

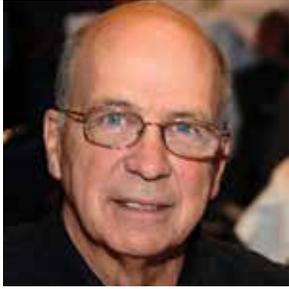
The Geological Society of America

ANNUAL

REPORT Fiscal Year
2013



GSA Celebrated its 125th year Anniversary!



George Davis, GSA President

Letter from the GSA PRESIDENT

“Where Our Deepest Passions Intersect the World’s Compelling Needs” was the title of my GSA Presidential Address at the Annual Meeting in Charlotte last November. The emphasis: GSA enables individual geoscientists and cohorts of geoscientists to do their best work, thereby advancing the science and its practice and leveraging accomplishments in ways that advance civilization and improve the human condition. I see this vision embedded in the primary goals of GSA’s membership-vetted and Council-adopted GSA 2013–2017 Strategic Plan: (1) to advance geoscience research and discovery; (2) to strengthen public recognition of the relevance of geoscience education and practice to societal needs and Earth stewardship; and (3) to develop and foster a robust, diverse, and sustainable professional geoscience community. I will emphasize here that FY2013 was like all other years in one particular respect: opportunities and challenges *abound* as GSA addresses its primary goals.

GSA leveraged scientific research, discovery, and communication through its publications, meetings, conferences, Sections, Divisions, and Associated Societies. For example:

GSA’s investments in Research Funding exceeded \$500,000 in FY2013.

Open Access policy development was on the front burner for all scientific societ-

ies engaged in publication. Following the lead of the Research Council of the United Kingdom, GSA adopted a conservative hybrid approach with the combination of Gold (author pays) Open Access and Green (post-peer review version in repository) Open Access, available to all authors and to all GSA publications.

Sections and Divisions continued to be the lifeblood of communicating research discovery in person at meetings. Divisions framed cutting-edge sessions and short courses at the Annual Meeting in Charlotte. The “design and build” nature of GSA Section Meetings, which take place at different regional venues annually, draws upon the diverse intellectual assets, unique resources, particularized field trip opportunities, sponsorships, and hot topics in ways that a “top-down” approach could never achieve.

Roof of the World Meeting, June 2013, City of Chengdu. This was the first joint scientific meeting between the Geological Society of China and the GSA.

Penrose Conference conveners can count on discretionary block grants of \$10K per conference, because GSA and the GSA Foundation, in partnership, made a strategic investment of \$120K to cover four Penrose Conferences per year for the next three years.

GSA fostered broad-based geosciences education and developed public-policy Position Statements that strengthen recognition of the relevance of geosciences. For example:

GSA’s Teacher Advocate Program provided K–12 teachers with Explore Geoscience CD-ROMS, lesson plans, resource links, materials, field experiences, and workshops, all geared to increasing the appreciation of Earth’s history, processes, and resources through Earth science education.

GeoCorps™ America placed a total of 125 students and professionals into temporary positions within National Parks, National Forests, and Bureau of Land Management lands, where they addressed education, resource management, geological hazards mitigation, and research on public lands.

GSA’s Annual and Section Meetings were replete, once again, with abundant topical sessions on broad-ranging dimensions of geosciences education, bringing together professors, teachers, and students in ways that are continuously expanding human-resource networks.

The Geology and Public Policy Committee (GPPC) developed and gained Council approval for the following new Position Statements: “Promoting Earth Science Literacy for Public Decision Making”; “Earth Sciences in the Planning and Building of

GSA’S MISSION:

To advance geoscience research and discovery, service to society, stewardship of Earth, and the geosciences profession.



GSA Headquarters at 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, CO 80301-9140. Photo by Eric Christensen 2013.

Infrastructure”; and “Role of Geology in Waste Management Policy”. In addition GPPC revised and gained Council approval for others: “Teaching Evolution”; “Integrating Geoscience with Sustainable Land-Use Management”; “Geoscience Data Preservation”; “Open Access Data”; “Rewarding Professional Contributions”; “Diversity in the Geosciences Community”; and “Climate Change.” A Critical Issue on Hydraulic Fracturing is going forward and new Position Statements, e.g., “Managing U.S. Coastal Hazards,” are in the works.

GSA addressed developing and fostering a robust, diverse, and sustainable geoscience community. For example:

Our GSA membership rose to ~25,000 during FY2013 with membership distributed across four principal cohorts: private sector (20%), government (10%), academia/education (27%), and students (30%). These demographics represent an immense strategic advantage for GSA.

We surveyed “private sector” GSA members to learn what GSA offerings they particularly value, in order to strategically consider how to increase private sector member engagement at GSA’s Annual and Section Meetings. As a result of what was learned from the survey, GSA’s Annual Meeting in Denver (2013) will include

our first *Geoscience Career Program: Connecting Industry and Students*. Companies have been responsive and generous! The program will include a half-day Workshop on Careers in Geosciences; a Student-Research Highlight Session; a Lunchtime Geology in Industry Q&A Panel; a Geosciences Career/Professional Practice Session, and an Evening Reception.

GSA’s *Diversity Committee* proposed a grassroots GSA initiative called “On To the Future” (OTF), with the goal of bringing about a cultural shift in how GSA and its membership address the opportunities and challenges of diversity. Practically speaking, we will be introducing a diverse cohort of 125 students to their first GSA Annual Meeting (Denver, 2013), which will help sustain student membership and increase the diversity of GSA membership. A special effort by GSAF will have raised \$50K to cover GSA student membership and registration fees, and student activities. GSA members, such as myself, are stepping up to sponsor individual students and cover (in part or fully) transportation, food, and lodging.

Knowing the critical importance of geology, globally, to research, education, and outreach at this particular time, I find it reassuring that the financial condition of GSA’s base budget is strong, and that GSA’s capacity for strategic investments improved this year with the

“return of the market.” A healthy financial condition increases GSA’s mission leverage. Moreover, as will become clear in this Annual Report, FY2013 philanthropically was a banner year for the GSA.

Let me close by emphasizing that it has been an honor to serve as GSA President. I feel fortunate that my term coincided in part with GSA’s 125th Anniversary. The heart of our celebration will take place this October in Denver, though some of us already have experienced anniversary-related events. For example, I just returned from the Scottish Highlands where one of our Associated Societies, the Geological Society of London, celebrated our 125th through field trips. What could be a more appropriate way to salute GSA’s glorious past, and to set compass directions (or shall I say “GPS waypoints”) for GSA’s future?

George H. Davis, GSA President

GSA’S VISION:

To be the premier geological society supporting the global community in scientific discovery, communication, and application of geoscience knowledge.

GSA fiscal year 2013

OFFICERS & COUNCILORS



GSA OFFICERS

(row 1, left to right)

PRESIDENT

George H. Davis
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ, USA

VICE PRESIDENT

Suzanne Mahlburg Kay
Cornell University
Ithaca, NY, USA

TREASURER

Jonathan G. Price
Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology
Reno, NV, USA

PAST PRESIDENT

John W. Geissman
University of Texas at Dallas
Richardson, TX, USA

GSA COUNCILORS

JULY 2009-JUNE 2013

(row 2, left to right)

Lisa D. White
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA, USA

Victor Ramos
Ciudad Universitaria
Buenos Aires, Argentina

J. Douglas Walker
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS, USA

JULY 2010-JUNE 2014

(row 3, left to right)

Bruce R. Clark
The Leighton Group, Inc.
Irvine, CA, USA

Barbara L. Dutrow
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA, USA

Daniel Larsen
University of Memphis
Memphis, TN, USA

JULY 2011-JUNE 2015

(row 4, left to right)

Janet S. Herman
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA, USA

John M. Holbrook
Texas Christian University
Fort Worth, TX, USA

Robert J. Tracy
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
& State University
Blacksburg, VA, USA

JULY 2012 – JUNE 2016

(row 5, left to right)

Isabel P. Montanez
University of
California–Davis
Davis, CA, USA

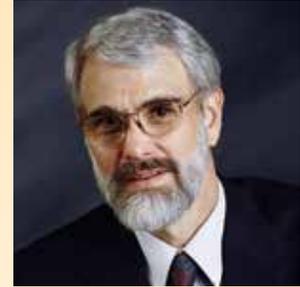
William W. Simpkins
Iowa State University
Ames, IA, USA

Marilyn J. Suiter
Arlington, VA, USA

Annual letter from the GSA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1 July 2012–30 June 2013



John (Jack) W. Hess,
GSA Executive Director

The Geological Society of America continues to keep an eye on its overarching Vision as it executes its critical Mission. The Washington Office, as part of GSA's National Leadership Initiative, continues to gain visibility for the Society in the public policy arena, and we have been speaking out for the solid earth community. GSA has been active globally this fiscal year, giving members a voice at meetings around the world, including the meetings of the European Geosciences Union (EGU), the Geological Association of Canada/Mineralogical Association of Canada (GAC/MAC), Colloquium on African Geology (CAG24) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the *Roof of the World* conference held jointly with the Geological Society of China in Chengdu, China.

The Annual Meeting in Charlotte attracted 5690 attendees from across the globe. Spring 2013 Section Meetings had a combined attendance of around 3355. Our participation in GeoScienceWorld continues to be of immense scientific value, as well as a good source of revenue, and our book publishing continues to grow. In Education and Outreach, EarthCaching is expanding rapidly around the world and the GeoCorps® America Program is bringing more geoscience positions to federal lands than ever before. Mentoring programs are in demand at both annual and section meetings. Membership continues to grow, ending calendar year 2012 at nearly 25,500 members.

FY2013 was financially good for the Society. We close the year with a surplus thanks to the hard work of all concerned. GSA has now

ended in the black for eleven years in a row.

The Society approved a new Strategic Plan including revised Mission, Vision, and Goals in November 2012 to be rolled out as part of the Society's 125th Anniversary in 2013. A FY2014 Action Plan was developed to implement the first year of the Strategic Plan. I would like to challenge all of our members to help the Society achieve the grand goals set forth in the new plan.

My major role is to create an environment in which both the Society leadership and staff can, with appropriate resources, advance science through high-quality meetings and publications, develop strong and meaningful relationships with other societies and organizations around the world, facilitate GSA's role in the education of students, the lay public and policy makers, and develop more sponsorship and donations for GSA programs.

The Society has much to be proud of as we begin to celebrate our 125th Anniversary in 2013. GSA kicked off its 125th Anniversary celebration with the 125th Anniversary excursion, *Travels in Geology—Antarctica and the Scotia Arc: Tectonics, Climate and Life*, an extraordinary 22-day adventure to one of Earth's most dynamic ecosystems. Field and lecture programs were designed for both the professional scientist and anyone with an interest in the planet, its life and future. The year will conclude with a birthday party on 19 December at GSA Headquarters in Boulder, Colorado.

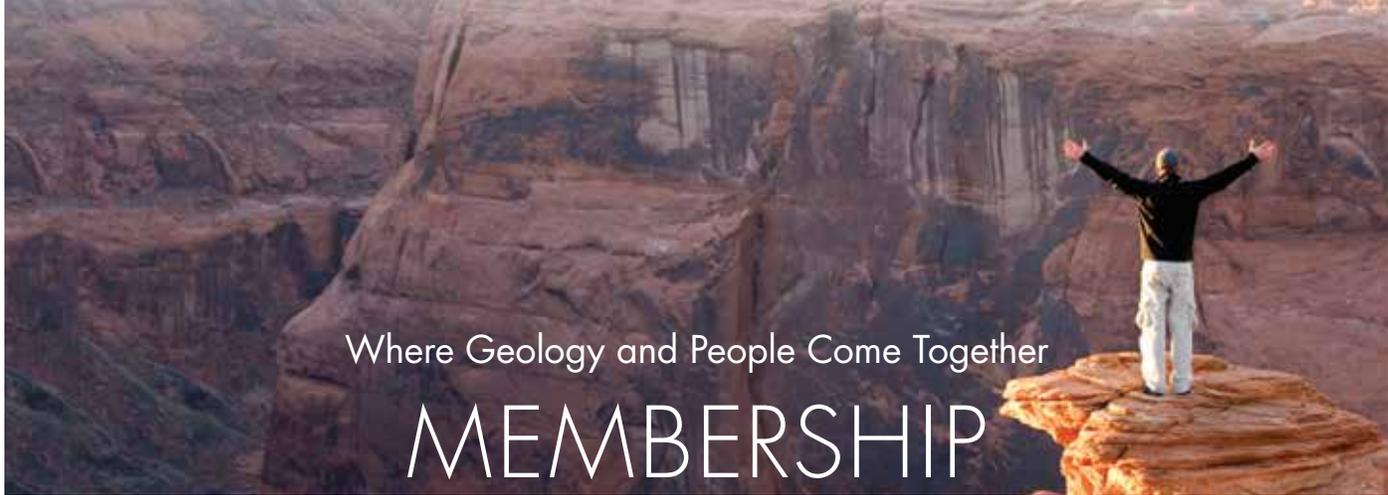
We publish highly respected journals, present high-quality and exciting meetings,

constantly work to improve service to our members and customers, and continue to build significant partnerships with societies around the world. The Society has strengthened its public policy efforts and is developing its strategic vision for its international role in the future.

Thank you for your continuing support. I look forward to a long-term, open, and positive relationship with the members, Council, and staff.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Hess". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

John W. Hess, Executive Director



Where Geology and People Come Together

MEMBERSHIP

Supporting Students

GSA supports students in their pursuit of careers in the geosciences, offers programs to aid in their success, and provides benefits designed specifically around their needs.

GSA student members, who represent 33% of GSA's membership, receive free online access to GSA journals (over US\$190 value), access to mentor programs, employment services, internships, travel and research grants, in addition to all other membership offerings.

In support of geoscience students and helping them engage in the Society, nearly 600 professional members in 35 countries serve as Campus Representatives to encourage their students to pursue careers in the geosciences, and to take advantage of programs and services offered through GSA membership

GSA members comprise a diverse community: 25,000 members Professional geologists, Students, Recent graduates, K-12 teachers, Affiliates in 107 countries—7 regional Sections with 40+ scientific specialties and interests who belong to one or more of 17 special interest Divisions from education, industry, and government

One of the most successful student programs is the GSA Graduate Student Research Grants Program—one of the largest and most prestigious funding programs for graduate students in the geosciences. The program helps fund field and laboratory costs of geoscience projects proposed and conducted by master's and doctoral students at universities in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Throughout its 80-year history, the GSA Research Grants Program has awarded close to 10,000 geoscientists a total of US\$13,500,000 to conduct research.

For FY2013, 615 students applied for funding and 307 were awarded a grant (50%). The total amount granted was US\$554,164.

International Initiatives

GSA continues to seek input from our members and Associated Societies outside of the United States in order to serve a global membership and for GSA to be an active leader in the global community. In order to be the premier geological society supporting the global geoscience community, GSA is very active within the international science platform. GSA has several avenues in which it works within international initiatives:

- GSA's International Section activities
- Working with international Associated Societies
- Partnering on international meetings
- International sessions within the Annual Meeting
- GSA international lecture tour
- GSA involvement in international committees, commissions & projects

The International Section was active in supporting 1,800 Section members who reside outside of North America. The International Section helped organize the GSA meeting *Roof of the World* in Chengdu, China, in June 2013, which was co-sponsored with the Geological Society of China. Approximately 425 people attended the meeting. The meeting covered topics including the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, intra-continental deformation and mineral resources, and unique sites for the end-of-Permian mass extinctions.

The International Section selected the 2014 GSA Distinguished International Lecturer, Dr. Marjorie Chan, and will assist in making lecture tour arrangements. Dr. Chan will be delivering two lectures throughout Asia in 2014,

and potentially Australia, on the themes: *Eolian Explorations: Dunes, Deformation, & Diagenesis* and *Mars for Earthlings: Using Earth Analogs to Decode the Sedimentary History of Mars*.

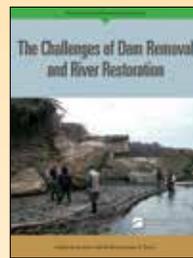
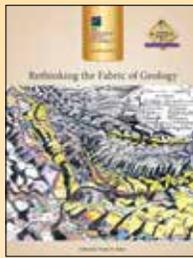
GSA has Associated Societies that are based outside of the United States, and it can reach out to partner with them on strategic initiatives:

Societies in other countries:

- Asociación Geológica Argentina (AGA)
- Geologica Belgica (Geological Society of Belgium) (GB)
- Geological Society of Australia (GSAus)
- Geological Society of China (GSC)
- Geological Society of London (GSL)
- Geoscience Society of New Zealand (GSNZ)
- Geological Society of Africa (GSAf)
- Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA)
- Geologische Vereinigung (Germany) (GV)
- Israel Geological Society (IGS)
- Nepal Geological Society (NGS)
- Sociedad Geológica Mexicana, A.C. (SGM)
- Società Geologica Italiana (SGI)

Special interest international societies:

- Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID)
- International Association for Geoscience Diversity (IAGD)
- International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)
- International Association of GeoChemistry (IAGC)
- International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)
- International Medical Geology Association (IMGA)
- International Society for Aeolian Research (ISAR)
- The Mineralogical Society (MS)
- Society for Environmental Geochemistry and Health (SEGH)



Communicating Geoscience Discovery

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Maps

GSA published 16 peer-reviewed scholarly books in fiscal year 2013. The Special Paper series (nine volumes in FY2013) is for state-of-the-art treatments of rapidly evolving subjects. Memoirs (two volumes) remain an authoritative reference for a number of years. Field Guides (five in FY2013) feature guides from field trips held at GSA meetings and those of associated organizations. *Reviews in Engineering Geology* (one volume) is produced in cooperation with GSA's Environment and Engineering Geology Division. One printed map, four digital maps, and 14 individual *Memorials* (to deceased GSA members) were published in FY2013. GSA also published its now-annual calendar, featuring images from annual meeting photo exhibits, and an updated Visitor Guide to GSA's Headquarters building and grounds.

GSA's e-book collection continues to expand at www.gsapubs.org. The online collection of more than 750 Special Papers, Field Guides, Memoirs, and Reviews in Engineering Geology volumes in PDF is now complete back to volume 1 from each series.

Journals

GSA Bulletin, published since 1890, is distributed in print bimonthly with articles posted online as they are accepted. Archives from 1945 to the present are online. A series of review articles were featured this year in honor of GSA's 125th anniversary. 2012 impact factor*: 4.286; five-year: 4.494.

Geology's short papers on new investigations and provocative topics from all earth science disciplines are published monthly in print and online as they are accepted; online archives go back to volume 1 (1973). Ranked the #1 geology journal for the seventh consecutive year*, *Geology* saw a significant jump in accepted papers from outside the U.S. in FY2013. 2012 impact factor: 4.087; five-year: 4.660.

Geosphere, published bimonthly online since 2005, covers all geoscience disciplines and features papers with animations, sound, and movie files. Its growing collection of themed issues now numbers 14. 2012 impact factor: 2.023; five-year: 2.373.

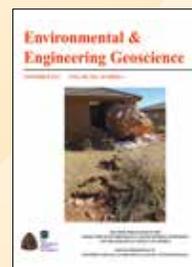
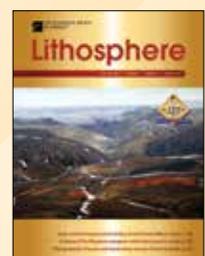
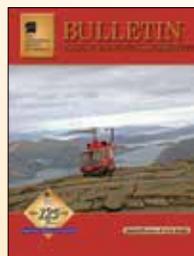
Lithosphere, launched in 2009 to provide an outlet for the high interest in tectonics and structural geology, is distributed in print bimonthly with articles posted online as they are accepted. It is now ranked 10th among geology journals worldwide*. 2012 impact factor: 2.169; five-year: 2.216.

Published jointly by the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and GSA is the quarterly *Environmental & Engineering Geoscience*. Online at

GeoScienceWorld, it contains new theory, applications, and case histories illustrating the dynamics of environmental and applied disciplines. 2012 impact factor: 0.630; five-year: 0.555.

GSA journals are available at www.gsapubs.org (a mobile-optimized site), on an annual DVD, and through GeoScienceWorld.

GSA Today, GSA's science and news magazine for members and the earth-science community worldwide, features science articles as well as member news and announcements. It is open access online and is ranked sixth by SCImago Journal & Country Rank, which measures a journal's impact, influence, and prestige.



*2012 Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports. The JCR uses a systematic, objective means to evaluate a journal's impact based on how many citations its papers receive each year. Thomson Reuters also tracks GSA Special Papers, Memoirs, and Reviews in Engineering Geology volumes in its Book Citation Index.



Connecting the Geoscience Community

MEETINGS

GSA meets the need for face-to-face scientific exchange and networking with meetings and programs of the highest quality throughout the year. These include the Annual Meeting & Exposition, regional Section Meetings, prestigious Penrose Conferences, Thompson Field Forums, and Specialty Meetings. In fiscal year 2013, GSA hosted 11 meetings and conferences, bringing together thousands of geoscience professionals and students.

The 2012 Annual Meeting & Exposition was held in Charlotte, North Carolina, 4–7 November. The 5690 attendees from 36 countries found southern hospitality at every turn. Networking opportunities were abundant, and the broad scientific exchange made this as always, a unique scientific gathering. 3453 abstracts were presented, 13 field trips ran, and 29 short courses were held. Hundreds of volunteers participate yearly in the Annual Meeting—from local organizing committee members and the Joint Technical Program Committee, to the hundreds of session conveners from every geoscience discipline and the hundreds of student volunteers from campuses across the Americas and abroad. There is something for everyone at the GSA Annual Meeting!

We started calendar year 2013 off with the first of many GSA 125th Anniversary celebrations—*Travels in Geology—Antarctica and the Scotia Arc: Tectonics, Climate and Life*. This cruise ran 28 December 2012–

20 January 2013. Just over 100 people went on this expedition, with approximately 35–40 GSA members included. During the trip, people were able to track the ship using GPS coordinates and had the opportunity to experience the expedition vicariously through blogs and photos.

The 2013 Section Meetings were held across the country, bringing together 3356 scientists. Meetings were held in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire (Northeastern Section); San Juan, Puerto Rico (Southeastern Section); Austin, Texas (South-Central Section); Kalamazoo, Michigan (North-Central Section); Gunnison, Colorado (Rocky Mountain Section); and Fresno, California (Cordilleran Section). In addition to these regional meetings, the GSA International Section partnered with GSA and the Geological Society of China to host the *Roof of the World* specialty meeting in Chengdu, China, in June 2013. 424 people attended this conference.

Field Forums received a new formal name this year. They are now the Thompson Field Forums, named after James B. Thompson Jr., who passed away in November 2011. Funds from the J.B. Thompson estate through the GSA Foundation will help to support up to four Thompson Field Forums or Penrose Conferences annually going forward.

One Field Forum, *Formation of the Sierra Nevada Batholith: Magmatic and Tectonic Processes and Their Tempos*, was held 1–8 September 2012 in Sierra Nevada, California. 57 people, 19 of whom were students, attended. And one Penrose Conference, *Coastal Processes and Environments under Sea-Level Rise and Changing Climate: Science to Inform Management* ran in Galveston, Texas, 14–19 April. 84 people attended. This was the first joint GSA Penrose/AGU Chapman Conference.



Photos left to right:
 Northeastern Section Meeting, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, USA.
 Southeastern Section Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico.
 South-Central Section Meeting, Austin, Texas, USA.
 North-Central Section Meeting, Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA.
 Rocky Mountain Section Meeting, Gunnison, Colorado, USA.
 Cordilleran Section Meeting, Fresno, California, USA.



GSA 125th expedition to Antarctica group portrait.



First Joint meeting of GSC and GSA was held in Chengdu, China.



Nurturing Current and Future Generations

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Earth science education and outreach activities at all levels are at the core of GSA's mission to increase appreciation of Earth's history, processes, and resources.

Amid federal budget uncertainties, GeoCorps™ America had another strong year, with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and California Department of Conservation Abandoned Mine Land Unit hosting over 130 participants, demonstrating how highly GeoCorps is valued by GSA's partners. In partnership with the National Park Service, GSA began "Mosaics in Science," a program designed to promote further diversity among those working in the sciences in the federal government. In its inaugural year, Mosaics in Science placed 12 participants from groups underrepresented in the sciences at National Park sites to work on projects in geoscience as well as other scientific disciplines.

GSA Mentor Programs were once again a highlight for students at the 2013 Section Meetings and the 2012 Annual Meeting, providing mentoring opportunities for more than 1650 students with more than 350 mentors.

The Short Course Program is thriving. The 2012 Annual Meeting saw 567 people attending 29 courses. This is our largest short course participation to date and the largest number of courses run at a GSA Annual Meeting. Student attendance represented 38% of the total and the average course fee was only \$42. The lower costs associated with these courses have served to make them more accessible to everyone.

The GSA/ExxonMobil Bighorn Basin Field Award, an extension of the Short Course Program, ran in 2012 with two faculty, eight graduate students, and 15 undergraduate awardees. This program seeks to energize and enhance the education of geology students and faculty by introducing them to the

breadth and challenges of integrated basin and petroleum systems analysis.

In summer 2013, the GSA/ExxonMobil Field Camp Excellence Award provided \$10,000 to the Wasatch-Uinta Field Camp run by the University of the Pacific, based on safety awareness, diversity, and technical excellence. The GSA/ExxonMobil Field Camp Scholar Award was given to 17 students (nine with diverse backgrounds), who were each awarded \$2000 to attend the field camp of their choice based on diversity, economic/financial need, and merit.

The Employment Service Center, which maintains GSA's online résumé database system, gave GSA members an opportunity to post their résumés for free, access job-hunting tools, and review job postings from registered employers. At the 2013 Annual Meeting, this program will be expanded into the Geoscience Career Program, which will connect industry and students through a workshop to prepare candidates to meet with company recruiters, a session for students to present their research to companies, and a chance for candidates to approach companies in a Professional Practice Session. This will be followed by an evening reception.

The EarthCache™ Program, an educational geocaching project that takes the general public to interesting Earth science sites, has continued to grow this year. More than 3.75 million people have logged visits to EarthCache sites since its inception. In September 2012, more than 700 earth science enthusiasts gathered in New Gloucester, Maine, for the First International EarthCache Mega Event. This event provided participants with opportunities to discover new EarthCache sites, meet EarthCache reviewers, share stories with like-minded explorers, and learn more about earth science. The Second International EarthCache Mega Event will take place in September 2013, among the red rocks of St. George, Utah.

The Teacher Advocate Program (TAP) had a very successful year. Workshops and short courses were taught at the National Science Teachers' Association National and Regional Conferences, the Texas Science Teachers Association Conference, GeoTech, and at GSA's Annual Meeting. More than 230,000 students and 2000 teachers benefited from these workshops. TAP ran two GeoVentures this year and both trips were filled to capacity. Field Camps were developed this year and the first field camp ran in Colorado. The number of teachers interested in attending this field camp was so great that it was necessary to double the number of teachers allowed. Even with this expansion, there was still a wait list. The goal is to have one field camp in each of GSA's sections, and two additional field camps are being added for summer 2014.

Earth science education and outreach activities at all levels are at the core of GSA's mission to increase appreciation of Earth's history, processes, and resources.

Teachers, students, and geologists attended GeoVentures located in Death Valley, Dinosaur National Monument, Hawaii, and Iceland this year. There were two GeoVentures for teachers, one for students, and one for anyone interested. Fifty-six people attended a GeoVenture this year.

On To the Future (OTF) is a GSA grassroots initiative to provide partial funding for 125 diverse students to attend their first GSA Annual Meeting in FY2014 in Denver, Colorado. To date, this program has been very successful and will meet its targeted goals.

Thank you
SPONSORS
as of 30 June 2013

GSA and the Foundation are pleased to collaborate in a wide range of sponsorships supporting the Annual Meeting, and more: field camps, teacher excellence recognition, geoscience students' field camp attendance, undergraduate diversity scholarships, and a number of in-kind services are all made possible thanks to partners and sponsors. New efforts have included

partnerships that reach into communities both local and at a distance, and we look forward to increasing unique sponsorship projects that shed a spotlight on GSA—even beyond our membership and regular supporters.

The combined efforts of business and science can make a greater difference than any organization alone. Together, we can

maximize the collective ability to foster the growth of current and future leaders in the geosciences community. GSA strives to engage business and industry as a positive force to advance science, stewardship, and service, joining with corporations in the meaningful impacts of partnership.

DOUBLE-DIAMOND



SUBARU

Confidence in Motion

Subaru of America Inc.

ExxonMobil

ExxonMobil

PLATINUM



Shell Oil



Newmont Mining Corporation



U.S. Geological Survey

GOLD



Chevron



UNC-Charlotte Center City*



Alpha Natural Resources



American Elements



Image Audiovisuals

BRONZE

CH2M Hill

GigaPan Systems

International Centre for Diffraction Data

PATRON

Annual Reviews

AEG Carolinas Section

Hart & Hickman PC

North Carolina State University

Potash Corporation Aurora

University of Tennessee-Knoxville

Zapata Incorporated

Additional support from:

Columbia Sportswear*

Environmental Risk Innovations LLC

IMA Corp.*

University of Georgia Geology

* In-kind donation.

Bridging the Geosciences and Public Policy

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY



Geology & Public Policy Committee Chair-elect Jeff Rubin discusses science policy with Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR).

Keep up with policy developments by subscribing to GSA's "News from the Hill" RSS feed (<http://feeds.feedburner.com/GSAGEologyAndPublicPolicyNews>).

GSA Advocates for Geoscience Research Funding. GSA testified in support of geoscience research at the U.S Geological Survey (USGS), National Science Foundation (NSF), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). On 16 April 2013, GSA Director for Geoscience Policy Kasey White testified before the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies and requested that Congress provide as much of the increase in the Administration's FY2014 request for the USGS as possible. GSA also submitted testimony to the Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies supporting geoscience research at NSF and NASA. As funding cuts known as the "sequester" dominated the policy discussions, GSA worked with policymakers to emphasize the importance of geoscience research and the impact that the sequester would have on the future of the U.S. research enterprise and our capacity to remain a competitive nation.

Policy Highlights from GSA Meetings. A number of new policy activities were held during the 2012 Annual Meeting. Taking advantage of the meeting falling over Election Day, GSA sponsored an Election Night event to allow members to watch the election results roll in with other geoscientists and discuss their implications. On Wednesday, just hours after the final results were announced,

a distinguished panel examined how the election results will shape federal funding for geoscience research as well as environmental and energy policy. Members also learned about the congressional science fellowship at an informal reception and networked with others interested in policy during social events. At the 2013 Southeastern Section meeting, White gave a talk on how to conduct district congressional visits.

Come Meet with Policymakers during Congressional Visits Days. GSA provides opportunities for its members to discuss geosciences policy issues with decision makers in Washington, D.C., by participating in Congressional Visits Days, including Climate Science Day (26–27 February 2013), Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Day (12–13 March 2013), and Geosciences Congressional Visits Day (11–12 September 2012). GSA works with other scientific societies to organize these events, which involve meetings with more than 100 congressional offices and provide training and briefings for participants. Contact GSA to participate in the next one!

GSA Sponsors Congressional Exhibitions and Briefings. GSA helps organize geosciences exhibits at special events on Capitol Hill. GSA joined with the American Geophysical Union and the American Geosciences Institute to highlight the contributions of 40 years of LANDSAT at the Science-Engineering-Technology Exhibition and Reception (13 March 2013). As co-chair of the USGS Coalition Exhibition and Reception (12 September 2012), GSA played a lead role in this event honoring congressional champions of the USGS and highlighting its research and applications. GSA co-sponsors congressional briefings on geoscience issues of special interest to Congress. On 6 June 2013, GSA cosponsored a standing-room only briefing entitled, "Innovative Strategies for Building a Diverse Scientific Workforce." Other briefings include a showing and discussion of *Switch* and a briefing highlighting the contributions of Landsat.



Todd Bianco,
2012–2013 GSA-USGS
Congressional Science Fellow

Congressional Science Fellow. Todd Bianco served as the 2012–2013 GSA-USGS Congressional Science Fellow. He worked for Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) on a range of science and environmental issues.

New and Revised GSA Position Statements Adopted. GSA Council approved several new and revised Position Statements during this fiscal year. These include a new Position Statement entitled "Promoting Earth Science Literacy for Public Decision Making" and revisions to the Position Statements on "Teaching Evolution," "Rewarding Professional Contributions," "Climate Change," "Diversity in the Geosciences Community," "Geoscience Data Preservation," and "Open Data Access." In addition, GSA endorsed an updated statement by the Seismological Society of America and the American Geophysical Union: "Monitoring the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty."



Science Engineering Technology Congressional Visits Day; Rep. Mike Honda (D-CA), who was awarded the 2013 George E. Brown, Jr. Leadership Award for his for active leadership on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), discusses the many contributions of landsat at a booth sponsored by GSA, AGU, and AGI.



GSA FOUNDATION

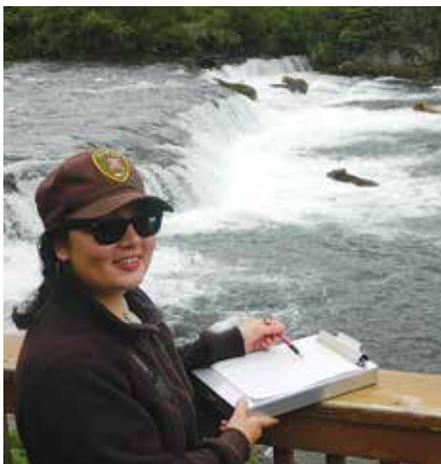
The Foundation

The Geological Society of America Foundation's mission is to support the programs of The Geological Society of America. The Foundation welcomes contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and institutions.

2012–2013 Highlights

In FY2013, your GSA Foundation received contributions of about \$2.75 million from individual GSA members and corporations. This makes FY2013 the most successful year since the Great Recession. Our success was assured by 4759 gifts at all levels—the largest number in the Foundation's 33-year history. In addition to widespread support from members, corporate partners, and foundations, the Foundation received two transformative bequests—from the estates of James B. Thompson Jr. and Charles Shaw.

Two key responsibilities of the Foundation are to (1) support GSA programs and (2) nurture the Foundation's assets for the future. With respect to the first (see charts below), we transferred nearly \$900,000 to GSA in support of GSA programs—a record. With respect to the second responsibility, the Foundation's assets are at a historic high—more than \$14 million as compared with \$12 million at the end of FY2012.



GSA Foundation supports geoscientists and students in the field.

These funds are pooled with GSA's endowments and managed by the joint GSA/GSA Foundation Investment Committee.

We have had some staff changes this year. As reported last year, Debbie Marcinkowski joined us 1 July as Director of Corporate Partnerships. Her impact has already been felt—perhaps most visibly with the new corporate-sponsored Geoscience Career Program at the Annual Meeting. Chris Tallackson came on board as Director of Development on 1 January, overlapping with Anna Christensen, his predecessor, for several months. Chris has ably coordinated the Foundation's successful fundraising efforts for the "On To the Future" initiative.

The Future

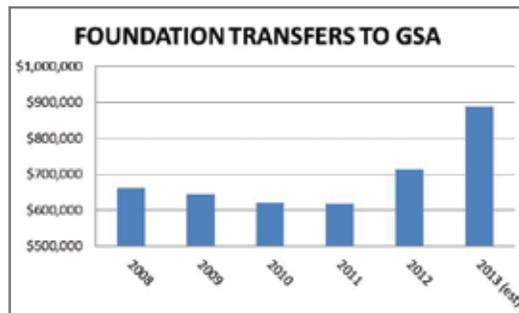
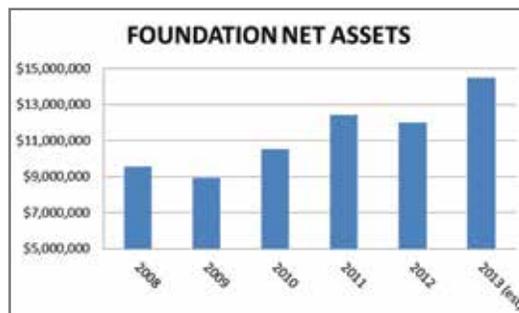
GSA celebrates its 125th Anniversary this year. The Foundation is proud to participate in several special events. The On To the Future project of GSA's Diversity in the Geosciences Committee will bring 125 students from underrepresented groups to their first GSA Annual Meeting. The

Foundation had a goal to raise \$50,000 to support this effort, and I am pleased to report that this target was achieved six weeks in advance of the deadline.

Our second anniversary project is the commissioning, with the support of ExxonMobil, of a symphony premiering 7 September by the Boulder Philharmonic, performed again at the 125th Anniversary Gala in Denver. Composed by University of Colorado faculty member Jeffrey Nytech, himself an undergraduate geology major, the work is entitled *Formations*—a four-movement, program symphony inspired by the geology of the Front Range.

At the Annual Meeting, the Foundation will host the Silent Auction, a Senior Fellows Reception, the Pardee Coterie breakfast for those who include the Foundation in their estate plans, and the Penrose donor lounge for Penrose Circle level (\$500/a or greater) donors.

The Foundation continues to enjoy the generous support of many GSA members.



GSA OPERATIONS

(in thousands)

Fiscal Year 2013 (FY2013) was a year of financial challenge and reward with GSA ending the year ahead of the cash budget. This result reflects the continuing dedicated commitment of all staff and volunteers. Brock and Company completed their combined audit report of GSA for FY2013 and issued an unqualified opinion.

Compared to Fiscal Year 2012 (FY2012), the change in net assets before investment earnings decreased \$679.8 (130.9%). The principal components of this unfavorable difference are revenue decreases for Annual Meeting (\$249.9), Publications non-member sales (\$128.4), and Publications royalty and

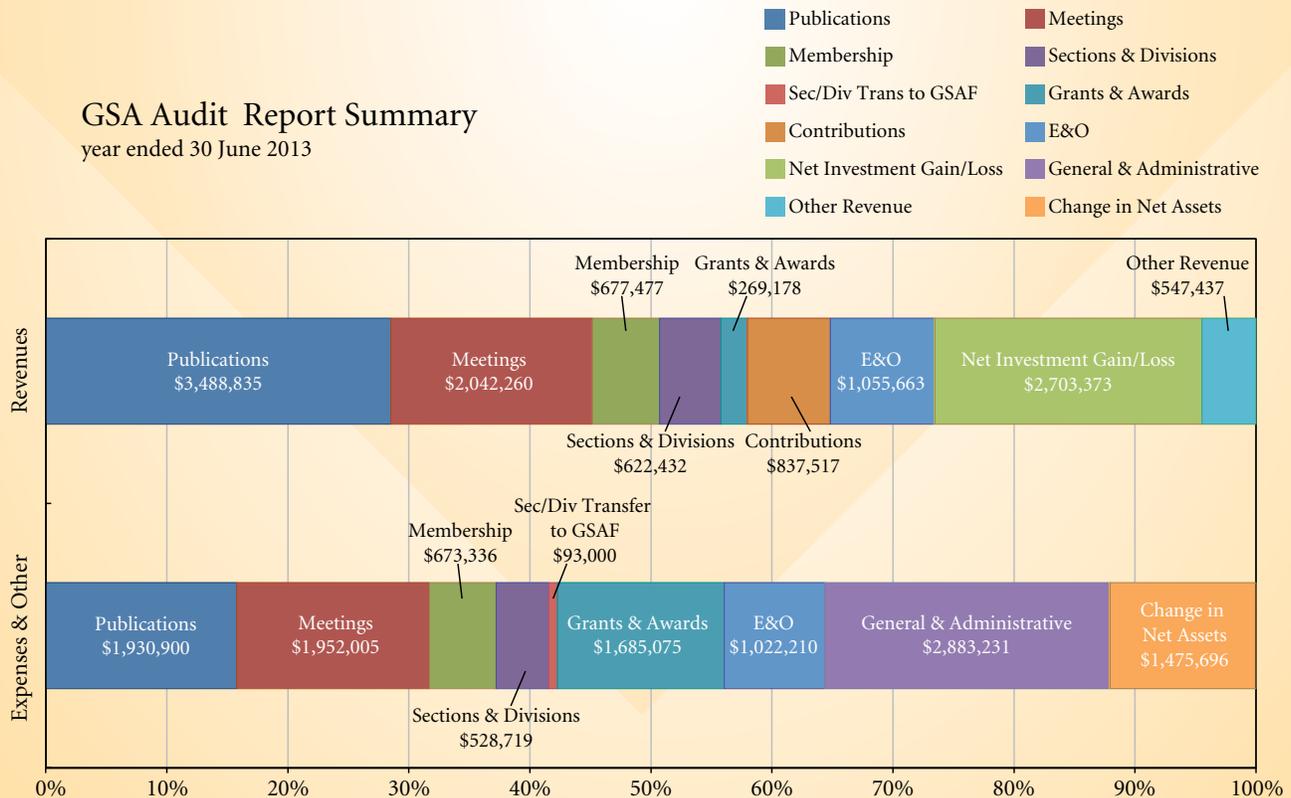
copyright revenue (\$97.9). These revenue decreases are partially offset by an increase in Foundation program support (\$122.2). The net revenue variance combined with expense increases in Southwest Section meeting expense (\$122.2), Social Networking costs (\$84.1), Organizational Marketing (\$51.4), and E&O Geoventure costs (\$48.4) combine to account for the change year to year.

During FY2013, GSA drew from investments \$265.0 for strategic spending, \$446.1 from FY2012 surplus, and Council authorized \$264.0 from the Pardee fund for research grants and meetings.

For FY2013, the Society had a net investment gain of \$2,703.4 compared to an investment loss in FY2012 of \$54.3. This principally is a result of general worldwide economic and market conditions. During FY2013 the net unrealized gain on investments is \$2,205.4 compared to a \$958.4 FY2012 net unrealized loss.

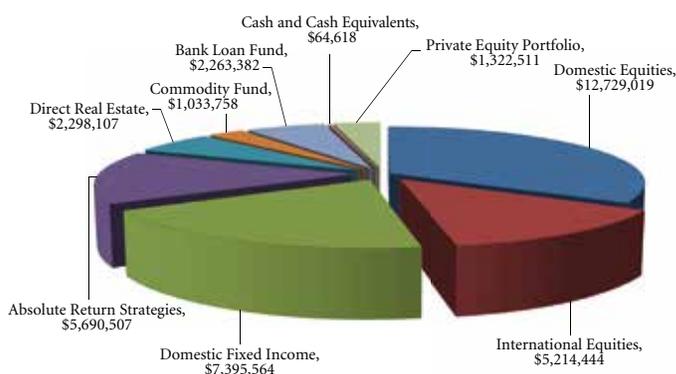
GSA Audit Report Summary

year ended 30 June 2013



GSA INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

GSA and GSA Foundation
Jointly Managed Investment Portfolio
year ended 30 June 2013



During the year, the GSA portfolio in total increased \$1,619.4 (7.2%), net of withdrawals, due primarily to market conditions through year-end.

GSA and the GSA Foundation have a well diversified investment portfolio and a dedicated team of volunteer members to manage these assets. Through FY2013, the joint Investment Committee was composed of eight dedicated and knowledgeable voting members. The Committee relies on expertise provided by an outside consulting firm, Ininvest Portfolio Solutions. A formal evaluation of these services was performed in Fiscal Year 2007, resulting in high marks and a recommendation to continue the long standing relationship with Ininvest. The organization continues to follow an investment strategy of diversification among investment classes within strategic allocation targets.

The Committee continues to search for members with the interest and aptitude to serve on the Investment Committee in the future. This service is a key component to the long term health of the portfolio, and consequently, the mission of GSA.

GSA's restricted investment balance is primarily comprised of funds from R.A.F. Penrose (donated in the 1930's) and from Joseph T. Pardee (donated in the 1990's).

Unrestricted funds are vital to the future of GSA because they can be used where Council deems there is greatest need. In recent years, these funds have supported strategic projects such as electronic publications, staff compensation, Government Affairs, Teacher K-12 staffing, and Social Media communications.

As indicated in the chart below, GSA investments have primarily increased or decreased due to overall market conditions. The investment balances also fluctuate from

investment earnings, less amounts paid from the Pardee fund for Research Grants and amounts designated for strategic spending.

Council approved using Pardee funds for the student research grant program beginning in Fiscal Year 2004 and then approved spending unrestricted funds for strategic programs beginning in Fiscal Year 2006. This spending is governed by policy to ensure viability of the portfolio over the long term to ensure the continuing mission of GSA.

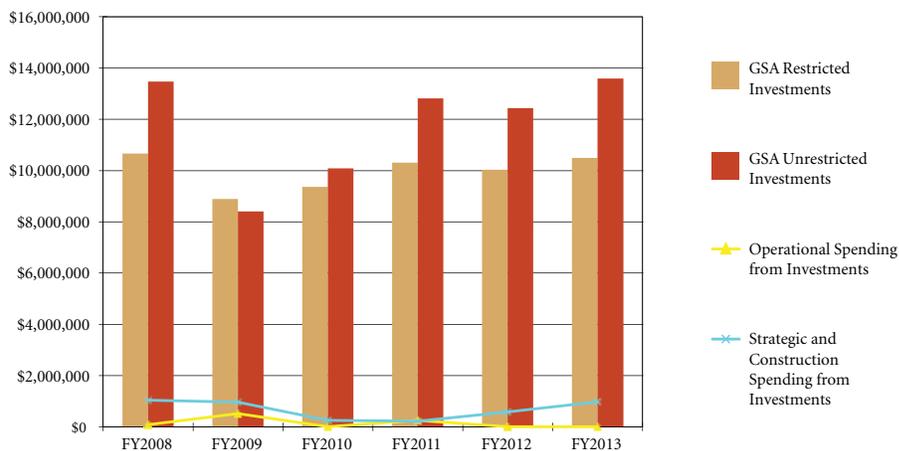
GSA gratefully acknowledges that invaluable contributions of Dr. Jonathan G. Price, Treasurer, and Carl P. Fricke, GSA Investment Committee Chair, for service to the Society and preparation of the financial data included in this report.



Dr. Jonathan G. Price,
Treasurer



Carl P. Fricke,
GSA Investment
Committee Chair



The yellow line indicates amounts paid to cover the gap between revenues and operating expenses which has generally decreased over time. The blue line shows the increase in strategic spending.

STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship at GSA Headquarters

This past year was another eventful one for the headquarters property in Boulder, Colorado.

Phase 2 of GSA's solar array installation plan was completed and the new system will begin producing power in August 2013. It includes 240 panels on the ground, and is expected to provide 68 kW and 104,000 kWh of electricity per year.

The original rooftop panel array is producing approximately 90,000 kWh per year.

Together the two solar arrays are anticipated to supply 70% of GSA's power needs.

GSA is proud to be a model that our partners and vendors use as their success story to encourage others to follow our lead.

GSA hired a professional management company to handle the facility's day-to-day needs, and they are focused on continuing the hard work started by GSA staff to explore and implement long-term sustainability practices that will set an example for the community in the years ahead.

