

newsletter

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President's Column: Summer Time!

By Emily Wild

It is summer time! I hope everyone is enjoying the outdoors!

When I became vice president (president-elect) in 2013, most members stated they were interested in the behind the scenes activities of a day in the life of a USGS librarian. The most interesting aspect of my day job is the access and availability to USGS authored publications and helping researchers from around the world. Most people think that all or most USGS authored publications are within USGS series; however they are not. In the past several months, I have attended many, many meetings about access and availability to scientific research authored by the USGS and wanted to summarize some of the discussions about publishing trends and upcoming changes to accessing USGS publications and data.

I have scoured the print and online records and decided because it is 2015, to estimate each decade since the creation of the USGS in order to assess the amount of USGS authored publications in USGS series, as compared to USGS authored publications in outside series,

which are mostly society and association publications. Over all, about 58% of the USGS authored publications from 1879-2015 are available in USGS series, which means about 42% of the USGS authored publications are available in society, association, and other governments' series. So far in 2015, only about 40% of the USGS authored publications are available in USGS series, while 60% of the USGS authored publications are available in society and association series. In 2014, of the USGS authored publications (articles, government reports, book chapters), only 38% were published in the USGS series, and of the remaining 62%, most of the USGS authored publications were in society series, such as ACS, GSA, AAPG, AGU, SEG, and SPE. Here are some more interesting publishing trends through time, percentages of USGS authored publications in USGS series : 2005 = 36%; 1995 = 63%; 1985 = 62%; 1975 = 77%; 1965 = 88%; 1955 = 86%; 1945 = 80%; 1935= 55%; 1925 = 96%; 1915 = 98%; 1905 = 90%; 1895 = 79%; and, 1885 = 100%.

Continued on page 3

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President's Column, continued

Basically, for the past 10 years or more, over half of the USGS authored publications are accessible within series published by societies and associations. Likewise, I checked and double checked, and have estimated that it has been about two centuries since the all USGS publications have been published in only USGS series. So, I look forward to some great discussions about access and availability to all publication sources when we are all in Baltimore.

Also, an e-mail I sent to geonet in May has the documentation (USGS memos) and plan for USGS open-access publications and data. One of the open meetings I attended mentioned the plan to implement open access for the Federal

Fiscal Year 2017 (October 1, 2016), which will have a 12-month embargo period for publications and data; however, they are also looking at the option of a 6-month embargo period for publications and data. If you are interested in learning more, please feel free to contact me for additional information sources.

We are still in the process of moving our library to another building, but I will send an update in the next quarterly column.

Enjoy the summer!

Emily

Vice President's Column

By Matt Hudson

Hello everyone. It's only June, but I have been immersed in conference planning mode. As an update, the GSA Annual Meeting will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, with the below GSIS events scheduled for 1–3 November (the technical program date is still to be determined).

Right now I have the business meeting scheduled from 9 to 12 on Sunday, 1 November. Monday will be our busiest day, beginning with the professional issues roundtable in the morning from 9 to 11:30. This will be followed by the luncheon from 12 to 1:30 and the vendor update from 3 to 5.

The GSA Geoinformatics Division has decided not to partner with us for the reception this year, so plans for that event will be a little bit different. I'm still putting that all together, so more details will follow. For the field trips, I will likely follow Emily's lead from last year and send around a survey to get a sense of potential attendees and their interests.

Hannah Winkler is once again running the technical program (thank you, Hannah!). Keep your eye on Geonet and this newsletter for more information.

Also, I have already received two sponsorship confirmations for the vendor update, and I have feelers out to another half dozen organizations. If you are interested in sponsoring, please reach out to me at mhudson@geosociety.org.

More information about the GSA Annual Meeting, including hotel and meeting registration, can be found at http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/home. Contact me with any questions.

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you all in Baltimore.

Michael Noga Receives Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award

By the Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award Committee

Michael Noga, Collections Strategist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Libraries, is the 2015 recipient of the Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award from the Geoscience Information Society (GSIS).

Michael's contributions to geoscience information span more than three decades. He served as secretary, vice-president, president, and past-president of GSIS, as well as chair of several committees. Michael also represented GSIS externally on various advisory groups. He served on the Publications Committee of both the Geological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union and currently is Vice-Chair of the GeoScienceWorld Board of Directors. One of his colleagues said, "Not only is his breadth of service impressive, the continuity of his contributions continue from his first joining the GSIS in the 1980s until today."

Michael has a sophisticated understanding of collection development issues that is both admired and appreciated by his colleagues. Over the years he committed himself to highlighting collections issues in the geosciences. For many years Michael compiled extensive data on geoscience periodical prices and shared them with his colleagues at the collection development forums held at the annual GSIS meetings. His colleagues, and geoscience information as a whole, have benefitted enormously from his sharing of his knowledge and concerns related to serial costs, journal retention, and preservation of the literature.

The serial literature of the geosciences has long been a focus of Michael's professional research. He received the GSIS Best Paper Award in 1993 for his analysis of usage patterns of geoscience journals. His study on conference papers in geoscience proceedings won the award in 2005.

He is the author of numerous other articles on the topic of geoscience serials.

Michael is, as one letter of nomination stated, "first and foremost, a rigorous thinker who asks important questions about libraries and our profession and understands the use and misuse of data in making decisions. Michael is not afraid to challenge prevailing trends and to debunk fads in library administration when they do not demonstrably result in better service to users and better scholarship." He is highly regarded for the effort he makes to get to know the MIT faculty and graduate students he works with in order to understand how they seek, use, and share information.

Michael received a B.A. in biology and an M.S. in library and information science from Case Western Reserve University. He earned an M.A. in geography from the University of Cincinnati. He previously was Head of Collection Development and Acquisitions for Physical Sciences and Technology Libraries at University of California, Los Angeles and Acting Assistant Head at Stanford's Branner Earth Sciences Library.

The Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award was established in 2005 through the generous support of Ms. Ansari, Director Emerita for Branch Libraries and Administrative Services at the University of Nevada-Reno and President of the Geoscience Information Society in 1990. Michael will receive the award at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America/Geoscience Information Society in Baltimore in November.

2015 Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award Committee: Jody Bales Foote (chair), Louise Deis, Clara McLeod

Library Update: Geoscience Library at Lamont-Doherty Closes

By Amanda Bielskas

At the end of the Spring semester (May 15th) Columbia University's Geoscience Library at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) closed permanently. Please note that just the Library at Lamont is closing, the rest of the Observatory is fully operational and remains open. Library services supporting LDEO students, faculty and researchers continue from the Columbia Morningside campus with a courier service delivering library materials to a pickup shelf located on the Lamont campus (three times a week). A summary of services can be found on the following web page: http://library.columbia.edu/locations/geology/lamont-services.html

Amanda Bielskas is still the primary liaison contact for Lamont but can be reached out of her office in the Geology Library in (601 Schermerhorn.)

The print collections previously located in the Geoscience Library have been distributed in several ways. A collection of high use monographs has been moved to the Geology Library and integrated into that collection. The

Geoscience map collection has been moved to Lehman Library. And the remaining monographs, print journals, and print reference materials have been moved to our offsite storage facility, ReCAP which is shared with Princeton and NYPL.

The Library at Lamont was created in 1949, the collection was originally put together with donations and unallocated funds, and was originally manned by a volunteer with informal help from the Geology Library. Since 1960 funding has been provided by the Columbia Libraries and a professional librarian and supporting staff have been on duty. The Library occupied the majority of the first floor of Lamont Hall which is a sandstone building that had once been the residence of the Lamont family. Columbia University Libraries will still be collecting Geoscience materials at the same levels as previously collected.

Amanda Bielskas Head of Collection Development for Science & Engineering Libraries Columbia University Libraries

Call for Nominations: Best Guidebook Award

By Linda Musser

The Guidebooks Committee of the Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) is now accepting nominations for the 2015 Best Guidebook Award. Geology field trip guidebooks from any region that were produced from 2013-2015 can be considered for the award. Via this award, the GSIS seeks to recognize the value of guidebooks and reward examples of excellence. In addition to being outstanding in content, the nominated titles will be evaluated according to the criteria outlined in the newly revised Guidelines for Authors, Editors, and Publishers

of Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks published by GSIS.A list of previous winners can be found online at

http://www.geoinfo.org/best_guidebook.html.

Send nominations to the chair of the Guidebooks Committee, Linda Musser (<u>lindamusser@psu.edu</u>; 105 Deike Bldg, University Park PA 16802; 814-863-7073).

Call for Nominations: Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award

By Rusty Kimball

The GSIS Best Reference Work Committee is seeking your nominations for the annual Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award for the best geosciences reference publication. The award recognizes geoscience reference works or works focused on information aspects of the geosciences. So, please nominate your favorite new reference work for the Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award 2015.

Submissions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- The work must have been published or produced within 3 years preceding the GSIS 2015 annual meeting.
- The title does not have to strictly be "geoscience" but it should have significant value to the geoscience information community.

Local or specialized works can be considered if they are particularly high in quality and could serve as a model for other works. Formats other than monograph may be considered, for example maps, databases, etc.

Any works nominated should be in a generally useable format (DVD, online, etc.), be generally available for purchase by libraries, and, theoretically, have a stable future.

Although no work is specifically excluded from consideration, textbooks or monographs in geoscience or library/information science would not normally be considered.

Please send your nominations to me at rkimball@tamu.edu by **July 10, 2015**.

Thank you for nominating your favorite reference work!

Rusty Kimball, Chair - GSIS Best Reference Work Award Committee

Call for Abstracts: Geoscience Information Society

By Geoscience Information Society

Call for Abstracts

Geoscience Information Society Annual Mtg Baltimore, Maryland November 1-4, 2015

Please consider submitting an abstract for the Geoscience Information Society's topical session at the 2015 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting:

T95. Evolution of the Data Life Cycle

With the increased expectations in sharing of geoscience research data and complexities in the evolution of the data life cycle, we evaluate best practices in scientific data collection, preservation, recovery, and subsequent reuse.

GSA abstracts are due **August 11**. Information for submitting an abstract can be found at: http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/science-careers/sessions

Additional information on the 2015 Geological Society of America Annual Meeting can be found at:

http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/home

If you have any questions, please contact Hannah Winkler at hannah.winkler@stanford.edu

Call for Abstracts: Association of Earth Science Editors

By Association of Earth Science Editors

Call for Abstracts

49th Annual Meeting of the Association of Earth Science Editors The Eldridge Hotel, 701 Massachusetts Street, Lawrence, Kansas October 6 to 9, 2015



Plans are under way for the 49th annual meeting of the Association of Earth Science Editors, in Lawrence, Kansas. Meeting headquarters will be the charming, historic Eldridge Hotel, located on Massachusetts Street in the heart of downtown Lawrence. Technical talks and field trip(s) will be held October 7 to 9. We invite AESE members and other interested persons to submit an abstract, chair a session, or sit on a panel discussion.

The deadline for abstract submission is **July 31**, **2015**.

Proposed session topics include

- trends in publishing
- publication ethics
- editing
- editing challenges
- keeping on top of important topics
- principles of graphic design for effective communication
- geoscience outreach, and
- solutions to challenges facing societies.

Detailed information about abstract requirements and the proposed sessions can be found in the *Call for Abstracts* document on

AESE's Web site (<u>www.aese.org</u>). If you have specialized knowledge in any of the areas mentioned above or you know someone who does, please consider giving a talk or workshop, or let us know who we may contact. General submissions are also welcome. Help us make this meeting a rewarding and memorable one.

If you have any questions, please contact Marg Rutka, AESE vice president/technical program chair, at marg.rutka@ontario.ca, or Karen MacFarlane, AESE president, at Karen.MacFarlane@gov.yk.ca.



The Eldridge Hotel in Lawrence, Kansas

Information about the Lawrence meeting—including registration and confirmed talks—will be updated on a regular basis on the AESE Web site.

New Geoscience Open Access Publications

By Shaun Hardy

SpringerPlus: Earth and Environmental Sciences Section

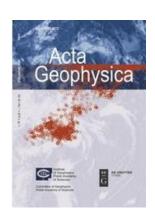
Springer's cross-disciplinary OA journal *SpringerPlus* is now actively marketing its "Earth and Environmental Sciences Section" to the geoscience community. The journal has published 1,700 articles since its launch in



2012, of which 131 are categorized in the ESS section – though the latter appears to be very broadly defined, including content in agriculture, ecology, and microbiology. SpringerPlus publishes original research, case studies, and methods papers, and "expressly encourages submission of data reports and large datasets." While assuring authors of peer review, the journal states that "we will publish any study that is scientifically sound" without regard to novelty or perceived importance of the contribution. Manuscripts are accepted or rejected "as is." The article processing charge is \$1,085. Articles are published under Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY 4.0) license. http://www.springerplus.com/

Acta Geophysica

Acta Geophysica – the journal of the Institute of Geophysics, Polish Academy of Sciences – moved to the De Gruyter Open platform this year, after nine years on SpringerLink. The journal converted to open access in the process. Acta Geophysica has



been in publication since 1953. It has an international editorial board and is global in scope, publishing all areas of pure and applied geophysics: solid Earth sciences, hydrology, atmospheric sciences, and space sciences. Its 2014 impact factor is 1.068. Submissions are

blind peer reviewed by at least two referees. There are currently no charges to publish in the journal. http://www.degruyter.com/view/j/acgeo

Journal of Tethys

Iranian-based Journal of Tethys was added to the Directory of Open Access Journals (doaj.org) in January. It is



a quarterly, independent, peer-reviewed, English-language journal spanning the full range of earth science disciplines. Nine issues of 6-7 articles each have been published since its establishment in 2013. *Journal of Tethys* is indexed by GeoRef. The journal's editorial board consists of twelve members in nearly as many countries, including the USA and Canada. Papers are published at no charge to the authors. http://jtethys.org/

Petroleum Science

Petroleum Science converted to an open access journal in 2015. Established by the China University of Petroleum in 2004, the English edition of the journal has been published by Springer as a subscription journal since 2007. Its scope



spans petroleum geology, geophysics, chemistry, engineering, and economic management. The journal aims to "build a bridge for scientific communication between China and the world" and claims to be the only English-language journal in China intended for the global professional community in petroleum science and technology. Its 2014 impact factor is 0.721. The article processing charge of \$1,830 is partially subsidized by the China

University of Petroleum.

http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+geography/geology/journal/12182

Earthquake Science

Published in Chinese since 1979 and in an English edition since 1988, Earthquake Science (formerly known as Acta Seismologica Sinica) is a vehicle for research in seismology and earthquake-related studies



in geophysics, tectonics, and engineering. It is jointly published by the Seismological Society of China and Springer. The journal is indexed by Scopus and ADS, but not Web of Science. *Earthquake Science* switched to open access in January. Like other journals in the SpringerOpen portfolio, submissions are published under a Creative Commons Attribution license. Authors pay an article processing charge of \$1,830. The Seismological Society of China and the Institute of Geophysics, Chinese Earthquake Administration provide partial sponsorship of publication costs. http://www.springer.com/earth+sciences+and+g eography/geophysics/journal/11589

Journal of Geochemistry and **International Journal of Mineralogy**

Journal of Geochemistry and International
Journal of Mineralogy are recent introductions from the sometimes-controversial, Cairobased commercial publisher Hindawi.
Information about the goals and scope of the journals is scant: their



websites simply state that they publish original research and reviews "in all areas" of geochemistry and mineralogy. Lacking editors, the journals apparently rely on editorial boards with nearly 40 members apiece (including a small number from North American universities). Such large boards seem incongruous with the meager content they have actually published – eight and five papers, respectively, since their launches in January

2014. Both journals charge a publication fee of \$600 per article. According to its website, Hindawi currently publishes 437 "peerreviewed, open access journals covering a wide range of academic disciplines."



http://www.hindawi.com/journals/jg/ and http://www.hindawi.com/journals/ijm/

Guidebooks Recently Reported

By Monica Pereira

The following geology field trip guidebooks have been received, and/or identified, by GSIS members:

- Friedman, G.M. (1994). Field-excursion guidebook: the Taconics and Catskills. Third Meeting of the History of Earth Sciences, June 8, 1994. 35pp.
- Johansson, Peter, Lauri, Laura S.,
 Voytekhovsky, Yury L. (2014). Barents
 Tour for geotourists. Erikoisjulkaisut Special Publications. 90. Rovaniemi,
 Finland. 117 pp. URL:
 http://tupa.gtk.fi/julkaisu/erikoisjulkaisu/ej_
 090.pdf
- Tornivaara, Anna (toim.), Kauppila, Päivi M. (toim.). (2014). Kaivoksen sulkeminen ja jälkihoito. Ekskursio Luikonlahden ja Keretin kaivosalueille. [Mine closure and rehabilitation. Excursion to the Luikonlahti and Keretti mine sites. Abstract in English]. (Opas Guide. 60). 35pp. ISBN number 978-952-217-305-8. URL: http://tupa.gtk.fi/julkaisu/opas/op_060.pdf
- Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology. (2010). A Geologic and natural history tour through Nevada and Arizona along U.S. Highway 93, with GPS coodinates.
- Barents Tour for Geotourists. Johansson, Peter, Lauri, Laura S., Voytekhovsky, Yury

- L. Erikoisjulkaisut Special Publications. 90. 2014. Language: English. 117 p. ISBN number: 978-952-217-298-3 (paperback); 978-952-217-299-0 (PDF) https://www.gtk-kauppa.fi/en-gb
- A Geologic and natural history tour through Nevada and Arizona along U.S. Highway 93, with GPS coodinates. 2010. Published by the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology. Arizona Geological Survey Downto-Earth series, no.19. Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology special publication 35.
- Field guide to the geology of the Brabant Massif: the outcrops of the Dyle and Senne Basins. Alain Herbosch and Jacques Verniers UGent (2015) Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Belgium. 62. https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/5821535

Please report any newly received or identified guidebooks, including online guidebooks. Please give as much information as possible, including the full citation and where they can be ordered, if known, and the DOI/URL if online. Also, let us know if you think a guidebook should be considered for the GSIS Guidebook Award; if so, please tell is the reason. Send information to Monica Pereira, monica.pereira@csuci.edu.

GSIS Guidebooks Committee Mid-Year Report

By Linda Musser, Chair, GSIS Guidebooks Committee

Members: Linda Musser (chair), Lura Joseph, Amanda Bielskas, Jody Foote, Marie Dvorzak, Thelma Thompson, Monica Pereira, Louise Zipp

Activities to date:

- 1. Geologic Guidebooks of North America database project: The database in its current form and instance must be migrated. The Committee is working with GeoRef to match the legacy records from the original Union List to GeoRef records (approximately 9,000 records in total). In the future, the Guidebooks database will utilize GeoRef records as a base. Record matching will continue throughout 2015 with data migration to new platform in 2016.
- **2. Guidebook Standards revision:** The revisions to the guidelines for authors of geologic field trip guidebooks have been completed. They will be published in the

- newsletter then on Geonet. The revised edition has been added to the website. We are working with Shaun Hardy on publicity. We have asked the Executive Board to approve using our society's free advertising allotment (as an AGI member) to publicize this in *Earth* magazine.
- **3. Best Guidebook award:** The deadline for nominations is tentatively set for June 30.
- 4. Identifying new guidebooks: The committee continues to seek out new geologic guidebooks for consideration for the award, to alert GSIS members of new resources, and to verify inclusion in GeoRef (and thus in the Guidebooks database). Geographic coverage is now global although we have not yet done a significant amount of searching for non-North American guidebooks. We plan to continue to produce the column in the newsletter to announce new guidebooks identified.

GSIS Publications List

Proceedings of the Annual GSIS Meetings (ISSN 0072-1409) \$45.00 each.

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

Volume	Year	Title
v.43	2012	Geoscience Information: Investing in the Future
v.42	2011	Printed Past, Digital Future: We Hold the Key
v.41	2010	"Peak" Performances
v.40	2009	Navigating the Geoscience Information Landscape: Pathways to Success
v.39	2008	Libraries in Transformation: Exploring Topics of Changing Practices and New Technologies
v.38	2007	Geoscience Information: Making the Earth
		Sciences Accessible for Everyone.
v.37	2006	Geoscience Information: Keys to Discovery
v.36	2005	Collaboration for the Dissemination of Geologic Information among Colleagues
v.35	2004	Geoinformatics
v.34	2003	Geoscience Information Horizons: Challenges, Choices, and Decisions
v.33	2002	New Heights in Geoscience Information: Access and Technology
v.32	2001	Geoscience Information: a Dynamic Odyssey
v.31	2000	Electronic Information Summit: New Developments and Their Impacts
v.30	1999	Communication Divides: Perspectives on Supporting Information Bridges in the Geosciences
v.29	1998	Accreting the Continent's Collections
v.28	1997	The Costs and Values of Geoscience Information
v.27	1996	Expanding Boundaries: Geoscience Information for Earth System Science
v.26	1995	Crossing the Bridge to the Future: Managing Geoscience Information for the Next Decade

Proceedings volumes 1 through 25 are out of print and available from: Out-of-print Books on Demand,

University Microfilms, Inc., 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106

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

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Payment must be made in U.S. dollars.

