



Photo by Bret Webster.

GSA's Connected Community is Gaining Momentum

By now you've probably read or heard something about our new *GSA Connected Community*—a communications platform that is poised to change the way we interact and build relationships within our geoscience community.

It's easy to find the community and begin to connect with colleagues and share information. GSA members (and non-members) can simply type community.geosociety.org into a web browser and click on "Help" for instructions on how to log in.

GSA members *already* have a profile in the Connected Community, populated from our member database; all you have to do is activate it. Your default profile shows only your name, city, state, and organization (much like the information on a conference badge). Once you've logged in, *you* decide what information to share and with whom.

Why Complete Your Profile?

Your comprehensive and interactive profile represents you both professionally and individually within the new **GSA Member Directory**. You have the option to search for other members by several key demographics, browse other profiles to identify potential contacts and groups of people with similar professional interests, and then reach out and connect with them. Your complete profile makes you accessible to other members of the geoscience community—*the people you actually want to network with!*

Your profile is similar to your online résumé, but with member connections. Users will be able to browse information and facts and also interact with you.

- If you're a student or early-career professional, this is the perfect platform to introduce yourself and showcase your assets.
- If you've been active in GSA, you've helped to build this Society, so be proud of it! Highlight your involvement with

the earth science community, your educational background, and publishing history. Your GSA service record is dynamically updated through the GSA member database.

- If your career is established, be a resource to a younger scientist just by making yourself visible and approachable.
- Reach out to alumni from your university, reconnect with colleagues from a former position, locate an author for the data behind a paper that you enjoyed, or track down a meeting presentation directly from the source. The possibilities are endless!

♦ **HOT TIP:** Be sure to upload a picture in your profile—it makes the community friendly and welcoming! Pictures are worth a thousand words, so make sure the image best represents you and what you want to accomplish. Consider using the same picture across all social media channels; this encourages recognition.

LinkedIn users can automatically populate their GSA profile with information from LinkedIn. A variety of security settings exist so that you can customize access to each part of your profile information and decide how it should be used.

Next month in *GSA Today** we'll talk more about how you can use the member directory to find the people you want to connect with and build a professional network you can access from anywhere in the world. As participation grows, this platform will become increasingly valuable as a resource and a tool for collaboration. Watch the GSA homepage for our next webinar on how to use the Connected Community.

*See the June *GSA Today* (p. 24–25; www.geosociety.org/gsatoday/) for an introductory article on GSA's Connected Community.

We Believe in the Power of GSA's Connected Community!

On To the Future: The Power of Community

The GSA Diversity in the Geosciences Committee is launching a grassroots initiative to provide partial funding for 125 students from underrepresented groups to attend their first GSA Annual Meeting this year in Denver, Colorado, USA, in honor of the Society's 125th anniversary. The steering committee for this initiative, titled **On To the Future (OTF)**, is using GSA's Connected Community to streamline their workflow and organize member volunteer sponsors for action.

The OTF program website (hosted within the Connected Community) provides a social network for OTF student participants to gain exposure to geoscience research and available career options. The Connected Community will also facilitate mentoring relationships and networking opportunities to help bring the OTF participants into the scientific and professional community.

<http://community.geosociety.org/OTF/>



ANNOUNCING

2014 GeoVentures and Teacher Field Camps!

GeoVentures

- **Hawaii** for educators: 6–12 Aug. 2014
- **Iceland:** 27 July–7 Aug. 2014
- **Australia** for educators and their families: Dates to be determined
www.geoventures.org



Contact Gary Lewis, glewis@geosociety.org,
for more information on GeoVentures.

Field Camps for K–12 Teachers

- **Rocky Mountain Field Camp:** GSA Rocky Mountain Section, 21–26 June 2014
- NEW** • **Illinois Basin Field Camp:** GSA North-Central Section, 16–19 June 2014
- NEW** • **Central New York Field Camp:** GSA Northeastern Section, dates to be determined
www.geosociety.org/geoventures/teachers/

Contact Davida Buehler, dbuehler@geosociety.org,
for more information on Field Camps.

Hawaii and Iceland GeoVentures and Rocky Mountain
Field Camps sell out quickly:

Register today to secure your place!



GeoVentures are also on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/GSAGeoVentures.

