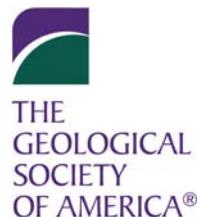


## **INTERNATIONAL SECTION NEWSLETTER**

**February 2012**



Dear International Members:

Happy New Year wishes to you from the **GSA International Section** and as you know that 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.

International Section has multiple purposes and with your direct involvement intends to reach out overseas members towards meeting the following 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 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.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER**

- 1. Changing of the Guard**
- 2. Dr. Victor Ramos ( IS Councilor)**
- 3. GSA IS Officers and Management Board Members: 2012-2013**
- 4. Dr. Victor Baker, GSA Distinguished Inaugural International Lecturer**
- 5. China Meeting 2013: *Roof of the World***
- 6. 34th International Geological Congress (IGC), Brisbane, Australia, August 5-10, 2012**
- 7. 34<sup>th</sup> IGC Travel Grants Available**
- 8. 2012 GSA Annual Meeting (Charlotte, North Carolina)**
- 9. International News Update**
- 10. Celebrating Nicholas Steno's 356<sup>th</sup> birthday**
- 11. GSA Foundation Update**
- 12. Your Input Needed**

## **Changing of the Guard**

IS extends a big thank you to **Joann Stock** (Chair 2010-2011), for her outstanding service and spearheading the management committee in various activities last year. ISMB members also like to send their best wishes to **Juhn Liou** for his notable contribution to the IS. We are also very happy to note that both Joann and Liou are still active in IS-related matters and in fact, they are deeply involved in preparation of hosting 2013 China meeting. Let us welcome our new International Section Officers and Management Board Members (ISMB) who were recently elected (**Dr. Alan Smith, Dr. An Yin, and Dr. Anke M. Friedrich**).

## **New IS Councilor**

The "international councilor" will serve as the direct liaison between the Council and the International Section. The International Councilor and the International Section (IS) are currently assisted by **Wesley Hill**, the GSA International Liaison at GSA headquarter for the past several years and Wes is a great contributor to various IS-related activities and we sincerely appreciate her assistance to us.

### **General Duties for GSA International Councilor:**

Act as GSA Council liaison between the global geoscience community and GSA and the GSA International Section

- 1) Attend IS events at the Annual Meeting
- 2) Member of the International Section Management Board
- 3) Chair of the International Liaison Committee (if implemented)
- 4) Help foster the creation and organization of biannual (?) thematic meetings of the IS
- 5) Utilize GSA Today, GSA Connection, and GSA Website as mediums to publicize international activities, meetings, conferences, programs, and events of GSA and associated societies.
- 6) Work with the IS and other sections to foster symposia/theme sessions at GSA annual and other meeting that involve geoscientists from outside North America.
- 7) Help facilitate interactions between GSA and associated international societies.
- 8) Member of the GSA International Distinguished Lectureship program.
- 9) Member of the IS Honorary Fellowship Committee.

**Dr. Victor A. Ramos** agreed to serve as a **GSA Councilor for IS** (2010-2013) and we are happy to welcome Victor to our management board. Dr. **Ramos**, a long time collaborator with Cornell's geological sciences faculty, has recently been elected to the National Academy of Science for "bringing the theory of plate tectonics to the South American community and contributions to the understanding of the geological evolution in South America. Ramos was a 1988 Guggenheim Fellow at Cornell and a recent INSTOC (Institute for the Study of the Continents) Oliver Visiting Professor.

(<http://www.geo.cornell.edu/instoc/activities.htm>).

**Dr. Ramos** was a Co-chair of GSA-hosted 2006 international meeting in Argentina titled ***Backbone of the Americas — Patagonia to Alaska***. The meeting was a resounding success and was attended by more than 400 participants and guests. Pre- and post-meeting field trips and a mid-week field trip provided a visual backdrop to the excellent technical presentations. Dr. Ramos's pivotal role brought high visibility for the then GSA International Division (a proud sponsor of the Backbone meeting) and opened the door

for further international collaboration among the overseas geoscientists (<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/06boa/welcome.htm>).

For additional information on our distinguished Councilor Dr. Ramos, please visit the following website: [www.engineering.cornell.edu/news/updates/archives/issue.cfm?volume=12&issue=20](http://www.engineering.cornell.edu/news/updates/archives/issue.cfm?volume=12&issue=20)

## **GSA International Section**

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

<b>Officers</b>		
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Alan G. Smith</b> Department of Earth Sciences Sedgwick Museum Downing Street Cambridge CB2 3EQ U.K.	Tel: +44-1223-333-439 Fax: +44-1223-333-450 <a href="mailto:ags1@cam.ac.uk">ags1@cam.ac.uk</a>
<b>First Vice Chair</b>	<b>An Yin</b> 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 <a href="mailto:yin@ess.ucla.edu">yin@ess.ucla.edu</a>
<b>Second Vice Chair</b>	<b>Anke M. Friedrich</b> LMU Munich Dept of Earth and Environmental Sciences Luisenstrasse 37 80333 Munich, Germany	Tel: +49-89-21806512 Fax: +49-89-21806514 <a href="mailto:friedrich@lmu.de">friedrich@lmu.de</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Nazrul I. Khandaker</b> 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 <a href="mailto:nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu">nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Maurice J. (Ric) Terman</b> 3440 S. Jefferson St., Apt. 370 Falls Church, VA 22041	Tel: +1-703-842-3108 <a href="mailto:terman.ric@gmail.com">terman.ric@gmail.com</a>
<b>Past Chair</b>	<b>Joann M. Stock</b> 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 <a href="mailto:jstock@gps.caltech.edu">jstock@gps.caltech.edu</a>

## Management Board

Includes the Section officers, the Past Chair and one voting affiliate of GSA to serve as Council Liaison.

### **GSA Councilor – International Section Member**

Victor Ramos      2010-2013      [andes@gl.fcen.uba.ar](mailto:andes@gl.fcen.uba.ar)

## Activity Highlights

### GSA Distinguished International Lecturer

With a seed-funding and financial contribution from **Robbie R. Gries** (past GSA treasurer 2006-2009) to the GSA Foundation, the IS finally nominated **Dr. Victor Baker** (Regents' Professor and Professor of Geosciences and Professor of Planetary Sciences at University of Arizona; [baker@hwr.arizona.edu](mailto:baker@hwr.arizona.edu)) as the **inaugural Distinguished International Lecturer** for 2012. Dr. Baker's 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. Dr. 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 The Geological Society of America. He is a past President of the latter Society and a recipient of the Distinguished Scientist Award from that society'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.

The purpose of this tour is to increase the visibility of GSA and give lectures on the cutting-edge geosciences topics, promote GSA, and cement relationships with the overseas geoscientists. A **7-8** member nominating committee was in charge of selection process and Dr. Baker was unanimously selected from a pool of several candidates. The tour is scheduled to begin in the spring/fall of 2012.

### China Meeting 2013: Roof of the World

As you know that a draft memorandum was signed between the GSA and representatives from the Chinese Geological Society during last year's GSA annual meeting in Minneapolis to host a joint GSC-GSA meeting in China in 2013 and **Dr. Juhn Liou** (past First Vice Chair of the IS) is currently playing a key role in terms of exchanging dialogs with his Chinese counterparts. Several committees were already established along with identifying several theme sessions and post conference field trip locations. A preliminary circular reads as follows and a final one will be posted soon on the IS webpage. Please spread the word around and your participation can only make it a grand success.

***Geological Society of China and Geological Society of America First Joint Scientific Meeting,  
June 17-19, 2013, Chengdu, China (First Circular)***

The Geological Society of China (GSC) and International Section of the Geological Society of America (GSA) will host the first joint scientific meeting from June 17 to 19, 2013 in Chengdu, China. The conference to be conducted in English will include three-day conference and 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. Also, the 7<sup>th</sup> WCCOGS (World Chinese Conference on Geological Sciences) to be conducted in Chinese will be held from June 15 to 16, 2013 at the same location in Chengdu.

## **1. China Meeting 2013 and Important Dates**

July 15, 2012: Second circular (Registration fees, special sessions, format of abstract, and others)

December 1, 2012: Third circular

March 1, 2013: Abstract submission

April 1, 2013: Deadline for field-trip sign-ups and discount registration fee

April 1, 2013: Fourth circular

## **2. Theme Sessions**

(1) Evolution of the Tibetan Plateau

(2) Intra-continental deformation, mineral resources, and geologic hazards

(3) Environmental changes, biologic evolution, geochemistry, and carbon sequestration

## **3. Post-conference Field Trips**

Field trips will be held from June 20 to 27. Participants must fill out the electronic form at the time of registration on-line. The deadline for signing up of field trips is April 1, 2013. Field trips may be cancelled if there are not enough participants. Schedules and fees will be announced in the Second Circular. Routes include:

(1) Basic tectonic framework of the Tibetan plateau from Longmen Shan, across Kunlun Shan, to South Tibet (Chengdu, Golmud, Lhasa);

(2) Geologic records of the 2008 great Wenchuan earthquake and structural framework of the eastern Tibetan plateau;

(3) Qinling orogen and Dabie UHP belt; and

(4) Arc development, deep mantle processes, and mineral resources of SE China

(5) Sites of mass extinctions (e.g., P/T boundary near Meishan , Zhejiang Province) and other unique paleontologic areas

## **4. Contact Information:**

*China:* Wei Wang, International Division,

GSC, Baiwan Zhuang Rd. 26, Xicheng District, Beijing 100037, China.

Tel: +86-(10)-6831-0893 ; 6899-9619

FAX: +86-(10)-6831-0894

Email : [dic@cags.ac.cn](mailto:dic@cags.ac.cn)

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

Juhn G. Liou <[jliou@stanford.edu](mailto:jliou@stanford.edu)>

An Yin <[yin@ess.ucla.edu](mailto:yin@ess.ucla.edu)>

I-Ming Chou <[imchou@usgs.gov](mailto:imchou@usgs.gov)>

## **34th International Geological Congress (IGC), Brisbane, Australia, August 5-10, 2012**

IS would like to bring your attention to an upcoming **34th International Geological Congress (IGC) to be held in Brisbane, Australia, from August 5 through 10, 2012.**

**Important IGC websites:**

<https://rock.geosociety.org/IGC/>

<http://www.34igc.org/scientific-themes-symposia.php>

### **Please participate in IS-involved sessions, listed as follows:**

**Joann Stock** (past IS Chair) and **Anke Friedrich** (newly elected IS Second Vice Chair) will be conducting the following session at the forthcoming IGC.

#### **36.5 International perspectives on teaching geological mapping [GSA International Section]**

Joann STOCK [jstock@gps.caltech.edu](mailto:jstock@gps.caltech.edu) (USA) and Anke FRIEDRICH (Germany)

What type of field mapping training is essential for the modern, international field geologist? Training in field mapping has varied with time, as new technology is adopted; and regionally, regarding types of field activities, group vs. independent work, and specialty mapping skills. This session seeks presentations from participants teaching field mapping in different countries, concerning the design, goals, and implementation of their field curriculum. Through presentations and discussion we hope to compare the global perspectives on such issues as: best practices in providing field training, at what stage in the students' education, on what types of problems, and the type of mapping being taught.

### **Other Symposia of interest to international participants:**

#### **30.4 Geohazards in subduction zones**

#### **30.6 Earth monitoring for improved forecasting of natural hazards**

We would like to call your attention to the following two symposia that are part of the program for the Geohazards Theme of the 34th International Geological Congress to be held in Brisbane, Australia on 5-10 August 2012 (see <http://www.34igc.org/index.php>). For Symposium **30.4 Geohazards in subduction zones**, we welcome contributions from any field that contributes to the understanding of geological hazards related to the subduction process. For Symposium **30.6 Earth monitoring for improved forecasting of natural hazards**, we welcome contributions from scientists actively involved in the monitoring of natural hazards, as well as those developing new techniques that can be applied to forecasting and early warnings.

The symposia descriptions appear below. Abstracts can be submitted via (<http://www.34igc.org/submit-abstracts.php>), but please note that the **deadline for submission is 17 February, 2012**.

Laura Wallace, Phil Cummins, Danny Natawidjaja, and Ken Gledhill

#### **30.4 Geohazards in subduction zones**

Laura WALLACE [l.wallace@gns.cri.nz](mailto:l.wallace@gns.cri.nz) (New Zealand), Phil CUMMINS (Australia) and Danny NATAWIDJAJA (Indonesia)

Subduction zones are the scenes of the most intense geological activity on the planet. They are the source of the earth's largest earthquakes and tsunamis, and some of its largest and most dangerous volcanic

eruptions. High rainfall and fertile soils in many such areas support large populations. As a consequence, subduction zones are often associated with high natural hazard risk. Despite their potential impact on human society, some of the most fundamental questions about these hazards remain to be answered: what are the maximum credible events, what are their typical recurrence rates, and what are the structural, chemical and mechanical factors that control them? What is the relationship of newly discovered slow slip event behavior to subduction thrust earthquakes? How does the occurrence of one earthquake trigger subsequent earthquake and volcanic activity? What geologic factors enhance tsunami generation? Contributions are invited aimed at answering such questions, from studies of the fundamental process driving subduction zone geohazards, to the local environmental and geological factors that determine their impacts.

### **30.6 Earth monitoring for improved forecasting of natural hazards**

Phil CUMMINS [phil.cummings@anu.edu.au](mailto:phil.cummings@anu.edu.au) (Australia) and Ken GLEDHILL (New Zealand)

The 21st century has begun with a string of natural disasters of seemingly unprecedented scale, including the 2004 Indian Ocean and 2011 NE Japan tsunamigenic earthquakes, the 2010 Haiti earthquake, and major floods in China, Brazil and Australia as well as bush/wildfire disasters in Australia, Russia and Israel during 2010-2011. These events have all demonstrated that our ability to monitor natural hazard phenomena has improved dramatically over the last two decades, due to a proliferation of observation platforms including real-time seismographic, geodetic and sea level networks as well as space- and air-borne remote sensing systems. While these technologies have provided a wealth of data for post-event analysis, how well do they contribute to our ability for real-time monitoring and forecasting of natural hazard phenomena? We invite presentations on novel uses of real-time environmental monitoring to help forecast natural hazard phenomena - e.g. monitoring of earthquakes and ground deformation using real-time seismographic and geodetic networks and their use in forecasting tsunamis and volcanic eruptions, real-time rainfall and other remote sensing measurements for forecasting landslides and floods, and monitoring of surface temperature and vegetation to forecast bush/wildfires. We are particularly interested in presentations that combine such observations with dynamic modelling of natural hazard phenomena.

## **34<sup>th</sup> IGC Travel Grants Available**

### **34th International Geological Congress (IGC) Students and Early Career Scientists Travel Grant and Mentoring Program**

#### **More Info**



The application period will be open **7 January–17 February 2012**.

Your complete application will consist of:

- an online resume,
- two letters of recommendation,
- a record of relevant courses and grades
- a cover letter indicating (1) a brief overview of your background, (2) your plans for the future, (3) how you feel attending this meeting will help you accomplish these plans, (4) a prioritized budget, and (5) a copy of your abstract submission (along with confirmation number). You must be the first author on the abstract.

[Download the flyer](#)

Applicants will be chosen by a committee who will strongly consider your cover letter, letters of recommendation, abstract, and course record.

<https://rock.geosociety.org/IGC/>

<http://www.34igc.org/scientific-themes-symposia.php>

## **2012 GSA Annual Meeting (Charlotte, North Carolina)**

**4–7 NOVEMBER  
CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, USA**

The next GSA Annual Meeting is centered on the theme “**Geosciences: Investing in the Future**”. For details, please visit:

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

### **International Section provided sponsorship to the following topical session**

**Sponsorship for the Proposed Topical Session: Fate and transport of arsenic and other metals in natural waters: from basin scale to pore-space scale**

**Submitter's Email Address:** amukh2@gmail.com

**Rationale:** Presence of arsenic and other metals (e.g. mercury, cadmium, uranium etc.) in drinking water, soils and plants in many parts of the world have caused formidable environmental crisis in the contemporary world. Every year new countries are discovered, where the arsenic problem was yet-unknown. This calls for global approaches and an exchange of information and experiences from those regions, where the problem and its mitigation is best studied. Ingestion of inorganic As contaminated drinking water has globally resulted in health effects in an estimated 200 million people. Simultaneously, land and agricultural sustainability of the affected countries are threatened by the use of As-contaminated irrigation water. Hence there is an urgent need to improve the understanding on the genesis of As-rich groundwater, constraints on the mobility of arsenic and other metals in groundwater, As-uptake from soil and water by plants, propagation through the food chain, health impacts on human beings, assessment of environmental health risks and impacts, and As-removal technologies, to improve the socio-economic status of the affected regions from regional to local-scale. This session serves as a platform for exchange of scientific knowledge and ideas to identify future research targets of research needed to improve the understanding of the occurrence and mobility of arsenic and other metals in groundwater, to develop, evaluate, select and apply suitable remediation methods according to ambient hydrogeological and hydrogeochemical properties of the aquifer, and the social conditions and the economic situation of the arsenic-affected population and water resource management. The topical session titled “Fate and transport of arsenic and other metals in natural waters: from basin scale to pore-space scale” will focus on 1) kinetics of arsenic in groundwater and sedimentary environments at different scales. 2) arsenic occurrence and behavior in natural and anthropogenic biogeochemical cycles 3) fate of arsenic in agricultural and food chains 4) socio-economic impacts of arsenic affect groundwater on population 5) water resource management and remediation strategies of arsenic-affected areas 6) arsenic epidemiology.

### **International News Update**

**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%2070.pdf>

**OneGeology** is an international initiative by geologists who are working together to create surveys that will make up dynamic, digital, geological map data for the world. OneGeology has just launched the

new [OneGeology Best Application Competition](#). This competition aims to demonstrate the wide range of potential uses and applications provided by the geological data and services of the OneGeology Portal, particularly in the areas of easy discoverability, access, and usage. It is open to all geoscientists under the age of 35, and the winner will receive [free registration for the 34th IGC](#) in Australia and the opportunity to present his or her new and innovative application during the Geoinformation Symposium/OneGeology Session at the conference. Deadline for entering the competition is May 2012. For additional information on OneGeology, please visit: <http://www.onegeology.org/>

## **Celebrating Nicholas Steno's 356<sup>th</sup> birthday**

The life of **Nicholas Steno** received an attention boost thanks to a Google Doodle celebrating his 11 January birthday. The Danish website Videnskab dk also covered his birthday, noting [GSA Memoir 203](#) as a scientific source.

### **Niels Stensen—Steno, in the world of collections and museums**

#### **Abstract**

In 2006, we celebrated the 350th anniversary of the beginning of an extraordinary career. On 27 November 1656, Niels Stensen, also known as Steno, commenced his studies at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. All through his scientific life, Steno was fortunate to be able to name many famous scholars amongst his acquaintances, including experts in, for example, chemistry, mathematics, pharmacy, medicine, and biology. He was also supported financially by patrons with a keen interest in natural history. Many of these people were also associated with collections or museums of reputation. Some had inherited collections or museums, e.g., Jan Swammerdam and Manfredo Settala, and others had established these themselves, e.g., Athanasius Kircher. Steno eventually became a collector and curator for the Grand Duke of Tuscany. This work is documented in a catalogue, *Indice di Cose Naturali*, listing amongst other naturalia samples of minerals and fossils in the Grand Duke's collection, some collected by Steno himself. Examples are hematite crystals from Elba, collected before *De Solido* reveals the principles of "Steno's law" in 1669, and fossil fish from the copper shale in Eisleben, collected later. The importance of the *Indice* (the *Index*) is that the samples listed were partly collected by Steno as documentation for his own research and inspection of economically important geological localities. In posterity, the late Dr. Gustav Scherz was able to reconstruct Steno's travels using the information of these samples.

There is only scattered information on Steno's interest and experience with collections or museums in his publications and letters. The aim of this paper is to throw light upon this relatively unknown part of his life from the very beginning of his career. This study demonstrates that Steno encountered many of the most important collections and museums in Europe during the period of his life, which was dedicated to science. Steno was a marvelous analytical observer with a unique scientific approach. It therefore seems obvious that this encyclopedic multitude of impressions and information from the caretakers and other sources must have been of significance, not only for his own museological work, but also for his outstanding ability to contribute to new discoveries in anatomy as well as in geology.

#### **Elsebeth Thomsen**

**Niels Stensen—Steno, in the world of collections and museums**

*Geological Society of America Memoirs, 2009, 203, p. 75-91, doi:10.1130/2009.1203(05)*

## **New GEOLOGY**

### **NEW SCIENCE POSTED ONLINE AHEAD OF PRINT**

**6 JANUARY 2012**

Boulder, Colo., USA - **New GEOLOGY** research reports on data suggesting that existing knowledge on the composition, structure, and dynamics of the upper mantle needs to be re-examined; observations providing groundwork for creating new quantitative models for reaction texture formation to place better constraints on the rates of metamorphic processes; fossilized fungi observed in samples representing a depth of 150 m below the seafloor; newly released reflection seismic data; and a transient change in groundwater temperature after earthquakes.

Highlights are provided below. Representatives of the media may obtain complementary copies of GEOLOGY articles by contacting Christa Stratton at the address above. Abstracts for the complete issue of GEOLOGY are available at <http://geology.gsapubs.org/>.

Please discuss articles of interest with the authors before publishing stories on their work, and please make reference to GEOLOGY in articles published. Contact Christa Stratton for additional information or assistance.

Non-media requests for articles may be directed to GSA Sales and Service, [gsaservice@geosociety.org](mailto:gsaservice@geosociety.org).

## **Your Input Needed for the following:**

### **Alan Smith (Chair, IS):**

**Should the IS in future assume that the progression from 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair to 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair to Chair is “normal” and that the only candidates that would need to stand for election to the MB would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair, and the Secretary and Treasurer at the end of their terms of office, unless there is a resignation, etc? Or is it better to keep to the present arrangements where all new officers, or officers whose terms of office have expired, are elected by ballot by the IS membership.**

### **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: International Travel**

The GSA Foundation is currently seeking funding to defray travel costs for foreign applicants who wish to attend GSA meetings. Funding is also needed for Honorary Fellows to attend GSA Annual 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.

## **GSA Foundation Update – February 2011**

*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.

*IS 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 among the IS members.*

If you have international news items to submit to IS, please send them to:  
We look forward to your participation.

Nazrul I. Khandaker, International Section Secretary  
[nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu](mailto:nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu)  
York College (The City University of New York)