President’s Column:  
By Cynthia Prosser

It is hard to believe that this is my last column as President and that my Presidential year is coming to an end. It is a bittersweet time; it has been a year of learning and coping in ways that I never imagined when I consented to run for the presidential sequence. Who would have thought that the way we have needed to do business would have changed as extraordinarily as it has? A year ago, I was looking forward to standard procedures, regular activities, and seeing everyone in Montreal and now we have coped in dozens of different directions and will be seeing each other virtually at the end of October.

I am still looking forward to seeing everyone and am hoping with the meeting being virtual there will be more everyone to see! I do encourage you all to take advantage of the GSIS Annual Meeting offerings this year. With all our events online and without the costs and time commitment associated with traveling in person, we are hoping that everybody will take the opportunity to join in and see what we do during the Annual Meeting. While attendance to GSIS specific meeting events will be free this year, you will need to register for those sessions. If you wish to participate in the GSA hosted events you will need to register directly with them. Speaking of GSA, since the meeting is virtual, they have greatly reduced their registration fee, so again it would be a chance to observe happens at an Annual Meeting inexpensively. Watch for forthcoming announcements.

Our Annual Meeting will run concurrently with GSA, October 26 – 30, 2020. We will start off with Geoscience Librarianship 101 on Monday and Tuesday, organized by Clara McLeod and Stephanie Earls. Our Business Meeting will be on Wednesday. Our formal Technical Session, a Poster session, is scheduled for Thursday morning and organized by Emily Wild (this is a GSA hosted event). Our Common Read this year is Wonderful Life, The Burgess Shale and the Nature of History by Stephen Jay Gould (available in print and Kindle) on Thursday October 29 at 12:15 (EDT). Be sure to “bring” your lunch or favorite nosh and join the discussion.

(Continued on page 3)
The GSIS Newsletter is published quarterly, in March, June, September, and December by the Geoscience Information Society. It is now published Open Access and is supported by GSIS memberships (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. Please send submissions by e-mail to the Newsletter Co-Editors Amanda Bielskas asb2154@columbia.edu or Michael Noga mnoga@mit.edu.
We will also be having the Vendor Update on Thursday and the Information Resources Roundtable on Friday. Again, watch for the details regarding time and free registration for these events.

A new committee has been formed – the Social Media Committee. You probably saw my many pleas to join it on GeoNet. We are starting to investigate ways to be involved with social media and are considering which platforms to use. With the vast array of platforms available we will only be focusing on a few, at least to start. If you want to be a part of it, don’t hesitate to let me know. I have only dabbled in social media for my own amusement and so I have lots to learn.

As the year begins to wind down, do consider volunteering to serve on a committee or as a Society representative for next year. These opportunities always look good on resumes and dossiers and help to promote the value of the organization to a wider audience. They are a great way to build relationships with librarians across the country and to a certain extent around the world. Committee work can be enjoyable. I have come to value the professional friendships I have gained through Society work and always look forward to renewing contacts at Annual Meeting. If you are interested, you can contact me (cprosser@uga.edu), and I will pass your interest onto President-Elect Emily Wild or you can contact Emily (ewild@princeton.edu) directly.

Let me encourage you to vote in our upcoming GSIS election. Our Immediate Past President Chris Badurek will be announcing the candidates and the election timeline.

Next year will hopefully be a return to something more familiar and we will be able to travel and meet in person. I hope you will consider coming to Portland next year. We were last in Portland in 2009 and I have fond memories of that trip – in particular the street sculptures, city gardens, and food trucks.

I have always found GSIS Annual Meeting a time of professional refreshment and am hoping that the virtual format also provides that same sense of invigoration. It is a time to come away from the daily routine of my home library and think about and learn new things. There is an ease of talking and interacting with people who understand the quirkiness of the subject matter we deal with daily. I will again encourage you to take advantage of this year’s virtual meeting and hope to “see” you there.

Vice President’s Column
By Emily Wild

Good afternoon, It is hard to believe I have been working from my home office for almost seven months. When I first started to plan for the upcoming GSIS meeting for 2020, I was excited to see everyone and catchup while exploring the wonderful restaurants and cultural activities during GSIS field trips. Like many across the world, I have experienced taking COVID-19 tests, finding out family/friends/colleagues are sick, and experience waves of sadness as I hear that people I know have passed away from COVID-19.

As conferences have been canceled, and unknowns persisted throughout the summer, I am grateful to have collaborative, understanding, and supportive colleagues within the GSIS. Thank you to Cynthia Prosser, Stephanie Earls, Clara McLeod, Bridget Thrasher, Chris Badurek, Amanda Bielskas, Michael Noga, Wynn Transfield, Richard Stringer-Hye, Shaun Hardy, and Linda Musser.
for brainstorming, advice, and stepping up for additional duties as we transitioned all the events from in-person activities to virtual. I hope everyone enjoys this new virtual pre-conference and conference experience, and I look forward to “seeing” GSIS members and non-members interested in our organization. I am optimistic the virtual option will result in future collaborations and insightful discussions, and I look forward to virtual conference options for members at future meetings in order to provide participation opportunities for more GSIS members across the landscape.

With many working remotely, I was asked by science librarians, researchers, faculty, and students to compile my past webinars, and to present new webinars for geosciences through the GPO FDLP webinar program, I have made a guide to all of my upcoming and past webinars for geosciences, which is online at: https://libguides.princeton.edu/geo/librarianwebinars

My next geosciences webinar is October 29, 2020 at 2 pm, and entitled “Library Research for Natural Hazard Events: Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Volcanoes, and Wildfires” -more information is available at: https://libcal.princeton.edu/event/7165734

Stay Safe.

Geoscience Information Society Annual Meeting 2020
Schedule of Virtual Sessions
(All times Eastern)

Monday, October 26
3:15-7:00: “Geoscience Librarianship 101” (part 1) (See end of newsletter for updated schedule)

Tuesday, October 27: 3:00-7:00
“Geoscience Librarianship 101” (part 2) (See end of newsletter for updated schedule)

5:30-8:00: Technical Session 92 - D9. Ge

Information/Communication [$$$ GSA Registration required]

Wednesday, October 28
3:00-6:00: Business Meeting

**Thursday, October 29**

11:30-12:00: AGI and GeoRef Update


2:00-3:30: FDLP Webinar: “Library Research for Natural Hazard Events: Earthquakes, Hurricanes, Volcanoes, and Wildfires”

4:00-6:00: Vendor Update

**Friday, October 30**

Morning (asynchronous)

Library Showcase: Contributed slides, images, videos showing current library operations

11:00-12:00: “How Are You and Your Library Coping with COVID-19?”: Moderated discussion (Linda Musser) Sharing of stories, solutions and impacts: collection development, staffing, reference, communication/marketing

12:00-12:30: Break

12:30-1:00: Bring-Your-Own Lunch and Awards Presentations

1:05-2:20: “Build Your Toolkit”: Share favorite or/or lesser-known geoscience information resources and professional tools

2:20-2:30: Break

2:30-4:00: Professional Issue Roundtable: Moderated discussion of topics identified in advance from member suggestions
Review: Hosting a Virtual Student Research Day with Symposium by ForagerOne

Chris Badurek

What effect has the pandemic had on undergraduate research on campuses across the country? The answer varies by location and by discipline, but it may be an even greater negative impact in the STEM disciplines. With undergraduate research participation in STEM discipline laboratories reduced due to social distancing or closed campuses, perhaps one of the greatest impacts on undergraduate research is impacts to undergraduate research symposia generally held on college campuses at the end of spring semesters. In response, campuses have been moving to online conference tools to aid in providing students the opportunity to share their research. One recently popular application is Symposium by ForagerOne, a startup company led by former Johns Hopkins University undergraduate students. Symposium works well for online conference programs as it helps organize sessions as “presentations” or “live sessions.” The “presentations” could be posters or a recorded slide deck narration. The interface generally features a large screen, zoomable image, voiceover presentation from YouTube video, and interactive comment area. I was impressed with the ease of utility for my interaction with students at the Student Research and Creative Work Symposium I participated in at the end of spring semester 2020. The symposium was up and running in a short time once the choice was made to purchase a license and the student presentations were well done with the technology. I found the real-time interaction between conference attendees and student participants during the scheduled presentation times to be effective for questions and further discussion. In fact, it may be easier for students to answer challenging questions more effectively using this media. Overall, students appeared to adapt quite well to this method of conference presentation. ForagerOne is an affiliate member of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) and Symposium is used by large and smaller institutions ranging from Drexel and Cornell to SUNY New Paltz and Siena College. If your institution is struggling to find an appropriate method for hosting a student research day, perhaps your library or institution can host a dynamic event making use of this easy to use virtual conference interface.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

THE GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY (GSIS) IS SEEKING NOMINEES FOR GSIS VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT ELECT AS WELL AS FOR THE POSITION OF SECRETARY. THE VICE PRESIDENT SERVES ONE YEAR AS VICE PRESIDENT, ONE YEAR AS PRESIDENT, AND ONE YEAR AS PAST PRESIDENT. BOTH POSITIONS WILL BEGIN THE FINAL WEEK OF OCTOBER 2020 AND IS A GREAT WAY TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO NOMINATE YOURSELF OR WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION ON DUTIES, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT CHRIS BADUREK DIRECTLY AT: BADUREK@GMAIL.COM

Geodesy is the science of measuring the Earth’s shape, geometry, and gravitational field integrating the disciplines of geophysics, geography, and cartography. This text provides a mathematically based discussion of many topics included within the field of geodesy. Beginning with a brief history of mapping, the author’s use the Mercator projection to describe the utility of geodetic methods, particularly for mapping precise locations on the Earth. Next, a discussion of the differences in conformal projections, varying in cylindrical, azimuthal, and conical varieties, is followed by discussion of the mathematics of map projections such as Lambert and stereographic, spherical trigonometry, the geometry of ellipsoids. A history and mathematics of coordinate reference systems is included, with focus on the development of datums such as GRS80, the Geodetic Reference System of 1980 approved by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, and WGS84, the World Geodetic Survey of 1984, the ellipsoid used for the global positioning system known as the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS). The mathematics of the differences between these global standards is well-described in terms of the flattening factors used in deriving each. The authors also provide a helpful discussion of how the global reference system, the International Terrestrial Reference System (ITRS), is ‘realized’ as a reference frame using known data values. In this case, the International Terrestrial Reference Frame (ITRF) has improved over multiple ‘realizations’ from additional data updates ranging from the ITRF88 standard to the present ITRF2014 standard. An additional chapter covers mathematical representations of the geophysical science of the Earth’s polar motion with relevance to accurate positional measurements. Overall, this text provides an in-depth treatment of the mathematics of geodesy and makes an exceptional complement to other geophysics-based volumes of geodetic principle. This text is highly recommended for graduate programs that include some aspect of geodetic research or applications of geophysics to mapping. It is also of value for potential collaborations between mathematicians, geophysicists, and GIS researchers concerned with precise positional measurements needed in such applications as sea-level rise or tectonic activity.

Musings:
By Michael M Noga

Most conferences have exhibits. This year, professional societies are creating digital exhibit platforms. There is often an option to add online presentations for an extra charge. Perhaps physical conferences will use smaller exhibit areas and more online content once the COVID-19 virus is better controlled.

I have finished 40 years of visiting exhibit halls. I thought it would be a good time to mention some observations on exhibit-going.

The Frankfurt Book Fair had the largest exhibit space - several floors spread over 9 buildings. The big science publishers were concentrated in one hall. The biggest ones had meeting rooms and bars to discuss rights, as well as displays of publications. Trade visitors, including librarians,
could take away the books at no charge on the last day. I went twice, and on my first visit I was introduced to Mr. Wiley. Another exhibitor berated me about a journal price study that was posted by a California librarian for his community. I didn’t mention that he was a former colleague.

I liked to visit geoscience society and survey booths, because my two libraries collected worldwide publications. The focus of my first forays at GSA Annual Meetings was a search for field trip guidebooks under the guidance of my mentor, Charlotte Derksen. Those were the days when I would send publications and brochures back to my library.

Other countries have always interested me. I liked seeing the special exhibit areas on international geoscience agencies at the GSA, AAPG, and AGU conferences. In addition to displays of books and maps, the exhibitors might offer food, such as German chocolate, special tea and Japanese cookies.

Several times I had a question for a publisher, and the right person had just gone to lunch. But there were booth exhibitors who had something unexpected to offer beyond the ubiquitous pencils, pens, brochures, and small pieces of candy. Then there were the interesting chats at booths that had no relevance to my library, but were wonderful anyways.

You never knew who you would run into in the exhibition hall. Former grad students would recognize me, and I would greet faculty from my former institutions. Once I was cutting through the crowded children’s aisles at the ALA exhibits, and paused at an open space. There was Beverly Cleary, waiting for the book signing to begin. By the way, she is 104.

Some exhibits were regular stops. The AASG had state geological survey postcards. I received requests from a colleague. One of the state geologists would usually tell me which states had new cards.

The National Park Service exhibit changed its focus over the years, but it still offered park brochures for nearby regions.

Williams & Heinz used to post their recent maps during the height of their contracts with geoscience publishers. For several years, there were displays of large maps from international cooperative projects. GIS and other technologies have dramatically changed what could demonstrated at an exhibit booth. NASA provided quite a show.

I used to bring back a lot of brochures, posters, and publications from conferences, but in the few years it was mainly pens and bookmarks. The NASA calendars were particularly striking, so I picked up one at the AGU Fall Meeting. I also liked the planetary travel posters.

GSA usually had a section for geoscience departments. Their booths reflected their schools and field areas. I loved to see the geographic diversity.

The Materials Research Society put most of their publishers in the first two aisles of the Fall Meeting exhibits. This was convenient for librarians, but probably reduced foot traffic from other attendees.

Finally, I liked to see the poster sessions near the exhibits. The big exception that I encountered was the AGU poster session, which took up another exhibition hall. I couldn’t get through it because of the size.

I expect physical exhibitions to get smaller, but the personal contact between exhibitors and conference attendees is still valuable. The social events in the exhibit halls are special.
GSIS lost two long-time colleagues in 2020. Both worked at The University of Texas at Austin, but had much wider influence. See following Remembrance columns that follow.

Musings: Remembrance – Julie Hallmark

By Michael M Noga

Julie Hallmark passed away on February 8, 2020. She was a faculty member at the School of Library and Information Science for 35 years. The School posted a memoriam at Ischool.utexas.edu with a link to Julie’s archived homepage.

Julie (as Julie Bichteler) joined the Geoscience Information Society in 1966, the second year of its existence. She was President in 1979 and graciously ran for a second time in 2003. She served on several committees. Her commitment to geoscience information led her to receive the 2010 Mary B Ansari Distinguished Service Award.

Julie was a pioneer in recognizing the role of technology in searching for and using geoscience information. She was an early advocate of GeoRef. The paper “Expert Systems for Geoscience Information Processing,” winner of the 1987 Best Paper Award, reflects this interest.

One theme that ran through Julie’s work was a strong interest in info-seeking behavior of scientists and particularly geoscientists. One of her papers (with Dederick Ward) on this topic won the 1990 Best Paper Award.

The third current that ran through Julie’s career was her interest in international education. She lectured and consulted in 7 countries in Latin America and Asia. She particularly liked to visit Australia, including participation in the 3rd International Conference on Geoscience Information.

Julie Hallmark is warmly remembered for her advice and mentorship. Her commitment to education extended nationally and internationally beyond the University of Texas at Austin.

On a personal note, I was struck by the relevancy and scholarship of the the first presentation on info-seeking behavior that I heard at a GSA conference. I also recall the warm smile and joy that I encountered when I met her a roadhouse on a GIS field in Texas Hill Country.

We miss you, Julie.
Musings: Remembrance – Dennis Trombatore
By Michael M Noga

Dennis sadly passed away just as he was planning retirement. Sharon Mosher of the Jackson School of Geosciences wrote an excellent appreciation of his long career as the Head of the Walter Geology Library and the Tobin International Geological Map Collection (jsg.utexas.edu). The University of Texas at Austin Libraries wrote another appreciation at texlibris.lib.utexas.edu. Both provide a detailed list of his accomplishments, service, projects, and many awards. His long tenure and leadership of the GeoRef Advisory Committee was a accomplishment of special importance to the GSIS community.

Librarians and users who needed materials from south of Texas looked to Dennis to fulfill their needs. He often announced new publications from the Texas Bureau of Economic Geology and new field trip guidebooks. Virtual Landscapes of Texas was his brainchild and labor of love.

Dennis Trombatore was truly a sage. He also had a distinctive sense of humor. His library had a lot of gifts, and he had room to house them, at least before the library’s renovation. Dennis regularly posted freebies lists. They usually had a humorous title and description. Here is a sample.

- The Henry Mancini Sliding Home on Labor Day list. A beautiful spring day here in Texas to get an infectious movie theme song stuck in your head, take the Pink Panther theme. OK here’s a quick list while you’re thinking about Peter Sellers or fiberglass insulation or whatever.

- Science is hard freebies in honor of Barbie and her sinister reign

- Monarchy freebies in honor of the wedding day Of Edward VIII and Wallis Simpson.

- Earth Day freebies. Trivia dept.: the first Earth Day in 1970, I was a senior in high school. The local state university was having a big Earth Day festival, so some of us incited a rebellion, and the entire senior class walked out to attend the event. Some of us even went there. Too bad we didn’t take it all more seriously.

- LUNA 2, the 1959 space probe that was the first manmade object to reach the moon, crashing into the lunar surface

- The great Inter-Oracle tells me that today in 1972 Gene Cernan stepped off the moon and no
one has ever been back. In honor of work in extreme environments, I offer a few freebies.

- Today is the birthday of Thomas Nast, born in 1840, and known for his work as a political cartoonist, lambasting the Tammany Hall gang and “Boss Tweed,” the creator of various iconography still in use, such as Santa Claus. Can’t have too many like him around.

(Accompanied by a Nast caricature)

- For all those colleagues entering the stumbling years, today in 1785 Ben Franklin announced his invention of bifocals. As a trifocal wearer myself, I don’t know whether to laugh or cry. Liquid crystals may make it possible to see properly with glasses.

- On the heels of Dracula extravaganza and in time for Memorial Day, today we have some freebies in honor of the opening of the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937.

- It’s Valentine’s Day, but is also the birthday of Robert Malthus, born in 1766...here is a selected list of non-chocolate freebies that I hope will be irresistible to some of you.

- Michelangelo Buonarroti, born 6 Mar 1475, died 18 Feb 1564 at age 88...In honor of the great artist/scientist’s birthday, today we have the following.

Such was the Geonet’s great provider of free books and maps, and great fount of jest and whimsy. We miss you, Dennis.

GSIS Guidebook Award Winners
By Dwight Hunter (Chair, GSIS Guidebook Committee)

Best Guidebook Series
Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists

Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists has produced roadlogs and hosted field conferences for several decades. The FCPG website has a well-organized history that touches on some of the reasons for their receiving the Outstanding Series award: longevity (1931-date) trip guidebooks are available online for free active membership with high quality trips that are well documented for others to share good website, and acknowledgment of sponsorship

FCGP has an impressive record of involving geologist from the region and encouraging student attendance by providing scholarships. The Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists have done a masterful job of maintaining active interest and support for geologic field trips.

Congratulations to Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists!

Best Guidebook: Geology and Paleontology of Monmouth County, New Jersey. Geological Association of New Jersey. 2019

This online guidebook contains proceedings from the 2019 conference for the Geological Association of New Jersey. This guidebook has paper presentations, road logs with images, and maps of field visits. The authors were intentional about posing the questions they hoped the field trip would help answer. Rather than being a passive let's-go-look-at-geology trip, the author(s) outlined extant questions and encouraged discussion among participants to
help further a common understanding of the science of the regional geology. The guidebook contains references, good graphics, acknowledgements, and trail safety tips.

Read online guidebook at:


Best Popular Guidebook:
Geology of Flagstaff and Geologic History of Rio de Flag, Northern Arizona, with Trail Guides to Geology along Rio de Flag by R.F. Holm.

A trail guide of geology for anyone who walks around Flagstaff, Arizona. The Rio de Flag touches on several geological elements as it flows through Flagstaff. Discover these elements through maps, text, and guides. The synopses for each trail are helpful summaries about what to expect on each hike. The special aspect notes provide useful details about the difficulty, character of the trail such as length and USGS topo map name.

The inclusion of a glossary and use of bold formatting to indicate glossary words in the text was very appropriate and welcome considering the audience of non-geoscientists. The appealing design and language provided excellent examples to help readers imagine how geology works. This guidebook meets guidebook criteria for high-quality graphics, well-referenced and available in a digital repository.

View the guidebook at http://repository.azgs.az.gov/sites/default/files/dlio/files/nid1915/dte23riodeflag-holm-opt.pdf

Congratulations to R.F. Holm for the best popular guidebook!

Call for Nominations 2020 Mary B Ansari Distinguished Service Award

Nominate a colleague for the GSIS 2020 Ansari Distinguished Service Award

The Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) recognizes annually a colleague who has significantly contributed to the profession of geoscience information in a meaningful way. Named for Mary B. Ansari, a former GSIS President and a person who has played a major role in the success of the Society, the first award was given in 2005. Membership in GSIS is not a requirement to receive the award. The award will be presented (virtually!) to the recipient as part of the 2020 GSIS/GSA Annual Meeting and includes a monetary gift. Visit the GSIS website (http://www.geoinfo.org/distinguished-service/) to see a list of previous recipients.

Nomination letters should be sent by July 3 and include the following:

* Your name and contact information
* Name, title, and contact information for the person you are nominating
* Resume or curriculum vita of the nominee
* Statement indicating why the nominee is deserving of this award
* Additional letters of support from other individuals endorsing the nomination
Please submit information by email to cpmcleod@wustl.edu or by regular mail to Clara P. McLeod, Washington University CB 1061, One Brookings Drive, St. Louis, MO 63112.

There are many accomplished colleagues who are deserving of this award. Please help us honor one of them with the 2020 Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award.

Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award Committee:
Marie Dvorzak, Ed Lener, Clara P. McLeod (chair)

**Geoscience Librarianship 101**

The Geoscience Information Society will again offer its annual free workshop "Geoscience Librarianship 101" – virtually this year – on Monday and Tuesday afternoons, October 26 and October 27. The sessions will begin at 3:00 PM Eastern Time each day and run until 6-7 PM. Topics will include: Introduction to the Geosciences, Collection Development, Government Documents, and Maps and Geospatial Data. All information professionals as well as students in library and information studies are invited to attend this professional development opportunity.

Registration is required for the workshop, but participants may select individual sessions to attend. Though GL101 is being held in conjunction with the Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting, registration for GSA is not required.

Additional information (including registration) will be forthcoming and posted at [http://www.geoinfo.org/gl101-workshop-2020/](http://www.geoinfo.org/gl101-workshop-2020/). Please save the dates!

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**2020 GSIS Best Paper Award Recipient**

Kay Johnson (Chair, GSIS Best Paper Committee)


Jason’s well-written paper reports the promising results of his project to research and develop automated methods to determine and retrieve accurate location data in map-based resources. He states in the abstract, “The ability to automatically identify and extract location information from published studies opens new possibilities Greetings Geonetters;
Jason is Associate Professor & Harold F. Heady Endowed Chair of Rangeland Ecology at the University of Idaho. He is also Editor in Chief of Rangelands, a publication of the Society for Range Management.

A big thanks goes to Bob Tolliver, Caitlin McClurg, Chris Badurek, Elise Gowan, Hannah Collier, Carl Olson, and Monica Pereira for their exemplary service on the Best Paper Committee.

Note: The 2019 award was not offered, so the 2020 award covers papers from 2018 and 2019.
2020 Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award Winner
Rusty Kimball (GSIS Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award Committee)

On behalf of the GSIS Best Research Resource Award Committee, I am pleased to announce that the winner of the 2020 GSIS Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award is:

Vanishing Ice - Glaciers, Ice Sheets, and Rising Seas
Vivien Gornitz
Columbia University Press
Pub Date: June 2019
ISBN: 9780231168243; 9780231548892
http://cup.columbia.edu/book/vanishing-ice/9780231168243

New Geoscience Open Access Publications & OA News
By Shaun Hardy, Carnegie Institution for Science

**Experimental Results**
Website: [https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/experimental-results](https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/experimental-results)
*Experimental Results* is a new STEM journal from Cambridge University Press. It is billed as “a forum for experimental findings that disclose the small incremental steps vitally important to experimental research … [including] validation and reproducibility of existing findings, null results, supplementary findings, improvements or amendments to published results.” Earth and Environmental Sciences are among the journal’s eight stated scope areas. Since its debut on the Cambridge Core platform in March *Experimental Results* has published around three dozen contributions, including five in EES. It is the first Cambridge journal to implement an open peer review process, whereby authors will know the identity of reviewers and review “scorecards” will be published online alongside the articles. The article processing charge is £750, with discounts for authors who perform peer review. A variety of CC licenses is offered.

**Sci**
Website: [https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sci](https://www.mdpi.com/journal/sci)
*Sci* is a recent addition to publisher MDPI’s growing portfolio of one-word-titled OA journals. It is multidisciplinary in scope and incorporates *post-publication peer review*. After passing a basic editorial pre-check submissions are posted online immediately, “leaving the traditional evaluation of significance and impact to the community at large.” Reader-volunteered reviews, together with those from author-recommended reviewers, are posted online. Two manuscript revisions are permitted, before the final version is approved. Each version is assigned its own DOI for citability. In some aspects, the process resembles the “interactive public peer review” and two-stage publishing process pioneered by Copernicus Publications for the European Geosciences Union journals in the early 2000s. As with MDPI’s other journals (e.g.,
Geosciences, Minerals, Crystals), a plethora of Sci “special issues” has been announced. Sci charges an APC of 1000 CHF (Swiss Francs) – approximately $1076 – for papers accepted after peer review.

Regional Geoscience Journals: The following English-language journals focused on regional geoscience research were added recently to the Directory of Open Access Journals.

- Contributions to Geophysics and Geodesy (Earth Science Institute, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Slovakia) – https://journal.geo.sav.sk/cgg
- Geochemistry of Technogenesis = Heokhimia Tekhnohenezu (Institute of Environmental Geochemistry, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine) – http://znp.igns.gov.ua/en/my-front-page/

Vanishing OA Journals
A troubling report in Science on September 8 cites the disappearance from the internet of 84 online-only, OA journals in the sciences over the past two decades and the likelihood that many more are at risk (“Dozens of scientific journals have vanished from the internet, and no one preserved them,” by Jeffrey Brainerd, https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/09/dozens-scientific-journals-have-vanished-internet-and-no-one-preserved-them). Half of the journals were published by research institutions and scholarly societies. Based on a study conducted by Mikael Laakso and colleagues, the article reports that only one-third of the journals indexed in DOAJ have provisions in place (e.g., LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, Portico) to ensure the long-term preservation of their content. As Brainerd observes, “There’s little consensus about who is ultimately responsible for digital preservation of OA journals—publishers, authors, libraries, or universities.”

OA Subvention Funds
Librarians at Virginia Tech report high perceived value of OA publishing and of the University Library’s OA Publishing Fund among recipients of support from that fund over the past eight years (“Accessing user perceptions of an open access subvention fund,” by Gail McMillan, Leslie O’Brien, and Edward F. Lener, The Scholarly Kitchen, August 31, 2020, https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2020/08/31/guest-post-accessing-user-perceptions-of-an-open-access-subvention-fund/) The results echo those of similar surveys at other institutions (e.g., “Evaluating the impact of open access at Berkeley,” by Samantha Teplitzky and Margaret Phillips, College & Research Libraries 77(5), 2016, https://doi.org/10.5860/crl.77.5.568). The Virginia Tech fund currently distributes $150K/year to assist authors with APCs. The maximum award is $2000 per article. The only significant points of dissatisfaction in the otherwise glowing survey results concerned the Library’s policy of denying funding to applicants with active grant support (56% of respondents felt they should not be penalized for having external grants) or for publishing in hybrid OA journals (39% of respondents objected to the Library limiting their publishing options). The Library discontinued support for the latter last year, due to a lack of evidence that hybrid journal publishers were reducing subscription costs due to revenue from APC payments.
EarthArXiv Preprint Server Re-Launches on CDL-Hosted Platform

California Digital Library (CDL) is excited to announce the official re-launch of the EarthArXiv preprint server, now hosted by CDL on the Janeway platform. The site provides access to nearly 1,500 recent preprint publications covering a wide range of topics in Earth Science — and researchers who wish to make their findings immediately and openly available can submit papers now.

https://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/2020/10/eartharxiv-preprint-server-re-launches/

Call for Submissions for the Western Association of the Map Libraries’ (WAML) triannual, Information Bulletin (IB) Volume 52, issue 1 (NOV 2020) is now open.

Have you completed a presentation at a conference, or completed a project that is associated with Maps or GIS? We want to hear about it! Turn it into an article/blog post, and submit it to the WAML IB. It’s a great place to share your awesomeness and stories with your colleagues and community.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me. You do not have to be a WAML member to submit an article. Please see the Instructions for Authors for details on how content should be formatted and submitted for the IB.

The submission deadline for this issue is Friday, Oct. 23, 2020.

About the IB: The Information Bulletin (IB) is the official journal of the Western Association of Map Libraries. The IB is an open-access journal issued three times each year: issue number 1 (November), issue number 2 (March), and Issue number 3 (July). Issues beginning with Volume 46, number 1 (November 2014) are available online only. Issues prior to Volume 46, number 1 were published in paper format. All online content is available at no charge.

Cheers,
Chrissy
WAML Editor
Geoscience Librarianship 101

Monday, October 27, 2020  3:15 – 7:00 PM

3:15 PM  Welcome /Introduction
Clara McLeod, Librarian
Ronald A. Rettner Earth & Planetary Sciences Library
Washington University in St. Louis

3:30 - 4:30 PM  Introduction to Geoscience Librarianship:
Overview and Instruction Tips
Emily Wild, Chemistry, Geosciences and Environmental Studies
Librarian
Princeton University

4:30 – 5:30 PM  Collection Development
Amanda Bielskas, Director Science, Engineering & Social Science
Libraries
Columbia University

5:30 – 6:30 PM  Government Publications
Stephanie Earls, Librarian
Washington Geological Survey Library

6:30 – 7:00 PM  Networking with Presenters and other GSIS members attending sessions
Tuesday, October 27, 2020    3:15 – 7:00 PM

3:15 PM       Welcome /Introduction
               Stephanie Earls, Librarian
               Washington State Geological Survey

3:30 – 4:30 PM Geospatial Information
               Linda Zellmer, GSIS Member
               Former Government Information & Data Services Librarian
               Liaison to Biology, Geography, Geology & Agriculture
               Western Illinois University

4:30 – 5:30 PM Affordability of Course Materials
               Daniel S. Dotson, Head - Orton Memorial Library of Geology &
               Gardner Family Map Room
               Mathematical Sciences Librarian & Science Education Specialist
               Ohio State University- University Libraries

               Examining courses, specific ebook and streaming video content was
               provided to instructors via
               detailed spreadsheets. This content was entered into LibGuides as
               course-specific guides and
               attached to the LMS. Also covered are more in-depth syllabi reviews
               for select instructors.

5:30 – 6:30 PM Research and Reference in the Geosciences
               Linda Musser, Distinguished Librarian and
               Head Fletcher L. Byrom Earth and Mineral Sciences Library
               Penn State University

               This session will focus first on indexes and other tools used by
               researchers in the geosciences
               followed by a review of resources helpful in answering common
               reference questions.

6:30 – 7:00 PM Networking with Presenters and other GSIS members attending
               sessions