



INTERNATIONAL SECTION NEWSLETTER

October 2012

Dear International Members:

Greetings from the International Section of GSA. As you know, the Geological Society of America provides a global forum for knowledge-sharing and networking among geoscientists. Serving members in over 95 countries, GSA programs unite the global science community in shaping the future of the Earth sciences. Wherever you live or work, GSA invites you to become involved by joining our network.

The International Section has objectives:

- to provide a forum for and to coordinate meetings, symposia, conferences, and lecture tours on the geology of regions beyond North America,
- to provide a focal point for the exchange of views by North American geologists working overseas,
- to raise funds for foreign colleagues and students to participate in annual GSA meetings,
- to strengthen cooperation with overseas geoscientific societies.

October 2012 Newsletter Highlights

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GSA International Section OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT BOARD 2012-2013

Chair	Alan G. Smith , Department of Earth Sciences, Sedgwick Museum, Downing Street Cambridge CB2 3EQ U.K.	Tel: +44-1223-333-439 Fax: +44-1223-333-450 ags1@cam.ac.uk
First Vice Chair	An Yin , University of California, Los Angeles, Dept of Earth & Space Sciences, Los Angeles, CA 90095-156702	Tel: +1-310-825-8752 Fax: +1-310-825-2779 yin@ess.ucla.edu
Second Vice Chair	Anke M. Friedrich , LMU Munich, Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Luisenstrasse 37 80333 Munich, Germany	Tel: +49-89-21806512 Fax: +49-89-21806514 friedrich@lmu.de
Secretary	Nazrul I. Khandaker , Dept. of Earth and Physical Sciences, York College The City University of New York, 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11451	Tel: +1-718-262-2079 (x 2654) Fax: +1-718-262-3751 nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu
Treasurer	Maurice J. (Ric) Terman , 3440 S. Jefferson St., Apt. 370 Falls Church, VA 22041	Tel: +1-703-842-3108 terman.ric@gmail.com
Past Chair	Joann M. Stock , California Institute Technology, Seismological Lab, 1200 E. California Blvd, MC 252-21, Pasadena, CA 91125-0001	Tel: +1-626-395-6938 Fax: +1-626-564-0715 jstock@gps.caltech.edu
One voting affiliate of GSA to serve as Council Liaison for 3 years (2010-2013)	Victor A. Ramos , International Councilor , Dept. of Geology, University of Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires, Argentina	Tel & fax: +54-11-4701 6947 andes@gl.fcen.uba.ar

The management board shall include the current International Section officers, the immediate past chair, and one voting affiliate of the Geological Society of America selected every three years by the GSA Council to serve as Council Liaison to the section. Meetings of the management board shall be held prior to the Section's annual business meeting. Business involving the entire management board shall normally be conducted by e-mail and teleconferences.

Region - Section includes all of the countries outside of North America
1,684 Voting members including North America as of 31 December 2011.

**For Additional Information on International Section (IS), please visit the following
weblink:**

<http://www.geosociety.org/sections/international/index.htm>

2012 Farouk El-Baz Student Awards

ISMB was charged with selecting two student members of GSA to receive the Farouk El-Baz Student Research Awards for 2012. The awards are given *to encourage and promote desert research in the broadest sense*. The candidates selected were: Ethan G Hyland, who is in a Ph.D. program in the University of Michigan, where he will assess spatial variability and calibrating paleosol moisture proxies in dry environments; and Omer Yetemen who is a studying for a Ph.D. at the University of Washington on modeling the role of solar radiation on catchment development in semi-arid ecosystems. The award checks and plaques will be presented at the Student Awards Ceremony at the GSA 2012 Annual Meeting.

Please be reminded that GSA Foundation and Subaru of America will be sponsoring this year's student awards reception to take place on **Monday, 5 November from 4--5 PM at the GSA Foundation Booth in the Exhibit Hall, Charlotte Convention Center**. This invitation-only event will honor our top GSA research grant recipients, our top diversity research grant recipients, our El-Baz student award recipients, and our Subaru Minority Scholarship recipients. Food and drink will be served.

IS Travel Grant Recipients for Annual Meeting in Charlotte

This year the stated purpose of an IS Travel Grant was to assist with the participation of international scientists and students in the GSA Annual Meeting, 4–7 November, 2012 to be held in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA, though this statement may be modified in future years. Travel grant funds are intended to help offset cost of international travel.

International scientists seeking a visa to attend a professional meeting in the United States are advised to apply at least 3 months in advance. Given that the GSA meeting starts on November 4, 2012 the application deadline was set at 1 July 2012, with 1 August 2012 being set as the date by which Section officers inform applicants of their status (successful or not).

31 travel award applications met the deadline. Those applying after the deadline were not considered. Applications from students studying in North America (6) were also not considered. 10 professional scientists applied but awards to them were made only in exceptional circumstances because their chances of finding funding elsewhere are generally much greater than those of students. 8 travel grants were awarded, distributed among the major regions identified in the world, each with a different disciplinary interest. Awardees are: **Patrick Abu-Gyamfi** (Sub-Saharan Africa/Ghana), **Juan David Carrillo** (Latin American /Panama), **Edmund Garrett** , (Europe/United Kingdom), **Yael Kiro** (MENA/Israel), **Imran Sayeed** (India), **Amit Singh** (South Asia/India), **Megan Williams** (South Pacific/Australia), **Meiling Wu** (Hong Kong, East Asia). **The maximum travel grant awarded was \$1000.**

The travel grant checks will be available for pick up in the Annual Meeting Office in the Convention Center, VIP Suite Room 104.

GSA Honorary Fellow



The **Hon. Sospeter Muhongo**, Minister for Energy and Mines in Tanzania was elected as a Geological Society of America Honorary Fellow. He will receive his award at the GSA Awards Ceremony at the Annual General Meeting in Charlotte. Among his many international awards and achievements are President, Geological Society of Africa (1995-2001); Vice President, Commission of the Geological Map of the World (CGMW), 2005-to date; Honorary Fellow, The Geological Society of London, 2010-to date; Honorary Research Fellow, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, 2007-to date and the first recipient of The Robert Shackleton Award in 2004 for “Outstanding Research in the Precambrian Geology of Africa” (Geological Society of Africa). **The International Section is honored to have such a distinguished geologist among its Honorary Fellows and hopes he will become active within the Section.**

Invitation to GSA Honorary Fellows

In 2011 **Ric Terman, IS Treasurer**, prepared a list of GSA Fellows, all of which were invited to help with the management of the IS. Some responses were received but there are still several gaps in regional representation.

The new proposed Bylaws for IS uniquely state: “**An International Liaison Committee (ILC)** of eight voting affiliates, chaired by the Secretary, shall be appointed for two-year terms by the Section Chair with the advice of the Management Board. Each appointee shall be a GSA Honorary Fellow, or a colleague recommended by him/her, who has a long-term experiential expertise in one of the **eight regions of future potential collaboration: Europe, East Asia, South Pacific, Latin America, Middle East/North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and North Asia.**”

Thus this **ILC** would be extremely well qualified to “conduct liaison with overseas geoscientific societies, universities, other institutions, and especially the Members and Fellows residing outside of North America, and shall assist in arranging for appropriate international

meetings, workshops, symposia, and excursions within their respective regions.” Also this ILC shall be a substitute for the traditional Nominating and Awards Committees of North American Sections, and thus ILC relieve the International Section Chair of difficult responsibilities, and fully utilize the capabilities of the regional experts that have previously been recognized by the GSA as Honorary Fellows.

The awards to be considered by the **ILC** include meeting travel grants insofar as the funding permits, nomination of Honorary International Fellows (previously done by the GSA Council), and initial identification of candidates for the Distinguished International Career Award. It has been suggested that such an awardee might be considered a prime candidate to become a subsequent Section Second Vice Chair as overseas scientists replace the current North American residents as chairs on the MB. The Section shall also continue its advisory role in the current grants for the *East Asia Geoscience and Environmental Research* (**EAGER**) Award and research in desert regions (**El Baz Awards**).

Committees:

When approved by the Council, the proposed Bylaws would establish the following:

Program Committee – 5 affiliates (1 year terms)

(chaired by the First Vice Chair)

Finance Committee – 4 affiliates (2 for 2 years; 2 for 1 year)

(chaired by the Treasurer)

International Liaison Committee - 8 affiliates (2 year terms)

(chaired by the Secretary)

During the last year, past **Chair Stock** sent emails to 44 IS members that are GSA Honorary Fellows inquiring about their willingness to serve on the ILC as outlined above and several of them responded positively. It is anticipated that the ILC will be initiated in 2013.

The effective functioning of these committees is essential to the future of the IS and your participation can only enhance IS towards becoming a strong partner of the GSA’s globalization theme.

Appointments to the GSA Public Policy Committee

Prof. Muhongo and Imran Sayeed were nominated by the IS Secretary to serve as overseas members on the GSA Public Policy Committee.

GSA Distinguished International Lecturer – 2012



With seed-funding and a financial contribution from Robbie R. Gries (past GSA treasurer 2006-2009) to the GSA Foundation, the position of a **Distinguished International Lecturer** has been established. Nominations for the Lecturer were received from Chairs of Divisions and Affiliated Societies. The IS set up a committee for selecting a dynamic speaker who will travel internationally and give lectures on the cutting-edge geosciences topics, promote GSA, and cement relationships with the overseas geoscientists.

Prof. Victor Baker (Regents' Professor and Professor of Geosciences and Professor of Planetary Sciences at University of Arizona) was the unanimous choice from a pool of several candidates. Prof. Baker is a Foreign Member of the Polish Academy of Sciences and an Honorary Fellow of the European Geosciences Union. He is also a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and of our own GSA. He is a past President of GSA and a recipient of the Distinguished Scientist Award from GSA's Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division. He received the David Linton Award of the British Society for Geomorphology. He has served on numerous panels and committees of the National Research Council including its Committee on Hydrologic Sciences

His research interests are very broadly concerned with paleohydrology and related aspects of geomorphology, but a particular focus is on flood processes. He also works in the area of planetary geomorphology, and on issues that involve Earth science in relation to public policy, the environment, and philosophy of science.

Initially it was hoped that the tour could begin in May, but the lead time was insufficient and the tour is now scheduled to begin this month (October 2012) in the UK. Prof. Baker will visit Cambridge, Southampton, Imperial College and Edinburgh, and then visit Finland, lecturing at Turku and Helsinki, continuing with a visit to Uppsala and Stockholm in Sweden and ending with Utrecht University in The Netherlands. He will conduct a second leg in November, visiting Parma and Bologna in Italy, then Jerusalem in Israel, finishing with Nantes and Paris in France, and Munich in Germany. The International Section is extremely grateful to Prof. Baker for offering so much of his valuable time to make the lecture tour a success and in his promotion of GSA and its International Section.

China Meeting 2013: Roof of the World

A draft memorandum was signed between the GSA and representatives of the Geological Society of China during the GSA annual meeting in Minneapolis in 2011 to host a joint GSC/GSA meeting in China in 2013. Prof. Juhn Louie (former Second Vice-Chair of the IS) is currently playing a key role in working with his Chinese counterparts and setting up the program. The 3-day conference in Chengdu, to be conducted in English, will be from **June 17 to 19, 2013**

and will include post-meeting field trips across the Tibetan plateau, the Qinling-Dabie orogen, a Mesozoic arc system in South China and unique sites for mass extinctions at the end of Permian. The conference will be preceded by the 7th World Chinese Conference on Geological Sciences (WCCOGS) to be conducted in Chinese from June 15 to 16, 2013 at the same location in Chengdu. (Details are set out at length in the Second Circular).

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U.S.A.: Melissa Cummiskey <MCummiskey@geosociety.org> (Chair)

Juhn G. Liou <jliou@stanford.edu>

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11. Websites:

<http://eng.cags.ac.cn>

<http://www.geosociety.org.cn/index.asp>

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings>

<http://www.geochina.org>

125th Anniversary

GSA's 125th anniversary meeting in 2013 in Denver will be highlighted by the Distinguished International Lecturer, Vic Baker, during his Tour in November and December 2012.

<http://www.geosociety.org/125/>

GSA's 125th Anniversary Theme

Celebrating Advances in Geoscience

Our science, our societal impact, and our unique thought processes

GSA IS Awards Reception

All international participants are cordially invited to attend a reception on **Tuesday November 6 2012 from 6.00 to 7.30 p.m. in the Westin Charlotte Providence Ballroom 1**. Owing to financial exigencies no refreshments will be available except at a cash bar.

The new Honorary Fellow, **Prof. Sospeter Muhongo**, will be introduced. Travel grant awardees will be recognized and pictures will be taken.

Sponsorship of Topical Sessions at the Annual Meeting 2012

GSA International Section is sponsoring or co-sponsoring the following 18 Topical Sessions. *International members were encouraged to submit abstracts to these sessions.*

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2012>

T41. Technical and Non-Technical Guidelines and Best Practices for Hazard Studies

GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; Geological Survey of Canada; U.S. Geological Survey; GSA International Section

Peter T. Bobrowsky

T48. Lessons from Fukushima: An Investigation of the Intersection between Geoscience and Nuclear Energy

GSA Geology and Society Division; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Geology and Health Division; American Geosciences Institute; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA International Section

Craig Cooper, J.E. Fryxell, James Davis

T56. Phase Transformations and Geodynamics: Mineralogy in Action: Devoted to Harry Green, 2012 Roebling Medalist

Mineralogical Society of America; American Geophysical Union; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA International Section

Larissa Dobrzhinetskaya, Russell Hemley, Michael Brown

T79. Uncertainty in Earth and Climate Science: Communicating Uncertainty to the Public

GSA Geology and Society Division; GSA Geoscience Education Division; GSA Geology and Public Policy Committee; GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division; GSA International Section

David W. Szymanski, J.E. Fryxell, Tamara Shapiro Ledley

T82. Geologic Maps, Digital Geologic Maps, and Derivatives from Geologic and Geophysical Maps (Posters)

GSA Geophysics Division; Association of American State Geologists; U.S. Geological Survey; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA International Section

Richard C. Berg, Ralph F. Crawford, Michael W. Higgins, Linda Jacobsen, E. Donald McKay, Hazen A.J. Russell, David R. Soller, Harvey Thorleifson

This poster session will highlight new geologic maps, mapping programs, and innovations in geological mapping, including data management, web accessibility, 3-D, and applications in water and land management.

T88. Geological and Hydrogeological Characterization Studies at CO₂ Sequestration Sites

GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA International Section

Benjamin J. Rostron

There are numerous geological CO₂ sequestration projects planned and underway worldwide. This session addresses results of geological, geochemical, and hydrogeological characterization studies conducted at CO₂ sequestration sites.

T102. Hydraulic Fracturing for Resource Development or Remediation: Methods, Results, and Industry-Regulatory Response to Environmental Impacts on Ground and Surface Waters

GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; International Association of Hydrogeologists; GSA Geology and Health Division; GSA Geology and Society Division; GSA International Section

Gerry V. Winter, Neil Coleman

Hydraulic fracturing is important for developing oil, gas, and water in low-permeability formations and is used in remediation of contaminated sites, but the process can result in unintended consequences that adversely affect the environment.

T106. Arsenic: Fate and Transport in Natural Waters and Aquifers from Basin to Pore-Space Scale

GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA International Section; GSA Geology and Society Division; GSA Geology and Health Division; Geochemical Society; International Society for Groundwater for Sustainable Development; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division

Prosun Bhattacharya, Abhijit Mukherjee, Ratan Dhar, Karen H. Johannesson, Lois Ongley

All aspects of earth and anthropogenic systems that may impact the occurrence, fate, transport, biogeochemical cycling, and sustainable mitigation of arsenic in water, rocks, and biological organisms will be discussed.

T118. Paleotempestology: Proxy Record Development and Climate Forcing Mechanisms

GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division; International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) 588—Preparing for Coastal Change; GSA International Section

Andrea D. Hawkes, Jon Woodruff, Daria Nikitina

We will explore new findings in paleotempestology record development, which identifies the timing and frequency/intensity of tropical cyclones. We welcome studies highlighting forcing mechanisms responsible for past/future cyclone variability. Integrated field, lab, and model analyses are encouraged.

T121. Rapid Sea-Level Rise and Its Impacts: Past, Present, and Future

GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division; Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists; GSA Environmental and Engineering Geology Division; GSA Geology and Society Division; GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; National Association of Geoscience Teachers; GSA International Section

George T. Stone, Michael E. Mann, Stanley R. Riggs, Andrew M. Buddington

This session convenes leading scientists from diverse disciplines to present current research on one of the most compelling issues in the geosciences: rapid sea-level rise and the attendant threat to coastlines worldwide.

T133. Getting to the Root of It—Metamorphism, Tectonics, and Crustal Evolution

GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; Mineralogical Society of America; GSA International Section

Nigel M. Kelly, Callum J. Hetherington, Julien Allaz

A robust understanding of continental crustal evolution demands integrated approaches to metamorphic petrology. This session will showcase new research using multi-technique approaches to understanding metamorphic processes operating from subgrain- to orogen-scales.

T148. Geochemistry, Mineralogy, and Petrology of Mars

GSA Planetary Geology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA International Section

A. Deanne Rogers, James J. Wray, Suniti Karunatillake

This session will focus on advances made in understanding the formation, evolution, and alteration of the Martian crust through geochemical and mineralogical analyses. Presentations that utilize spacecraft data analysis, experiments, models, and/or analog studies are welcome.

T153. The Moon, Inside and Out: New Results in Lunar Geophysics, Structure, and Interior

GSA Planetary Geology Division; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA International Section

Gwendolyn D. Bart, James W. Head, Maria T. Zuber

This session focuses on our expanding understanding of lunar geophysics, as well as the Moon's present interior structure and evolution, by presenting new results from recent spacecraft missions.

T161. Detrital Zircon Provenance of Neoproterozoic to Lower Paleozoic Strata of Northern and Western Laurentia

GSA Sedimentary Geology Division; Geochemical Society; GSA International Section

Michael C. Pope, Rob Rainbird

This session focuses on detrital zircon provenance research of Neoproterozoic to Lower Paleozoic strata, particularly from northern and western Laurentia, to determine their sediment dispersal patterns, evolution of sediment provenance, and subtle tectonic events.

T163. Geologic Timescale—Current Status, Future Enhancement, and Applications

SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology); GSA International Section

James G. Ogg, Linda Hinnov, Mark D. Schmitz

Earth's surface history is a complex interplay of climate, evolution, and other processes framed within a geologic timescale with numerical ages. This session focuses on big-picture aspects and new methodologies to decipher Earth's history.

T169. Cyclicity and Hierarchy in the Clastic Stratigraphic Record

GSA International Section

Brian W. Romans, Jacob A. Covault, Stephen M. Hubbard

The documentation of cyclical and hierarchical patterns in the stratigraphic record has led to interpretations of systematic forcings and apparently improved predictability. This session will explore these themes at a range of scales.

T177. Supercontinent Cycles through Earth History (Posters)

GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA International Section

A. Krishna Sinha, Kent Condie, Robert D. Hatcher

Geologic framework of Supercontinent Cycles through Earth's history: Implications of tectonic, petrologic, geochronologic and biologic processes.

T178. Geology and Tectonics of the Aegean Region

GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA International Section

E.J. Catlos, Yucel Yilmaz

This session provides an opportunity for geologists from a range of disciplines (e.g., structural geology, tectonics, petrology, volcanology, natural hazards) to interact and share new results and information about their research in the Aegean area.

T179. Dynamics of Gneiss Domes, Core Complexes, and Orogenic Plateaux

GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; GSA Geophysics Division; GSA International Section

Christian Teyssier, Donna Whitney

The flow of crust at plate boundaries is recorded in rocks, structures, and topography. This session features contributions on the mechanisms, trajectories, magnitude, duration, rates, and consequences of crustal flow in continental and oceanic settings.

Geoscientists *Without Borders* (GWB)



Geoscientists Without Borders (GWB) recently gained its **first Society** supporter of their flagship program after **The Geological Society of America's (GSA) Council approved the partnership Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) at its recent meeting in Boulder, Colorado, USA. The agreement was signed by both the GSA and the SEG Foundation.**

This new agreement will effectively broaden the reach of **GWB** as well as leverage the opportunity and information access to GSA members. "We are particularly pleased to welcome the GSA to our **GWB** community. The GSA is an outstanding organization with a wide-ranging membership of enthusiastic geoscientists. Their community is warmly received," said SEG Foundation Chair Tom Smith.

As a **Geoscientists Without Borders** Supporting Society, GSA will promote **GWB** in its publications and website; provide space and a special session at the GSA Annual Meeting; and also assist the SEG Foundation in finding potential investors in the **GWB** program. In turn, the SEG Foundation will recognize GSA at the SEG Annual Meeting in reference to **GWB** and also in **The Leading Edge** when **GWB** is featured. Additionally, GSA and the SEG Foundation will collaborate on publicity for the **GWB**.

"The Geological Society of America is pleased to have the opportunity to act as an official Supporter of the **Geoscientists Without Borders** humanitarian program. This is an excellent program and we hope that it will continue to grow and further extend its tremendous efforts around the world," said GSA Past-President John Geissman of the partnership.

Geoscientists Without Borders is changing lives around the world. Four years ago, the program did not exist — but today, 12 projects are in the field around the world and each of these projects is not only making a direct impact in those countries, but also impacting the reputation of geophysics around the world. The mission of **GWB** is to support humanitarian applications of geoscience around the world.

"We are building the bridge to the GSA. This is the first step, but this is how every voyage starts," said **Geoscientists Without Borders** Chair Roel Snieder.

About **GWB**

GWB was established by the **SEG Foundation in 2008** with a US\$1 million leadership investment from Schlumberger. **Geoscientists Without Borders** is transforming lives around the world by providing humanitarian application of geoscience solutions to global problems by connecting universities and industries with communities in need. Projects include the application of geophysical science, information and technology to improve poor conditions or mitigate dangerous conditions and hazards. For more information on **Geoscientists Without Borders**, please visit www.seg.org/gwb.

About **SEG**

The Society of Exploration Geophysicists (www.seg.org), the international society of applied geophysics, is a not-for-profit organization that promotes the science of geophysics and the education of applied geophysicists. **SEG** fosters the expert and ethical practice of geophysics in the exploration and development of natural resources, in characterizing the near surface, and in mitigating Earth hazards. The Society, which has more than 32,000 members in 138 countries, fulfills its mission through its publications, conferences, forums, [website](#), and educational opportunities.

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International Section TRAVEL VISAS

To Attend Scientific Meetings in the United States

The number one rule for international scientists seeking a visa to attend a professional meeting in the United States is to apply at least 3 months in advance.

Procedures for international scientists seeking a visa to enter the United States or seeking answers to questions related to visa-related issues the United States is provided by the International Visitors Office (IVO) of the U.S. National Academies in Washington, D.C.

Comprehensive information on **travel visas** can be found at:
www7.nationalacademies.org/visas/

Science and Society Section

National Academies Press

The National Academies Press (NAP) was created by the National Academies to publish the reports issued by the National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, the Institute of Medicine, and the National Research Council, all operating under a charter granted by the Congress of the United States. The NAP publishes more than 200 books a year on a wide range of topics in science, engineering, and health, capturing the most authoritative views on important issues in science and health policy. The institutions represented by the NAP are unique in that they attract the nation's leading experts in every field to serve on their award-winning panels and committees.

Recent Report on:

National Earthquake Resilience: Research, Implementation, and Outreach 2011
http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13092

To navigate through NAP and download (free) various geoscience/environmental science-related articles and reports, please click on the following:

<http://www.nap.edu/>

National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Brief Report (2012):

New Research Opportunities in the Earth Sciences

A national strategy to sustain basic research and training across all areas of the Earth sciences would help inform the response to many of the major challenges that will face the planet in coming years. Issues including fossil fuel and water resources, earthquake and tsunami hazards, and profound environmental changes due to shifts in the climate system could all be informed by new research in the Earth sciences. The National Science Foundation's Division of Earth Sciences, as the only federal agency that maintains significant funding of both exploratory and problem-driven research in the Earth sciences, is central to these efforts, and coordinated research priorities are needed to fully capitalize on the contributions that the Earth sciences can make.

International News Update (IUGS)

International Union of Geosciences (IUGS) recently published the following newsletter and is full of future geologic events/meetings/workshops. Please visit the following to know more about these events:

<http://iugs.org/uploads/IUGS%20Bulletin%2077.pdf>

World Energy Monitor Newsletter (June 2012)

The current issue of **World Energy Monitor** features various perspectives on the rapidly growing wind energy sector. Antoine Dechezleprêtre and Matthieu Glachant find wind power policies leading to innovation and a competitive industry, though the social cost of wind energy may not be lower. Richard Green highlights the importance of managing intermittence if wind energy is to emerge as a viable alternate to world's growing energy needs. While Khalid Benhamou presents Sahara Wind's market-based, regionally integrated model to harnessing the wind energy potential, Rasmus Lema and Yuan Zhou analyze China's emergence as a major player in wind energy sector and the challenges it faces in the coming years. For details, please visit:

<http://wef21.org/sites/default/files/World%20Energy%20Monitor%20-%20June%202012.pdf>

GSA Position Statements

The GSA develops Position Statements on select issues of direct relevance to the geosciences community and/or for which thoughtful geologic input is important to informed debate and decision making. In addition to an articulation of the Society's perspective on the issue being addressed, the statement includes background on and an analysis of the issue, the rationale for the GSA position, and, an implementation plan with suggestions for action by the Society's members.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP DUES

Note that students from developing countries are eligible for reduced membership dues with GSA. Please see the GSA web site, and encourage your students to join as members.

Donations Needed for International Travel of Participants

The GSA Foundation is currently seeking funding to defray travel costs for foreign applicants who wish to attend GSA meetings. These funds help GSA to provide more travel grants to our members and student members from lower income countries. If you are a member of the International Section and plan to make a donation to GSA, please consider directing your donation to supporting this worthy cause, which will strengthen the International Section's program and help your fellow scientists.

GSA Foundation Update – October 2012

To make donation to the International Travel Grants, please click on the following:

<http://www.gsafweb.org/makeadonation.html>

By, Donna L. Russell, Director of Operations

Funding Student Research as Global as our Science GSA Research Grants—International Program

GSA has initiated a non-North American-based Graduate Student Research Grants Program to include GSA's international student members. We are asking for your help with the funding of this exciting new Program.

The current North American Program is one of the largest and most prestigious funding programs for geoscience graduate students in this arena. The Program helps fund field and laboratory costs of geoscience projects conducted by masters and doctoral students at universities in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Since its inception in 1933, GSA has awarded over \$11.6 million to almost 10,000 students. This Program is an essential element in supporting the education and training of future geoscientists, while instilling in our student members a sense of loyalty to the Society.

In order to initiate this Program in the near future we need to build the fund for this Program. You can contribute in two ways:

- (1) Send your check payable to the **GSA Foundation** to: PO Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. Please note on the memo line that your donation is for "GSA Research Grants—International Program."
- (2) Go to the **GSA Foundation's** Web site (<http://gsafweb.org/>) and click on the "Make a Donation" tab at the top-center of the page. Enter the amount of your donation and select "**GSA Research Grants—International Program**" from the pull-down menu.

We thank you in advance for your interest in growing GSA's support in student research.

Please Keep Us Posted

One of GSA's goals for the International Section is that more international members from outside North America will become involved in leadership of the section.

International Section loves to hear from you. Please share any newsworthy or hot geoscience/environmental science-related topics, field pictures, exploration activities, international

conferences, or concerns with us and we will be glad to disseminate your news items to the International Section members.

We look forward to your participation and seeing you at the 2012 GSA Annual Convention.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the ISMB.

Nazrul I. Khandaker, International Section Secretary

<http://www.geosociety.org/sections/international/index.htm>

If you have international news items to submit, please send them to:

nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu

York College (The City University of New York)