



GEOSCIENCE
INFORMATION
SOCIETY

newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Rusty Kimball

Once again, the date of the GSA convention requires us to publish our Annual Meeting notes in the August Newsletter, so here we go!! Vice President Jan Heagy has done a wonderful job in making the arrangements for our meeting in Portland this year. And Jody Foote has worked very hard to insure that we have an exciting and thought provoking Technical Sessions Program in October (more details later in this issue). Our Annual Meeting is such an opportunity to take a break from our usual duties in our jobs and take in a broader perspective of our roles in the geoscience community. We get the opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones, gain new experiences, grow in new respon-

sibilities, and have some healthy fun in the process! Compared to the sizes of other organizations, the size of GSIS is ideal in so many ways!! I am constantly impressed with the drive and enthusiasm so many of our members bring to their roles in GSIS. I look forward to seeing everyone in October!!

VICE PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

By Jan Heagy

The 2009 annual conference agenda for Portland is coming together nicely. Most events have been confirmed. Please see the GSIS schedule on page 4 for times and locations.

Event sponsorships continue to arrive. The Geological Society (London) and
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GSIS members are encouraged to contribute materials for publication. Material for the October, 2009 issue should be received no later than September 25, 2009. Please send materials by e-mail to afleming@unlnotes.unl.edu, or Janet Dombrowski, jdombrow@uwyo.edu

(Continued from page 1)

OVID are co-sponsoring the Information Resources Forum. Petroleum Abstracts is contributing to our reception. Thank you sponsors! Additional sponsorship opportunities abound and I am happy to share additional information with potential sponsors.

I have received these field trip suggestions:

Grotto/Rocky Butte
Powell's Book

If you have additional ideas for field trip destinations or activities, please be sure to contact me: jan.b.heagy@exxonmobil.com.

I would like to thank Janet Dombrowski for her efforts to keep the GSIS website current with conference plans. I will continue to make updates known to the membership through the Geonet listserv, Newsletter and GSIS website.

I urge everyone to join GSIS in Portland for a great conference experience!

MEETING NOTES

Technical Sessions

At press time we were awaiting final word from GSA on the GSIS technical sessions. We anticipate some stimulating oral presentations and poster sessions at the Portland meeting. Jody Foote, 2009 GSIS Technical Session Chair, will be notifying presenters soon.

Professional Development Seminar On Geoscience Librarianship Set For October 17

Are you a librarian new to the geosciences? Need information? Want a mentor? Come join the experts for "Geoscience Librarianship 101" -- a free seminar on geoscience librarianship, sponsored by the Geoscience Information Society in conjunction with the Geological Society of America annual meeting. The program is set for Saturday, October 17, 2009 at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon.

Clara McLeod (Washington University in St. Louis) is the coordinator for this year's seminar, which is being presented by GSIS for the fifth consecutive year. Experienced geoscience librarians will present sessions on key topics of collection development, reference and instructional services in geoscience libraries, and map librarianship and GIS. Following this will be an opportunity for open discussion, additional questions and answers, and feedback. (*See schedule page 5*)

Participation is open to all professional librarians, information specialists, and students in library and information studies. There is no charge for the seminar, but advance registration is required and space is limited. The deadline to register is October 1. Please sign up early to avoid disappointment! You do not need to be registered for the GSA Annual Meeting to participate in this offsite, pre-meeting event.

To register for the seminar or to request
(Continues page 6)

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY
2009 Annual Meeting, Portland, Oregon, October 17th-21st
Schedule

Early registration for GSA ends on September 14! At press time, Travel Portland, GSA's official housing bureau, reports that there are rooms available. See the conference website at <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2009/> for online registration and booking options.

Note: GISIS Committees meet separately as arranged by committee chairs

Date	Event	Location
Saturday, October 17		
10:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Geoscience Librarianship 101	Portland State University
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.	GISIS Executive Board Meeting	Hilton Forum Suite
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.	Exhibit Hall Welcoming Party	Oregon Convention Center
Sunday, October 18		
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	GISIS Business Meeting	Hilton Galleria II
Monday, October 19		
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.	GISIS Information Resources Forum	Hilton Pavilion West
Tuesday, October 20		
12 noon - 2 p.m.	GISIS Luncheon	Hilton Forum Suite
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.	GISIS Reception	Hilton Galleria II
Not yet scheduled		
	Field Trip	
	T117. Geoscience Information Landscape: Pathways to Success (Posters)	
	T118. Navigating the Geoscience Information Landscape: Pathways to Success	

GEOSCIENCE LIBRARIANSHIP 101

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Portland State University - Branford P. Millar Library (Room 160)

Workshop overview

10:15-10:30 AM	Check-in/ Welcome and introductions: (Moderator: Clara P. McLeod)
10:30-11:30 AM	Collection Development: (Instructor: Lisa Dunn, Colorado School of Mines)
11:30-11:45 AM	Break
11:45AM -12:45 PM	Reference and Instruction: (Instructor: Lura Joseph, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)
12:45-2:00 PM	Lunch and networking
2:00-3:25 PM	Maps and geographic information systems (GIS) (Instructor: Linda Zellmer, Western Illinois U)
3:25-3:35 PM	Break
3:35-5:00 PM	Continued: Maps and geographic information systems (GIS) (Instructor: Linda Zellmer, Western Illinois U)
5:10-5:30 PM	Feedback and wrap up (Moderator: Clara P. McLeod)

Geoscience Librarianship 101 is made possible in part through the generous support of the Portland State University Library and ESRI.

(Continued from page 3)

additional information contact the GSIS Publicity Officer, Shaun Hardy, telephone 202-478-7960, email hardy@dtm.ciw.edu.

Information Resources Forum Update

The Information Resources Forum will be held Monday, October 19th, 2009 from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m., at the Hilton Pavilion West. Speakers will include Linda Zellmer of Western Illinois University Libraries, A. K. Srivastav of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited, India, Richard Huffine of the USGS, Neal Marriott of the Geological Society, and Don Hemenway of GeoScienceWorld. We are also planning to end the Forum with a discussion (more details to be forthcoming).

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY AWARD WINNERS FOR 2009

The following awards will be presented at the 2009 GSA Annual Meeting at the Society's Awards Reception on October 20, 2009:

Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award

Recipient: Sharon Tahirkheli (Information Systems Director, American Geological Institute)

The Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award recognizes significant contributions to the geoscience information profession. The award was established in 2005 through the generous support

of Mary B. Ansari, Director Emerita for Branch Libraries and Administrative Services, University of Nevada-Reno and 1990 President of the Geoscience Information Society.

It is our pleasure to present the 2009 award to Sharon Tahirkheli.

For more than thirty years Sharon has been a member of the geoscience information community, starting as a GeoRef indexer and progressing to her current position as Information Systems Director of the American Geological Institute. Throughout her career she has demonstrated profound knowledge of GeoRef, the premier database of the geosciences, as well as the literature of the earth sciences and the intricacies of modern databases. She has broadened and deepened GeoRef to reflect the expanding and increasingly interdisciplinary scope of the geosciences. As a result, the user base has also expanded to include more geophysicists, climate researchers, and numerical modelers, among others. Her contributions to the Cold Regions Bibliography Project have been similarly significant and particularly important given the high interest in global climate change and melting sea ice. Under Sharon's leadership, the Arctic databases have been stabilized, historic materials added, and coverage vastly increased for current materials worldwide.

Sharon has a lengthy record of involvement in supplementary projects and initiatives. Many librarians first met Sharon in the GeoRef training sessions she ably presented at their libraries or

conferences where her effective teaching and people skills were noted. She has applied her diplomatic skills in settings such as the GeoRef Advisory Committee (GRAC) and DLESE (the Digital Library for Earth System Education), where representatives from varying constituencies often present divergent views. Her annual updates at GSIS on AGI products have been key to keeping librarians current about new features, policies, and search strategies. Attuned to financial pressures in the not-for-profit sector, Sharon has pursued moderate pricing structures, negotiated with vendors, and worked for multi-tiered pricing to enable access across a spectrum of institutional types. The author of numerous publications, she has used the literature to raise awareness of new resources and changes in the delivery of information. She has worked for the betterment of information professionals by serving on committees, organizing the 2000 GSIS conference, editing v. 31 of the Proceedings, and serving as President of the Geoscience Information Society 2001.

Sharon has played a vital role in the founding of GeoScience World (GSW). Since 2004 she has been a member of the GSW Board of Directors and the GSW Treasurer. Her foresight, collaboration and hard work in the creation of GSW are major contributions to the geoscience community. Her work has also moved GeoRef strategically into the digital future and helped anchor the resource with a new generation of users.

Sharon's people skills, technical savvy, business acumen, international aware-

ness, and wide knowledge of the geosciences continue to serve the community with exceptional skill, competence and dedication. Gracious, fully focused, and effective, Sharon provides noteworthy service to geoscientists, librarians and information specialists. It is a pleasure to present her with the Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award of GSIS.

Previous Ansari award winners:

2008 Connie J. Manson
2007 John G. Mulvihill
2006 Dederick C. Ward
2005 Charlotte R. M. Derksen

The 2009 selection committee consisted of Marie Dvorzak, Michael Noga and Patricia Yocum (Chair).

Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award

Recipients: O. Richard Norton and Lawrence A. Chitwood. *Field Guide to Meteors and Meteorites*. Springer, 2008.

Best Website Award

Recipients:

Discovering Antarctica <http://www.discoveringantarctica.org.uk/> (Royal Geographical Society in partnership with the British Antarctic Survey and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office)
– and –

On the Cutting Edge

<http://serc.carleton.edu/NAGTWorkshops/> (National Association of Geoscience Teachers)

Best Paper Award

Recipient: Kathryn Lage. "Zoom!: Remote Sensing Imagery in the Geoscienc-

es,” GSIS Proceedings, v. 38 (in press).

Best Guidebook Award

Recipient: Pringle, Patrick T., 2008, Roadside geology of Mount Rainier National Park and vicinity, Washington Division of Geology and Earth Resources Information Circular 107, 191 p. http://www.dnr.wa.gov/ResearchScience/Topics/GeologyPublicationsLibrary/Pages/pub_ic107.aspx

MID-YEAR REPORTS

GSIS Guidebooks Committee Mid-year Report

April 2009

Lura Joseph, chair of the Guidebooks Committee, spent a 6-month sabbatical (September 2008 through February 2009) identifying the gaps in indexing of guidebook series in GeoRef and the online guidebooks database (GGNAD). Of the 1067 guidebook series in the GGNAD, spreadsheets were created for approximately 800 of the series and populated with the data from the GGNAD. Approximately 300 were selected for the sabbatical project. By searching the GeoRef and Worldcat online databases, Lura was able to determine mutual and unique gaps in the three major indexes used to identify and locate field trip guidebooks. By searching the web pages of the various societies and surveys, additional titles were identified. This information will be provided to AGI GeoRef so that the information can eventually be added to both GeoRef and the GGNAD. The project is ongoing. Lura has submitted

a related abstract to the International Grey Literature Conference, to be held at Library of Congress in Washington, DC, in December 2009. After further work, Lura plans to write a number of articles targeting specific populations of geologists, outlining the problems related to guidebooks, and soliciting their help in preserving and indexing guidebooks.

Lura also spent two days at AGI headquarters in April learning to index guidebooks for GeoRef. Procedures are being worked out for her to begin indexing guidebooks for GeoRef on a volunteer basis. GeoRef staff has already indexed a number of the guidebooks currently on the Waiting List, and Lura should soon receive a list of completed titles to be removed from the List.

The Best Guidebook Award subcommittee chair, Erin Palmer, put out a call for nominations. Six guidebooks were nominated, and the winner has been announced. (*See Best Guidebook Award article page 8*)

Louise Zipp is responsible for contacting future field trip leaders, encouraging them to use the Guidelines. Her area of coverage continues to be the United States from PA to NJ and north, also Canada west through Ontario, except for Nunavut. Louise developed a list of about 60 potential field trip sponsors and has checked them all at least twice on the web. She sent out 13 emails, mostly to Canadian field trip organizers, with no responses to date. This year, her email message urges guidebook authors to submit a copy to their national library, to

nearby university libraries, and to AGI for indexing in GeoRef. Many of the potential field trip sponsors have nothing posted yet, so Louise will recheck the list every few weeks. In the past, Louise has received good responses from leaders, including thanks for pointing out the Guidelines and the online database. Thelma Thompson has joined the committee and will soon select a geographic area for contacting field trip leaders.

Please remember to submit titles of new guidebooks that you receive to Lura Joseph <luraj@uiuc.edu>!! Over the past two or three years, there have been only a few individuals regularly submitting titles. We really need your help!

Respectfully submitted,
Lura Joseph,
Chair, Guidebooks Committee

GSIS Exhibit Committee Report

The GSIS Exhibit Committee members have been discussing potential themes for our booth at GSA in October. We haven't set anything in stone as of yet but we are considering following the conference theme and focusing on how libraries deal with change. As usual, we will be displaying placards honoring our award winners and handing out literature that describes our organization and what we do. Our booth is number 767 and we will be asking for volunteers to help staff it during regular exhibit hall hours. The exhibit hall will open on Sunday October 18th at 7 p.m. and close at 9 p.m. The hours for Monday and Tuesday will be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Wednesday the 21st from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Portland in October.

Darin Buri, Chair

This & That

Birth Announcement

Congratulations to Sarah Ziegler Hodkinson and her husband, Brendan, on the birth of their baby girl!

Caroline Anne Hodkinson was born June 25, 2009.



GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY 2009 Mid-Year Budget Report
(by Renee Davis 08/02/09)

	Income Budgeted	Income Actual	Expense Budgeted	Expense Actual
EXECUTIVE BOARD				
President			\$400.00	\$0.00
Vice-President			\$375.00	\$0.00
Past-President			\$25.00	\$0.00
Secretary			\$125.00	\$20.12
Treasurer			\$75.00	\$38.09
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$58.21
MEETINGS				
2008 Meeting delayed billing			\$0.00	\$688.50
2009 Meeting (rooms and AV and Internet)	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	
2009 Business Meeting refreshments	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$750.00	
2009 Meeting Reception	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	
2009 Meeting Exhibit Booth (furniture & drape)				
2009 lunches			\$80.00	
2009 Invited speakers, abstract fees			\$135.00	
2009 Speaker Honorarium / Gift			\$300.00	
2009 Meeting: fieldtrip	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Subtotal	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,765.00	\$688.50
DUES				
Institutional	\$900.00	\$900.00		
Personal	\$5,500.00	\$4,565.00		
First Year (New Personal)	\$225.00	\$0.00		
Sustaining	\$405.00	\$270.00		
Retired	\$260.00	\$220.00		
Student	\$80.00	\$20.00		
Member dues refunds			0.00	\$110.00
Pooled Sponsorship	\$100.00	\$210.00		
Subtotal	\$7,470.00	\$6,185.00	\$0.00	\$110.00
PUBLICATIONS				
Publications Manager			\$200.00	
Mailing labels	\$150.00	\$150.00		
Newsletter: printing			\$380.00	\$147.60
Newsletter: mailing			\$300.00	\$289.92
Newsletter: subscriptions	\$120.00	\$80.00		
Newsletter: back issues		\$120.00		
Newsletter: cancellation refunds				
Proceedings, v. 38 (2007)			\$3,000.00	
Proceedings, v. 37 (2006)	\$900.00	\$1,395.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,167.50
Proceedings, v.36 (2005)	\$90.00	\$45.00		
Proceedings, v.35 (2004)				
Proceedings, prior volumes	\$450.00			
Subtotal	\$1,710.00	\$1,790.00	\$6,880.00	\$3,605.02

(Continues next page)

GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION SOCIETY 2009 Mid-Year Budget Report cont'd
(by Renee Davis 08/02/09)

	Income Budgeted	Income Actual	Expense Budgeted	Expense Actual
REPRESENTATIVES/APPOINTEES				
AGI Member Council rep				
AGI Gov't Affairs Program rep				
Congressional Science Fellow				
CUAC (2 reps @ \$200 each)				
Publicity Officer			\$50.00	
Auditor			\$25.00	
Subtotal	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00
COMMITTEES & SERVICE POSITIONS				
Archivist			\$150.00	
Award Certificates & Frames (Best Reference Work, Best Paper, Best Guidebook, Distinguished Service)			\$175.00	
Best Paper Committee			\$25.00	
Best Reference Work Committee			\$25.00	
Collection Development Committee			\$25.00	
Distinguished Service Award (Committee expenses and gift)			\$75.00	
Exhibits			\$50.00	
New display case/Repairs			\$0.00	
E-Resources			\$25.00	
Guidebooks Committee and Subcommittees			\$50.00	
International Initiatives	\$500.00		\$75.00	
Membership			\$50.00	
Membership brochure			\$30.00	
Nominating			\$75.00	
Preservation			\$25.00	
Website Advisory			\$25.00	
Subtotal	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$880.00	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS				
AGI member society dues			\$270.00	\$270.00
GAP contribution			\$400.00	
GSIS International Fellow			\$500.00	
Ansari Best Reference Award			\$500.00	
Ansari Distinguished Service Award			\$400.00	
Geoscience Librarianship 101	\$500.00		\$500.00	
Gifts (unrestricted)	\$200.00	\$185.00	\$100.00	
Gifts- Professional Develop Fund	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$100.00	
Bank / Visa card charges			\$25.00	\$12.00
Interest	\$630.00	\$344.79		
Subtotal	\$1,430.00	\$639.79	\$2,795.00	\$282.00
TOTAL	\$14,110.00	\$8,614.79	\$17,395.00	\$4,743.73

(Summary follows)

Treasurer's Report Summary:

During the first half of 2009, GSIS received income of \$8,614.79 and incurred expenses of \$4,743.73. There was one unanticipated expense of \$688.50 in the form of a delayed bill from GSA for services utilized by GSIS during the 2008 annual meeting. GSIS bank account balances as of June 30, 2009 were as follows: checking, \$15,947.85; money market fund, \$20,167.30; GSIS General Funds CD, \$13,653.10; Ansari Awards CD \$9,196.31 (Best Reference Award fund \$5,743.83 plus Distinguished Service Award fund \$3,452.48). The total balance in the Treasury on June 30, 2009 was \$58,964.56.

Respectfully submitted,
Renee Davis
GSIS Treasurer

GSIS PUBLICATIONS

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

Mailing labels: Geoscience Information Society member mailing labels: Single use labels \$150.00.

-v. 37, 2006 [published 2008], Geoscience Information: Keys to Discovery, ed. by P.B. Yocum [ISBN 978-0-934485-68-5]

-v. 36, 2005 [published 2007], Collaboration for the Dissemination of Geologic Information Among Colleagues, ed. by A. Fleming [ISBN 0-934485-38-0]

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