Summary, the State of the Section:

Membership in the North-Central Section stood at 2,845 voting members of the Section as of September 2018. The Section is the fourth largest of the six GSA Sections.

2018-2019 Management Board:
Tina M. Niemi, Chair, University of Missouri – Kansas City
Jejung Lee, Vice-Chair, University of Missouri – Kansas City
William W. Simpkins, Past Chair, Iowa State University
Alan Wanamaker, Past Vice-Chair, Iowa State University
C. Renee Sparks, Outgoing Member at Large 2015-2018, Calvin College
Tina M. Niemi, Member at Large 2016-2018, University of Missouri – Kansas City
Karen Gran, Member at Large, 2018-2019, University of Minnesota Duluth
B. Brandon Curry, Member at Large 2017-2020, Illinois State Geological Survey
Lucas K. Zoet, Member at Large 2018-2021, University of Wisconsin - Madison
Melinda C. Higley, Student Representative, 2017-2019, University of Illinois
Steven E. Brown, Representative to GPPC, 2017-2020, Illinois State Geological Survey

Financial Summary

Section Operating Account

The financial security of the Section remains strong due to the fiscal prudence of the local committees running the recent meetings (see Scientific Meetings Program below for detail on net income returned to the Section).

The operating account balance at the beginning of FY2018 was $102,371. Total section revenue was $110,452 (including section dues, meeting revenue, investment/dividend income, and transfers from GSAF/GSA) and expenses were $111,993 (including meeting expenses, grants and awards, and transfers to the Section endowment held by the GSA Foundation). At the end of FY2018 the operating account balance was $100,830, well exceeding the Management Board’s target of having assets to cover the cost of one typical-sized Section meeting plus operating costs, and of providing stability and ensuring continuity of Section activities. Support for student programs comprises the vast majority of all expenditures (other than spring meeting costs) of the Section.

The Section has allocated up to $14,600 for FY2019 in Section funds to be used for:

- Student travel grants – up to $8,000 (then increased by partial match from GSAF)
- Student paper awards – up to $2,000
- Undergraduate research grants – up to $2,100
- Support for On to the Future, up to $1,500, and
- Support for a student to attend Geosciences Congressional Visits Day, up to $1,000

The dues income for the Section ($3,414 in FY2018) covers the general operating costs of the Section but is not sufficient to support these programs; each section meeting is budgeted to return a minimum of $14,000 net income to the section to accomplish this support.
Section Endowment

The Section has increased its endowment over the years. The Board made an initial pledge and payment of $2,000 in 1996 to the North-Central Section Endowment Fund of the GSA Foundation (this Fund was referred to as the Second Century Fund in older North-Central reports to Council) with funds taken from the Section treasury (operating funds). The Management Board, at its annual meeting, has continued to approve a maximum continuing annual contribution to the Foundation. The funds from this Section endowment fund have been intended for student support. Because of the need to increase the financial stability of the Section, payments were not made over a number of years, and the amount of funds in the endowment remained very low. However, $2,000 was contributed in September of 2005. Since then, because of the increase in financial stability of the Section following the financial success of recent meetings, annual transfers to the endowment have been $7,000 to $20,000.

The fund continued to grow but was affected by the downturn in the stock market in early 2009 and by subsequent market fluctuations. At the end of FY2009 the endowment was at $63,997. At the end of FY2010, with a contribution of $20,000, and $5,000 match from the Foundation, the North-Central Endowment was $98,292. With further contributions, the ending balance of the North-Central Endowment as of the end of FY2011, was $138,312. Because of the excellent state of the Section’s finances, in March of 2011 the Management Board approved a contribution of up to $20,000 to the GSA Foundation in FY2012 and $7,000 was transferred to the endowment in September of 2011. That was matched by $5,000 from the Foundation, and the endowment at the end of FY2012 totaled $154,603. A maximum contribution of $20,000 for FY2013 was also approved at the 2012 meeting of the Management Board, and $10,000 was transferred after the Dayton meeting with the accompanying $5000 match. At the end of FY 2013, the North-Central Section Endowment stood at $184,688. The Management Board approved a maximum contribution of $20,000 again for FY 2014 pending outcome of the Kalamazoo meeting actuals, and the $20,000 plus the $5000 GSAF match helped raise the endowment to $237,643 by the end of June 2014. By the end of FY 2015, after a transfer of $16,000 and the $5000 match, the balance stood at $265,365. $20,000 was transferred into the endowment in FY2016, and the balance on June 30, 2016 was $287,466. FY2017 saw a transfer of $20,000 plus $5000 match, and an FYE balance of $342,422

In 2017-2018, $10,000 was transferred into the endowment, and the funds had grown to $376,802 by end of fiscal year:

![N-C Section Operating and Endowment Accounts](image)

Scientific Meetings Program:

2018: The 52nd Annual Meeting was held Monday and Tuesday, April 16-17, at the Scheman Building in the Iowa State University (ISU) Conference Center, located on the campus of Iowa State University, in Ames, Iowa. Total registration was 592, which generated $94,171 in total revenue. A total of 393 papers and posters were
presented in 44 sessions (24 oral and 20 poster sessions). A major snow and ice storm (Winter Storm Xanto) in the upper Midwest on Sunday, April 15th prevented many participants from coming to the conference and presenting talks. The Welcoming Reception on Sunday evening allowed attendees to network through the exhibits and sample Deposition-ale, a special meeting brew from the local Alluvial Brewery. Concurrent with the receptions, an informal Lightning Talk session was sponsored in which six graduate students presented talks of three minutes or less for an enthusiastic audience of about 60 participants. The Monday evening reception was preceded by a research presentation in the Benton Auditorium by the Keynote Speaker, GSA President Dr. Isabel Montanez, entitled: “Deep-Time Insight into Earth’s Future.” The Keynote Reception with hot food and desserts followed immediately afterward in the poster area. The ISU Bookstore also sponsored a book signing by Dr. William Alley of the National Ground Water Association during the reception. Three Geoscience Career Workshops for students were well attended and the Roy J. Shlemon and John Mann mentor lunches were filled to capacity and had to turn students away. Due to low field trip registrations and inclement weather (snow and ice, specifically), only one of the seven field trips planned actually ran, producing $840 in revenue. Three short courses were presented and produced revenue of $510. Exhibits and sponsorships generated $11,511. Net revenue for the meeting was $11,518.19.

2017: The 51st Annual Meeting was held Sunday through Tuesday, March 19-21 at Omni William Penn, Pittsburgh, jointly with the Northeastern Section. Total registration was 1345, which generated $194,788 in revenue. 661 papers and posters were presented in 75 sessions (39 oral and 36 poster sessions). The Welcoming Reception on Saturday evening allowed attendees to network through the exhibits, and the Monday evening Banquet showcased Keynote speaker, Michelle Wyman, Executive Director of the National Council for Science and the Environment (NCSE). Six field trips were planned and ran with 92 attendees. Exhibits and sponsorships brought in $17,325. Net revenue for the meeting was $50,457, of which $19,031 came to the North-Central Section (with 33% of attendees).

In 1990, the North-Central Section Management Board initiated a long-range planning effort to enhance meeting quality and marketing, which has been successful, as in the recent years shown below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location and dates</td>
<td>23-24 April, Dayton</td>
<td>2–3 May, Kalamazoo</td>
<td>24–25 April, Lincoln</td>
<td>19–20 May, Madison</td>
<td>18–19 April, Champaign</td>
<td>19–21 March, Pittsburgh, joint w/NE</td>
<td>6–17 April, Ames</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>1345</td>
<td>592</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>$10,933.00</td>
<td>$31,137.00</td>
<td>$15,885.00</td>
<td>$27,278.00</td>
<td>$21,072.00</td>
<td>$19,031.00</td>
<td>$11,518.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Future Meetings: A ‘triple joint’ meeting with South-Central and Rocky Mountain sections in Manhattan, Kansas in 2019; a 2020 meeting in Duluth, Minnesota; and a 2021 meeting in Springfield, Missouri are confirmed, venues contracted, and local committees formed or forming:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Local Chair(s)</th>
<th>Joint with</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25-27 March 2019</td>
<td>Manhattan, KS</td>
<td>Tina Niemi</td>
<td>RM &amp; SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-19 May 2020</td>
<td>Duluth, MN</td>
<td>Amy Myrbo</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-20 April 2021</td>
<td>Springfield, MO</td>
<td>Doug Gouzie</td>
<td>SC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Professional Development/Awards/Membership and Student Involvement:
The Section's primary Awards and Professional Development Programs are targeted to increase student involvement. Student attendance at Section meetings continues to be substantial and has increased during the last few years. Student attendance at meetings since 2009 has ranged from 43% (Branson 2010) to 56% (Pittsburgh 2017). Students composed about 48% of the attendees in Ames 2018.

Travel Grants Program:
The Section’s travel grants support student attendance. Up to $6,000 from North-Central Section operating funds were allocated for each year FY201 - FY2015 for student travel to the GSA Annual meetings and to the Section
The travel grant funding from the section operating fund is partially matched by the GSA Foundation. The Section voted in 2015 to increase the amount of operating funds to be disbursed for travel grants from $6000 to $8000. The funding also provides partial support to a student to represent the Section on the Student Advisory Council (SAC) and travel to the Annual Meeting. Since 2014, the North-Central Section has also supported the On To the Future program through the GSA Foundation with $1,000 annually. The amount was increased to $1,500 for FY2018.

During FY2018, $14,445 was awarded in travel grants for the Annual and Section meeting, and $13,075 was disbursed.

- For the 2017 Annual Meeting in Seattle, 112 grants were awarded and 28 were denied. The average grant was $80, with a total awarded of $8,960. $8,240 was actually distributed after the meeting.
- For the 2018 Ames spring Section meeting, 46 grants were awarded (and six were denied). Most of the grants were for $125, with a total of $5,485 awarded. $4,835 was actually signed for and distributed.

**Student Paper/Poster Awards:** The Section has increased maximum Student Oral Presentation/Poster Awards from $400 in 1990 to $2,000 at present. Sixteen students were awarded a total of $2,000 for poster and oral presentations at the 2018 Ames meeting – one first place ($200) and three honorable mentions ($100 each) in each category for undergraduates and graduates.

**Geoscience Congressional Visits Day:** In 2015, the Section approved covering some costs, up to $1,000, for a student to travel to Congressional Visits Day in September. This funding was continued for 2018.

The Roy J. Shlemon Mentor Program in Applied Geoscience and the John Mann Mentors in Applied Hydrogeology Program are provided through GSA headquarters at the Section Annual meetings, and in 2018 Career workshops were held onsite in Ames.

GSA Campus Representatives from the Section are invited to meet with the Meeting Planning and Technical Program Advisory Board and Local Committees during the section Annual Meetings in order to be recognized for their service, and to provide input into future meeting planning, the technical program, and student involvement.

**Research Grants Program:**
The Section initiated a competitive Research Grants Program for undergraduate student members in 1993. Grant application forms and procedures were developed and have been refined over time. The maximum amount of an individual grant was limited to $300. Eleven grants were awarded in FY2011 for a total of $2,100. In FY2012, four grants were awarded for a total of $1,150; in FY2013, three grants were awarded totaling $900. In FY2014, four grants were awarded totaling $940. Though marketing was increased to build awareness of the grants, in FY2015 four grants totaling $980 were awarded. At the 2015 Section meeting, the Management Board approved increasing the maximum for each award from $300 to $500, while keeping the total available for grants at $2100. In 2016 three students were awarded a total of $1,080. 2017 saw $2,000 awarded to six students.

In FY2018, $2,100 in research grants was awarded to five students in varying amounts from $100 to $500:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vanessa Bump</td>
<td>University of Indianapolis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NancyAlejandra Duque</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duncan Charles Glasford</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoffrey Montour</td>
<td>University of Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Rogers</td>
<td>Missouri University of Science and Technology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy S. Williams, Executive Secretary, North-Central Section