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President's Column:

By Emily C. Wild

Thank you all for participating in the virtual Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) activities this year. As we enter another year during this pandemic time, I appreciate and enjoy the increasing involvement level of everyone in the society, from listserv discussions and virtual society activities to committees and advocating the society within professional development opportunities. Though it is more challenging to support our geosciences institutions during this time, I am delighted at the geosciences librarians and publishing professionals that have exceeded expectations of availability and access to research in the geosciences.

Over the past years, I have valued the discussions from former and current executive board members, committees, and other coordinators involved in the information knowledge exchanges. To continue this wonderful engagement of geosciences information, I encourage geosciences professionals to consider volunteering for positions within the executive board, committees, and other current openings for GSIS year-round and annual meeting activities;

and greatly thank all members that have been devoting their time to carrying on the responsibilities within the society. To learn more about our society and professional, please also feel free to drop-in at 4:30 pm (Eastern Time) to a weekly informal virtual meeting, Geologic Time, registration is at: <https://bit.ly/3q3VJw6>

Please join me for a virtual cup of tea/coffee and let's chat about rocks, water, air, oceans, and other topics...

Best wishes to a healthy and safe 2021!

Emily

Geoscience Information Society 2018 Officers

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Nominate yourself for VP! Elections will be held soon!

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Photo Highlights from the GSIS Online Conference

By Shaun Hardy, Carnegie Institution for Science



(above) Joanne Lerud-Heck (Librarian Emeritus, Colorado School of Mines) accepts the 2020 Mary B. Ansari Distinguished Service Award from longtime CSM colleague Lisa Dunn.



(right) Jason W. Karl (University of Idaho) was presented with the 2020 Best Paper Award by Kay Johnson for his publication, "Mining location information from life-and Earth-science studies to facilitate knowledge discovery" (Journal of Librarianship and Information Science, December 2019).



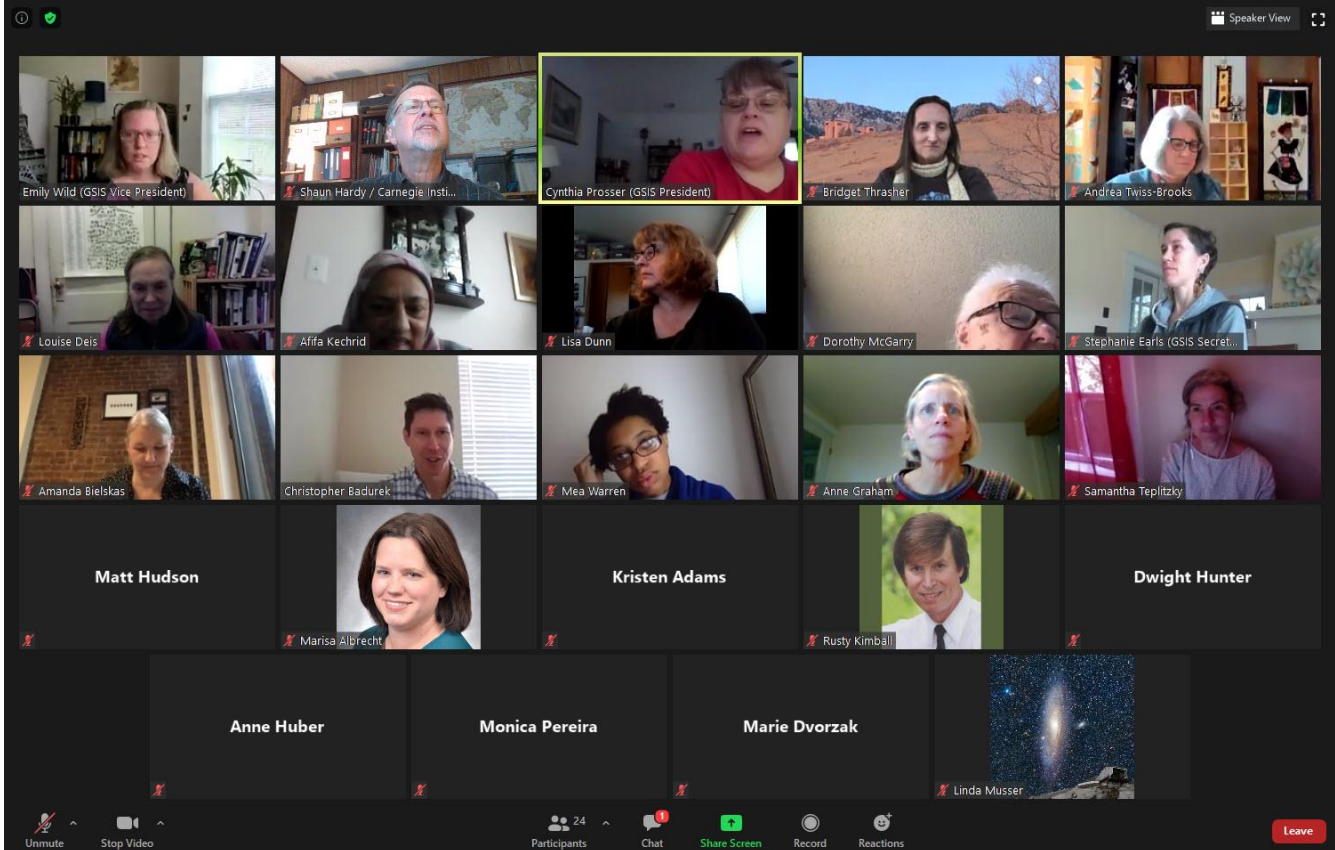
(left) Vivien Gornitz (Columbia University Center for Climate Systems Research/NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies) received the 2020 Mary B. Ansari Best Research Resource Award from Rusty Kimball for her book, *Vanishing Ice: Glaciers, Ice Sheets, and Rising Seas* (Columbia University Press, 2019).

(right) Tim Macaluso (Brookdale Community College/Geological Association of New Jersey) accepts the Best Guidebook Award for Geology and Paleontology of Monmouth County, New Jersey (Geological Association of New Jersey, 2019).



(left) Kristen Hand, Chair of the Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists (FCPG), thanks Linda Musser and the Guidebooks Committee for honoring FCPG with the Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series Award, in recognition of FCPG's eight-decade record of field trip organizing and guidebook publishing.

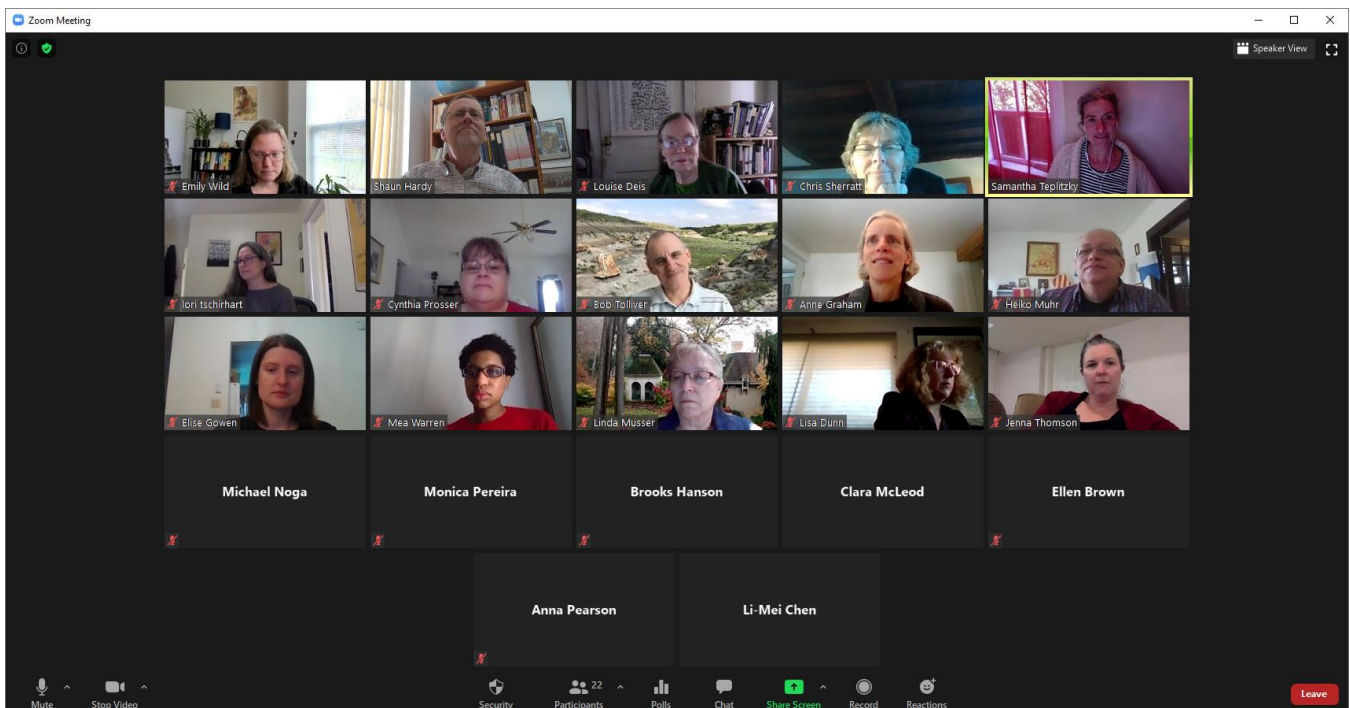
(below) GISIS members gather on Zoom for a virtual Business Meeting as president Cynthia Prosser (top center) presides.





(Above) 2021 GISIS Executive Board member and friends. Top row, L to R: Cynthia Prosser (past president), Shaun Hardy (Publicity Officer), Emily Wild (president). Second row, L to R: Bob Tolliver (former president), Stephanie Earls (secretary), Bridget Thrasher (treasurer). Third row: Michael Noga (Newsletter co-editor).

(Below) Sam Teplitzky (top right) moderates lively discussion at the Professional Issues Round Table.



Chris Badurek

The 2020 GSA Conference was a virtual conference comprised of presentations, poster sessions, and keynote talks all provided through videoconferencing software. The 2020 GSIS sponsored session entitled D.9. Geoscience Information/Communication was a virtual poster session with six posters organized by Emily Wild of Princeton University and Monica Easton of the Ontario Geological Survey. Monica also moderated the session and facilitated questions from session participants. All six of the presentations covered research data in either format of sample data, GIS, imagery, or quantitative tabular data related to the geosciences.

A few highlights of the session focused on access to geoscience research data as well as measuring impacts of geoscience research. Chris Badurek of SUNY Cortland presented two posters on processing drone imagery using GIS software. He also described the process of searching and downloading drone imagery data archived in the USGS data repository and reprocessed with GIS software. Similarly, Alexandra Hangsterfer reported on Middleware for Assisting the Registration of Samples (MARS), a tool for registering geoscience sample metadata to enable discovery by researchers. Zachary Burton of Stanford University reported on the ScholarStats.app, an open source python language app software used to count author position in a list of authors of research output such as a multi-authored journal article. The tool adds additional contextual

information that is missing from traditional h-index values for scholarly impact.

The session format for this virtual conference enabled the sharing digital copies of the posters online for conference registrants (e.g., called ePosters) where the presenters could also embed a short video discussing the poster contents. The allotted poster session time during the conference also allowed for five minute presentation and Q&A for participants. Overall, the virtual session provided those presenting posters ample time to present their work orally in addition to the graphical design of the poster itself. The time allotted for discussion was also generous in that the presenters were able to engage in meaningful dialog with remote participants. I found the virtual poster session to be a success and hope to see further innovations in virtual conferencing similar to what GSA had done for this first virtual conference. I foresee further virtual content and hybrid conferencing for 2021 as we slowly recover from the 2020 pandemic. Virtual conference sessions offer many potential benefits for conference participants as they enable greater participation due to the absence of travel costs and greater freedom to move quickly from session to session to optimize time spent on the conference. I encourage everyone to check out GSA 2021 for interesting content particularly for new developments on the geoscience research data front.

GSA Conference 2020

<https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2020/home>

Musings:

By Michael M Noga

I take a walk everyday by myself. I observe not only the American fascination with lawns and landscaping, but also other things related to the disciplines we serve. I walk on moraines from continental glaciation. In rainy weather I see torrents in streams that occur more frequently after some deforestation in the area.

I wonder about changes in the songbird populations in this flyway region. Are some species staying here longer in the season?

The turkey buzzards still migrate. I wonder if they stay longer in the Fall.

Remember the intense fires in California earlier this year. I read that smoke had been detected in New York City. Some would have travelled here over the southern Great Lakes. There were some bright sunsets at that time.

Some heavy rains in the Fall came after the hurricanes moved inland, but a lot was deflected to the East Coast this year. Let's see if we get another polar vortex.

Take a carpet and shake it so you get lots of small ridges. That is what the main road here looks like. Not so great in snow and ice.

It's the winter solstice. Tonight we can see bright Jupiter and Saturn after sunset. Perhaps it is appropriate that one of the year's bright spots occurs outside as we have kept inside so much in 2020.

Best wishes for 2021.

Member News:

GSIS lost another long-time colleagues in 2020. **Mary Ansari** died peacefully at home of December 18, 2020. A Remembrance column will follow in the next newsletter but you can see her obituary here: <https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/rkj/obituary.aspx?n=mary-blanche-ansari&pid=197338321>

Mary Ansari's also recently published a book: *The Bobwhite Doesn't Always Sing: A Novel*. If someone is located close to Reno or would prefer to buy it direct they can contact: info@lrpnv.com or call 775.849.3814. Toll free is 844.987.8679. Alternatively, it is available on Amazon.com: https://www.amazon.com/dp/1938814320?ref=myi_title_dp

Matt Hudson has taken a new position with the Entomological Society of America, inexplicably choosing to embrace insects over rocks. He reports that it is quite bittersweet leaving the geosciences as he has felt very welcomed and supported by all of you. He wishes all the best for GSIS. If anyone wants to reach him, please contact him at hudhopper@gmail.com.

Recap of the GSIS Awards Cerimony By Shaun Hardy, Carnegie Institution for Science

The Geoscience Information Society (GSIS) honored five outstanding geoscience publications in a virtual award ceremony during its 2020 Annual Meeting.

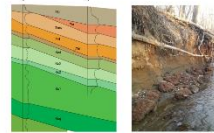
Jason W. Karl was awarded the 2020 Best Paper Award for his paper, “Mining location information from life-and Earth-science studies to facilitate knowledge discovery,” published in the December 2019 issue of *Journal of Librarianship and Information Science*, doi: 10.1177/0961000618759413. The work reports promising results of research to develop automated methods to identify and retrieve accurate location data in map-based resources. Karl is Associate Professor and Harold F. Heady Endowed Chair of Rangeland Ecology at the University of Idaho.

Vanishing Ice: Glaciers, Ice Sheets, and Rising Seas by Vivien Gornitz was honored with the 2020 Mary B. Ansari Best Geoscience Research Resource Award. Published by Columbia University Press in 2019, the book explores the dramatic changes in Earth’s cryosphere and the consequences of ice loss and sea-level rise for the human world. Gornitz is a Special Research Scientist (retired) at Columbia University’s Center for Climate Systems Research and the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies. The Ansari Award has been given annually since 1988 and recognizes an outstanding reference work published in the field of geoscience information during the previous three years.

Three awards recognizing excellence in geological field trip guidebook publishing were also presented:

Geology and Paleontology of Monmouth County, New Jersey, edited by James Brown and Tim Macaluso, received the 2020 Best

Geology and Paleontology of Monmouth County, New Jersey



2019 Conference proceedings for the 36th annual meeting of The Geological Association of New Jersey
Edited by James Brown and Tim Macaluso
Hosted by Brookdale Community College



Guidebook Award. It was published by the Geological Association of New Jersey in 2019 and is available as a free download at <http://www.ganj.org/>.



Geology of Flagstaff and Geologic History of Rio de Flag, Northern Arizona, with Trail Guides to Geology along Rio de Flag (Arizona Geological Survey, 2019) was selected for the 2020 Best Popular Guidebook Award.

Written by Richard F. Holm, Professor Emeritus at Northern Arizona University, this “down to Earth” 70-page guidebook aimed at general audiences is available at no charge on the Geological Survey’s website, [http:// http://azgs.arizona.edu](http://http://azgs.arizona.edu).

The Field Conference of Pennsylvania Geologists (<https://www.fcopg.org/>) was honored with the Outstanding Geologic Field Trip Guidebook Series Award, in recognition of its eight decades of publishing roadlogs and field guides. Dwight Hunter, chair of the GSIS Guidebooks Committee, commended the organization for its “masterful job of maintaining active interest and support for geologic field trips” and its scholarship support for student participation. The Field Conference’s entire archive of field trip guides is openly accessible online.

The Geoscience Information Society is an international professional organization devoted to improving the exchange of information in the earth sciences. The membership consists of librarians, editors, cartographers, educators, and information professionals. Information about the Society may be found at its website www.geoinfo.org.

2020 Build Your Geoscience Toolkit

By Shaun Hardy, Carnegie Institution for Science

Attendees at the virtual Annual Meeting in October participated in a collaborative exercise using Padlet to compile favorite and/or lesser-known geoscience information resources and professional tools. Following are the entries in the resulting “toolkit” (<https://padlet.com/shardy43/nj361vkwx9vozfff>).

Data Discovery

- EUROVOLC - European Catalogue of Volcanoes (Global eruption histories and photos): <http://volcanos.eurovolc.eu/>
- Open Maps Canada (Government of Canada geospatial information): <https://open.canada.ca/en/open-maps>
- Repository Finder (Where to upload geoscience data): <https://repositoryfinder.datacite.org/>
- RRUFF (Mineral spectra, chemical and diffraction data): <https://rruff.info/>

Mobile Apps

- CalTopo (Backcountry mapping and collaboration tools): <http://caltopo.com>
- Flyover Country (Flight tracking and road trips for geoscientists): <https://csdco.umn.edu/outreach-diversity/flyover-country>
- ROCKD (Bedrock geology under your feet): <https://rockd.org/>

Scholarly Communication

- Check.Think.Submit. (Choose the right journal for your research): <https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>
- CRAAP Test (Content evaluation tool): <https://library.csuchico.edu/sites/default/files/craap-test.pdf>
- EarthArXiv (Geoscience preprint server): <https://eartharxiv.org/>
- Library Carpentry (Building software and data skills for librarians): <https://librarycarpentry.org>
- Research Organization Registry (Unique identifiers and metadata for organizations): <https://ror.org>
- SHERPA/ROMEEO (Publishers’ copyright & self-archiving policies): <https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>

Bibliographic Tools

- Astrophysics Data System (Good for geophysics and planetary sciences): <https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/>
- Geologic Field Trip Guidebooks Web Archive (Online guidebooks): <https://archive-it.org/collections/12576>
- Geologic Guidebooks of North America Database (AGI): <https://guidebooks.americangeosciences.org/vufind/>
- International Glossary of Hydrology (English/French/Spanish/Russian): <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000221862>
- Microsoft Academic (Research analytics, visualizations): <https://academic.microsoft.com>
- State Geological Surveys Database (AGI): <https://statesurveys.americangeosciences.org/vufind/>
- Technical Reports and Standards List (Useful tools for locating reports & standards): <https://www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/trs/trsresources.html>

Productivity Tools

- Jupyter Notebooks (Create and share web-based, interactive documents): <https://jupyter.org/>
- Library Carpentry (Building software and data skills for librarians): <https://librarycarpentry.org>
- Mentimeter (Create interactive presentation and meetings): <https://www.mentimeter.com/>
- Padlet (Create and share online post-it boards): <https://padlet.com>
- Slido (Q&A and polling platform for virtual meetings): <https://www.sli.do>
- Zoom Transcription Tool (Great for oral histories and increasing accessibility):
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115004794983-Using-audio-transcription-for-cloud-recordings->

Discussion Lists

- CHMINF-L (Chemical Information Sources): <https://list.indiana.edu/sympa/info/chminf-l>
- ELD-L (Engineering Libraries Division of ASEE): <https://sites.asee.org/eld/programs-resources/email-discussion-lists/>
- GEONET (Geoscience Information Society): <http://www.geoinfo.org/e-mail-list/>
- STS-L (ACRL Science & Technology Section): <https://lists.ala.org/sympa/info/sts-l>

Geoscience librarians interested in attending the **Atmospheric Sciences Librarians International** annual conference being held virtually on January 14, 2021
<http://www.aslionline.org/wp/2021-conference-program-and-registration/>

Attention All Members, Attention Please:

Are you Interested in helping chart the course of GSIS?

Are you looking for a way to serve GSIS?

Do you want to get to know other members better?

GSIS is looking for Candidates to run for President as well as someone to serve as our Technical Session convener for 2021.

If you have questions don't hesitate to ask any of our previous Presidents, Secretaries, or Conveners. We will be happy to answer your questions.

**If interested in running please contact
Cynthia Prosser: cprosser@uga.edu**



2020 AGU-Wiley-Librarians Virtual Meeting

By Shaun Hardy, Carnegie Institution for Science

On November 10, AGU Publications staff and Wiley representatives presented an online update for librarians on their publishing activities and new initiatives of interest to the library community. Several GSIS members took part. Jeanette Panning, AGU's Director of Publications, hosted the virtual event. Some highlights:

Data Stewardship: AGU has received NSF funding to enhance open data sharing projects and best practices through collaboration with Dryad, ESIP, CHORUS, and other partners. Currently, only 20% of published papers have their supporting data in openly-accessible repositories. NSF's Public Access Repository (PAR) is now capturing dataset citations in addition to publication citations for NSF-funded work. Linkages will be enhanced between datasets, grant/funder information, author profiles and published articles. NSF-funded authors publishing in AGU journals will have their Dryad-associated data publishing and curation costs covered. One of the goals of the grant project is to better understand in which repositories – domain, general, or institutional – data is ending up. There are huge cultural differences between scientific communities when it comes to “data” deposit; for example, astronomy has a strong software culture, in which GitHub-Zenodo integration is increasingly popular. Researchers don't think much about metadata. A “Metadata Handbook for Dummies” would be helpful. AGU and Wiley are exploring ways to make executable environments like Jupyter notebooks citable and archivable.

Books: AGU's first open access monograph (Carbon in Earth's Interior) was published in

2020. Another is forthcoming. AGU recently launched an “Advanced Textbook Series” but it is not hosted in Wiley Online. Attendees expressed frustration with the access and licensing roadblocks that publishers impose for “textbooks.” AGU acknowledged the challenges connecting with this issue, and also the frustration that authors experience with the publication delays typical in book publishing. New models are under consideration. For now, AGU book contributors are being encouraged to post preprints of their chapters in ESSOAr.

Wiley Online: “AGU Hub” (agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com) provides a centralized place for all AGU content in Wiley Online. Their manuscript handling system enables authors to transfer journal submissions to ESSOAr with one click (or they can opt to post in other preprint servers). Once papers are published, ESSOAr links update automatically to the published versions. AGU and Wiley are seeking ways to diversify editorial boards and the peer review process. Wiley is launching more digital archives (e.g., Royal Geographical Society maps) and invites suggestions on additional content collections that libraries would find useful. Read-and-publish agreements are proliferating.

AGU Advances (open access journal):

Twenty-one full length research articles have been published since 2019 launch, with high altmetric scores. Emphasis is on high-impact science. The journal is “experimenting with transparent peer review” (reviewers' comments are published online, either anonymously or self-identified).

Recent Field Trip Guidebooks

By Linda Musser, GSIS Guidebooks Committee

Anatomy of an Anachronistic Carbonate Platform: Environmental Conditions and Biotic Recovery in the Aftermath of the Permian-Triassic Mass Extinction. SEPM-Pacific Section, 2019.

Exploring the Berryessa Region: A Geology, Nature and History Tour. Back Country Press, 2020.

Geo-Trekking in Ethiopia's Tropical Mountains: the Dogu'a Tembien District. Springer, 2019.

Geologic Float Guide on Beaver Lake Surrounding Rocky Branch Public Use Area. Arkansas Geological Survey, 2018. https://www.geology.arkansas.gov/publication/guide_books/GB-2018-1-guidebook.html

Geology and Archeology of Meadowcroft Rockshelter and the Multiple Ice Ages of Southwestern Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh Geological Society, 2019.
https://pittsburghgeologicalsociety.org/uploads/pubs/2019_PGS_Field_Trip_Guidebook.pdf

Geology and Paleontology of Monmouth County, James Brown and Tim Macaluso. Geological Association of New Jersey, 2019.

Geology field trips in and around the U.S. Capital. Geological Society of America, 2020.

Geology of Lassen Country. Back Country Press, 2019.

Geology of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island: Field Guide. Boulder Books, 2019.

Geology of the Bitterroot Region and Other Papers. (Northwest Geology v.49). Tobacco Root Geological Society, 2020.

Geology of the Raton-Clayton area: New Mexico Geological Society, 2019.

Geology of Whiteside Mountain and Highlands, NC. Clemson University, 2019.
https://www.clemson.edu/cecas/departments/ees/symposium/fieldtrip/2019_CHS_FieldTripGuide.pdf

Glacial Landscapes of the Southern Green Bay Lobe and the Northern Kettle Moraine. Field trip guidebook from the International Glaciological Society Symposium on Glacial Erosion and Sedimentation, May 15, 2019. <https://wgnhs.wisc.edu/catalog/publication/000966>

Gravitational collapse of the Paleozoic thrust stack and later hinterland-directed Alleghanian (?) back thrusting, Inner Piedmont, South Carolina & North Carolina. Carolina Geological Society, 2019.
https://carolinageologicalsociety.org/2010s_files/gb_CGS_%202019.pdf

Idaho rocks!: A Guide to Geological Sites in the Gem State. Mountain Press, 2020.

Jurassica Conference, 14th, 2019, Bratislava, Slovakia. Field Trip Guide and Abstracts Book.
http://geo.sav.sk/files/2019/Jurassica2019_guide-web.pdf

Mojave Desert Unfolded: Geology from Cajon Pass to Calico Mountains. Guidebook for a Field Trip of the San Diego Association of Geologists, October 12-14, 2018. Sunbelt Press, 2020.

Pawtuckaway State Park Geology Tour. Geological Society of New Hampshire, 2019.
http://www.gsnh.org/uploads/9/2/8/6/92861090/pawtuckaway_field_trip.pdf

Roadside Geology of Montana. 2nd ed. Mountain Press, 2020.

Roadside Geology of Oklahoma. Mountain Press, 2020.

Roadside Geology of Tennessee. Mountain Press, 2019.

Rockhounding Northern California: a guide to the region's best rockhounding sites. Falcon Guides, 2020.

Rockhounding Idaho: A Guide to 99 of the State's Best Rockhounding Sites. Falcon Guides, 2020.

Rocks on Wheels: Guides to Scotland's Road Accessible Geology. iUniverse, 2019.

Streetcar2Subduction.

<https://www.agu.org/learn-and-develop/learn/streetcar2subduction/streetcar2subduction>

The Devonian-Carboniferous Boundary in the Type Area of the Mississippian, Cramer, B. D. ed., 2019, Guidebook for the 35th Annual Field Conference of the Great Lakes Section, Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM), and the 74th Annual Tri-State Field Conference, September 28-29, 2019, 80 p. Iowa Geological Survey, 2019. https://www.iihr.uiowa.edu/igs/publications/uploads/2019-10-10_15-10-23_gb-30.pdf

Uncover Curnamona: Field Trip Guide to the Mundi Mundi Plains. Geological Survey of New South Wales, 2019. <https://search.geoscience.nsw.gov.au/report/R00034668>

Virginia Rocks!: A Guide to the Geologic Sites in the Old Dominion. Mountain Press, 2019.

And lastly ---

Geologic field trip guidebooks web archive

<https://archive-it.org/collections/12576>

Geoscience Information Society 2020 Budget

Prepared by Bridget Thrasher (last updated 12/17/20)

	Amount Budgeted	Actual To Date
MEETINGS		
2020 Meeting (rooms, AV, internet, lunches, refreshments, reception, exhibits, abstract fees)	\$ (7,500.00)	\$ -
2019 Meeting (rooms, AV, internet, lunches, refreshments, reception, exhibits, abstract fees)	\$ (1,000.00)	\$ (254.65)
Field Trip(s)	\$ (300.00)	\$ -
Sponsorship	\$ 5,000.00	\$ -
Subtotal	\$ (3,800.00)	\$ (254.65)
DUES		
Membership	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,385.00
Subtotal	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,385.00
MISCELLANEOUS		
Award certificates, frames, plaques	\$ (175.00)	
AGI Member Society Dues	\$ (270.00)	\$ (472.50)
DC.Gov Bi-annual filing fees	\$ (130.00)	
Geoscience Librarianship 101 (mtg costs and instructor reimbursements)	\$ (2,300.00)	\$ (120.55)
Internet Domain Name Services & website hosting	\$ (80.00)	\$ (357.35)
Bank Charges	\$ (30.00)	\$ -
PayPal fees	\$ (100.00)	\$ (34.21)
Survey Monkey	\$ (300.00)	\$ (300.00)
Postage	\$ (75.00)	\$ (107.63)
Travel award	\$ (1,500.00)	\$ -
Gifts (unrestricted)	\$ 200.00	\$ 175.00
Interest	\$ 25.00	\$ 11.57
Subtotal	\$ (4,735.00)	\$ (1,205.67)
TOTAL	\$ (6,535.00)	\$ (75.32)