



## GSA International Section Newsletter October 2013

Greetings. **GSA's International Section** (GSA IS) is happy to note a considerable number of events and accomplishments to you including a very successful first joint meeting titled "**Roof of the World**" between Geological Society of China and Geological Society of America, held in Chengdu, China in June 14-19, 2013. GSA IS-sponsored inaugural lecture tour led by **DR. VICTOR R. BAKER** was a great success and through his outstanding presentation, Dr. Baker set the bar to a high level. Funding for this inaugural tour was available through a generous grant from **Robbie Gries**.

Currently we are launching our second phase with **Marjorie A. Chan** as the next lecturer for 2014 Distinguished Lecture Tour. GSA IS recognized **Clark Burchfiel** for his outstanding service promoting tectonics and understanding of the Himalayan Geology and leading many successful expeditions to Tibet and adjacent areas. He will be accepting GSA IS 2013 Distinguished Career Award in Denver. **Professor Shuwen Dong**, the key person whose stalwart contribution made Roof the World Meeting a grand success was honored by the GSA IS and recently GSA Council approved his nomination to receive Honorary Fellow award, to be recognized during the GSA IS Reception, to be held in October 28, 2013 at Denver.

### **GSA's 125th Anniversary Annual Meeting & Exposition**

**27–30 October • Colorado Convention Center, Denver**

Please do not forget to attend GSA IS-hosted Reception and greet your colleagues at the Denver meeting.

#### **GSA IS Hosting Reception at the GSA Annual Meeting, Denver**

All international participants are **cordially invited** to attend a reception on Oct. 28, 2013 (5.30 to 7.00 p.m.). Honorary Fellow, Distinguished Career Award and GSA IS Travel recipients will be recognized and pictures will be taken. **Light refreshments will be provided.**

**Room: Hyatt Regency at CCC, Capitol Ballroom 4**

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**OFFICERS AND  
MANAGEMENT BOARD — 2012-2013**

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**Management Board**

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 correspondence.

**Region** - Section includes all of the international Community outside of North America  
2,007 Voting members of the Section as of 31 December 2012.

## **Activities:**

GSA IS management board met several times via emails and teleconference and had a very productive year. Following list is a highlight of all the activities where IS was directly involvement with.

### **2. IS Sponsored Roof of the World China 2013 Meeting, held in Chengdu, Sichuan Province (June 14-19, 2013)**

The recently concluded **First Joint Scientific Meeting** of **Geological Society of China (GSC)** and **Geological Society of America (GSA)** proceeded efficiently in the modern setting of the Jinjiang Hotel, Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China. **GSA's International Section** played a key role bringing this meeting to the overseas communities. The meeting, titled 'Roof of the World', ended on 19 June, 2013, followed by several field trips that lasted from three to six days. The meeting was designed to promote and bolster the academic communication between the GSC and GSA, and covered a wide range of topics presented through **15 technical sessions**, including: Evolution of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, Continental Deformation and Deep Lithosphere Processes, Intra-Continental Deformations and Geo-hazards, Accretionary Orogens, Deep Earth Processes through Geochemistry, Mineral Deposits, Basins and Petroleum Resources, Permian-Triassic Mass Extinctions, Ultra High-pressure Metamorphism, Ophiolites, Carbon Sequestration, Water Resources and Hydrogeology, Gas Hydrates, Critical Transitions in Earth's History and Foreland basin tectonics.

### **3. Opening Ceremony and Ice Breaker**

On the evening of Sunday June 16, an ice breaker and welcoming reception was organized by the local host with welcoming speeches from **Mr. Xianlai Meng** (Executive Vice President of the Geological Society of China), **Dr. Jack Hess** (Executive Director, GSA), **Professor Shuwen Dong**, and **Dr. Suzanne Kay** (incoming GSA President). **Wang Min**, Vice Minister of the Ministry of Land and Resources and Head of China Geological Survey, attended the meeting and gave a speech at the opening ceremony. Wang Xiaolie, Deputy Director of China Academy of Geological Sciences, **Zhu Lixin**, Secretary General of GSC, and **Clark Burchfiel** were present at the meeting together with over 424 geologists from China and America as well as from other countries. **Dr. Suzanne Kay** reflected on US-China geological collaboration and mentioned **Amadeus W. Grabau** as the earliest documented US geologist working in China as early as 1925 who published a benchmark paper titled "*Fundamental concepts in geology and their bearing on Chinese stratigraphy* (Bulletin of the Chinese Geological Society, Volume 16, Issue 1, p. 127-176, 1937).

### **4. GSA International Section and Exxon Mobil-hosted Reception**

On June 18, GSA International Section in collaboration with Exxon Mobil hosted an evening reception for the overseas attendees including Chinese geoscientists, high officials, and students. Approximately 150 participants were able to mingle, socialize and exchange scientific ideas of mutual interest. The event was highly successful and coordinated by [Wesley Hill](#) (GSA International Secretariat) and [Nazrul Khandaker](#) (GSA International Section Secretary). MIT [Professor Clark Burchfiel](#) was recognized by the GSA International Section for his outstanding contributions towards cementing international collaboration (particularly with China), and a plaque was presented to him by [Dr. An Yin](#) (GSA International Section Chair). A scrumptious dinner followed and everyone stayed late evening to enjoy this night.

#### **5. GSA IS Published Blog on *Roof of the World* China 2013 Meeting**

[Nazrul Khandaker](#) (GSA International Section Secretary) wrote a comprehensive narrative about his experience associated with Roof of the World Meeting and received very positive feedback and reviews from the readers. This blog was already viewed by 1500 people and please feel free to read and post your comments.

<http://geosociety.wordpress.com/2013/08/01/reflections-on-the-2013-gsc-gsa-roof-of-the-world-china-meeting-and-chengdu/>

#### **6. Reciprocal Meeting in Baltimore 2015**

As part of the bilateral agreement between the GSA and GSC, a reciprocal meeting will take place in 2015 prior to the GSA Annual Meeting and Chinese geologists will resume their US journey by attending a pre-meeting field trip starting from the western cordillera and culminating on the east coast. Tentative trip leader for this conference will be [Dr. An Yin](#) (UCLA and current GSA IS Chair). [Dr. Jingsui Yang](#) (State Key Laboratory for Continental Tectonics and Dynamics, Institute of Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (GSC), [Dr. An Yin](#) (GSA International Section Chair), and [Nazrul Khandaker](#) (GSA International Section Secretary) will coordinate logistical matters connected with Baltimore 2015 meeting.

[Dr. An Yin](#) will lead a field trip across the North American Cordillera immediately before the 2015 GSA-GSC joint meeting in Baltimore for the Chinese and international participants. Lectures on local and regional geology will be given before and during the field trips by An Yin and experts of Cordilleran tectonics. The tentative plan is to start the field trip from Los Angeles and ends in the Rocky Mountains. The field-trip participants will have the opportunity to visit classic sites of the San Andreas fault system, low-angle detachment faults, Basin-Range extensional province, North American Cordilleran foreland fold-and-thrust belt, foreland basins, Laramide uplift, and the Colorado plateau. A coherent picture of the evolution of the North American Cordillera and the current debates will be presented during the field trip.

#### **7. The abstracts proceedings of both the *First Joint meeting of the Geological Society of China (GSC) and the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the 7th***

***World Chinese Conference on Geological Sciences (WCCOGS)* have been online and can be downloaded for free.**

The proceedings of the 7th World Chinese Conference on Geological Sciences (WCCOGS) can be downloaded for free at website <http://www.geojournals.cn/dzxb/ch/index.aspx>. (Acta Geologica Sinica—Chinese Edition, No.87, Supp.)

The proceedings of the First Joint meeting of the Geological Society of China (GSC) and the Geological Society of America (GSA) can be downloaded for free at website <http://www.geojournals.cn/dzxbcn/ch/index.aspx>. (Acta Geologica Sinica—English Edition, No.87, Supp.)

The 7th World Chinese Conference on Geological Sciences (WCCOGS) and the First Joint meeting of the Geological Society of China (GSC) and the Geological Society of America (GSA) were successfully held in Chengdu, China on June 14-15 and June 17-19 of 2013 with ca 800 geologists participating the meetings. A total number of 712 abstracts, 181 for WCCOGS and 531 for Joint meeting of GSC and GSA, was received. The proceedings basically contain the latest academic achievements in all geological branches and worth reading.

#### **8. Roof of the World Meeting Summary**

Overall the First Joint Scientific Meeting of The **Geological Society of China** and The **Geological Society of America** was highly successful and opened the door for greater collaboration with China both in terms of academic and professional exchanges for the participating geoscientists, geophysicists, technocrats, and other earth science professionals. Talking with many young early career Chinese geologists and graduate students, I noticed a wide-range of scientific curiosity and eagerness to initiate or get involved with international research projects and many through their presentations already demonstrated their superior understanding of first-order geologic phenomena. A conference like this can only promote additional scientific collaboration, testing new grounds, and an expansion of knowledge. Participants greatly enjoyed attending the ***Roof of the World*** Meeting, and left with a taste of rich local culture, authentic food, and traditional Sichuan-type hospitality. I am sure that for many, Chengdu will be missed! GSA's current globalization mission was truly reflected in this meeting, and being an integral part of this conference GSA's International Section strengthened and firmly established its reputation as the premier sponsor of the meeting.

#### **9. New GSA IS Honorary Fellow**

The section's Honorary Fellowship is presented to an international geoscientist who has distinguished him-or herself in geoscience investigations, promoting environmental awareness, linking science and society, providing notable service to implementing public policy in natural resource managements, or otherwise making outstanding contributions to science. Professor Shuwen Dong, Vice President, CAGS, was awarded with this distinction and was very instrumental accomplishing multi-task oriented logistical matters associated with **Roof of the World** meeting.

Professor Shuwen Dong

Professor of Geology, Vice President of Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences  
*treasurer of IUGS*



Citation from Dr. An Yin

“It is my great pleasure to write this letter nomination for Dr. and Professor Shuwen Dong to be considered for the election of an *international honorary fellow* by Geological Society of America. I have known Professor Dong both personally and professionally over the past 20 years. In my opinion, he is one of the finest geoscientists in China. His major scientific achievements include innovative research in understanding Mesozoic metallogenic processes in east-central China along the Yangtze River valley and critical contributions via combined geologic and geophysical investigations to our current understanding of the tectonic evolution of the Qinling-Dabie collisional orogen, the intracontinental Daba Shan, Yan Shan orogenic belts, and the central Asia accretionary orogen. Since 1996, Professor Shuwen Dong has published five books and more than 140 research papers. Many of the published papers appeared in top international journals and received high citations. Professor Dong thinks broadly and works widely with top Earth Scientists such as Professor Lothar Ratschbacher at Free University in Germany and Professors Bradley Hacker, Simon Klemperer, Larry Brown, Randy Keller, and Mian Liu in the US, and geologists from central Asian countries. He is one of the most prominent leaders in the Chinese Earth Sciences community today. He was the main driver for the successful funding of the multi-billion dollar project – SinoProbe. As a result, he is appointed as the chief scientist overseeing its entire scientific operation. This project has already gained international attentions with several featured articles published in Nature, Science, and EOS. In addition to his remarkable scientific achievements, Professor Shuwen Dong has also been an active member of several international organizations, which include his service as the current treasure of UNESCO, a board member of the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS), International Lithosphere Programme (ILP), the International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) and the International Continental Scientific Drilling Programme (ICDP).

In summary, Professor Shuwen Dong is a world-class scientist and a prominent leader in the Chinese and international Earth Science Communities. The combination of his scientific achievements and his service to the international geosciences communities make him a worthy recipient of this year's international



honorable fellow.”

#### **10. GSA IS 2013 Distinguished Career Award**

**2013 Recipient is [Clark Burchfiel](#), Massachusetts Institute of Technology, one of the keynote speakers at the Roof of the World Meeting received this prestigious award from the GSA IS and greatly appreciated GSA IS for bestowing this great honor on him. The award will be presented at the annual business meeting of the International Section (Monday, October 28, 2013; 5.30 to 7.00 pm; Hyatt Regency at CCC, Capitol Ballroom 4).**

#### **Citation from [Dr. An Yin](#)**

“Geology is a global science and thus requires a global perspective through international collaboration. This is an enormous task that few geologists can accomplish. Clark Burchfiel is one of such rare Earth scientists whose research has covered many regions on this globe, from the Andes to the Himalaya and from the North American Cordillera to the European Alps. Clark’s field-based approach has set up a style of research that has guided a generation of young geologists. His insightful syntheses on the tectonic evolution of the North and South American Cordillera, the India-Asia collision zone in Asia, and the Alpine-Mediterranean orogenic system in Europe are ground-breaking and must-reads. Clark Burchfiel is a towering figure in the international Earth Science communities, as a distinguished scientific leader, a marvelous teacher, and, most importantly, a friend of many Earth scientists across continents. This award is extremely fitting, as few have contributed more than Clark Burchfiel to the understanding of continental tectonics through international collaborations. It is my distinct privilege and a great honor to present this Career Contribution Award from the GSA International Section to Clark Burchfiel.”

*The Distinguished Career Award is be given to a geologist who has made numerous, distinguished, and significant contributions that have clearly advanced the international geological sciences through service and or scientific activities. The award consists of a plaque inscribed with the name of the recipient, the name of the award, the name of the Section, and the emblem of The Geological Society of America.*

#### **11. 2014 GSA Distinguished International Lecturer: [Marjorie A. Chan](#)**

The Geological Society of America is proud to introduce the 2014 International Distinguished Lecture Tour, arranged under the auspices of the GSA International Section. GSA seeks to be a leader in promoting programs that actively involve the global community in geoscience activities, in fulfillment of our strategic goals. This tour is another step forward in communicating the importance and relevance of the geosciences in a global context.

Dr. [Marjorie A. Chan](#) is GSA’s 2014 Distinguished International Lecturer and is a Professor of Geology at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, Utah. She received a B.S. in Geology from the University of California – Davis in 1977 and a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1982. Her research topics have spanned the geologic time scale from the Precambrian to the Pleistocene. Her recent projects connect geology and planetary science to better understand and interpret the red planet Mars.





## **12. Successful Completion of First Inaugural International Lecture Tour**

### **DR. VICTOR R. BAKER**



Dr. Baker just recently concluded his tour and gave excellent presentations in UK, Italy, Spain, and Germany and received very high marks from extremely well-attended participants and set up the bar at a higher level. Funding for this inaugural tour was available through a generous grant from [Robbie Greis](#).

### **GSA International Distinguished Lecture Tour 2012 - 2013**

**Dr. Victor R. Baker, University of Arizona - GSA International Distinguished Lecturer**

#### **Summary (excerpt from Wesley Hill, GSA International Secretariat):**

The Geological Society of America was proud to launch the inaugural International Distinguished Lecture Tour in 2012 arranged under the guidance of the GSA International Section. As outlined in our Strategic Plan, GSA seeks to be a leader in promoting programs that actively engage the global science community in fulfillment of our mission. The International Section sought nominations through GSA's specialty science Divisions and selected an outstanding prestigious lecturer to send throughout Europe to invited universities and institutions.

The 2012-2013 Distinguished International Lecturer was Dr. Victor R. Baker, Regents Professor, Professor of Planetary Sciences and Geosciences at the University of Arizona, who delivered lectures on the topics of *'Megafloods on Earth, Mars, and Beyond'* and *'Geological History of Water on an Earth-like Planet'*.

**Dr. Baker delivered 24 lectures on the two geoscience themes in England, Scotland, Finland, Sweden, The Netherlands, Italy, Israel, Germany, France, Spain and**

**Turkey.** Lecture dates and locations were promoted through the International Lecture Tour [webpage](#). Approximately 1,500 students, faculty, and general public attended the lectures as well as being video recorded by several universities for an expanded future audience. As a result of the lectures in Israel, the Israel Geological Society became a GSA Associated Society.

For more information on the GSA International Lecture program, contact [Wesley Hill](#) at GSA.

### **Lectures presented:**

#### October 2012:

- 9 October, Cambridge University, Cambridge, [UK](#) (2 lectures)
- 10 October, University of Southampton, Southampton, [UK](#)
- 11 October, Imperial College, London, [UK](#)
- 12 October, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, [Scotland](#)
- 15 October, University of Turku, Turku, [Finland](#)
- 16 October, University of Helsinki, [Finland](#)
- 17 October, Stockholm University, [Sweden](#)
- 18 October, Uppsala University, Uppsala, [Sweden](#)
- 19 October, Utrecht University, Amsterdam, [Netherlands](#)

#### November 2012:

- 8 November, University of Parma, Parma, [Italy](#)
- 9 November, University of Bologna, Bologna, [Italy](#)
- 11 November, Geological Survey of Israel, Jerusalem, [Israel](#)
- 12 November, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Jerusalem, [Israel](#)
- 14 November, University of Nantes, Nantes, [France](#)
- 15 November, University of Paris-Sud (Orsay), Paris, [France](#)
- 16 November, Ludwig-Maximilians University Munich, Munich, [Germany](#)

#### May 2013:

- 6 May, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, [SPAIN](#)
- 7 May, Centro de Astrobiologia, CSIC-INTA, Madrid, [SPAIN](#)
- 8 May, Museum of Natural Sciences, Madrid, [SPAIN](#)
- 10 May, Academia Lincei, Rome, [ITALY](#)
- 13 May, Universita d'Annunzio, Chieti, [ITALY](#)
- 15 May, Istanbul Technical University, [TURKEY](#)
- 16 May, Istanbul Technical University, [TURKEY](#)

#### Lecturer Profile

Victor R. Baker is Regents' Professor of Hydrology and Water Resources, Professor of Geosciences, and Professor of Planetary Sciences, The University of Arizona. A past president of The Geological Society of America, he was the 2010 recipient of The Distinguished Career Award from that society's Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division. His 360 research articles and 16 books deal with the geology and paleohydrology of Mars, Quaternary paleohydrology and geology, flood geomorphology, and the

history/philosophy of the earth and planetary sciences. His honors include Foreign Membership in the Polish Academy of Sciences, Honorary Fellowship in the European Union of Geosciences, the David Linton Award of the British Society for Geomorphology, a Fulbright-Hays Senior Research Fellowship, and an Indo-American Fellowship. His work on megafloods has been featured on multiple television documentaries for PBS, BBC, and the National Geographic, Discovery and History Channels, including the 2005 NOVA production "Mystery of the Megaflood."

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### Lecture Topics

#### **Megafloods on Earth, Mars, and Beyond**

For more than 40 years University of Arizona Regents' Professor Victor R. Baker has been studying the most spectacular and immense flood phenomena that occur anywhere in the universe. The immense megafloods of the last Ice Age created bizarre landscapes like the Channeled Scabland and altered the circulation of the oceans thereby changing Earth's climate. More surprising was the discovery that much larger megafloods occurred billions of years ago on the planet Mars. The Martian megafloods formed temporary bodies of water on that planet, even generating a kind of ocean that facilitated environmental conditions on Mars that may have been like those of an ice age on Earth. These discoveries are showing that Mars, like Earth, had a long-term cycle of water circulation that produced a habitable planet, and these are exactly the kinds of processes to seek out in the nearly initiated search for the other habitable planets of the universe.

#### **Geological History of Water on an Earth-like Planet**

Recent advances in astronomy hold the prospect for discovery of a great many Earth-like planets, rich in both water and possible habitats for life, thereby greatly expanding from the current sample of one. Nevertheless, until it proves possible to do geology for these numerous potential exo-Earths, we can greatly advance the geological science of Earth-like planets by study of Mars. The early geological histories of both Mars and Earth are closely tied to the role of water, extending from the nature of planetary accretion to the origin of a physically coupled atmosphere and ocean, the prospects for initiating plate tectonics, and historical records of punctuated greenhouse-to-icehouse climatic transitions. Recent discoveries from Mars missions reveal the extensive role of water in generating sedimentary rocks, active and relict glacial and periglacial features, aqueous weathering products (clay minerals and sulfates),

alluvial fans and deltas, the extensive development of paleolakes, and even a probable, though transient ocean.

**13. [Dr. Farouk El-Baz](#) Student research award to encourage and support desert studies**

GSA IS has been charged with selecting two student members of GSA to receive the Farouk El-Baz Student Research Award for 2013. An award of \$2500.00 was given to one male and one female applicant who are conducting desert research studies as part of an undergraduate, master's or PhD program. The award checks and plaques will be presented at the Student Awards Ceremony at the GSA 2013 Annual Meeting.

**14. [Boston Globe](#) Reporting [Dr. Farouk El-Baz](#), GSA IS Second Vice Chair:**



**[Boston University Students Raise Money for Clean Water Wells in Darfur](#)**

BU professor Farouk El-Baz's plan to fix Egypt — from space

**What's the best way to heal a country? Examine its geography, then think big.**

By Graeme Wood / Globe Correspondent / July 27, 2013

EGYPT PRIDES ITSELF on being a civilization thousands of years old. But assuming it survives its current political turmoils, that civilization may face a new kind of crisis: Just 6 percent of the Egyptian landmass, on the fertile soil of the Nile Valley and the Delta, holds nearly all its 85 million people. As the population grows and builds more housing, the country is burying its key arable land under a layer of concrete.

Farouk El-Baz, an Egyptian-born professor of electrical engineering and archeology at Boston University, believes he has a solution. And his plan, which he's been formulating for 30 years, proves that Egyptians haven't stopped thinking about infrastructure on the scale of the pharaohs.

“Egyptians live on a very limited amount of land, and people have to live on top of each other,” he says. “There is no space for them to breathe.” The solution, he says, is to make space: a new 750-mile-long corridor of development in the currently empty desert west of the Nile, stretching all the way from Sudan in the south to the Mediterranean coast in the north.

The secret to Egypt’s development, he believes, is its geography. El-Baz directs Boston University’s Center for Remote Sensing, which uses satellite and ground images to study geology and water resources. Trained as a geologist, he also helped NASA select landing sites for the Apollo program.

**15. Dr. An Yin (GSA International Section Chair) elected to become 2013 American Geophysical Union Fellow for outstanding unification of field observation and quantitative theory to achieve breakthrough insights into the evolution of mountain belts. On behalf of GSA IS, we offer warm congratulation to Dr. An Yin.**

**16. GSA IS Travel Grant Recipients: 2013 GSA Meeting**

About **110** applicants sought travel grants from the IS and following persons were selected for receiving grants to attend **GSA 2013** meeting. The awardees come from various countries and range from Madagascar to China. Recent **additional funding from the GSA** enabled International Section to give out few more additional awards to the applicants and ISMB greatly appreciate this timely contribution made available for distribution.

<b>Applicant’s Name &amp; Institution</b>	<b>Country of Residence</b>	<b>Abstract/Topic</b>
<b>Charlotte Brassey</b> , University of Manchester	UK	Yes Climatology
<b>Meryem Elmoulat</b> , Faculty of Science of Ben M’sik	Morocco	Yes Groundwater modeling
<b>Ermias Hagos</b> , Addis Ababa University	Ethiopia	Yes Geology of groundwater
<b>Michal Ben</b>	Israel	Yes Pleistocene desert Loess
<b>Zhen Dai</b> , Nanjing Institute of Geology & Paleontology	China	Yes Paleobiology
<b>Kavita Tripathi</b> , Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology	India	Yes Himalayan Tectonics
<b>Rocio Vargas</b> , Universidad Chile	Chile	Yes Geochemistry
<b>Tolotra Niaina</b> , Univ. Madagascar	Madagascar	Yes Miocene biostratigraphy
<b>Mohammed Hossain</b> , KTH Royal Institute of Technology	Bangladesh	Yes Environmental Arsenic

**17. GSA IS Attended GSA Leadership Meeting (April 26-28, 2013)**

Nazrul I. Khandaker, secretary, attended GSA Leadership Meeting in Boulder, Colorado. He was briefed on day-to-day GSA activities, by-laws, responsibilities associated with newly elected councilors, and other section management procedures.

**18. IS Chair (Incoming) and Secretary attending GSA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Meeting in Boulder (September 13-15, 2013)**

**A lengthy discussion regarding some restructuring of the GSA International Section followed on September 14, 2013 and following recommendations were made by the GSA Council to the ISMB for consideration:**

***REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROCEEDING WITH GSA GLOBAL AFFAIRS;  
CONSIDER A REQUEST TO CREATE A SEPARATE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM AT  
DIVISION AND SECTION LEVEL:***

***PROPOSED NEW NAME: GSA INTERNATIONAL***

***REQUEST COUNCIL TO MOVE INTERNATIONAL HONORARY FELLOW AWARD BACK TO A  
SOCIETY AWARD WITH THE PREVIOUS CRITERIA***

**19. IS Hosting Reception at the GSA Annual Meeting, Denver**

All international participants are cordially invited to attend a reception on **Oct. 28, 2013 (5.30 to 7.00 p.m.)**. Travel grants awardees will be recognized and pictures will be taken. Light refreshments will be provided.

**Event Name:** GSA International Participant's Reception and GSA International Section Awards Ceremony

**Organization Name:** GSA International Section

**Room:** Hyatt Regency at CCC, Capitol Ballroom 4

**20. IS Newsflash/Newsletter**

Several brief newsflash/newsletters were mailed out to individual members (well-over 1800) to keep them abreast of ***Roof of the World*** meeting and other notable international news items dealing with cutting edge frontier exploration activities, environmental issues, geosciences and public policy statements. International fellows were invited to become member of the GSA IS management board and participate in decision making process. **Please join us to celebrate GSA's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary meeting in Denver.**

Respectfully submitted by

**Nazrul Khandaker** (GSA IS Secretary)

October 10, 2013