Bridging Two Continents

Second Joint Scientific Meeting of GSA and GSC
1-2 November 2015
Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A.
(To be held in conjunction with the GSA Annual Meeting & Exposition, 1-4 November 2015)

First Circular

To promote and encourage greater understanding of Earth Sciences, the Geological Society of America (GSA) and the Geological Society of China (GSC), at the suggestion of the International Section of GSA, initialed a Memorandum of Understanding in October 2011 on holding two joint scientific meetings in the second decade of the 21st century.

The first meeting, Roof of the World, was held in Chengdu, China, 17-19 June 2013. This very successful meeting brought together many world-class scientists from the two societies to discuss a wide range of topics including: Evolution of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, Continental Deformation and Deep Lithosphere Processes, Intra-Continental Deformation and its Relationships to Geo-hazards, Accretionary Orogenesis, Deep Earth Processes through Geochemistry, Mineral Deposits, Basins and Petroleum Resources, the Permian-Triassic Mass Extinction, Ultra High-pressure Metamorphism, Ophiolites, Carbon Sequestration, Water Resources and Hydrogeology, Gas Hydrates, Critical Transitions in Earth’s History, and Foreland basin tectonics.

The second joint meeting will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, U.S.A. during the 2015 Geological Society of America’s Annual Meeting & Exposition. This GSA-GSC joint scientific meeting will be a “meeting within a meeting” and will be held on Sunday, 1 November - Monday, 2 November 2015 at the Baltimore Convention Center. A pre-meeting field trip will also be held covering the North American Cordillera. Field stops will include the San Andreas Fault, Sierra Nevada Batholith Belt, Death Valley, Cordilleran Foreland Fold and Thrust Belt, the Whipple Detachment Fault, the Colorado Plateau and the Grand Canyon, and the Orocopia-Pelona Schist and related tectonic windows that expose underplated mélange material within the North American Craton. The duration of the field trip is 7 days.
1. Important Dates

1 February 2015: Deadline for Session Submission
April 2015: Release of Second Circular (Registration Fees, Session Information, Format of Abstracts)
1 April 2015: Abstract Submission Website Opens
June 2015: Release of Third Circular (Registration information, Field Trip Information, Format of Abstracts)
June 2015: Registration and Housing Websites Open
11 August 2015: Abstract Submission Deadline, 11:59 p.m. PDT
28 September 2015: Early Registration Deadline, 11:59 p.m. MDT (registration fees goes up after this deadline)
5 October 2015: Registration Cancellation Deadline
October 2015: Release of 4th Circular

2. Theme and Topics

Theme:
“Spatiotemporal evolution of continental arcs in Asia and the western North America Cordillera” (Xianhua Li, Ding Lin, Di-Cheng Zhu, Paul Kapp, and Allen Glazner)”

Topics:
(1) New insights into the mechanisms of continental deformation from deep seismic reflection profiling and receiver-function seismology (Shuwen Dong, Larry Brown)
(2) Tectonic evolution of the Indo-Asian collision zones (Chengshan Wang, An Yin)
(3) Supercontinents in Earth's history: new perspectives from Precambrian geology of Asia and North America (Ming-Guo Zhai, Brendon Murphy, Joe Meert)
(4) New advances in multidisciplinary studies of active tectonics of Asia and North America and their implications for remediating seismic hazards (Peizheng Zhang, Mian Liu, Seth Stein)
(5) Comparative studies of Phanerozoic accretionary orogenesis in central Asia and North America Cordillera (Wenjiao Xiao, John Wakabayashi, Laura Webb)
(7) Advances in Ultrahigh-Pressure Metamorphism (J. Gilotti, Y.-F. Zheng)

3. Pre-Meeting Field Trip

This pre-meeting field trip will cover the North American Cordillera. Participants should plan to fly from Los Angeles, CA to Baltimore, MD after the trip to participate in the technical sessions 1-2 November.

Day 1: arrive in Los Angeles airport and drive directly to Bishop, California
Day 2: field trip to the Sierra Nevada batholith belt and Cenozoic volcanic fields along the Owens Valley; stay in Bishop
Day 3: extensional fault system, geomorphology, Last Chance thrust, and Neoproterozoic glacial deposits in the Death Valley; stay in Las Vegas
Day 4: drive to Flagstaff (Arizona) and examine the transition zone between the Basin Range extensional province and the Colorado Plateau
Day 5: visit the Sunset volcanic crater, the meteor crater, and Grand Canyon
Day 6: drive from Flagstaff to Parker, Arizona
Day 7: visit the Whipple Mountain Detachment Fault; visit Orocopia schist outcrop near the
Orocopia Mountains, California; drive back and stay in Los Angeles.

4. Organizing Committee
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  Paul Kapp (University of Arizona)
  Allen Glazner (University North Carolina)
  Brendan Murphy (St. Francis Xavier University)
  Joe Meert (University of Florida)
  Mike Oskin (UC Davis)
  John Wakabayashi (California State University, Fresno)
  Laura Webb (University of Vermont)
  Y. Dilek (Miami University)
  J. Gilotti (University of Iowa)

Geological Society of China (GSC)
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  Jingsui Yang (Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences)
  Xianhua Li (Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences)
  Lin Ding (Institute of Tibetan Plateau, Chinese Academy of Sciences)
  Chengshan Wang (China University of Geosciences-Beijing)
  Di-Cheng Zhu (China University of Geosciences-Beijing)
  Ming-Guo Zhai (Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences)
  Jing Liu-Zeng (Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Earthquake Administration)
  Wenjiao Xiao (Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences)
  Y.-F. Zheng (University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, China)
  Lifei Zhang (Peking University)

5. Websites
www.geosociety.org/meetings/2015
http://eng.cags.ac.cn (Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Beijing, 中国地质科学院)
http://www.geosociety.org.cn/index.asp (Geological Society of China, 中国地质学会)
http://www.geosociety.org/meetings (Geological Society of America, 美国地质学会)
http://www.geochina.org (Overseas Chinese Earth Science and Technology Association, 海外华人地球科学与技术协会)