity to network with geoscience professionals. Hot button topics on collection development, reference, instructional services, maps and geographical information systems (GIS) will be discussed by experienced geoscience librarians: Amanda Bielskas (Columbia University), Emily Wild (United States Geological Survey, Denver), Hannah Winkler (Stanford University) and Linda Zellmer (Western Illinois University).

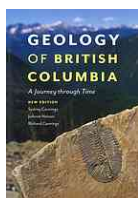
Advance registration is required and space is limited. Registrations must be received by **October 10, 2014**. To request additional information or sign-up, please e-mail daytime contact information, and professional (work/school) affiliation to: Clara McCleod, Earth and Planetary Sciences Librarian, Washington University, cpmcleod@wustl.edu.

Geology of Vancouver and British Columbia

By Linda Musser and Bonnie Swoger

For those making the trip to Vancouver next month, this list of books and guidebooks about the geology of Vancouver and British Columbia may be worth checking out:

Cannings, S., Cannings, R., & Nelson, J. A. L. (2011). *Geology of British Columbia: A Journey Through Time*. D&M Publishers Incorporated.

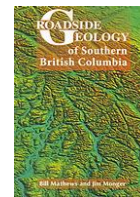


Eisbacher, G. H., Geological Association of Canada., & Geological Association of Canada. (1977). *Vancouver geology: A short guide*. Vancouver, B.C.: Geological Association of Canada, Cordilleran Section.

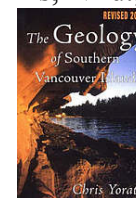
Geological Association of Canada., Society of Economic Geologists (U.S.), & Mineralogical Association of Canada. (1977). *Fieldtrip guidebooks: Joint annual*

meetings, Vancouver, B.C., April 1977. Victoria: British Columbia Ministry of Mines and Petroleum Resources.

Mathews, W. H., & Monger, J. W. H. (2005). *Roadside geology of southern British Columbia*. Missoula, Mont: Mountain Press Pub. Co.



Mustard, P. S., Hora, Z. D., & Hansen, C. D. (2003). *Geology tours of Vancouver's buildings and monuments*. St. John's, Nfld., Canada: Geological Association of Canada.



Yorath, C. J. (2005). *The geology of Southern Vancouver Island. Madeira Park, BC*: Harbour Pub.

GSIS Archive Donation

By Anne Huber and Lura Joseph

One of the founding GSIS members, Robert “Skip” McAfee, Jr., recently donated all his documents to the GSIS archives. His papers span the years 1957 to 1974 and are bound in 23 volumes taking up 56 linear inches! Skip’s collection is an extremely valuable addition to our archives, as they document the founding of the society and our early history. We prepared them for addition to the University of Illinois Library Archives and the additions are now included in the University Archives finding aid.

We also submitted another valuable GSIS collection to University Archives last fall. This collection of papers was fortuitously discovered in an office at the US Geological Survey which was being cleared out. We obtained 6 boxes of material, documenting the society’s history from the late 1960’s through the 2000’s.

To see a list of the documents that are deposited into the University Archives, visit <http://archives.library.illinois.edu/> and search the words “geoscience information society”

2014 GSIS Awards

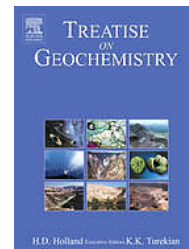
Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award

For her significant contributions to the geoscience information community, the award committee recognizes Lura Joseph. See the award notice in the June 2014 issue of the *GSIS Newsletter*, p. 13.



so the committee has arranged for one of the prominent chapter editors to accept the award at the GSIS Annual Meeting in October. See you there!

GSIS Mary B Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee



- Michael Noga
- John Hunter
- John Kawula
- Diane Taylor Harding
- Amanda Bielskas
- Rusty Kimball, Chair

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award

The GSIS Mary B Ansari Best Reference Work Award Committee is pleased to announce the 2014 winner of the award. The winner is *Treatise on Geochemistry, 2nd edition, 2013*. The Editors-in-Chief, Heinrich Holland and Karl Turekian, have both recently passed away,

New Geoscience Open Access Publications

By Shaun Hardy

Frontiers in Earth Science

Frontiers in Earth Sciences is a broad-spectrum journal dedicated to “fundamental question of

[and] relationships between the hydrosphere, atmosphere, cryosphere, biosphere and solid Earth.” The journal’s publisher, Swiss-based

Frontier Media, claims to be “the first publisher with an efficient and transparent method to select outstanding original research and make it more accessible to the wider research communities.” This method – and an associated sliding scale of article publication charges – involves a complex taxonomy of article types (original research, hypothesis and theory, specialty grand challenges, perspectives, technology reports, etc.) and article “tiers” (which are tied to specificity and intended audience.)



Selected authors are “promoted” by the editors to higher tiers based on impact analytics and invited to write “focused reviews.” While novel, the system seems dauntingly over-engineered for a journal that has published just 26 contributions since its October 2013 launch. By the publisher’s own admission they have introduced “a lot of new and revolutionary” publishing and networking concepts – necessitating the inclusion of a Glossary on their site! Frontier Media publishes 44 other open access titles in science, engineering, and health.

http://www.frontiersin.org/earth_science

International Journal of Geo-Engineering



International Journal of Geo-Engineering bills itself as “a forum to discuss the knowledge and experience of geo-engineering from fundamentals to cutting edge technologies.” The journal, formerly known as *the International Journal*

of Geotechnical Engineering, is published by Springer on behalf of the Korean Geotechnical Society (see “Society Journal Acquisitions” below). In addition to engineering geology and geomechanics, it embraces geo-energy development and underground energy storage. The Society is currently covering all publication costs, so article processing charges are waived. A call for papers went out in January, but as of September no content has yet appeared online.

<http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/environmental+science+%26+engineering/journal/40703>

Scholarly Journal Acquisitions

By Shaun Hardy

Springer is currently publishing 49 Korean society journals, including seven open access titles in the rapidly-growing SpringerOpen portfolio. Springer is not unique this aggressive acquisition pattern. An interesting post by Joseph Sposito in *The Scholarly Kitchen* (“The Arms Race in Journal Publishing Heats Up”, September 9, 2014) describes the current frenzy among large publishers to acquire rights to society journals. One consequence foreseen by the author is that publishers will increasingly bind societies more closely to them. As a

member of a publisher’s portfolio of clients, “the society will have a new set of benefits, which will serve to tie the members of the society more closely to the society even as the society itself and its publications are more deeply integrated into the hosting parent publisher.” Will societies affiliated with large publishers find themselves with a competitive advantage over those without such ties? See <http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2014/09/04/the-arms-race-in-journals-publishing-heats-up/>.

Overhauling the Directory of Open Access Journals

By Shaun Hardy

Welcome news from the *Directory of Open Access Journals* (“Open-Access Website Gets Tough”, R. Van Noorden, *Nature* 512, 17, August 7, 2014) is that the DOAJ is doing a complete overhaul: deleting all entries from the Directory and inviting journals to reapply based on stricter inclusion criteria. What started as a list of 300 titles in 2003 has ballooned to nearly 10,000, including many questionable journals.



DOAJ founder Lars Bjørnshauge is quoted as saying that he expects “about 10% of the

journals [in the existing directory] will not be able to pass the reapplication.” Indeed, a recent study by Walt Crawford (reported in “Housecleaning at the Directory of Open Access Journals”, R. Anderson, *The Scholarly Kitchen*, August 14, 2014) found that 904 titles in the current DOAJ appear on Beall’s List of “potential, possible, or probable predatory” journals. On the positive side, as part of the DOAJ makeover, those 10-15% of journals meeting the Directory’s highest criteria will be distinguished by being given a “seal of best practice.”

2014 GSIS Annual Meeting Information

The technical session for organized by GSIS member Hannah Winkler will be on Tuesday, October 21st from 8am to 12pm, and then from 1pm to 5pm in the Vancouver convention Centre-West Room 116/117. Papers in this session can be found online:

Where in the World? Access and Availability to Geoscience Data I

[<https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2014AM/webprogram/Session35223.html>]

Where in the World? Access and Availability to Geoscience Data II

[<https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2014AM/webprogram/Session36736.html>]

Other GSIS events at the Annual Meeting include:

- GSIS Professional Issues Roundtable, 9am to 11:30am on Tuesday, October 21st at the Hyatt Regency
- GSIS Business Meeting, 9am to 12pm on Sunday, October 19th at the Hyatt Regency
- Joint reception for GSIS and GSA Geoinformatics Division, 6pm to 8pm on Tuesday, October 21 at the Hyatt Regency



GSIS Publications List

Contents of *GSIS Proceedings* are indexed in *GeoRef*, the comprehensive geosciences online database.

Volume	Year	Title
v. 43	2012	Geoscience Information: Investing in the Future
v.42	2011	Printed Past, Digital Future: We Hold the Key
v.41	2010	"Peak" Performances
v.40	2009	Navigating the Geoscience Information Landscape: Pathways to Success
v.39	2008	Libraries in Transformation: Exploring Topics of Changing Practices and New Technologies
v.38	2007	Geoscience Information: Making the Earth Sciences Accessible for Everyone.
v.37	2006	Geoscience Information: Keys to Discovery
v.36	2005	Collaboration for the Dissemination of Geologic Information among Colleagues
v.35	2004	Geoinformatics
v.34	2003	Geoscience Information Horizons: Challenges, Choices, and Decisions
v.33	2002	New Heights in Geoscience Information: Access and Technology
v.32	2001	Geoscience Information: a Dynamic Odyssey
v.31	2000	Electronic Information Summit: New Developments and Their Impacts

v.30	1999	Communication Divides: Perspectives on Supporting Information Bridges in the Geosciences
v.29	1998	Accreting the Continent's Collections
v.28	1997	The Costs and Values of Geoscience Information
v.27	1996	Expanding Boundaries: Geoscience Information for Earth System Science
v.26	1995	Crossing the Bridge to the Future: Managing Geoscience Information for the Next Decade

Proceedings volumes 1 through 25 are out of print and available from:
Out-of-print Books on Demand,
University Microfilms, Inc.,
300 North Zeeb Road,
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Directory of Geoscience Libraries, North America.
5th Edition, 1997. (ISBN 0-934485-25-9) Paper. \$ 35.00

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