Parting comments
True, it did not receive as much attention as the Bush-Obama transition in 2008, but on January 1 of this year, Richard Gordon assumed the mantle of GP President, and I wandered off into the proverbial sunset. The past four years have been an interesting time for AGU. The Union grew by an astonishing 6 percent each year on average, bringing AGU membership to above 61,000. Rapid growth comes with growing pains, and it really was time for AGU to restructure its self-governance. Richard Gordon, Cathy Constable, and I have been part of that process from start to finish, participating in what seemed like an endless stream of task forces, working groups, and break-out sessions. The AGU has moved from a single governing body, the original AGU Council, to a bicameral structure, consisting of a large Council to handle scientific matters and a smaller Board to deal with business matters. While we can argue if the bicameral structure is the best way forward for AGU, I am pleased to report that the GP Section emerged from the transformation strongly embedded in the new governance. The GP Section still carries two votes on the Council, the same as all other Sections and Focus Groups regardless of size.

I am especially indebted to our last two Executive Committees: Vincent Courtillot, Cathy Constable, Richard Gordon, Gary Acton (GP Secretary), Laurie Brown (GP Secretary), Katerina Petronotis (GP Webmaster), Stefan Maus, Avto Gogichaishvili, Julie Bowles, Paul Bedrosian, and Julia Curto. I am also grateful to our GP Honors and Awards committees: Mike Fuller, John Geissman, Andy Jackson, Richard Gordon, Gary Glatzmaier, Jim Channell, and Hermann Lühr.

Please welcome Richard Gordon, Andy Jackson, and Mike Purucker as our new GP President, President-Elect, and Secretary, respectively. Richard will soon be constituting the new Executive Committee and leading us into the future. [Contributed by Rick Blakely]

Thanks again to 2G Enterprises!
As they have done for many years, 2G Enterprises once again underwrote part of the cost of our 2012 GP Business Meeting and Reception. Special thanks to Lauren Keaton, president of WSGI, and Bill Goodman, president of Applied Physics Systems. GP members and officers alike are grateful to the long-term financial support of 2G Enterprises!
Fall Meeting 2012

Eric Ferre and John Tarduno discuss the finer points of mantle magnetism. (Photo by Rick Blakely)

Vinicius Louro and Laurie Brown. (Photo by Rick Blakely)

Sarah Friedman. (Photo by Rick Blakely)

Bob Kopp accepts the 2012 Gilbert Award. (Photo by Mike Purucker)

Joe Kirschvink introduces Bob Kopp. (Photo by Mike Purucker)

Passing of the GP Pith Helmet. (Photo by Mike Purucker)

Kathy Whaler presents the Bullard Lecture. (Photo by Mike Purucker)
Highlights from the Fall Meeting
- **Mike Fuller received the 2012 John Adam Fleming Medal** for his innovative research in geomagnetism over more than 50 years. Mike was nominated by Subir Banerjee and Chris Harrison.

- **Cor Langereis was named AGU Fellow** for outstanding work in developing and using paleomagnetism as a tool for stratigraphy, tectonics, and geomagnetism.

- **Robert Kopp was presented with the 2012 William Gilbert Award.** Bob is assistant professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, Rutgers University, and Associate Director of the Rutgers Energy Institute. The Gilbert Award recognizes excellence in scientific rigor, originality, and impact; leadership and service to the GP research community; and development of cross-disciplinary research areas and methods.

- **Kathy Whaler presented the Edward Bullard Lecture.** The Bullard Lecture is part of the AGU Bowie Lecture Series. It began as the Allan Cox Lecture in 1988, then morphed into the Bullard Lecture in 2002. Kathy, professor at the University of Edinburgh, is the 24th person so honored. The title of her presentation was “Magnetotelluric studies in East Africa”.

- **The GP Business Meeting and Reception drew approximately 150 GP members.** High attendance likely was caused by the open bar rather than the incredibly interesting business meeting.

**Anita Di Chiara, 2012 OSPA winner**
The GP Section is happy to introduce Anita Di Chiara as our 2012 winner of the Outstanding Student Presentation Award for her poster, “Paleomagnetic secular variation at the Azores during the last 3 ka.” Anita is a PhD student at Università di Bologna and working at the Istituto Nazionale Geofisica e Vulcanologia in Rome. Her coauthors were **Fabio Speranza**, also of the Istituto di Nazionale Geofisica e Vulcanologia, and **Massimiliano Porreca** of Centro de Vulcanologia e Avaliação de Riscos Geológicos. Thanks to **Laurie Brown** and our GP judges for organizing this event.

**AGU Meeting of the Americas, Cancun, Mexico**
The next Meeting of the Americas Joint Assembly will be held in Cancun, Mexico, May 14-17, 2013. Organizers are now accepting session proposals. Abstract deadline is February 6, 2013. Details available at http://moa.agu.org/2013. GP is organizing 13 special sessions as follows:

- **GP01. Geomagnetism and paleomagnetism general contributions**
- **GP02. Precambrian geomagnetic field**
- **GP03. Paleomagnetism and rock magnetism from scientific drilling**
- **GP04. Planetary and meteorite magnetism**
- **GP05. Paleosecular variation, excursions, and reversals of the earth’s magnetic field**
- **GP06. Absolute and relative paleointensity determinations—new results and methods**
- **GP07: Magnetic fabric—from grain scale to tectonic context**
- **GP08. Paleomagnetic studies for the reconstruction of tectonic processes**
- **GP09. Magnetic methods**
- **GP10. Recent advances in rock and mineral magnetism—synthetic and natural fine particles at the forefront**
- **GP11. Archaeometric and archaeomagnetic applications, recent geomagnetic field observations, and paleosecular variation**
- **GP12. Paleomagnetism, tectonics, and magnetostratigraphy in Latin America**
- **GP13. New insights and challenges in environmental magnetism**
Post-doc, early-career, and other opportunities

- **Trinity College, Hartford, Connecticut.** The Environmental Science Program at Trinity College wishes to fill a two-year endowed post-doctoral position. The successful candidate will have a strong interest in combining teaching in the liberal arts environment with dynamic research involving active participation from undergraduates. Contact Dr. Christoph Geiss (christoph.geiss@trincoll.edu) or see www.trincoll.edu/Academics/MajorsAndMinors/Environmental/Pages/ENVS_postdoc.aspx for additional information.

- **University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.** The Department of Geosciences at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, seeks to fill a visiting assistant professor position beginning in August 2013. This is a two-year position, possibly extending to three years. Applicants will complement existing strengths in hard-rock geology, hydrogeology, geophysics, sedimentary geology, or paleoecology. Additional information available at http://jobs.uwm.edu/postings/11260. Application deadline February 28, 2013.

- **University of Akron, Ohio.** The Department of Geosciences at the University of Akron is seeking applications for the position of Department Chair. The successful applicant will be an academic leader and help the department make major contributions to the university’s Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. Inquiries should be directed to Dr. John Peck (jpeck@uakron.edu). Additional details available at www.uakron.edu/jobs. Job ID#7637. Review of applications begins on February 15, 2013.

- **Michigan Technical University, Houghton, Michigan.** The Department of Geological and Mining Engineering and Sciences at Michigan Tech invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at the Assistant Professor level. The successful candidate will conduct research in structural geology, economic geology, petrology, geochemistry, geophysics, or related areas. Contact Dr. Aleksey Smirnov (asmirnov@mtu.edu) for additional information. Application deadline January 30, 2013.

- **Ludwig Maximilians University, Munich.** The Magnetism Group, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Ludwig Maximilians University, is seeking to fill a 3- and possibly 6-year position available beginning in 2013. The candidate’s research profile should be in paleo-, geo-, or rock magnetism, with preference to those who complement the Group’s interests in biomagnetism, external field behavior, high-pressure mineral physics, and/or equipment design, as well as those with post-doctoral experience. The position will have teaching obligations at the Bachelors and/or Masters level. Contact Professor Stuart Gilder (gilder@lmu.de) for additional information.

- **Institute for Rock Magnetism, Minneapolis.** Support is provided for up to 10-day research visits in three areas: Visiting Research Fellows, U.S. Student Fellows, and researchers whose primary goal is to use the u-channel magnetometer system. Applications are accepted twice per year (April 30, October 30). Contact IRM (irm@umn.edu) or visit the web page at www.irm.umn.edu.

Nominate your worthy colleagues

Nominations are now open for all AGU Medals, Awards, Prizes, and Fellows. Please consider nominating your worthy colleagues for these prestigious honors. March 15, 2013, is the deadline for all AGU honors. (Note that the William Gilbert Award deadline is July 31, 2013.)

- **John Adam Fleming Medal.** The Fleming Medal is given annually for original research and technical leadership in geomagnetism, atmospheric electricity, aeronomy, space physics, and related sciences. Mike Fuller received the Fleming Medal in 2012.

- **Walter H. Bucher Medal.** The Bucher Medal is given for original contributions to the basic knowledge of the crust and lithosphere. It is given in alternate (even) years. Edward (Ted) Irving received the Bucher Medal in 1979 and was the most recent GP recipient.

- **William Bowie Medal.** The Bowie Medal is AGU’s highest honor, given annually for outstanding contributions to fundamental geophysics and for unselfish cooperation in research.
- **James B. Macelwane Medal.** The Macelwane Medal is given for significant contributions to the geophysical sciences by an outstanding young scientist (less than 36 years of age). It is given annually to as many as 3 individuals, 5 under special circumstances.

- **Fellow.** AGU Fellowship is awarded for acknowledged eminence in the Earth and space sciences. The number of Fellows each year is restricted to 0.1% of total membership.

**The future of AGU Donor Lounges**

The Donor Lounges are a very popular feature of Fall AGU Meetings. In the past, access to the Donor Lounges required a minimum donation of $120. The comfortable rooms provided a place to meet with colleagues, connect with WiFi, have a cup of coffee, and escape the hubbub of the larger meeting. It was no surprise, therefore, that many of us were startled to learn about AGU’s reorganized Donor Recognition categories, which provides that access to the Donor Lounges now will require a minimum annual donation of $500!

AGU is in a difficult position here: As determined by the AGU Development Board, the actual cost of the Donor Lounges exceeds $400 per user. While all donations go directly to the programs and funds specified by the donor, AGU is not able to maintain the lounges in their current format. On the other hand, an annual donation of $500 is outside the reach of many AGU members. AGU recognizes that the sudden increase to $500 without a lot of explanation created ill feelings among its members. As a result, AGU has solicited feedback from all current donors via a questionnaire issued last month. Ideas range from gradually increasing the minimum donation over several years rather than all at once, to establishing a business-type lounge paid for as part of registration fees, to changing the services available in future lounges.

AGU has asked for your feedback. Please send your questions or comments directly to Victoria Thompson, Development Manager, at development@agu.org.

**Newsletter contributions are welcome.**

We welcome news items of general interest to the GP community. Please keep them brief (150 words or less) and send to Rick Blakely (blakely@usgs.gov).

—GP Executive Committee