From the Editors
By Michael Noga & Amanda Bielskas

Greetings from your new Newsletter Co-Editors. As you see, we did receive several contributions for our debut issue. Please continue to contribute when you have short articles, announcements, reviews, and reports. You will receive a call a few weeks before each issue deadline. Notice that we can handle photographs. We plan to stick to the schedule listed under the Officers section of this Newsletter.

Please note a new section called Musings. This will be a place where you can share ideas that can be explored further in the pages of the Newsletter or that you might want to share eventually on the Geonet listserv.

Vice President's Column
By Robert Tolliver

I want to start this issue of the GSIS Newsletter with a big thank you to Amanda Bielskas and Michael Noga for volunteering to be our new GSIS Newsletter co-editors. I am very appreciative of their commitment to supporting the activities of our society. Besides, if they hadn’t stepped up, you were probably just going to get a one page schedule of our GSIS annual meeting events from me for the September issue, so please thank Amanda and Michael if you have a chance.

Speaking of the fall meeting, planning is coming together for this fall’s GSIS/GSA Annual Meeting in Seattle. I hope that many of you can join us this year. We have a full meeting scheduled beginning with Geoscience Librarianship 101 Saturday morning at the University of Washington and ending with our Oral Technical Session Wednesday morning.

A complete schedule for our GSIS events is included in this issue of the Newsletter, but I wanted to mention a few highlights here. Clara McLeod is once again organizing our Geoscience Librarianship 101 workshop which will be held at the University of Seattle. This is a great workshop whether you’re a new geoscience librarian or just want to brush up on the latest issues and changes in our field. Please consider attending if you can. After this, we will have a early bird no-host dinner at the Pike Brewing Company starting at 5:00, so if you are getting to Seattle Saturday and can make it to Pike before 7:00, stop by.

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Vice President’s Column, continued

Chris Badurek is our topical sessions convener again this year, and has put together oral and poster sessions. The poster session, *Use of Geoscience Data and Information Resources in Education and Research*, will be 9:00 to 6:30 Tuesday and the oral session, *Discovery and Preservation of Geoscience Data and Information Resources*, will be Wednesday morning, 8:00 - 12:00.

We also have two field trips. On Monday afternoon, we have a field trip to the Washington Talking Book and Braille Library. Then Tuesday afternoon, local Seattle geologist, David Williams, will give us a walking tour of the geology of the building stones of downtown Seattle. I hope you can attend one or both of these tours.

New this year, Cynthia Prosser is doing a GSIS Common Read around lunchtime on Tuesday. The book was chosen by a vote on GEONET and the book we will be reading is *Full Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest* by Sandi Doughton. It should be a great read and a good discussion.

One more event I want to highlight here is our Joint Reception with the GSA Geoinformatics Division on Tuesday night. This year, GSIS and the Geoinformatics Division will both be presenting our member awards at the reception. For us, that will be the Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award, so please come out to the reception if you can. Our other awards will be presented at our Monday Luncheon.

I want to thank Clara McLeod for putting together the Geoscience Librarianship 101 workshop, Chris Badurek for our technical sessions, Cynthia Prosser for the GSIS Common Read, and Linda Zellmer for managing our GSIS booth, as well as, all of our members who have contributed to our awards committees, who are giving oral and poster presentations at this year’s meeting, and who have contributed in other ways to this year’s annual meeting.

On to other topics, I recently had the opportunity to attend and speak on a panel at the American Geosciences Institute’s Leadership Forum. It was a great opportunity to hear about a lot of the issues of concern to geoscientist and hear from members of our federal government and government agencies. I spoke about the importance of the continued availability and access to federal geoscience data and information, as well as other issues in geoscience data, information, and open access. I was very pleased to see the interest in these issues from the attendees and members of so many national geoscience organizations. I would like to thank AGI for inviting me to participate on the panel and giving me the opportunity to engage with members of these organizations.

Following the AGI Leadership Forum, I also had the opportunity to participate in their Geosciences Congressional Visits Days (Geo-CVD). We had a one day workshop on communicating with congress and preparing for our visits followed by a day on Capitol Hill visiting the offices of our senators, representatives, and congressional committees. Our New York state group included three geoscientists from other institutions in the state plus me. We visited the offices of our two state senators, the four house representatives from each of our districts, and staff members of the Environmental Subcommittee of the House Science, Space, & Technology Committee (minority) to discuss the importance of geoscience funding and access to the data and research produced by our federal science agencies. As a geoscience librarian, this was a good year to attend, given the concerns over the continued availability and access to data and research from our federal science agencies and the proposed budget cuts to the U. S. Geological Survey Library. I did my best to promote our

Continued on page 4
Vice President’s Column, continued

concerns to the offices of our congressional representatives. The Geo-CVD was a great opportunity to learn about communicating with our government about issues in science and education and promoting the geosciences. I would encourage other geoscience librarians to consider applying for this program in the future. Information can be found on AGI’s website.

On the topic of federal science and federal science agencies, I think the recent hurricanes and earthquakes remind us of the extreme importance of our federal earth science agencies, including NASA, NOAA, and the USGS, and their scientists, for studying, planning for, and providing public information on these natural events.

I encourage you to find or take advantage of opportunities to promote the importance of our federal earth science data and resources to your communities.

I hope that everyone has a great fall and hope to see you in Seattle in October.

Bob Tolliver
Vice-President, GSIS

Geoscience Librarianship 101, October 21 in Seattle, Washington

By Clara McLeod

“Geoscience Librarianship 101” – a full-day introduction to earth science information resources and their organization – will be presented by the Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) on Saturday, October 21 in Seattle, Washington. Registration is free and 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. It will provide an overview of geoscience information and current topics in reference, research, and publications; collection development; and geospatial information. Additional topics may include solo librarianship and STEM research/library services in the oil and gas industry. Participants are encouraged to bring their own questions and issues for discussion.

Instructors include Amanda Bielskas (Columbia University Libraries), Linda Zellmer (Western Illinois University), Stephanie Earls (Washington Geological Survey), Samantha Teplitzky (University of California, Berkeley), Mary Ellen Vedas (Hess Technical Library), and Emily Wild (US Geological Survey). Clara McLeod (Washington University in St. Louis) is coordinating the event.

Geoscience Librarianship 101 is jointly sponsored with the University of Washington Libraries and will be held from 9 AM to 4 PM at the UW’s Suzzallo Library in Seattle.

Advance registration is required and space is limited. Registrations must be received by October 14. To sign up or request additional information, 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 2017 Annual Meeting Schedule  October 21 - October 25, Seattle, Washington

Saturday, Oct 21
9:00-4:00  Geosciences Librarianship 101  The University of Washington
5:00-7:00  Early Bird No-Host Dinner  The Pike Pub & Brewery, 1415 1st Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101

Sunday, Oct 22
8:00-9:00  GSIS Executive Board Meeting  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Greenwood
9:00-12:00  GSIS Business Meeting  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Greenwood

Monday, Oct 23
12:00-1:30  GSIS Luncheon & Awards  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Ravenna A-B
2:00-2:30  Field Trip: Washington Talking Book & Braille Library  2021 9th Ave, Seattle, WA 98121
3:00-5:00  GSIS Vendor Update/Information Resources Session  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Seneca

Tuesday, Oct 24
9:00-6:30  GSIS Poster Session (T141)  Use of Geoscience Data and Information Resources in Education and Research  Washington State Convention Center, Halls 4EF
11:30-1:00  GSIS Common Read and Lunch  Full Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest (Sandi Doughton)  Meet at the GSIS posters in the Washington State Convention Center, Halls 4EF
1:00-3:30  GSIS Professional Issues Roundtable  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Greenwood
3:30-5:00  Geology/Building Stone Walking Tour of Seattle  Starting at the Washington State Convention Center
7:00-9:00  GeoInformatics Division and Geoscience Information Society Joint Reception  Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Issaquah

Wednesday, Oct. 25
8:00-12:00  GSIS Oral Session (T136)  Discovery and Preservation of Geoscience Data and Information Resources  Washington State Convention Center, Room 3B
Join GSIS members in the 2017 Common Read! This is a new activity planned for this year's GSIS Annual meeting in Seattle - A book discussion. Meet at the GSIS posters in the Washington State Convention Center, Halls 4EF; Tuesday, October 24th 11:30-1:00.

Cynthia L. Prosser solicited book suggestions and arranged a Doodle Poll so members could vote on a title. Contact Cynthia L. Prosser with any questions: cprosser@uga.edu

The votes are in and the winner is … (by almost 2 to 1): Full Rip 9.0: The next big earthquake in the Pacific Northwest

About the book: Scientists have identified Seattle, Portland, and Vancouver as the urban centers of what will be the biggest earthquake—the Really Big One—in the continental United States. A quake will happen—in fact it's actually overdue. The Cascadia subduction zone is 750 miles long, running along the Pacific coast from Northern California up to southern British Columbia. In this fascinating book, The Seattle Times science reporter Sandi Doughton introduces readers to the scientists who are dedicated to understanding the way the earth moves and describes what patterns can be identified and how prepared (or not) people are. With a 100% chance of a mega-quake hitting the Pacific Northwest, this fascinating book reports on the scientists who are trying to understand when, where, and just how big THE BIG ONE will be.

Other nominations for the Common Read (but not selected) included:

- Basin and Range, John McPhee
- The Internet of Us: Knowing More and Understanding Less in the Age of Big Data, Lynch
- Pacific, Simon Winchester
- Too High and Too Steep: Reshaping Seattle's Topography, David B. Williams
- Madhouse Effect—How Climate Change Denial Is Threatening Our Planet, Destroying Our Politics, and Driving Us Crazy, Mann & Toles

By Sandi Doughton
Publisher: Sasquatch Books (June 11, 2013)
Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award - 2017

By Rusty Kimball

On behalf of the GSIS Best Research Resource Award Committee, I am pleased to announce that the winner of the 2017 GSIS Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award is:

**Encyclopedia of Marine Geosciences**
Editors: Harff, J., Meschede, M., Petersen, S., Thiede, J.
ISBN: 978-94-007-6237-4 (Print)
978-94-007-6238-1 (Electronic)
Published: 2016

Dr. Meschede has responded that he will be accepting the award in Seattle.

Best Paper Award - 2017

By Carl Olson

Birgit Schmidt, Birgit Gemeinholzer and Andrew Treloar have been awarded GSIS Best Paper for their paper entitled ‘Open Data in Global Environmental Research: The Belmont Forum’s Open Data Survey, published in *PLos ONE*, vol. 11, issue 1, pages 1-29.

The Geoscience Information Society has presented its Best Paper Award annually since 1986. The award honors the best paper published in the field of geoscience information during the previous year. The award will be presented on October 23rd at the annual meeting of the Geoscience Information Society in Seattle, Washington.

A member of the selection committee described the paper as an “excellent and timely article that should be read by all geoscience librarians.”

Principal author Birgit Schmidt is Scientific Manager and Project Coordinator for Electronic Publishing and has published extensively on scholarly communication. Birgit Gemeinholzer is Research Associate in Systematic Biology at the University of Giessen. Andrew Treloar is Director of Technology at the Australian National Data Service.

GSIS Best Paper Award Committee:
Chris Badurek
Carl Olson (Chair)
Samantha Teplitzky
Bob Tolliver
Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award - 2017

By Clara McLeod

The 2017 recipient of the Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award from the Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) is Linda Zellmer. The Award recognizes significant contributions to the field of geoscience information and will be presented at the GSIS Luncheon during the Annual Meeting in Seattle in October.

Since 2008, Linda has worked as the Government Information and Data Services Librarian at Western Illinois University where she serves as the Libraries’ liaison to several science departments on campus. From 2002 - 2008, she was Head of the Geology Library at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana and has held previous positions at Arizona State University, University of Wyoming and Oklahoma State University. Her research interests include access to geographic and geological information, maps, and Geographic Information Systems in libraries. The letters of nomination to support Linda being honored emphasized that her contributions to “GSIS and to the fields of geoscience and geospatial information are numerous and noteworthy.”

In the community of GSIS, Linda has participated in a variety of roles that led to the continued enhancement of the knowledge base of this organization in maps and geospatial information. She served on the Publications Advisory Committee, Microforms Subcommittee, chair of the Geonet-L Advisory Board, chair of the Electronic Resources Committee; and as GSIS President in 2003. Linda still maintains an active role by serving as the chair of the Exhibits Committee and as instructor for Geoscience Librarianship 101 since its creation.


Linda is a member of the American Library Association, the Association of College Research Libraries, Special Libraries Association, Geoscience Information Society and Western Association of Map Libraries. She served as the representative from GSIS to the Cartographic Users Advisory Council (CUAC) from 2002-2014 and as a member of the Homeland Security Working group.

Linda’s continual commitment and dedication to developing the area of geoscience and geospatial information is remarkable. Her enthusiasm and willingness to contribute to the profession has left an indelible mark on GSIS and the broader geoscience community.

The Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award Committee
Clara P. McLeod (Chair)
Louise F. Deis
Edward Lener
Best Guidebook Award - 2017
By Monica Pereira

The GSIS Guidebook Awards Committee is pleased to announce the award winners for 2017:


**Best Guidebook Series Award:** Geological Society of America. The Best Guidebook Series Award celebrates sustained contributions of this genre over time.


*This inaugural award recognizes the field trip guidebook that appeals to a popular audience.

The awards presentation will take place on Monday, October 23, 2017 at the Geoscience Information Society luncheon** at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Revenna A-B, 12 - 1:30 p.m.

**This is a ticketed event.**

Guidebook Award Committee:
Amanda Bielskas
Marie Dvorzak
Cheri Folkner
Dwight Hunter
Lura Joseph
Linda Musser (Co-chair)
Monica Pereira (Co-chair)
Thelma Thompson
Fun New Tool at the Washington Geology Library:
Augmented Reality Sandbox Engages Kids and Adults Alike

By Stephanie Earls, Washington Geology Library

Visitors to the Washington Geology Library at the Department of Natural Resources run the gamut, ranging from the amateur to professional geologist, and from young to old. Over the last couple of years, we’ve had more kid’s groups visiting (e.g. home-schooled children, summer camp programs). In turn, we’ve been inspired to provide more educational resources as we love to encourage the budding scientists! Of course we have a variety of Washington rocks and fossils on display, but we’ve added a rock testing area, and a pseudo-cave to view phosphorescent (aka glow-in-the-dark) rocks and minerals. The newest addition to our education corner is an augmented reality sandbox (ARS). Basically it’s a live topographic map, where contours change as you move the sand around. Kids and adults alike are mesmerized for hours. You can view a short video of our sandbox on Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T4dwQptYTg

The ARS was developed by Peter Gold at UC Davis and the design and coding has been made available to the public under a GNU General Public License (https://arsandbox.ucdavis.edu/). This means you can build your own as many universities and institutions have done. The tool is really powerful and engaging because it visually demonstrates a number of geologic processes in a fun hands-on way. With a wave of your hand you can make it rain, and the water follows the contours of canyons and pools into lakes. You can even create a seiche by landslide and watch the water spill up onto the shore. The primary residence of our ARS will be the Washington Geology Library, although it may travel from time to time. Currently the ARS is on display at the Washington State Fair, and there’s a chance it will make an appearance at GSA in Seattle this fall.

Feel free to contact me with questions about the ARS or the process of building your own: stephanie.earls@dnr.wa.gov
This was my first year serving as secretary, and therefore my first year sending out renewal notices. Being part of the membership committee while serving as secretary makes a lot more sense to me now! It’s definitely been a learning process but it has also offered such an interesting backstage view of the workings of our society. Many of the more general thoughts I’ve had about our profession converged in this process, such as what makes a rewarding conference and how do we encourage people to attend, how does a subject librarian choose among limited professional development opportunities, and how do we mentor the next generation of earth/geoscience or even science librarians more broadly?

Those thoughts continue to float, but in the interests of shaping them into some sort of practical action, our membership committee agreed to target and recruit Pacific Northwest based librarians ahead of the 2017 Seattle conference. We turned to a combination of library websites and Libguides to target these geoscience librarians. It turned out to be quite straightforward to perform a global search of Libguides by subject. Using subject terms like geology, earth science, geoscience, it was possible to compile a fairly thorough list of academic libraries and librarians with a focus in these areas. Depending upon how a library has set up its libguide accounts, one can then determine which and how many topics or subjects a liaison covers.

Libguides proved to be such a fruitful source of data that it made me even more curious about our [potential] colleagues. After that preliminary work yielded a small list of potential attendees and (one new member!), I turned to the larger data set. I haven’t gotten very far in analyzing the larger data set (and welcome others to join me if this piques your interest!), but this is what stands out to me so far in no particular order:

- Libguides/Springshare covers a larger segment of our libraries than I had expected!
- Many universities with “top” earth science graduate programs do not have a dedicated library liaison at all.
- “Most” librarians who do have an earth or geoscience focus cover at least 4, 5, and as many as 15 often disparate subjects.
- Do GSIS members in academic settings cover fewer subjects than non-member geoscience subject liaisons?

I’m interested to hear your thoughts in Seattle!

Sam Teplitzky
GSIS Secretary
Guidebook Committee 2017 Annual Report
By Linda Musser

Guidebook Committee Members: Amanda Bielskas, Marie Dvorzak, Cheri Folkner, Dwight Hunter, Thelma Thompson, Lura Joseph
Co-chairs: Linda Musser and Monica Pereira

In 2016, the committee approached the GSIS Executive Committee about expanding the Best Guidebook Award into two categories to allow for an award for guidebooks designed for a popular audience. This year the committee selected two titles for the Best Guidebook Award, one for a guidebook aimed at a non-professional audience and the other aimed at a professional audience. We expect to continue having these two awards as well as the Best Series award in the future. The award titles currently are: Best Guidebook Award, Best Guidebook Award (Popular category), and the Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series Award. The committee worked with the GSIS webmaster to update the Guidebooks Awards webpage to reflect these changes.

This year, the committee overhauled the process by which we solicit nominations for the guidebook awards. A list of nearly 100 professional societies were identified and each member contacted approximately ten organizations to solicit nominations and publicize the awards and guidebook standards. This method proved successful in increasing the number of nominations received. The committee will use this mechanism in the future with solicitations beginning early in the year, probably February. The committee will also establish a clear deadline for submissions, possibly the beginning of June, in order to allow the committee to complete the work of reviewing the nominations in time to meet GSA’s approximate August deadline for awards to be included in the annual meeting program.

In other business, the committee worked with GeoRef regarding the migration of the Geologic Guidebooks database. The database will retain its current title and focus on North America, and will feature additional records provided by GeoRef. The new platform has lots more functionality and the launch should provide opportunities to promote guidebooks and the GSIS as well as GeoRef. The database should launch in early 2018, if not sooner. As part of the migration of legacy records into the new platform, Lura Joseph shared a list of nearly 600 guidebook records that still needed to be reviewed and located. The committee plans to discuss what actions, if any, need to be taken to deal with these.

Future activities include a review and revision of the guidebook standards to include recommendations for adding digital guidebooks to the Internet Archive. And to discuss collaboration with the Flyover County app (http://fc.umn.edu/).
Membership Committee Report
By Cynthia Prosser, Chair GSIS Membership Committee

This year the Membership committee looked at ways to increase and engage the society membership. Samantha Teplitzky searched for the names of librarians working in the geosciences at institutions in the Pacific Northwest. Once identifying those who were not members, she contacted them with information about GSIS and the annual meeting. We also worked on developing letters to be sent to new subscribers of GeoNet, inviting them to join the society, if they were not already members as well as a letter welcoming new members to the society. Amanda Bielskas provided us with an outline and context for the listserv welcoming letter as well as the template for the Geonet letter. Dorothy McGarry provided excellent editing and streamlining of wordings for our documents. Louise Deis asked notable questions at myriad points in our deliberations. Also in the hopper is the possibility of doing a webinar, but that is very much in the planning stage at this point. With valuable input from Shaun Hardy, we are also trying out a Common Read at the Annual Meeting this year. The title will be announced soon. The membership brochure will be updated after the election in time for the Annual Meeting. I thank the committee for all their innovative ideas and hard work. This year’s committee: Amanda, Bielskas, Louise Deis, Shaun Hardy, Dorothy McGarry, and Samantha Teplitzky.

ASLI Annual Meeting in Austin, January 8-9, 2018
By Brian Voss

We want to remind everyone that the meeting will be Monday/Tuesday, January 8 and 9 this year instead of our usual Wednesday/Thursday schedule.

The Atmospheric Science Librarians International (ASLI) will hold their 21st Annual Meeting on January 8-9, 2018, in Austin, TX, in conjunction with the American Meteorological Society’s 98th Annual Meeting. The theme for this year’s meeting is: “Transforming Communication in the Weather, Water, and Climate Enterprise Focusing on Challenges Facing Our Sciences”, and our program will unite the theme with many areas of interest to librarians and researchers. We will also continue the ever popular “ASLI Choice Book Awards” in its thirteenth year. Our program will be available at the ASLI site (http://www.aslionline.org).

Please join us. Our Chair-Elect, and program chair, is Fred Stoss, fstoss@buffalo.edu. Contact Fred, or me, with any questions. For more information about ASLI, our membership or conferences, please see our webpage at: http://www.aslionline.org/wp/

Brian Voss
ASLI Chair, 2017
brian.voss@noaa.gov
Member Publications

GSIS member Amanda Bielskas and colleagues at Columbia University recently published an article in the *Library Hi Tech* entitled: "Evolving skills for emerging technologies: a collaborative approach", The article as available at:


Feel free to contact Amanda for a reprint (asb2154@columbia.edu).


Musings
By Michael M Noga

Have you heard about the Inside-Out idea about library collections? Lorcan Dempsey, from OCLC, is one of the proponents. See [http://orweblog.oclc.org/inside-in-and-inside-out-redux/](http://orweblog.oclc.org/inside-in-and-inside-out-redux/) and his report “Collection Directions” [http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/research/publications/library/2014/oclcresearch-collection-directions-preprint-2014.pdf](http://www.oclc.org/content/dam/research/publications/library/2014/oclcresearch-collection-directions-preprint-2014.pdf). The idea is that libraries now concentrate on bringing in scholarly literature from outside the institution and that this will be a smaller function in the future, as discovery and collections will be available without all kinds of licensing and subscriptions. Discovery will move away from libraries as well. The exception will be each library’s unique collections of scholarship created at the institution.

There will be a network of informational assets collected and curated by the institutions. Library resources will move from acquiring and licensing materials from outside the institution to managing the research and research outputs of the library’s home institution.

I don’t know when or how the most critical geoscience journals will change to open access or whether they will morph into other forms of article distribution. What I do wonder about is the voluminous less common literature of the geosciences. I suspect that libraries are already lacking some of this literature as selectors have less time or funds to collect it. It’s great that a number of large geological surveys provide a lot of their mapping and reports online, though the access to the public may not be guaranteed.

It’s also great that we see a number of the regional journals go open-access, thereby increasing distribution beyond the few libraries that once subscribed or received on gift-exchange programs.