

**2009 Annual Report
Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America**

Prepared by: J. David Rogers, Vice Chair

Division Officers (2008-2009): Abdul Shakoor, Chair; J. David Rogers, Vice-Chair; Secretary; John C. Jens; Bill Schulz, Member-at-Large.

Management Board Officers (2008-2009):

CHAIR: Abdul Shakoor, Kent State University, Department of Geology, Phone: 330-678-3666, E-mail: ashakoor@kent.edu

VICE-CHAIR: J. David Rogers, Missouri University of Science & Technology, Department of Geological Sciences & Engineering, Phone: 573-341-6198, E-mail: rogersda@mst.edu

SECRETARY: John C. Jens, U.S. Army Topographical Engineering Center, Phone: 703-428-6948 E-Mail: jcjens@earthlink.net

MEMBER-AT-LARGE: William C. Schulz, U.S. Geological Survey, Geologic Hazards Team, Phone: 303-273-8404, E-mail: wschulz@usgs.gov

PAST-CHAIR: Paul M. Santi, Colorado School of Mines, Department of Geology and Geological Engineering, Phone: 303-273-3108, E-mail: psanti@mines.edu

**Meeting of the Engineering Geology Division Management Board
in Houston on October 5, 2008**

1. **Call to order and introductions.** At 1 PM **EGD Chair Paul Santi** presented the 2007 Annual Report of the GSA-EGD for our review.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The report and proposed agenda were approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the October 2007 meeting.** The minutes were approved without dissent.
4. **Election Results.** The election results were also approved as proposed. The new chair is **Abdul Shakoor**; chair elect is **J. David Rogers**; Secretary-Treasurer **John C. Jens**; and the new Member-at-Large is **Bill Schulz**.

Division Chair's Report. Paul Santi reported on the GSA **Division Chairs Meeting** convened in May in Boulder, CO, which **Syed Hassan** attended in his place (Santi was on sabbatical in New Zealand). He also reported on yesterday's **GSA Council Meeting**, which approved travel support for up to \$700 for one or two representatives of each GSA division for the coming year (2009). GSA may set up a web cast next year for other participants. Next year's meeting will be March 7-8, 2009 (Saturday-Sunday). Our presence at this meeting is very important. Half a dozen divisions were not represented at last year's meeting.

In regards to our division's size; we are somewhere in the middle, with 848 members. Those larger than ours include: **Structural Geology and Tectonics** (1729 members), which is the largest division, followed by **Hydrogeology** (1612 members), and **Quaternary Geology & Geomorphology** (1500 members). The Geological Society of America currently has ~21,000 members, so it is slightly larger than in the past. We have 80 to 85% return membership. The Society expected 12,000 participate in the joint Houston meeting. We actually have 8,200 pre-registered for this meeting.

The **Engineering Geology Division** lists 78 total abstracts for this meeting, about one

third as many as we usually have anytime the annual meeting convenes in Denver, or a city west of Denver.

At the **GSA Ad Hoc Committee on Divisions-Section Integration**, chaired by **Jerry DeGraf**, they are trying to develop a better mechanism for getting participation in regional section meetings, getting the word out on abstract deadlines, etc. Some people have complained that a person can only be first author on one presentation at the GSA annual meeting. **Dave Rogers** brought up problems with having a sufficient number of abstracts submitted for named theme sessions.

Scott Burns: AEG and GSA-EGD have been trying to organize EGD symposia at the GSA section meetings. We need to get AEG Sections involved in these section meetings. **Paul Santi**: we should contact the chairs of the regional AEG Sections about two years in advance of these GSA section meetings.

The *Hydrogeology Division* appoints a point-of-contact within each GSA geographical section to help coordinate their division's tech symposiums at these regional meetings. The local sections of AEG should be taking a more proactive stance. **Chuck Welby** attempted to do this in the past, but found some of the sections did not always respond, because no one wanted to volunteer for the job. Maybe we could designate a past EGD Chair in each of the GSA sections.

Abdul Shakoor: We should solicit nominations from the AEG Section Chairs for these points-of-contact. **Jerry DeGraf**: the **GSA Academic and Applied Geosciences Recommendations Committee** wants to get word out to applied geosciences people about these meetings. Many of them perceive GSA as "too academic." We should also try to group EGD-sponsored symposia into one or two days at any meeting, so these people can get back to work.

The technical program symposium coordinator needs to be in contact with an EGD member if the EGD is going to solicit theme sessions at the regional meetings.

Jerry DeGraf: he spoke to Melissa Kandinsky at GSA headquarters and asked for a list of the program chairs to be posted on the GSA Website, to facilitate easy contact with the various technical program chairs for the upcoming meetings.

Monica Gowan is the EGD division-wide liaison on the GSA Council. We also have EGD division liaison in **Jerry DeGraf**. **Nancy Wright** is the GSA point of contact to ask about minimum number of abstracts for a technical session. **Barb Echohawk** believes the number is 12.

GSA is thinking about creating an international division to better serve the international membership, particularly in the Western Hemisphere. Of the specialty divisions, there is a "specialty gap" in petrology, mineralogy, geochemistry, volcanology, etc. These folks don't have a division of their own.

6. Division Awards for 2008.

Derek Cornforth for the **Burwell Award**, citation by Paul Santi;
Distinguished Practice Award to Jim Hamil, citation by was Barry Voigt;
Meritorious Service Award to Sue Canon; 2008 **Jahn's Lecturer** is Dr. Edmund Medley, PE, CEG of Geosyntec Consultants, nominated by Betsy Matheson;
and three **Shlemon Scholars**.

7. Other officers' and Committee Chair's reports

A. Secretary's Report by EGD Secretary J. David Rogers: According to the statement provided by GSA (mkerns@geosociety.org), dated July 14, 2008, the Engineering Geology Division (EGD) has dues income of \$6,982.28 for the fiscal year 2007-08 (compared to \$4664.00 for the fiscal year 2006-07, and just \$2861 for fiscal year 2005-06). Our miscellaneous expenses included: postage, shipping, purchase of awards, travel and lodging, miscellaneous category, and entertainment. These expenditures amounted to \$1,416.25. This resulted in a net income of \$5,566.03 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008.

The EGD's net assets for the fiscal year 2007-08 are **\$23,369.37** (including deferred dues income of \$3,192.38), compared to \$14,610.96 at the beginning of the fiscal year. Please note that GSA's fiscal year extends from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

Details of the division's income and expenses were attached to the Secretary's summary.

On June 26, 2008 the GSA Foundation Jahns Fund (Account 024) paid John Clague 3,306.61 for travel and lodging expenses he incurred for some of his Jahns Lectures. He sent us a sheath of receipts and I reviewed and approved the reimbursement, through communication with GSA's Donna Russell (drussell@geosociety.org).

B. EGD Website: Written report by **Rob Larson**. Larson asks us to send ideas for the EGD website to him, at RLARSON@dpw.lacounty.gov, including names of new awardees, officers names, e-mail addresses, etc. The content and layout of past newsletters can be viewed at www.geo_society.org, then click down.

C. EGD Newsletter: we have two issues this past year; one in September 2000 settled and the other in January 2008. We missed the June 2008 newsletter. We hope to have three issues of the Division Newsletter is coming year. An EGD Newsletter is supposed to be sent out in January, June, and September of each calendar year. **Rob Larson** sends out the mastheads for each issue. We usually prepare a brief synopsis of the technical meetings and various technical publications. We need the "**Chair's Message**" for the January and September issues. Please submit these items one month ahead of time; so, December 1st and August 15th of each year.

D. Publications: **Rick Giardino** at Texas A&M has volunteered to take responsibility for this. Ask Rick about **CD-ROMs of out-of-date EGD publications**. **The AEG Foundation voted to contribute \$3000 per year for three consecutive years to help finance the publication of color figures in the journal**. The board agreed that these are important issues to shepherd along over the next few years.

F. Jahn's Lectureship: **John Clague** submitted his activity report. He had presented 40 lectures this year through September 17, 2007. **Dave Rogers** he approved payments for travel expenses, in two large groups.

G. Shlemon Awards. **Rob Larson** sent a written report. This account runs off the principal amount. Each year the committee decides how much funds are available to support student travel to meetings and field trips. This year, they awarded Susan Baltzar of Cal Poly Pomona \$275 for travel and three scholarship awards. The Ph.D. award is for \$2500, a master of science award for \$2000, and a master of science award for \$1000. These were listed at last evening's Presidential Awards ceremony. The Shlemon Fund has declined this past year, expending \$4149. The principal balance in the account is about \$184,156. Between June and August 2008 it dropped to just \$178,782, losing \$5,635 during the summer of 2008.

H. External Awards. **Sue Cannon** had nothing to report.

I. 2008 Annual Meeting Program Chairs Report. Abdul Shakoor started with nine topical sessions as sponsors are co-sponsors. These were ultimately left with only four sessions: T101 (geophysics/remote sensing); T112 (landslide inventories); T117 (Engineering Geology I), and T177 (Engineering Geology II). There was also a Forensic Geology session without a specialty division sponsor.

J. University Liaison Committee. **Scott Burns:** he has a three-year-old list that shows every professor who teaches environmental and or engineering geology.

L. Academic and Applied Geoscience Relations is one of GSA's standing committee. **Jerry DeGraff** is a member, and he reports directly to the GSA Council. This started was started by Clark Burchfiel because GSA was losing members who work for environmental and engineering firms. They began by advertising with flyers in the region, and focused on sponsoring single day group symposia. They also tried to look more favorably on case study

presentations. Equipment vendors were also invited to the society meetings. The requirements for becoming a fellow in GSA need to be relaxed a bit. Nominators need to recite the basis for the nomination. There is also a movement on to make *GSA Today* more friendly to those working in applied geology. Right now, there's very little about environmental and engineering geoscience contained in that publication. GSA Fellowship nominations are due on February 1.

M. Other. **Scott Burns** provided an announcement about the next **IAEG meeting** will convene September 5-10, 2010 in Auckland New Zealand. The IAEG meeting in 2014 might be somewhere in North America, possibly on the West Coast. The EGD and AEG could cosponsor sessions in that meeting. We may move the 2013 AEG meeting in Seattle to 2014. The GSA annual meeting in Portland will be on October 18-21, 2009. Deadlines for sessions will be in early December 2008.

8. Division Appointments

The election results were also approved as proposed. The new chair is **Abdul Shakoor**; chair elect is **J. David Rogers**; Secretary-Treasurer **John C. Jens**; and the new Member-at-Large is **Bill Shulz**.

See EGD-Committees and Appointments.

9. Old Business.

- A. A **Strategic Plan** for the EGD was prepared by **Bob Fakundiny** two years ago in Philadelphia. Abdul ask him to send a copy of this to us. This will be a discussion item for next year.
- B. **Jahns Lectureship**. Question was posed: Should we have the Jahn's Lecture published in EG&G? **Abdul Shakoor** suggested that this be a requirement of the Jahns Lectureship. Abdul will send requests to the last five Jahns Lecturers, asking them to submit articles for the AEG. **Mark Molinari** and **Paul Santi** will prepare a letter of award for the next Jahn's Lecturer which will request that they submit an article within 6 months of the completion of their lecture tour. This would be about 18 months after their initial notification. **Dave Rogers** will huddle with **Abdul Shakoor** to send out letters to all of the former Jahns Lecturers encouraging them to submit articles to EG&G.
- C. **EGD Booth at the GSA annual meetings**. GSA has been giving the EGD a free booth at each annual meeting, but it has to be manned. This year, we are conjoined with AEG so that we were next to one another. We have to make any request of the GSA at the end of each annual meeting. GSA usually lumps all the specialty divisions together at the far end of the exhibitor's floor. We need to recruit some people to staff our booth. We also need a flyer that lists the various past publications. Question asked: What about CD-ROM copies of older publications?

10. New Business

10a. Jahn's Lectureship. Can we increase the level of support from \$3000 to \$5000 per year? Yes, we feel that we can, if the funds are available.

10 b. Subsidizing cost of color figures in EG&G. Can we subsidize the cost of color plates in the Engineering and Environmental Geoscience journal? **John Olson** was going to talk to the GSA Foundation about this. **Becky Rowland** is attending the Foundation meeting this afternoon.

AEG President Mark Molinari: Allen Press did an inventory of figures in EG&G. They estimate that it will cost about \$11,000 per issue to make ALL the figures in color. Right now, only 6% to 7% of the figures are in color, and these are paid for by the authors. The cost of black-and-white figures is about \$4600 per issue; color throughout would be \$11,500 per issue.

So, we need \$7,500 additional funds per issue, or about \$28,000 more per year to go all color.

The AEG Foundation could contribute about \$3000 per year, with GSA matching \$3000 per year. That would be \$6,000 additional funds per year. That would reduce the author's respective contributions. If we shoot for only 25% color figures, we would only need an additional ~\$2000 more per issue. AEG might also contribute ~\$1000.

Abdul Shakoor: If we have 50% of the figures in color, it will have a large impact. We are already running 7% to 10% color. Everyone will notice that change in the journal. So, we need to raise funds from as many sources, as we can and realize that we would be subsidizing the color figures.

John Olson is on the GSA publications committee; they may agree to contribute.

Tally of Potential Contributions. Let's see what we can assume from following sources:

\$3000 GSA Publications
\$3000 AEG foundation.
\$2000 AEG.
\$2000 GSA-EGD.

\$10,000 total

We are currently paying \$4600 per issue on four issues per year, that equals \$18,400. If we add this additional \$10,000 (cited above), we would have grand total of \$28,400. If we wanted 100% color in all four issues each year we would need \$44,000 per year. So looks as though we're settling on **something close to 35% color figures with our \$28,400.**

Another option would be for corporate sponsorship for advertisements in the **AEG News**. We are seeing a lowering of journal submissions. If we increase the fee to \$25 for downloading of articles by an outside person that could generate some additional monies.

If we aimed for 50% color figures that would work out to something like \$8,500 per issue, which equates to about \$34,000 per year. **So, the shortfall from what we could put together right now, would appear to be about \$5,600 per year.** We actually have about \$5,000 per year to use.

Abdul Shakoor also suggests that we increase the Jahn's Lectureship by \$1500/year; from \$3000/yr to \$4500/year. Paul Santi feels that we should have a \$2000 increase because of the increased costs for the John's Lecturer to reach so many different locations. Dave Rogers summed by stating "So, we can vote for \$1500 or \$2000 increase, that's what's on the table."

At 4:30 p.m., the EGD Management Board voted 3-0 to increase the Jahn's Lectureship support by \$2000 per annum; from \$3000 to \$5000 per year, effective immediately. And, the EGD Board voted to provide an additional \$2000 to the Environmental and Engineering Geoscience Journal, to subsidize color printing of figures. This amount is in accord with the tally of contributions assumed will be contributed from other sources, listed above.

The AEG and the AEG Foundation will try to match our \$2000 increase to EG&G; increasing their portion of contribution by \$2000 and \$3000 (see Item D, above), respectively, increasing their subsidy by \$5,000 per year.

11. Adjournment.

The EGD Management Board Meeting adjourned at 4:45 PM.