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ADMINISTRATION

Bill-
Some history from ancient GSA Council
proceedings I found.
B. B. H.

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REPORT TO COUNCIL

Division of Structural Geology and Tectonics

April 13, 1981

The Division of Structural Geology and Tectonics was approved by the council at the annual meeting of the GSA in November. An ad hoc committee of Walter Alvarez, David Gray, and Richard Groshong had circulated an open letter announcing an organizational discussion session at the GSA meeting. At that session it was agreed that a division status in GSA should be sought. A petition to the GSA council received 118 signatures within 24 hours and the original committee was instructed to proceed. They produced a set of by-laws, nominated a set of officers, and presented the petition to council on November 18, 1980, where it was approved. The current list of officers is appended.

At the 1981 annual meeting, the Division is sponsoring a symposium titled "Frontiers of Structural Geology" that has been designated as the Centennial Symposium. Also planned for the 1981 annual meeting is a Structure and Tectonics cocktail party.

A letter announcing the formation of the Division will be sent soon after the date of this report to all those in the GSA who have indicated an interest in Structure and Tectonics as well as to those nonmembers who have indicated an interest.



Richard H. Groshong, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

Division of Structural Geology and Tectonics

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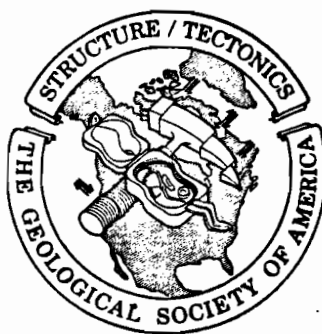
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TO OUR COLLEAGUES IN STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY AND TECTONICS:

This letter is being sent to all GSA members who have expressed interest in structure or tectonics to announce the inauguration of a new division of the Geological Society of America, the DIVISION OF STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY AND TECTONICS. Its first formal activity will be the Centennial Symposium on "Frontiers of Structural Geology" to be held at the national GSA meeting in Cincinnati in November. In addition, we hope for an unusually large and diverse group of regular papers at that meeting dealing with structural and tectonic topics of interest to industry, government and academia. (Abstract deadline is June 5.) Enclosed is a bulletin-board-type announcement which you might wish to post as a reminder or as a way of spreading the word to other structural geologists.

The New Division has evolved rapidly over the last year. At the Penrose Conference on Pressure Solution Phenomena last summer, the topic came up one evening on whether structural geology in this country might benefit from some kind of organized forum. Much excellent structural geology research is in progress throughout North America. Unfortunately, the results are presented at very diverse localities. There are few meetings where sufficient structural geology is presented to attract geologists who have a general interest in structural analysis and interpretation. On the other hand, attending all the meetings having at least a few significant structural papers would take more time or travel money than is normally available. It was suggested that an area of mutual interest lies in field, experimental and theoretical research that illuminates general principles or provides examples of interest to a wide

range of structural geologists. Of general interest are process-oriented research, mechanical interpretation, and field examples that are sufficiently well-documented so as to serve as models for the interpretation of other areas. Mountain-belt structure and tectonics would lie within this range of interest, but one would probably exclude geometrical and plate tectonics, a topic adequately covered at the AGU meetings. Various possible actions were talked about, with most people agreeing that it would be good to have some sort of organization of structural geologists that could sponsor meetings or open other lines of communication. This group thought about an independent society, a division or section within AAPG, GSA, or AGU, or a working group like the British "Tectonic Studies Group". A GSA Division seemed reasonable to most of those present.

As a result, an ad hoc committee was appointed consisting of Walter Alvarez, David Gray, and Richard Groshong. The committee circulated an open letter announcing an organizational discussion session at the GSA national meeting in Atlanta in November. At that session, it was generally agreed that a division status in GSA should be sought. A petition to GSA council to this effect received 118 signatures and the original committee was instructed to proceed. They produced a set of by-laws, nominated a set of officers, and presented the petition to GSA council on November 18, 1980. The organization was approved and we are now a full fledged GSA Division.

The first act of the New Division has been the initiation of a Symposium on "Frontiers in Structural Geology" designed to cover areas of broad and current interest, particularly those that have been subjects of recent Penrose Conferences. This inaugural symposium has been designated the Centennial Symposium for the 1981 Meeting. The new Division status also gives structure/tectonics a larger voice in scheduling structural sessions and organization of the overall program at the national meetings. For the longer term, the Division may try to organize mini-Penrose type meetings of structural geologists in conjunction with the national meetings, or to sponsor sessions for general discussions of long range plans for structural geology/tectonics in North America.

We urge you to support the new Division by affiliation with it, and active or passive participation in papers and symposia at the Cincinnati meeting, November 1-5.

We would like to start a tradition of this being THE meeting for structural geologists to attend. Structural geology in North America at last has a formal voice in GSA; it is now up to us collectively to make use of it.

For the New Division

Donald U. Wise, Chairman

David E. Dunn, First Vice Chairman

Campbell Craddock, Second Vice Chairman

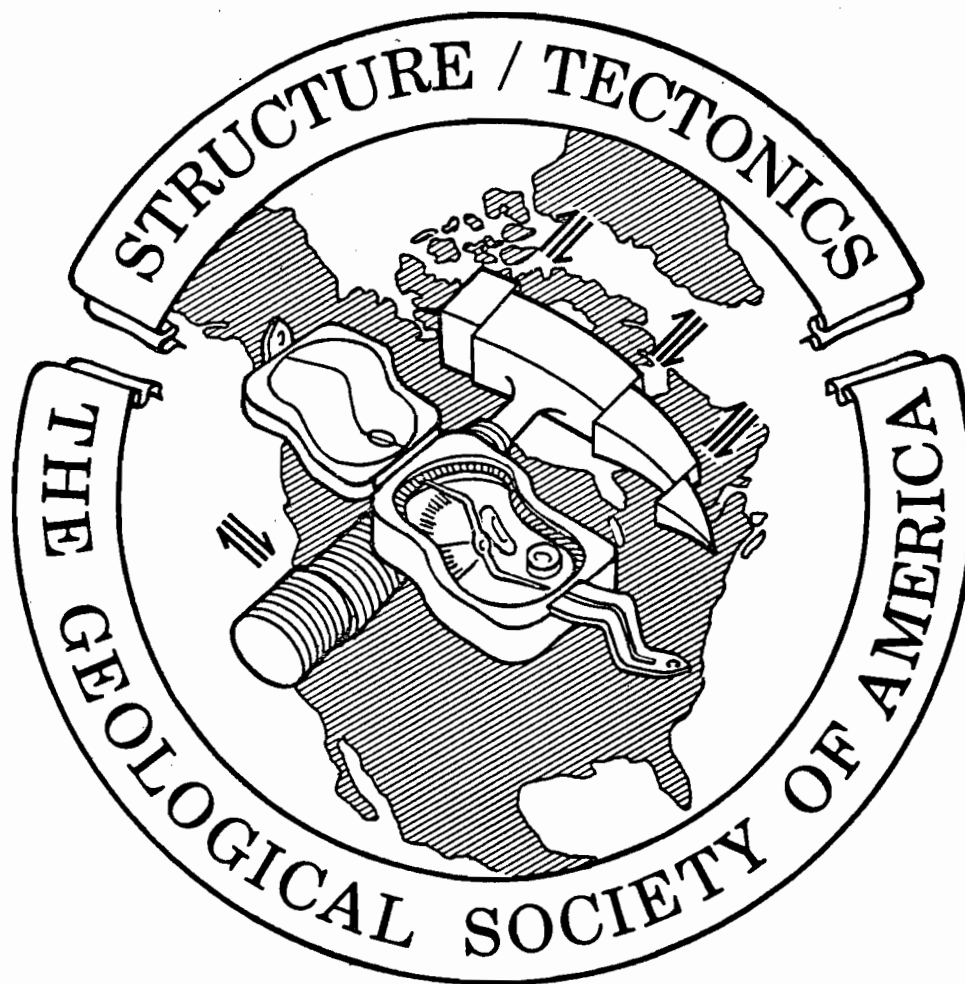
Richard H. Groshong, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer

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**INAUGURATING A NEW DIVISION
of the
GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA**

At the
1981 Annual Meeting at Cincinnati in November



**SYMPOSIUM:
FRONTIERS OF STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY**

Other sessions in a wide variety of fields of
Structure and Tectonics (Abstract deadline June 5)