Greetings! We enjoyed a highly successful meeting in Baltimore, MD this year! Our Division was a primary sponsor for the GSA William Smith’s 1815 map bicentennial celebration, and all three sessions of the William Smith Pardee attracted large numbers of attendees. Our keynote speaker, Professor Hugh Torrens, delivered an interesting talk on Smith’s financial struggles, and often made himself available to answer questions on Smith’s life and accomplishments. Gary Rosenberg, Sally Newcomb, and Hugh Torrens led a very informative field excursion to view an early 1815 Smith map at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. Roger Thomas literally brought William Smith “to life” throughout our conference—and I hope that those in attendance had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Smith and view his ammonite collection! The two sessions of our Great Images in Geology were well-attended. We also had good attendance at both our History and Philosophy of Geology Division Luncheon, and our Friends and Student reception. If you were not able to join us in Baltimore, we hope you will make plans now to attend GSA 2016 in Denver, CO. Mark your calendars—GSA 2016 will be held early, September 25-28, 2016.

Award Recipients. We honored several outstanding historians at our Division Luncheon. Léo Laporte is our recipient of the 2015 Mary C. Rabbitt History and Philosophy of Geology Award, and Kennard Bork received the Gerald M. and Sue T. Friedman Distinguished Service Award. John A. Sime is our 2015 Student Award recipient. Some of our members also received distinguished awards outside our division: the 2015 GSA Public Service Award winner is Naomi Oreskes, and our own HPGD Chair, Joanne Bourgeois, is the 2015 Sedimentary Geology Division Laurence L. Sloss Award winner.

Rock Stars Editorial Board. Our Rock Stars Editorial Committee will have a few changes for 2016. Ken Aalto will step down from the committee, and Jody Bourgeois will serve as the Editorial Committee Chair. I will join the Committee as the third member, serving with Jody and Steve Rowland. A special thank you to Ken Aalto is in order for his tremendous service to the Rock Stars.

Our New Website. Our History and Philosophy of Geology Division website is migrating to a GSA Connected Community. Please mark the website: http://community.geosociety.org/histphildiv/home. Gary Rosenberg took the initiative in investigating the GSA Connected Community options, and with assistance from Joan Manley and Justin Samuel, managed to migrate our former website material over to the new CC site. The website is a work in progress. Thank you for your patience as we update links and information. We are searching for a webmaster, so please let me or Jody know if you are interested in this position (rclary@geosci.msstate.edu or jbourgeo@uw.edu).

I personally want to thank our members for your support this past year. It was an honor to serve as your Chair the past two years, and I leave the position knowing that our Division is in good hands with Jody Bourgeois.

Renee Clary
New Chair’s Greetings

Thanks SO MUCH to Renee Clary for her two years of outstanding service as Chair of the History and Philosophy of Geology Division, including organizing highly successful theme sessions and a Pardee. As I noted at the Division luncheon this year, her shoes will be a challenge to fill --not counting that she was in a bootcast at the meeting, having broken her ankle on the Division field trip 😃

Our sessions continue to attract a substantial and broad audience, and we commonly receive enthusiastic compliments on the interest level of history/philosophy talks at GSA. Next year we plan to “unearth the history of women in geosciences” (see separate info in this newsletter). If you are interested in contributing, please contact jbourgeo@uw.edu – we are happy to make suggestions if the topic is new to you. If you have an additional idea for a theme session, please let us know. **It bears many repeats that next year’s GSA meeting in Denver is 25-28 September.**

History and Philosophy of Geology Management Board Meeting

The Management Board met on 31 October 2015.

On attendance were Renee Clary, Jody Bourgeois, Kathy Lohff, Hugh Torrens, and Stephen Pollock

**Election Results and Bylaws:** The 2015-2016 officers are Chair, Jody Bourgeois; First Vice-Chair, Dorothy Sack; Second Vice-Chair, Michael S. Smith; and Secretary-Treasurer, Kathy Lohff (two-year term). Additionally our 2015-16 Committees are comprised of

- **Nominating Committee:** Gary Rosenberg (Chair), Ken Aalto, John Diemer, (Gary Rosenberg rotates off; Renee Clary rotates on)

- **Awards Committee:** Hank Frankel, Kennard Bork and Leo Laporte (Bill Brice and Gary Rosenberg rotate off; Gary Rosenberg will continue to assist with student entries)

Division Student Member is Ashley Ingelhart

No bylaws change were made.

**Reports and Agenda Items.**
Renee Clary presented the Division Chair’s report which included a summary of the Division Chairs Meeting in March 2015. The discussion included ways to develop interdisciplinary interest groups and ways to keep the division vital to GSA.

Kathy Lohff presented the Division financial report which was submitted to GSA in September. Copies were also distributed at the Division luncheon. Request for copies can be sent to kathylohff@msn.com.

Jody Bourgeois announced her Topical Session for the 2016 Annual GSA Meeting in Denver: Unearthing the History of Women in Geoscience. Kathy Lohff will co-chair the session.

**Old Business:** The Rock Stars column has returned! Our Rock Stars Editorial Board includes Ken Aalto (Chair), Jody Bourgeois, and Steve Rowland. HPG Division website with GSA Connected Community has been initiated by Gary Rosenberg. The Division continues to need a Webmaster for the site. Interested individuals should contact Jody Bourgeois.

**New Business:** It is suggested that the HPGD create a Financial Committee. A call for nominations was made at the meeting. INHIGEO’s 75th Anniversary volume, published by the Geological Society of London (Editor, Wolf Mayer; Associate Editor, Renee Clary) seeks a North American Editor. Potential candidates were suggested and discussed. Also discussed was the need for a new editor for 2016 when Meyer rotates off. The 2018 INHIGEO program committee for Mexico City requests assistance from our History and Philosophy of Geology Division.
GSA Baltimore Luncheon

The annual Division Luncheon was held in the Baltimore Hilton. 38 attended the meeting.

Please join me in congratulating our exceptional members and awardees:

**Leo Laporte**, Mary C. Rabbitt History and Philosophy of Geology Award

**Kennard Bork**, Gerald M. And Sue T. Friedman Distinguished Service Award

**John A. Sime**, First place, Student Award

A special thank you is also due to our award citationists, Steve Rowland (Rabbitt Award), Ken Taylor (Friedman Award), and Bill Brice (Student Award).

Citations and Responses can be found on the Division web site at:

http://community.geosociety.org/histphildiv/home

Links to Award Applications for 2016

**Student Award**

**Guidelines for Friedman Award**

**Guidelines for Rabbit Award**

Deadline for nominations is February 15

Please send nominations to Kathy Lohff

kathylohff@msn.com
GSA 2015 Baltimore 1-4 November

The division was very active at the annual meeting in Baltimore.

- Field Trip William Smith’s Map and Other Treasures of the History of Geology at the Academy of Natural Sciences, American Philosophical Society, and Library Company, Philadelphia.

  Trip Leaders: Gary Rosenberg and Sally Newcomb, and featuring Hugh Torrens, preeminent Smith scholar.

- Pardee: Pardee: Celebrating the Immense Geological Impact of William ‘Strata’ Smith (1769-1839) On the Occasion of the Bicentennial Anniversary of Smith’s Revolutionary Map (George Davis, Renee Clary, and Suzanne O’Connell organizers). This Pardee began with an overview of Smith’s complex career path by foremost Smith historian, Professor Hugh Torrens, before extending investigations into current mapping techniques (seafloor mapping, tomographic mapping of the mantle), projection of future mapping toward addressing scientific and societal challenges, and reflection on the intellectual and cognitive implications of the breakthroughs encapsulated in Smith’s legacy.

- Topical Session T98. Great Images in Geology Presented papers explored the great images in geology that have become cornerstones within the science, as well as the great and interesting, but incorrect, graphics that have been revised through further scientific investigations. Renee Clary and Jody Bourgeois convened the session.
GSA Baltimore Highlights: Field Trip, Pardee, and Student Reception 2015

Breaks her foot on a field trip and still manages to smile. Our fearless leader!
Many GSA members are also members of the History of Earth Sciences Society and read and publish in its journal *EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY*. HESS would like to remind people to renew for 2016. The subscription rate is $50 for print or online or $65 for both print and online. Student memberships (online only) are $25. Renewals should be done through the HESS website: www.historyearthscience.org

Renewals will be done this spring through the Society website, which one accesses through the HESS website under “membership.” For those who prefer to renew by mail checks may be made out to Gregory Good, HESS Treasurer, and sent to him at 8301 Flower Avenue Takoma Park, MD 20912.

**Geological Society of London’s History of Geology Group (HOGG)**

The latest HOGG newsletter is now available; click on the link http://historyofgeologygroup.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Newsletter55.pdf

**GSA MEMORIALS**

All the Memorials published as separates and then collected into Memorial volumes are now online, open access at the GSA website. This includes those from about 1950 to the present; earlier ones were published in the annual reports and Proceedings which sometimes appear as part of the Bulletin, and these are available elsewhere on the website. Downloads are free.

**Alfred Wegener Book Available On-Line**

Wladimir Köppen and Alfred Wegener introduced the Milankovitsch frequencies to geologists. The book was introduced to the public on Oct. 6, 2015 at the GeoBerlin2015 meeting (which was devoted to the 100th anniversary of the 1st edition of Alfred Wegener’s book on the “origin of continents and oceans”): http://www.borntraeger-cramer.com/9783443010881