



**GEOSCIENCE
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SOCIETY**

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President's Column

By Lisa Johnston

As November draws near I look forward to gathering and visiting with my fellow GSIS'ers at this year's GSA Conference in Charlotte, NC. And what an exciting program it will be. Our incoming President, Linda Zellmer, with the support of this year's Technical Session Convenor, Bob Tolliver, and our wonderful Geo101 coordinator, Clara McLeod, has put together an excellent line up of informative sessions and fun networking opportunities.

At the meeting, we will have plenty of opportunities for you to volunteer at the GSIS booth, so please look for our wonderful exhibit co-chairs, Dona Dirlam and April Love, for your chance to represent GSIS. I look forward to distributing our GSIS awards at the luncheon ceremony. Congratulations to all the winners, highlighted in this issue, and I want to thank our excellent Award Committee members and chairs for carrying out this amazing services. Please consider signing-up for one of these rewarding committees in the coming year.

I'm also please to say that our Publication Manager position was successfully transitioned from Ellie Clement (whom we thank for her wonderful job managing our subscriptions for many years!) to Richard Huffine. Richard has many ideas for how we can move toward electronic publishing of our proceedings. In the meantime, our latest issues will be going to print: thanks to Janet Dombrowski for editing the 2010 volume and Rusty Kimball for editing the 2011 volume. Look for these in your mailboxes soon or contact Richard to purchase a volume for your library.

Finally, I want to particularly thank Kay Johnson for her over-the-top support as immediate past GSIS President! She has been a wonderful leader to follow and I couldn't have made it through the last year without her advice and guidance.

See you in Charlotte!
Lisa

Geoscience Information Society 2012 Officers

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Beginning in 2012, the digital GISIS Newsletter will be published quarterly, in March, June, September, and December by the Geoscience Information Society. Subscription is free to GISIS members. The annual non-member subscription rate is \$40. Please contact the GISIS Publications Manager for paper copy subscription prices. All correspondence regarding dues, membership status, and address changes should be directed to the GISIS Secretary. GISIS members are encouraged to contribute content for publication. Material for the September issue should be received no later than September 1, 2012. Please send submissions by e-mail to Bonnie Swoger, swoger@geneseo.edu.

Vice President's Column

By Linda Zellmer

The GSA Conference is approaching soon, but planning has been going on for the entire year. You can see a copy of the schedule in this issue (page 6). Some activities, such as a location for a group dinner Saturday night, have yet to be finalized. If you know of a good restaurant in downtown Charlotte, suggestions would be welcome. Highlights of the meeting include:



- Geoscience Librarianship 101 will be held at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte Atkins Library Saturday, November 3.
- The GSIS Business meeting will be held Sunday, November 4, 2012. The Gemological Institute of America is sponsoring breakfast.
- On Monday, November 5, the **Professional Issues Round Table** discussion will include a report on Open Access policies and fees of geoscience journals by Shaun Hardy of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. After the report I hope that members will share their experiences with open access issues at

their institutions.

- Tuesday, November 6th will be a busy day for members. Our **Technical Session, Luncheon, Information Resources Update** and **Reception and Awards** will all be held that day.

All GSIS events, except for the Technical Session, will be held in the Westin Hotel.

Incidentally, if you were not yet aware of it, the GSA Meeting conflicts with Election Day this year. If you will be attending, be sure to vote before coming to the meeting. You might also want to remind your Geology Faculty about the conflict as well.

Charlotte's Discovery Place IMAX Theater has two movies which might be of interest to members: *To the Arctic*, about the impacts of Global Warming on polar bears, and *Sea Rex: Journey to a Prehistoric World*, about Mesozoic sea life.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting this year.

Report of the GSIS Secretary

By Cynthia L. Prosser, GSIS Secretary

Memberships and membership renewals for 114 members, including 12 new member applications were processed for 2012 to date. Total membership numbers are up a little over

last year. The memberships include 2 sustaining, 8 institutional, 91 personal, 12 retired and 1 student members.

GSIS 2012 Election Results

By Kay Johnson
Chair, GSIS Nominating Committee

The committee of Jan Heagy, Kay Johnson, and Dena Hanson were successful in soliciting nominations and holding the election. This is the second year GSIS distributed an electronic ballot; thanks to Jan for distributing and tallying the ballot. The membership voted in Amanda Bielskas, Columbia University, as the new GSIS Vice President/President Elect and Cynthia Prosser,

University of Georgia, for another term as GSIS Secretary. Congratulations to both winners! Thank you to the committee for all of your hard work, to the nominees for their willingness to service GSIS as officers, and to the membership for exercising their voting privilege.

Congratulations, Amanda and Cynthia!

New Members

Carolyn Kirby
Sandia National Laboratories
Albuquerque, NM
ckirby@sandia.gov

Michael L. Tuite Jr.
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Membership Committee Update

Cynthia L. Prosser, GSIS Secretary & Membership Committee Acting Chair

The Membership Committee is working on updating the GSIS Information Brochure, with the goal of

The 2012 Membership Directory was produced this summer and sent to the membership in

having it ready for the meeting in Charlotte. We are also planning on a face-to-face meeting in Charlotte. August. It has continued to be updated as several more memberships have been received since Labor Day.

Member Updates

Publications:

Dougherty, Kate. (2012) A Louisiana librarian's geo-outreach for the gulf. *Louisiana Libraries* 74(4).

The article describes an outreach project that assisted the Gulf Restoration Network with geospatial data discovery. It describes the reference interview, the search process, and sources consulted in detail.

Member News:

Bonnie Swoger is now writing for the *Scientific American* blog network, for the blog *Information Culture*. Her work can be found at http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/information_culture



Geology Pics:

Mount Ritter (left) and Mount Banner (right) in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Taken from Lake Ediza.

© Ann Coppin

Observations from a First Time Polar Libraries Colloquy Attendee

By Lisa Adamo / Manager of Public Services
USGS Libraries Program
Clarence King Library / US Antarctic Resources Center

As the 2012 Hubert Wenger Award winner, I can truly appreciate the value and intent behind the establishment of such an award. I was completely ignorant of the PLC and its contribution to the Polar Libraries community, but now embrace the entire experience from the meeting's international flavor to the auction held to support the Hubert Wenger Award.

My initial impression of the meeting was its intimacy – less than 40 people. It was quickly followed by the warm greetings and introductions as members renewed their acquaintances and reached out to the new faces. The efforts and encouragement of the Colorado hosts generated great discussions and feedback. The international appeal reminds us that our issues are universal and that the Colloquy was established to bring together like-minded individuals who live in and/or study the most remote locations on the planet.

After orienting myself to the content of the presentations, I realized that there are two distinct groups of presenters. First are those who live year-round in the Arctic Circle and provide basic library services to their region and the complex challenges they face. The second group is those who manage

Polar information in repositories located outside the Arctic Circle and the sharing of scientific information. It was very interesting to see that the groups intersected at the most basic level of available resources and methods used for information dissemination.



By the end of the meeting I was relieved to know that such a strong support network was available to me. The USGS Libraries Program absorbed an enormous volume of content related to Antarctic research, most of which is not cataloged or is unpublished, and I was overwhelmed with the prospect of managing the materials with minimal in-house resources. The members that I met and talked with offered a variety of solutions and insight to my handful of worries.

Overall, the Colloquy community easily bridges the gap of perspective and language by offering support, sharing ideas, and networking, which leaves everyone filled with anticipation for the next meeting. See you in Cambridge!



Geology Pics

From left, Clara McLeod, Carolyn Laffoon, and Jim O'Donnell at the GSIS reception on November 5, 2010 at the GSA Annual Meeting in Denver, Colorado.

© Carolyn J. Laffoon.

GSIS/GSA Annual Meeting Tentative Schedule

Charlotte, NC

Saturday, November 3, 2012		
Time	Session	Location
9:15AM –4:45 PM	Geoscience Librarianship 101 Pre-registration required–e-mail: cpmcleod@wustl.edu	Atkins Library, University of North Carolina – Charlotte Room1500
1:30 PM – 4:30 PM	GSIS Executive Board Meeting	Hyatt House (meet in Lobby)
5:00 –7:00 PM	Early Bird No-Host Dinner & Newcomers Meet-n-Greet	To Be Determined

Sunday, November 4, 2012		
Time	Session	Location
9:00 AM -12:00 PM	GSIS Business Meeting	Westin, Harris Room
12:15-1:15 PM	GSA Presidential Address & Awards Ceremony	Convention Center
2:00 –6:30 PM	Exhibits Open	Convention Center

Monday, November 5		
Time	Session	Location
12:15-1:15 PM	GSA Awards Ceremony	Convention Center 201AB
1:30 -3:30 PM	GSIS Professional Issues Roundtable Discussion	Westin Kings Room

Tuesday, November 6		
Time	Session	Location
8:00 AM - Noon	GSIS Technical Session sponsored by Elsevier	Convention Center
12:00 Noon – 1:30 PM	GSIS Luncheon (Ticketed Event)	Westin, Tryon Room
1:30-3:30 PM	GSIS Information Resources/Vendor Update sponsored by the Geological Society of London	Westin Providence Ballroom 3
6:00 -9:00 PM	GSIS / GSA Geoinformatics Division Joint Reception & GSIS Awards	Westin Independence Room

Geoscience Librarianship 101

By Adonna Fleming

FREE SEMINAR ON GEOSCIENCE LIBRARIANSHIP SET FOR NOVEMBER 3rd

“Geoscience Librarianship 101” – a free seminar on earth science information resources and their organization – will be presented by the Geoscience Information Society on Saturday, November 3 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Registration is open to all information professionals as well as students in library and information studies.

The workshop is aimed at librarians new to the geosciences and those already in the field who want a refresher. A team of experienced geoscience librarians will cover topics in collection development, reference, instructional services, and maps and geographic information systems (GIS). Presenters are: Amanda Bielskas (Columbia University), Megan Sapp Nelson (Purdue University), Hannah Winkler (Stanford University) and Linda Zellmer (Western Illinois University). After the formal presentations, participants will have

the opportunity to engage in open discussion and to give feedback. Clara McLeod, Earth and Planetary Sciences Librarian at Washington University in St. Louis, is coordinating the event.

Geoscience Librarianship 101 will be held from 8:45 AM to 4:30 PM in the J. Murrey Atkins Library, at the University of North Carolina - Charlotte. Pre-registration is required; no walk-ins will be admitted. Registrations must be received by October 29, 2012.

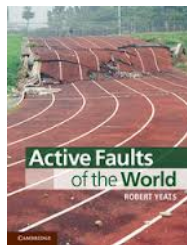
To sign up, please provide your name, daytime contact information, and professional (work/school) affiliation to: Clara P. McLeod, Rettner Earth & Planetary Sciences Library, Washington University, Campus Box 1169, St. Louis, MO 63130, telephone 314-935-4817, e-mail cpmcleod@wustl.edu.

GSIS Annual Awards

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Award

The 2012 best reference award goes to:

Yeats, R. S. (2012). *Active faults of the world*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.



Special thanks go to the members of the selection Dianne Taylor-Harding, Michael Noga, John Hunter and John Kawula for their hard work in making this selection

Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award

By Patricia Yokum, Committee Chair, University of Michigan

The Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award was established in 2005 to recognize and honor significant contributions to the geoscience information profession. Since its inception the award has been underwritten by a \$5,000 bequest from Mrs. Ansari and has been given to seven individuals. Each year GSIS has publicized the award and the recipient's accomplishments in the library and geoscience communities.

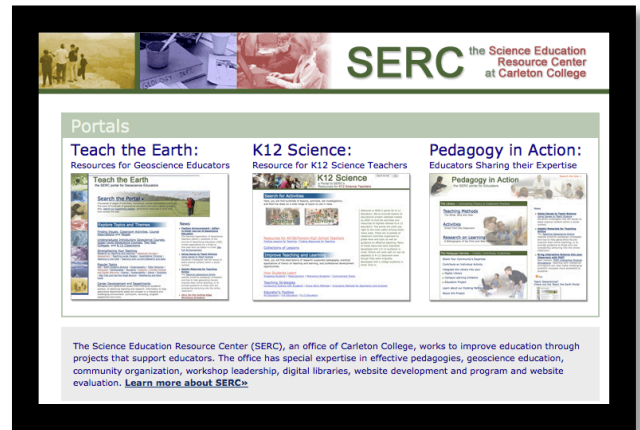
Award recipients have been selected through

nominations and subsequent consideration by the GSIS Distinguished Service Award Committee. This year, 2012, marks a hiatus in selecting a recipient while effort was invested in reconstructing the award's history, collecting documents and crafting a detailed procedural packet to aid the work of future committees. A set of pertinent questions stemming from the work has been forwarded to the Executive Board for consideration. The next award is anticipated to be next made in 2013.

Best Geoscience Website Award

The Geoscience Information Society Website Committee has selected the Science Education Resource Center (SERC) at Carleton College as the recipient of the 2012 Best Geoscience Website Award. SERC's website provides access to resources for improving education in the geosciences and other areas of science and technology. The website can be found at: <http://serc.carleton.edu/index.html>

Thanks to committee members Bob Tolliver (chair), John Kawula, Connie Manson and Bonnie Swoger.



Field Trip Guidebook Award

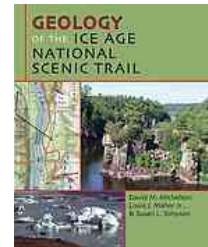
This year's winning title is:

Mickelson, D. M., Maher, L. J., & Simpson, S. L. (2011). *Geology of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press.

The Guidebook is available in both paper and e-book formats and can be ordered from The University of Wisconsin Press: <http://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/4650.htm>.

The award will be presented in Charlotte in November 2012.

Thanks to committee members Erin Palmer, (Chair), Linda Musser and Jody Foote.



Best Paper Award Committee

The GSIS Best Paper Award Committee completed its selection process and chose Lisa Johnston's and Harvey Thorleifson's article titled "Open Access Geology: Using the Institutional Repository to Host State Geological Survey Publications" for this year's Best Paper Award. The paper will be published in volume 41 of the Proceedings of the Geoscience

Information Society and was based on a paper given at the 2010 meeting of the Society.

Thanks to committee members Carol J. La Russa (Chair), Lisa Adamo, John Hunter, Michael Noga, Cynthia Prosser

Photos wanted for the GSIS Newsletter

In an effort to increase the number of photos included in our (now mostly digital) newsletter, I am seeking submissions of original photographs. Photographers will retain copyright but must grant permission for the photos to be used in the print and electronic versions of the newsletter, which will also be available online. Submissions should include names of people included, brief descriptions of the photo, and/or locations as needed.

I am looking for photos of:

- GSIS events
- GSIS member libraries
- GSIS member projects
- Interesting geology

Please send your images to Bonnie J. M. Swoger, GSIS Newsletter Editor, swoger@geneseo.edu.

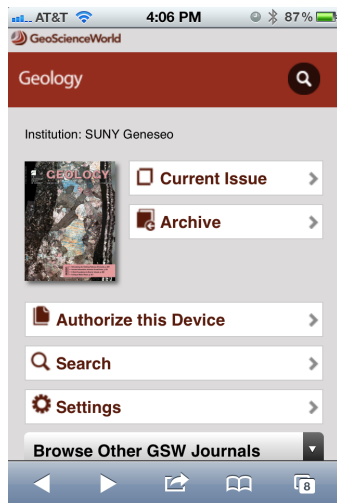
Review: New Mobile Interface for GeoScienceWorld

By Bonnie J. M. Swoger

The journal platform GeoScienceWorld recently announced a new mobile interface for their journal content. In a September 6, 2012 press release, GeoScienceWorld announced that smart phone users visiting the portal will be re-directed to the new mobile site, <http://m.geoscienceworld.org>.

Mobile visitors to the platform will be able to browse and search journals on the platform, including the complete archives of available journals. The mobile site is geared towards reading and browsing, as the mobile homepage does not have a search box. Users select a journal to browse, and can then read the current issue or browse the archive. At each journal page, users can also search the journal by title, author or keyword. Results can be ordered by relevancy or by date.

After selecting an article title users can read the abstract. Links are provided to read the article as HTML on their mobile device, download the PDF or email the article. Reading the HTML version of the articles is fairly easy, considering the size limitations of text on a mobile device. Articles are cleanly formatted for ease of use.



Just like the full version of the site, images initially appear as thumbnails (for faster page loading) and can be opened with a click. Downloading PDFs is easy, but reading the HTML version on a mobile device is much easier than reading the PDF. Emailing articles should be straightforward, but I got several error messages trying to do this and wasn't able to see how the emails arrive.

If the mobile device is connected to the institutional network, users are automatically authenticated. In order to use the site when not connected to the network, users must first connect their device to the institutional network, then click "Authorize this device" to get an authentication key. Once that key has been entered, users can browse GeoScienceWorld journals from anywhere. It is a relatively straightforward process, but it is a bit confusing if you are trying to access GeoScienceWorld for the first time from off-network. Directions for authentication and a mobile FAQ are provided on the GeoScienceWorld website.

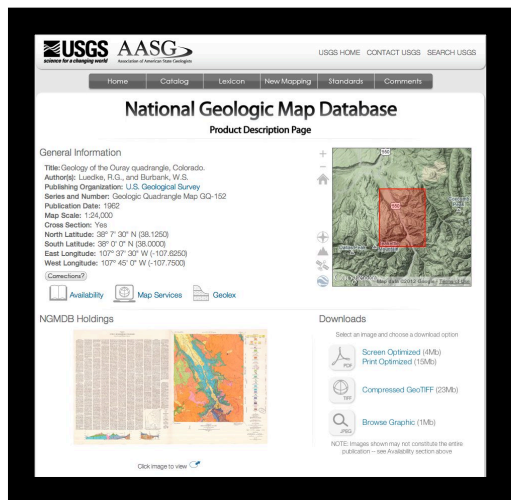


The mobile site is a welcome addition to the GeoScienceWorld journal platform.

Redesigned: National Geologic Map Database

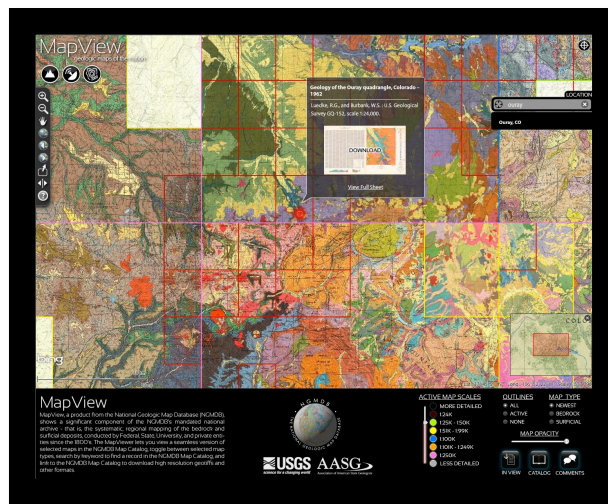
By David Soller, United States Geological Survey

The USGS and AASG are pleased to announce that on October 19 (coinciding with Geologic Map Day) the National Geologic Map Database (NGMDB, <http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/>) is releasing the first phase of its redesigned system. Nearly all of the redesign work, which began about two years ago, has focused on the back-end, to ensure that the infrastructure can support the new features. The first new Web pages to be made public are the Map Catalog and a new map viewer. Other important aspects of the NGMDB project (e.g., U.S. Geologic Names Lexicon (Geolex), Mapping In Progress Database) will be redesigned this Winter -- those new Web pages will gradually begin to appear in the coming months.



You are cordially invited to try out the newly redesigned NGMDB Map Catalog, and provide comments. The MapView page is particularly noteworthy -- it's a new feature that provides a mosaicked view of published geologic maps of the Nation, as a new front-end to the Map Catalog. From MapView, and from the Map Catalog search pages, you will find the redesigned "Product Description Pages" for each publication. These pages each contain many new features, including a new map image viewer and the beginnings of a set of links to Map Services maintained by other agencies. For maps published by state geological surveys and other cooperating organizations, links are provided for downloading the publication. For

USGS maps, a suite of image formats is provided for each map (full and medium resolution PDF, TIFF, and JPEG). Each downloaded map has a "human-readable" filename (e.g., "USGS_GQ-1081_1-scrn.pdf" rather than something like "12345.pdf") and you'll find the publisher and citation information embedded in the file (e.g., for PDFs, see the Document Properties) -- these two items are minor technical points to be sure, but are quite useful nevertheless!



Since the NGMDB Web site opened in 1996 (16 years ago!), changes in technology and user expectations have been dramatic. The redesigned NGMDB site is a significant leap forward in terms of the technology and (we hope) the user's experience. The NGMDB's content, however, remains the principal focus; through this process of redesign, we're very pleased to note that improvements to the accuracy of content have been made as the result of: (1) carefully merging into a single database the publication citations from Geolex and the Map Catalog, and (2) processing maps into the MapView interface.

The NGMDB project staff wishes to acknowledge the close collaboration with the USGS Library and Publications Warehouse, and invites further collaboration with the library community to help make geologic maps even more accessible.

GSIS PUBLICATIONS LIST

Proceedings of the Annual GSIS Meetings (ISSN 0072-1409)
\$45.00 each; standing orders are \$45.00/year.

Available volumes:

- v. 35, 2004, *Geoinformatics*, ed. by L. R. Musser (ISBN 0-934485-37-2)
- v. 34, 2003, *Geoscience Information Horizons: Challenges, Choices, and Decisions*, ed. by L. E. Joseph. (ISBN 0-934485-36-4)
- v. 33, 2002, *New Heights in Geoscience Information: Access and Technology*. ed. by L. G. Dunn. (ISBN 0-934485-35-0)
- v. 32, 2001, *Geoscience Information: A Dynamic Odyssey*, ed. by M. M. Noga. (ISBN 0-934485-34-8)
- v. 31, 2000, *Electronic Information Summit: New Developments and Their Impacts*, ed. by S. N. Tahirkheli. (ISBN 0-934485-33-X)
- v. 30, 2000, *Communication Divides: Perspectives on Supporting Information Bridges in the Geosciences*, ed. by Lois Heiser, (ISBN 0-934485-32-1)
- v. 29, 1999, *Accreting the Continent's Collections*, ed. by C. R. M. Derksen and C. J. Manson, (ISBN 0-934485-31-3)
- v. 28, 1998, *The Costs and Values of Geoscience Information*, ed. by C. J. Manson. (ISBN 0-934485-29-1)
- v. 27, 1997, *Expanding Boundaries: Geoscience Information for Earth System Science*, ed. by B. J. DeFelice. (ISBN 0-934485-23-2)
- v. 26, 1996, *Crossing the Bridge to the Future: Managing Geoscience Information in the Next Decade*, ed. by N. L. Blair. (ISBN 0-934485-26-7)

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

Proceedings of the International Geoscience Information Conferences

- 6th, 1998 *Science Editing and Information Management, Proceedings of the Second International AESEI CBEI EASE Joint Meeting*, Sixth International Conference on Geoscience Information, and Thirty-second Annual Meeting, Association of Earth Science Editors, ed. by C. J. Manson. (ISBN 0-934485-30-5) \$ 25.00
- 5th, 1994 *Geoinfo V, Proceedings of the 5th International Conference on Geoscience Information*, ed. by Jiri Hruska. (ISBN 0-934485-27-5) \$45.00 (2 vols.)

Directory of Geoscience Libraries, North America.

5th Edition, 1997. (ISBN 0-934485-25-9) Paper. \$ 35.00

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