Newsletter of the Engineering Geology Division
of the Geological Society of America

THE ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

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Message from the Chair

Sue Cannon

The business year started with the transfer of the Berkey Gavel from Bob Fakundiny to myself at the Engineering Geology Division Awards Luncheon held during the Geological Society of America meeting in Salt Lake City this October. The gavel makes a very nice addition to my bookcase shelves. Let me start by expressing my pleasure and honor for the opportunity to be your chair for 2006. I am looking forward to a productive year working with both the Management Board and the membership in promoting our Division and its activities.

The major duties of the Management Board for this year will include: 1) promoting an active and productive proposal process for EGD-sponsored sessions at the National and Sectional meetings of GSA; 2) promoting the Richard Jahns Lectureship, Roy J. Shlemon Scholarships, and E. B. Burwell, Jr. Award; 3) ensuring the success of the annual Awards Luncheon at the GSA meeting; and 4) promoting the Division and the engineering geology profession to students, researchers and practitioners.

I am happy to report that the GSA Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City was a resounding success for the EGD; we sponsored or co-sponsored 12 Topical Sessions, a field trip, a Pardee Symposium and a Discipline Session. This success was due in part to a willingness of our membership to organize sessions and an effort to co-sponsor sessions that address Engineering Geology issues. We hope that this effort

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will continue for future meetings, and would encourage our membership to continue the good work by contributing abstracts and organizing sessions!! Here are the deadlines for proposals for the 2006 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia: Short Courses – January 2; Topical Sessions - January 10; Field Trips - January 15. Abstracts will be due on July 11, 2006.

We are always looking for nominations for the Richard Jahns Distinguished Lectured Program, the E.B. Burwell Jr. Award for publications in the field of Engineering Geology, and candidates for the Roy J. Shlemon Scholarships. **Nominations for these awards, as well as the Distinguished Practice and Meritorious Service Awards, are due by February 1, 2006**. I would also like to encourage our membership to consider contributions to the Jahns and Shlemon Funds so that these unique and useful programs can continue their good work.

We have the good news to report that with 831 members our membership is at its highest level since 1996!! The downside, however, is that EGD net assets have decreased in recent years, and are now hovering at close to $10,700.00. This is down from a balance of about $15,000 that has traditionally been carried from year to year. Expenditures this year will include award plaques and banquet tickets, printing and mailing paper newsletters and ballots, and EGD sponsorship of the AEG Shlemon Conference on Mass Wasting in Disturbed Watersheds, to be held this spring in Durango, CO. Please keep in mind that our dues remain the lowest of any GSA Division. The Management Board will need to address the necessity of a dues increase this year. This will require a vote of the membership, and so I would appreciate hearing how membership might feel about this issue.

I urge each of you to contact me, one of the other Management Board members, or GSA Headquarters, with suggestions on how the EGD can be most beneficial to you. Please encourage your colleagues and Engineering Geology students to join the Division, and promote the profession of Engineering Geology. I thank you in advance for your support.

Landslide Conference Abstracts Due Feb. 15, 2006

The **"**First North American Landslide Conference" will be held June 3-8, 2007 in Vail, Colorado. The Conference theme is **"Landslides and Society: Integrated Science, Engineering, Management, and Mitigation."** The Conference is designed to provide a stimulating forum for geoscientists, engineers, planners, economists, program managers, and other decision makers concerned with landslide hazards and their impact on North American society. Principal professional society sponsors of the Conference are the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Rock Mechanics Association, the Canadian Geotechnical Society, the Engineering Geology Division of the Geological Society of America, and the Transportation Research Board.

The Geo-Institute of ASCE will publish the Conference proceedings. ASCE standards for publication will be followed – a minimum of two independent reviews of each submission. Abstracts may now be submitted electronically at the conference web-site:

http://www.mines.edu/academic/geology/landslidevail2007/

Abstracts are due by February 15, 2006, but earlier submissions are encouraged. Decisions concerning acceptance of abstracts will be made within one month of receipt, and no later than March 15, 2006. Draft papers of approved abstracts are due August 1, 2006. Paper reviews will be returned to authors by November 1, 2006.

Prospective authors are invited to submit abstracts of up to 500 words for papers to be considered for presentation/publication at the Conference. An individual may be a primary author and presenter for only ONE volunteered paper, but may co-author any number of abstracts/papers.

The abstract should include title of paper, names/affiliations of all authors and contact information for corresponding author, as well as which of the Conference topics/themes their paper specifically addresses. The website contains details of the conference themes and topics to guide those preparing abstracts.

Upcoming 40th Annual Symposium on Engineering Geology & Geotechnical Engineering - Announcement and Call for Papers

The goal of this symposium is to provide engineering geologists, geotechnical engineers, and government professionals with the opportunity to exchange information on state-of-the-art practices in landslide investigation, analysis, and mitigation. Additional information is available at: http://www.isu.edu/engineer/geosym/.

SYMPOSIUM HIGHLIGHTS

- Geotechnical Engineering Keynote Address - Michael Duncan, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
- Geological Keynote Address - William Cotton, Cotton Shires and Associates
- Slope Stability Analysis Keynote Address - Sunil Sharma, The University of Idaho
- Landslide Field Trip
- Latest Advances in Landslide Mitigation
- Selection of Strength Parameters for Analysis
- Seismic Slope Stability
- Recent Advances in Landslide Monitoring Technology
- Student Paper Contest
- Landslide Photograph Contest

Although the theme of the symposium is "Landslides -- Investigation, Analysis, and Mitigation," papers are welcome in all areas of engineering geology and geotechnical engineering. Case studies on landslides are especially encouraged. Abstracts should be submitted to:

James A. Bay
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Utah State University
Logan, Utah 84322-4110
Jim.bay@usu.edu

Abstract deadline is January 20, 2006. Abstracts should be approximately 250 words and may be submitted by email. Authors will be notified of acceptance by e-mail by February 10, 2006. A camera-ready digital copy of the paper will be due by April 7, 2006.

2005 E.B. Burwell, Jr. Award Citation and Response

Citation
David C. Noe

One of the many pleasures of working as a scientist is that of encountering a comprehensive, end-all publication. I'm sure you know what I mean. An expert work that covers many levels of a subject, from beginning concepts to expert application. Something that's accessible, well stated, scientifically sound, and, if you're lucky, profusely illustrated. Nearly all of us can think about one, two, or several of such publications and how they've affected our understanding of their respective topics.

On the other hand, I'm sure that we all share, to some degree, the frustration of not having an end-all publication available when we start into something new. After all, much of science is discovery, and if everything has already been done, we should all go home and turn out the lights.

Therefore, we should celebrate the publishing of any work that greatly elevates the understanding of a topic in the eyes of its users. And so, it is my pleasure to introduce this year's winner of the E.B. Burwell, Jr. Memorial Award, in recognition of distinguished contribution to Engineering Geology: the *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado*, Colorado Geological Survey (CGS) Special Publication 53, by Ralf Topper, Karen L. Spray, William H. Bellis, Judith L. Hamilton, and Peter E. Barkmann. (*continued on p4*)

Burwell Award Citation and Response (*continued*)

The importance of water in the western United States cannot be overemphasized. It supports our natural resources, agricultural and industrial activities, and human population. Ground water resources are becoming increasingly important as a consequence of population growth, drought, and the need for reliable water sources. In Colorado, the need for comprehensive, understandable information concerning the state's ground water resources has resulted in the publication of the *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado*.

This 210-page atlas was compiled and created by the authors and CGS, working in cooperation with several state and federal agencies and professional organizations. There are three introductory chapters that explain ground water in its geological, hydrological, and legal context, and an extensive glossary at the end. The main part of the publication summarizes the location, geography, geology, water quality, and hydrologic characteristics of the state's major aquifers. This includes a systematic and straight-forward text; maps of structural basin boundaries and aquifer, water well locations, aquifer thickness, potentiometric surfaces, hydraulic conductivity, water well depths, and chemical concentrations; cross sections; hydrologic stratigraphic sections; data tables, graphs of well depths and frequency of occurrence and well yields; numerous photographs, and extensive bibliographies for each aquifer.

In spite of this robust compilation of data and other information, SP-53 has an easy-to-read 11x17 format and is lavishly illustrated, making it accessible for both technical and non-technical readers. As such, it serves as a tool for water conservancy managers and planners, policy makers, and water engineers, and as an educational resource for water users, legislators, and the general public.

Since its publication in 2003, over 1,300 copies of the *Atlas* have been sold to a variety of users. While it does not suggest solutions or provide land-use recommendations, the basic information contained therein is being used to directly solve aquifer-related problems for better land use as a state and local-government planning tool[1], and as an authoritative source for judicial decisions[2]. Maps and other data from the *Atlas* have been used in major Denver newspaper articles. This publication has been successful in enhancing public awareness of ground water issues, and it has been adopted as an essential resource document for anyone in Colorado who works with such issues.

Finally, I would like to say a word or two about the authors, all of whom are experienced hydrogeologists. Ralf Topper and Peter Barkmann work for the Colorado Geological Survey, while Karen Spray, Bill Bellis, and Judy Hamilton practice in the private sector. While all of the authors contributed to the writing, Ralf Topper, as the senior author, did an admirable job in pulling the piece together and giving it a voice. The tone of the Atlas, from cover to cover, is one of careful scientific consideration coupled with patient and focused explanation. The writing is not too wordy, nor is it too spare. It is just right.

As someone who watched this publication take shape, and a former Burwell Award recipient, I am duly impressed by the quality and focus of the completed product. I considered this to be the end-all book for its intended topic, the one-stop, must-have resource for all who are interested in Colorado's ground water and its geologic aspects. In meeting the requirements and vision of the Burwell Award, this is certainly a publication of distinction that advances the knowledge and practice of Engineering and Environmental Geology to a high degree among a variety of interdisciplinary users. I am pleased that the Award Committee felt the same and considers the *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado* to be worthy of the 2005 E.B. Burwell, Jr., Memorial Award.

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[1] Information from the Atlas is being used by the Colorado Water Conservation Board and its contractors in the compilation of the South Platte Decision Support System, an integrated ground water/surface water data access system allowing data based decision making on water supply and use in the South Platte River basin in Colorado.

[2] Colorado Supreme Court Decision in Case No. 02SA216: Colorado Ground Water Commission v. North Kiowa-Bijou Groundwater Management District, September 8, 2003.

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Burwell Award Citation and Response (*continued*)

Response
Ralf Topper

On behalf of my co-authors, Karen Spray, William Bellis, Judith Hamilton, and Peter Barkmann, we are deeply honored to receive the 2005 Edward Burwell, Jr. Award for authoring Colorado Geological Survey Special Publication 53: *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado*. I would like to give you a brief history on how this publication came to be.

Surface water currently supplies approximately 80 percent of Colorado's water supply needs. The limitations on this resource, however, have been evident for decades as all of Colorado's major river systems are over-appropriated. With a 30 percent growth in population in the past decade, Colorado water managers and politicians are struggling to provide long-range sustainable water supplies.

It is in this environment that the Colorado Water Buffalos recognized the need for additional and comprehensive ground-water information. One of these in particular, Mr. Tom Cech of the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District, promoted the compilation of a ground-water atlas as a tool for water managers and an educational resource for water users, legislators, and the public. Mr. Cech brought the idea to the Colorado Water Conservation Board, where deputy director Dan McAuliffe realized the benefits of such a compendium and solicited and funded the Colorado Geological Survey to create an atlas of Colorado's ground-water resources.

And so, the project came to me under the supervision of our section chief, Matt Sares, whose dedication, management, and direction behind the scenes brought this publication to fruition. The inspiration for compiling a large format, heavily illustrated atlas came from the Ground Water Atlas of the United States segments published by the USGS. The *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado* presents the research and results of many other scientists from both the public and private sector, and draws heavily on the water well permit database established and maintained by the Colorado Division of Water Resources.

As you may imagine, an investigation, compilation, and production of a publication of this magnitude requires the dedication and contribution of many individuals and agencies. Karen Spray, William Bellis, and Judith Hamilton, all experienced consulting hydrogeologists in metro-Denver, were contracted to help with this unique project. This project took two years to complete, and we were fortunate to have Peter Barkmann join the CGS during that time and contribute to this publication. The GIS and graphic services personnel within the CGS put a face to our data and visions by creating illustrations, maps, and figures and designing the layout.

I am very pleased that David Noe recognized and appreciated the voice and tone of the atlas. It is very difficult to convey technical information to a non-technical audience, while still providing factual information and holding the attention of scientific and engineering professionals. This became a greater challenge when we attempted to categorize and define the various aquifers in Colorado due to the state's varied and complex geology. That task was accomplished by formulation of a detailed conceptual plan, adherence to a well-defined outline for content, and a lengthy and comprehensive review and editing process.

In closing, I would like to borrow from an article written by Allen Hatheway, a consulting geological engineer from Montana, in the October issue of *The Professional Geologist*. Allen was asked, in part, "What is it that engineers need to know to practice in the applied geosciences?" Allen suggests that an engineer needs some sense of what it is they require of geoscience specification input. Consequently, he concludes that the engineer should know enough about geology to wisely acquire qualified geologic support, formulate a scope of work for a qualified geologist, and evaluate the worth of the geological work product. It is my sincere hope that the *Ground Water Atlas of Colorado* will be used as a reference for factual information on Colorado's ground water hydrology, allowing the less experienced practicing engineer to formulate the specification input required for their project, or at least recognize the need for additional, site-specific hydrologic information.

We are very grateful to the Award Committee for bestowing the 2005 Edward Burwell, Jr. Memorial Award upon our work. It is truly an honor to be recognized in such a fashion.

Judy Ehlen Recognized With 2005 Meritorious Service Award

Citation
William Haneberg

It is a simple fact of life that organizations such as the Engineering Geology Division cannot function without volunteers. They are the people who edit journals, books, and newsletters; organize topical sessions and symposia; serve on the annual meeting program committees; administer awards; track budgets; and a host of other day-to-day details. And, yes, a volunteer even selected today's luncheon menu.

The Engineering Geology Division created a Meritorious Service award to honor members who have made outstanding contributions to the division. It is not an annual award, but is instead given only in years when there is a deserving candidate. This year the Engineering Geology Division is pleased to present its Meritorious Service Award to Dr. Judy Ehlen. Judi moved to England upon her recent retirement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and, for the first time in many years, is not at this year's GSA Annual Meeting.

Judi has graciously served as a member of the Engineering Geology Division Management Board, chairing the division in 2003. She has also contributed to the division publications program, co-editing two Reviews in Engineering Geology volumes: *The Environmental Legacy of Military Operations* in 2002 and *Humans as Geologic Agents*, currently in press. As a co-editor of the latter volume, I am especially appreciative of Judi's work to keep things together and moving forward when other priorities raised their heads. In addition to her contributions to GSA and the Engineering Geology Division, Judi has been an officer of the Geological Society of Washington and a member of the American Rock Mechanics Association governing board.

Judi is an outstanding role model for young engineering geologists, especially women who seek careers in geology and public service. Her enthusiasm has been infectious and she has made the division stronger and better by her work. She deserves our gratitude for her truly meritorious service to the division.

Response
Dr. Judy Ehlen read by Rob Larson

I wish to thank the Division for the Meritorious Service award – I am deeply honored to receive it. And I would like to apologize for not being here in person to receive it – I have recently moved to England and am still in the process of sorting out finish details on the house with the builders and unpacking, so it simply isn't possible.

I have enjoyed being involved with EGD immensely – the membership comprises a really super group of people, and it has been a pleasure working with them. EGD is a very special Division within GSA for another reason as well – it is the only Division that represents all aspects of applied geology, a discipline that is becoming even more important in today's world than it has been in the past – Bob's article in the recent newsletter regarding engineering geologists and Hurricane Katrina highlights this. We need to encourage as many young geologists as possible to become engineering geologists, both as individuals and as a Division – the Shlemon awards are a big step in this direction. But besides being a highly useful discipline, engineering geology is just plain fun, and we need to communicate that far and wide. Getting involved with the Division is one way to do this – volunteer to serve on a committee, submit a proposal for a Reviews in Engineering Geology volume, or organize a session, short course, or field trip at a section meeting or the annual meeting – you'll enjoy working with other dedicated people.

Thanks again for this prestigious award – and see you in Philadelphia!

Dr. John W. Hawley Honored with 2005 EGD Distinguished Practice Award

Citation
Bill Haneberg

I am honored to be the citationist for the 2005 EGD Distinguished Practice Award, which is being given to GSA Fellow and long-time division member John W. Hawley. John is currently an independent consulting geologist in Albuquerque, an Emeritus Senior Environmental Geologist with the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, and an adjunct faculty member at several universities.

After earning a bachelor's degree in geology from Hanover College and serving with the U.S. Army in Germany during the 1950s, John earned his Ph.D. working under the late Burke Maxey at the University of Illinois. He studied the Quaternary geology of Nevada and its implications for our understanding of the basin-fill aquifer systems that are critical resources in the American Southwest. Illinois was not a bad place to study soil mechanics at that time, either, and John developed an intuitive understanding of the field that is evident in his work to this day.

After completing his graduate training, John accepted a position with the Soil Conservation Service and spent the better part of the 1960s and 1970s in Las Cruces, New Mexico and Lubbock, Texas doing pioneering work on the development of desert soils for the Soil Conservation Service. This research, part of the now legendary SCS Desert Project, resulted in a Kirk Bryan award (with co-authors Leland Gile and Robert Grossman) from the GSA Quaternary Geology & Geomorphology Division. Perhaps more importantly in terms of professional practice, it laid the groundwork for the application of modern soil stratigraphy and geomorphology to engineering and environmental geology practice throughout the arid and semi-arid southwestern states. During that time he also served for a brief period as the Soil Conservation Service regional geologist in Portland, Oregon.

John was eventually persuaded to join the New Mexico Bureau of Mines & Mineral Resources, which serves as the state geological survey in practice if not in name, in 1978. He continued his work on the Quaternary geology and hydrogeology of New Mexico, playing important roles in the evaluation of possible low-level radioactive waste sites; the recognition, characterization, and avoidance of hydrocompactive soils; the hydrogeologic characterization of basin-fill aquifers serving the growing urban centers of Santa Fe, Albquerque, and El Paso-Juarez; paleoseismic investigations; the establishment of cooperative relationships with Native American pueblos; and in general the application of geology to solve practical problems. In 1989, he was named a New Mexico Eminent Scholar.

John will tell you that he hasn't published much. That may be true if the comparison is relative to a professor at a Ph.D. mill with an army of graduate students, but he has had more than 100 publications and left his mark on the geologic literature of the American Southwest. They include quadrangle scale geologic maps, hydrogeologic studies and syntheses, geologic hazard assessments, and critical facility siting studies.

Never selfish with his time, John has served as an unpaid adjunct professor at New Mexico Tech and New Mexico State University, as well as a member of dissertation research committees at the University of Colorado, the University of Texas, and other institutions. He recently helped to revitalize the New Mexico section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists and served as its chair in 2002, and was previously served as president of the New Mexico Geological Society. Much of his recent consulting work on Native American and trans-boundary environmental issues has been *pro bono*, including a recent project in which he declined a salary so that the money could be used to support a graduate student at a participating university. On a much more informal basis, he has served as a mentor to untold numbers of young professional geologists. I consider myself fortunate to have been one of them.

One way to evaluate the distinction of a person's professional practice has to be the effect that he or she has had on the way geology is done in a region. In the case of John Hawley, the effect on the way engineering and environmental geology is practiced in the American Southwest has been pervasive. I would wager that there is hardly an engineering geologic, environmental geologic, or hydrogeologic report written about New Mexico during the past couple of decades that does not include at least one reference to John's work. More importantly, John is widely recognized for his encyclopedic knowledge of

southwestern geology and sought out by consultants, regulators, national lab scientists, and academics needing expert opinions. When it seems as if there is no answer to be had, John either knows the answer or can tell you who does (and, if you wait a few minutes while he looks through his card file, the phone number that you need). Tell John that you're embarking on a project in a remote part of the state and he'll immediately tell you who's worked there in the past, where he or she attended graduate school, and give you references to any relevant publications. It is for these kinds of reasons that the New Mexico Geological Society recently dedicated its 50th anniversary guidebook, a hefty volume about the environmental geology of the Albuquerque area, to John Hawley.

John has been a distinguished practitioner in the truest and deepest sense. The inscription on his plaque reads as follows:

> "Presented in honor of a long and distinguished career practicing environmental and engineering geology in the public interest. John Hawley has made important contributions to our understanding of soil geomorphology and basin-fill aquifer systems in the American Southwest, helped to guide the evaluation of potential waste disposal sites and geologic hazards, served as a respected and pragmatic expert on regional geology, and unselfishly mentored countless young geologists. "

Response
Dr. John Hawley

I must first thank the GSA-Engineering Geology Division and the group of members who nominated me for the Division's 2005 Distinguished Practice Award. If there ever was a totally unexpected honor this is it! Special thanks go to citationist Bill Haneberg and long-time colleague Dave W. Love, who have had to put up with my somewhat unfocused and qualitative approach to *Environmental Geology* for too many years. When I became a GSA member in 1961, while a grad student at the University of Illinois, the EGD was one of the three divisions that I joined; and I still have a copy of the first issue (4/1966) of *The Engineering Geologist* in my files (with its excellent article on "Building construction and land development" on "alluvial fan soils" by Gary Melickian).

From 1957-1962, I was an aspiring groundwater and Quaternary geologist doing dissertation research in the Humboldt Valley of Nevada under the direction of George Burke Maxey. My Humboldt River Project peer group included future *hydrogeo-giants* Bob Farvolden, Bill Wilson III, Keros Cartwright, and John Bredehoeft. Burke Maxey had one rigid academic rule for his students: Hydrogeology at the University of Illinois was a multidisciplinary field that required not only a solid earth-science base, but also a grasp of fundamental principles in the allied fields of civil engineering, especially soil mechanics and geohydrology. As a result, most of us took at least 2 semesters of soil mechanics with Prof. Herb Ireland (Terzahgi and Peck; Peck, Hansen and Thornburn-texts); plus engineering geology from Don U. Deere. Our horizons were also expanded by contacts with a civil-engineer peer group, which in my case included Frank Patton, founder of Westbay Instruments and a long-term colleague of Ralph Peck. Ultimately, my Ph.D. Advisory committee comprised Burke Maxey, Don Deere, Ralph Grim (clay mineralogy), Jack Hough (sedimentology), Al Beavers (soil mineralogy), and George White (geomorphology & Quaternary Geology).

Bill Haneberg's citation demonstrates how far my *meandering* professional career has deviated from the *purer* fields of groundwater and engineering geology; however, even subsequent *excursions* into arid-region soil/geomorphologic relationships, Cenozoic stratigraphy, and State and Federal bureaucracy have allowed me to *aid and abet* activities in these fields on numerous occasions. In 1980, Allan Hatheway asked me to write a short piece for *The Engineering Geologist* (v. 15, no. 3, p. 14) on *Approaches to Environmental Geology in New Mexico.* The following excerpts from this paper still characterize my *modus operandi*; and I trust that they are an appropriate part of this Award Acceptance statement:

> Emphasis [of environmental geology] is on solving problems arising from modern society's intensive use of the Earth. This means putting geologic processes and their products into proper perspective in terms of space, time, and human affairs. Geologic processes can include the action of deep-seated forces that cause earthquakes or volcanic eruptions, or surface

phenomena related to interactions of the atmosphere, biosphere, and hydrosphere with the lithosphere . . . .

Converting investigations of the geologic environment into environmental geology also involves a switch to a forward-looking approach that uses the past and the present as keys to the future. Above all, successful application of our expertise to help solve environmental problems of today and tomorrow demands effective communication. What we know, what we infer, and the degrees of uncertainty must all be clearly expressed. [Success] will be measured in terms of nods of understanding from planners, politicians, and plain-ole-persons as well as from our peers.

Examples of approaches to environmental geology used in New Mexico are outlined below. Workers come from many professional areas, public and private. [For example] engineering and petroleum geology, stratigraphy and sedimentology, geomorphology and hydrogeology, and economic geology.

I. Physical environment of broad areas for regional planning:
A. General purpose mapping of landforms, earth materials, and geologic structure
B. Special studies [including] surficial geology and aggregate-resource mapping . . . , [and] evaluation of geologic hazards

II. Studies of specific problems or local areas:
A. Geologic hazard assessment [including] earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides and related mass movements, and [land] subsidence due to human or natural causes
B. Waste disposal site selection [including] sanitary land fills and hazardous-waste [management facilities]
C. Site selection for preservation of unique natural phenomena
D. Site selection for power generation and transmission facilities
E. [Long term] development of mineral resources . . . [including] water resources (only in part renewable), and non-renewable [economic-] minerals
F. Geology for urban planning

III. Some areas of basic research for current and future problems:
A. Geomorphology with emphasis on surface processes and Quaternary history: gives time and space perspective on distribution of dynamic and relict processes and landforms. Problem areas include natural vs. accelerated erosion, non-point-source pollution, and reclamation of surface-mined land
B. Geology and geomorphology with emphasis on deep-seated processes . . . . Combined input of geology and geophysics [directly applies to] earthquake and volcanic eruption hazards
C. Geochemical research applicable to specific environmental- problem areas, including waste-disposal site selection, long-term water and economic-mineral resource development, and urban-regional planning.

The above statement was written at the dawn of the age of computer systems and cyberspace-travel; and needless to say Environmental and Engineering Geology have evolved considerably since 1980. However, our sibling professions are still full of *vim, vigor, and vitality*; and there are lots of young and middle-aged bodies and minds able and willing to take on the awesome challenges of the present and near future. I'm just glad that some special *geo-luck* allowed me to contribute to this great endeavor.

AIPG Recognizes EGD Member James Skehan

Each year the American Association of Professional Geologists (AIPG) selects an individual to receive its most distinguished award, the Ben H. Parker Memorial Award, for one's long-time continued contribution to the profession of geology. AIPG President Robert G. Font notified Jim Skehan, SJ, Professor and Director Emeritus of Weston Observatory, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Boston College of his selection: "I am pleased to have the opportunity to inform you [that you] have been selected as the 2005 recipient of the Ben H. Parker Memorial Award."

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AIPG Award (*continued*)

The AIPG was "founded in 1963 to promote the profession of geology and to provide certification for geologists as a vehicle for establishing a standard of excellence for the profession." Dr. Skehan has been a member of the AIPG from 1967 and has been recognized by the Institute as Certified Professional Geologist No. 1505. Ben H. Parker, for whom the Award is named, was one of the ten Founders of the Institute that now numbers "more than 10,000 individuals who have demonstrated their commitment to the highest levels of competence and ethical conduct" and have been certified by AIPG.

EGD Management Board 2005-2006

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Request for Newsletter Items

With the start of the year, the editor is requesting EGD members consider submitting contributions to future issues of "The Engineering Geologist." The Newsletter is not in a position to conduct review of technical articles, and many other venues exist better suited to disseminating scientific information. However, few EGD members have the time or financial backing to attend the many interesting meetings and conferences held around the world. Those who do attend would render a great service by briefly summarizing the main purpose or outcome of such a meeting and any information on publications, websites, or other means where the meeting papers or presentation might be generally available. Other items that would be valuable would be notices of new publications, special issues of interest to engineering geologist forthcoming in existing periodicals, or useful websites. If you, as an EGD member, find something professionally interesting along these lines, your fellow EGD members probably will, too. So please submit items to: Jerry DeGraff at 45nyutca@sbcglobal.net. It would be helpful if your submission is in Microsoft Word.