



## Chair's Message

By Terry R. West

Labor Day 2002 is now history, which signals the end of summer. With the arrival of fall, increased activities in EGD mark the preparation period for the annual meeting and a scheduled change in leadership. The year has gone by quickly as we proceed toward a busy, well-attended meeting in Denver. Our technical involvement is at an all time high with sponsorship of one short course, two field trips, and twelve technical sessions in addition to both an engineering geology oral and poster session.

Relations between AEG and EGD remain strong. Our co-sponsorship on the Jahns Distinguished Lectureship in engineering geology continues. Skip Watts, a member of both organizations, will be our lecturer for 2002-2003. Please contact him to schedule a lecture for your school.

At the annual AEG meeting in Reno, I will participate in a panel discussion of engineering geology organizations. The President of AEG, Myles Carter, will be another panel member in the discussion. Papers from the all day session on engineering geology will be available on CD ROM. It was a valuable experience for me compiling the information on the history of EGD and its role today in applied geology. Copies of the CD ROM will be available following the AEG meeting in late September.

In early August this year, I experienced one of the highlights of my career as an educator in engineering geology. Celebration of 40 years of teaching at Purdue involved an all

day session on campus, followed by an awards banquet in the evening. Many former students returned for the occasion, some of whom gave technical presentations during the campus meeting. These illustrated how their engineering training at Purdue had molded their careers by providing specific examples. The banquet was attended by 65 friends, colleagues, relatives and former students. After several tributes from colleagues, the highlight of the evening was an award presented by our local Indiana State legislator. This involved a Sagamore of the Wabash award signed by the Governor of Indiana. The appreciation and acceptance speech by a humbled Terry West ended the festive day that will be long remembered.

In closing, I wish to thank the officers, committee chairs and committee members of EGD for a year of diligent effort. The Division is in strong hands for the foreseeable future, but of course your involvement is critical for continued success.

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## Shlemon Scholars for 2002 and Call for Donations

The Roy J. Shlemon scholarship fund provided awards in 2002 at both the doctoral and master's level of graduate study. At the doctoral level, the first place award was given to Mr. Kyu Ho Cho of Purdue University for his research entitled, "Effect of Earthquake Direction on the Displacement of Rock Slopes." The second place awardee was Mr. Sergio A. Sepulveda of the University of Leeds. Mr. Sepulveda's research is entitled, "Mechanisms of Initiation of Landslides During Earthquakes: The Role of Topographic Effects on Seismic Rock Slope Stability."

At the Master's level, Jamie Marie Monte was awarded the first place for her research entitled, "Application of Center to Center Method to Estimate Principal Stress Orientations in Rock." The second place awardee was Mr. Eric Fossett. He is pursuing research entitled, "Evidence and Implications of Holocene faulting along the Black Hills fault, Southern Nevada."

Additionally, meeting awards were given to the following students to support their attendance at short courses and field trips:

Mimi Diaz  
Briget C. Doyle  
Sergio Sepulveda  
Eric Fossett  
Peter Kaplan  
Arwen Elizabeth Vidal

In 2002, the first place scholarship awardees received \$1000 and the second place scholarship awardees received \$500. Due to the downturn in investment return, the awards will be limited to first place awards of \$1000 for both the doctoral and master's level. There will also be no support for meeting awards to support students attending short courses and field trips. EGD members are encouraged to designate the EGD Roy J. Shlemon Scholarship fund for the solicited award on their annual dues form or at any time they may be able to make such a charitable donation to the fund. In this way, the fund can be made less vulnerable to market fluctuations.



Skip Watts doing what he likes best...being in the field.

## Skip Watts Chosen as Jahns Lecturer

The Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer for 2003 is Dr. Chester F. (Skip) Watts. Skip is a University Distinguished Professor at Radford University in Virginia and Director of the Institute for Engineering Geosciences. He is a specialist in rock slope engineering and author of the RockPack computer programs for evaluating the safety and stability of rock slopes. Skip is presently completing his "tour" as the GSA/USGS Congressional Science Fellow serving as a science and technology advisor on the personal staff of Senator Joseph Lieberman, Democrat from Connecticut. Lecture topics include "Geology from the Hill," "The role of science in formulating public policy," and "Rockslides!" Requests should be directed to Skip at [cwatts@radford.edu](mailto:cwatts@radford.edu). The Richard H. Jahns Distinguished lectureship is a joint program of the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America and the Association of Engineering Geologists.

## Military Geology and Geography Conference and Call for Papers

THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MILITARY GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY is a multi-disciplinary international conference convened for academics, researchers and practitioners to discuss the nexus between geology, geography, and military operations. The conference will offer a high-level academic and technical forum for exchange of information. Sessions are not limited to topics on warfare but include discussions of peacetime military operations, peacekeeping, disaster relief, medical geography/geology, military operations other than war, and military engineering, testing and training.

### Invitation

PROSPECTIVE AUTHORS are invited to submit their abstracts by 4 January 2003, for papers on the following and related topics:

- Historical Military Geology or Geography
- Geological/Geographic Considerations for Military Operations Other Than War
- Operational Environments
- Terrain Structure
- Geology and Warfare
- Military Land Management
- Security Landscapes
- Regional Studies
- Environmental Security
- Remote Sensing/GIS and Warfare
- Cartography/Visualization
- The War on Terrorism: Geological or Geographical Perspectives
- Military Medical Geography/Geology

TOTAL LENGTH of the abstract should not exceed one page, including figures and should summarize the purpose, methods, and major findings of the paper. Abstracts must include: a title; affiliation and mailing address of the author(s); and the email and phone/fax number of the corresponding authors. Please indicate if the abstract is for a paper or poster session.

SUBMIT YOUR abstract in a Microsoft Word file, with graphics embedded, or as a Rich Text Format file (.rtf), via the Conference

web site. Follow the instructions on the web site for submission. You will receive a confirmation receipt via e-mail. All abstracts will be reviewed and authors will be notified of acceptance on 31 January 2003. A volume of abstracts will be distributed during registration.

THE LATEST conference information, information on the program, registration, and hotels & transportation is available on the MG&G web site at:

<http://www.dean.usma.edu/geo/gene.htm>

### Technical Program and Field Trips

Geologists and geographers will present plenary session papers on the geology and geography of the Hudson Highlands, and the military geography of West Point and its fortifications. A fortification field trip and Hudson River boat ride will be conducted to complement these presentations.



### Rob Larson, 2002 Meritorious Service Awardee

Rob Larson is this year's recipient of the Engineering Geology Division's Meritorious Service award. The award is given in recognition of continuing valuable service to the Division by one of its members. Rob developed and continues to serve as webmaster for the EGD website. He has served for several years as Chair of the Roy J. Shlemon Scholarship and Meeting awards committee. These represent only a portion of the many activities carried out by Rob to further the program of the Division.

## The Engineering Geologist Goes Electronic in 2003

Starting with the first edition in 2003, the Engineering Geology Division newsletter will be distributed electronically. The Geological Society of America will send each Division member his or her copy via email. We will be joining several other Divisions in using this means for communicating to Division members. It will reduce our costs to the Division's budget and allow us to continue dues at their current bargain rate. The Division will conduct future election of EGD Board members electronically, too.

Members who need to continue receiving paper copies should notify the EGD Secretary, Robert H. Fakundiny, at rfakundi@mail.nysed.gov or the Newsletter Editor, Jerry DeGraff, at Fishlake@att.net.

## Division Appointments and Committees 2002-03

### **GSA Annual Meeting Division Program Chair**

William C. Haneberg

### **GSA Section Meeting Division Coordinator**

Susan H. Cannon

### **Division Publications Committee**

Chuck Welby, Chair

### **Division Newsletter Editor**

Jerome V. DeGraff

### **Division Webmaster**

Robert A. Larson

### **GSA External Awards Committee**

Robert H. Fakundiny

### **E.B. Burwell Jr. Award Committee**

Larry Gatto, John D. Kiefer, Syed E. Hasan, John Jens, Abdul Shakoor and Norman Levine, Chair

### **Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer Award**

Judy Ehlen  
William C. Haneberg

### **Roy J. Shlemon Scholarship Awards Committee**

Scott Burns, Jerome V. DeGraff, Betsy Mathieson, Roy J. Shlemon and Robert A. Larson, Chair

### **Division Awards Committee**

Susan H. Cannon, Robert H. Fakundiny, William C. Haneberg, Terry R. West and Judy Ehlen, Chair

### **Nominations Committee**

Scott Burns, Duane Eversoll, Robert A. Larson and Terry West, Chair

### **GSA Joint Technical Program Committee**

Robert H. Fakundiny (Engineering Geology)  
William C. Haneberg (Engineering Geology)  
Helen Delano (Environmental Geosciences)

### **University Liaison Committee**

Paul Santi, John Keefer, Abdul Shakoor, Chester Watts, John Williams, Terry West, Co-Chair, and Scott Burns, Chair

### **Student Paper Awards Committee**

Terry West, Robert H. Fakundiny and Scott Burns, Chair

## Burwell Committee Seeks Nominations

The committee responsible for the E.B. Burwell, Jr. award in 2003 is seeking assistance from the engineering geology community. Send nominations by February 1 for the E.B. Burwell, Jr. Award to Norman Levine at levinen@bgnet.bgsu.edu

The Edward Burwell, Jr., Award, established by the Division in 1968, honors the memory of one of the founding members of the Division and the first chief geologist of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It consists of an embossed award certificate. This award is made to the author or authors of a published paper of distinction that advances knowledge concerning principles or practice of engineering geology, or of related fields of applied soil or rock mechanics where the role of geology is emphasized. The paper that receives the award must (1) deal with engineering geology or a closely related field, and (2) have been published no more

than 5 years prior to its selection. There are no restrictions as to the publisher or publishing agency of the paper. The author or authors of the selected paper need not be a member(s) of the Engineering Geology Division or of the Geological Society of America and need not be a resident(s) or citizen(s) of the United States.

## Richard Gray Receives Recognition From Engineers

The American Society of Civil Engineers has elected past Engineering Geology Division Chair, Richard E. Gray, to Honorary Membership. Since 1853, only 513 members of this 125,000-member organization have been so recognized. Dick is the 1999 recipient of the Division's Distinguished Practice Award.

### EGD Webmaster Needs Help

EGD webmaster, Rob Larson, is seeking assistance from one or more interested EGD members or student members. He would like to share some of the tasks for keeping our Division web site. Please contact Rob via his email address posted at the website for details.

## Humans as Geologic Agents - A proposed volume in the Geological Society of America's Reviews in Engineering Geology series

We are organizing a volume of peer-reviewed papers on the topic "Humans as Geologic Agents" in honor of the late George Kiersch. The volume is proposed for the Geological Society of America's Reviews in Engineering Geology series. Papers from presentations at the 2002 Annual Meeting of the GSA on the same subject will form a core for the volume.

*Homo sapiens* are the only known species to consciously effect change to the Earth's geologic environment. We reshape the

Earth; intensify and/or eliminate erosion; modify and divert rivers; change local climates; pollute our water resources, soils and geologic media; and alter soils and the biosphere. We dig holes in it, remove parts of it, and bury highly toxic materials in it. In this session, we will explore human impact on the Earth and attempt to answer the following questions. What have we done to Terra? How fast have we effected change? Are the changes permanent? Are they good, or have we inadvertently caused more damage? Can we, should we, repair some or all of the changes we have made? The answers to these questions depends in part on our point of view. Do we consider ourselves part of the environment in which we live or separate from it? These are important questions to geologists because, as those most knowledgeable about Earth and her resources, we play a major role in sustaining and preserving the Earth.

The proposed volume of papers will be a memorial to the late Dr. George A. Kiersch (1917-2001), who suggested the topic. Dr. Kiersch was the premier engineering geologist in North America for many decades, and participated as a human geologic agent throughout his career.

Please consider submitting a paper for this volume. Papers are encouraged that document human impact on the earth from all fields of the geosciences. If you would like to discuss your ideas for a paper or submit one contact Judy Ehlen (jehlen@tec.army.mil), Bill Haneberg (bill@haneberg.com), or Robert Larson (ralarson@rampageusa.com).

The deadline for submittal of a draft paper is April 15, 2003. See <http://www.geosociety.org/pubs/bookguid.htm> for GSA's book format requirements.

## More Nominations Needed

Send nominations by March 1 for the Distinguished Practice Award, Meritorious Service Award, and the Jahns Distinguished Lecturer to Judy Ehlen at jehlen@tec.army.mil.

Reviews in Engineering Geology Volume XV

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