Dear Friends

Wow, what a spring 2020 has been! Craziest year ever. Many of you are now thrust into the online education world and others trying to maintain your business from the computer. My thoughts are with each of you as you navigate this new reality. Please be safe and stay at home. The more social distancing now, the sooner the curve will flatten, allowing us to resume our daily routines, fieldtrips, and research/trips.

Our division chair Dallas Evans had to resign for various personal reasons. Please keep him in your thoughts especially during this stressful time. I have agreed to fulfill his term and Michael Smith has agreed to take over the position of Secretary-Treasurer for the remainder of this year. We will both be officially in these positions for 2021, following our next meeting in Montreal.

Many of us have been affected by the cancellation of various GSA events and meetings, including the joint SE/NE sectional meeting. GSA is utilizing live streaming and other meeting platforms so that many of the planned events can still occur. If you are scheduled for meetings, please watch your email for correspondence on webinars and other efforts to maintain contact. We anticipate that the restrictions will be resolved by the November annual meeting. However, GSA is being proactive in exploring alternative plans in the unlikely event that the annual meeting is also cancelled. Should that occur we will provide the division with that information.

This year, I have been concentrating on increasing our visibility within the GSA community, especially among students and early career. To that goal, I have developed new marketing materials that we will be using in Montreal. Please come see the “booth “face-lift” in November. This year we have also added a Facebook page. It is administered by second chair Eric Pyle. If you would like to join the group, please message him through Facebook. We continue to prepare for our annual meeting. Look for more information in the newsletter about sessions and fieldtrip opportunities.

Stay safe and well. I look forward to seeing many of you in November! Kathy Lohff

RECAP OF THE 2019 GSA MEETING

Our Division had a great meeting at the GSA Annual Meeting in Phoenix. The division sponsored twelve Topical Sessions and two Pardee Keynote Symposia (“Grand Ideas, Grand Events: Geoscience Research, Geoscience Education, and Human Connections to Grand Canyon at its Six Millionth, 150th, and 100th Anniversaries” and “Geoscience Communication in the Modern Age” along with “Extreme Impacts of Global Climate Change: Effective Communication for Geoscientists, Educators, Policy Makers, and the Press”) for a total of fourteen (14) scientific sessions. This was a significant increase (nearly four-fold from previous years) in active sponsorship of the division, and shows an upward trend in our engagement.

The HPG Division’s Booth was lively with visitors and members networking throughout the meeting - placed in a good spot and attractive with its display of books that would be raffled at our Student and Friends Division Reception. The luncheon and reception were both successful. Elsewhere in this newsletter you can read more about our awardees for 2019.

The Division officers want to thank the many volunteers who helped out during the meeting, especially when we had to scurry to a session or GSA meeting.
2019 GSA Phoenix Luncheon

The annual division luncheon was held at the Sheraton on Tuesday, 24 September 2019. There were approximately 30 people in attendance. Please join me in congratulating our exceptional members and awardees:

Mary C. Rabbitt Award: Professor Naomi Oreskes (Harvard University) for her outstanding and diverse contributions to our discipline: “In all her scholarly and public work, from continental drift to the Anthropocene, from women in science to government in science, from economic geology to NY Times editorials, Naomi Oreskes brings her deep understanding of history, as well as her wisdom and passion, to all that she does”.

Michele L. Aldrich HPG Division Student Research Award: Mr Joseph Moffitt (Mississippi State University) is the second recipient of the Aldrich award, established by Mark Aldrich in the memory of his wife, Michele L. Aldrich, a founding member of our Division. The Aldrich award will support his research on the historical interpretation of mosasaurs.

The 2019 Student Award recipient was Mr Richard Vachula (Brown University) for his paper “Extensive Fires in the Arctic Tundra: A Socio-Scientific Conundrum.” Mr Vachula was unable to attend the 2019 Phoenix meeting and will receive his award at the 2020 GSA Annual Meeting.

The Gerald M. and Sue T. Friedman History of Geology Distinguished Service Award was not awarded this year.

Joseph Moffitt, recipient of the 2019 Michele L. Aldrich History and Philosophy of Geology Division Student Research Award, is congratulated by GSA President Donald I. Siegel during the GSA Penrose Circle, Campaign for GSA’s Future, and Student Awards Ceremony on Monday, 23 September 2019.
History and Philosophy of Geology Management Board Meeting

The HPG Division Management Board met on 22 September 2019 at the 2019 GSA National Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona. In attendance were Yildirim Dilek, Dallas Evans, Renee Clary, Dorothy Sacks, Michael Smith, Eric Pyle, and Kathy Lohff.

Our 2019-2020 officers are acting Chair Kathy Lohff, who will assume her regular term as Chair in the Fall, Second Vice-Chair candidate Eric Pyle, acting Secretary-Treasurer Michael Smith. Division Student Member is John Sime. *A special thank you to* Eric Pyle, who agreed to stand for the nomination of Second Vice Chair of the division. Eric has also established a Facebook page for our Division.

2019-2020 Committees are:

**Nominating Committee:** Yildirim Dilek, Michael Smith, and Jody Bourgeois.

**Awards Committee:** Rene Clary (chair), William (Bill) Brice, and Gary Rosenberg.

### Summary of GSA Chairs Meeting

a. New GSA Council Liaison: **Nathan Niemi.** We are asked to include him in our division correspondence.

b. Division officers are requested to send messages through connected communities

c. The new GSA Ethic Codes are complete. All awardees will sign the codes

d. Divisions were asked to make changes to bylaws that included new information from GSA, such as Code of Ethics. Kathy and Michael made these changes in July 2018 and they were sent to Dominique at GSA. Kathy forwarded this email to all the members present at the meeting.

e. GSA Meetings: a consultant was hired to evaluate/analyze the 2019 Phoenix meeting and to provide a marketing assessment of the meeting and its format President of GSA has requested ideas to develop topical sessions that include applied topics, not research summaries.

f. Demographic changes in GSA membership was a topic of discussion at the chair’s meeting. In particular, 40% of GSA members are not affiliated with a division. GSA would like to increase collaboration between divisions and sections.

g. Another aspect of the demographic changes was that GSA requests that divisions evaluate ways to increase student members. An idea at the HP&G meeting was to provide a travel fund.

h. Divisional Social Media was a topic at the chairs meeting. In response, Eric Pyle has created a division Facebook page. It includes screening pages to insure only interested members.

i. There was a proposal for a new divisional award for an "Outstanding Publication Award." This proposal led to further discussion of the procedures and processes for nominating people for our divisional awards, and how to increase participation.

j. Division Reviews are required by GSA every 5 years. Renee completed the most recent during her time as chair. The next review is due in 2021.

### Travel Grants by the Division (2019)

The following geoscientists were awarded travel support through the Rabbitt Fund of the Division in support of their active participation in **Session T174: Great Concepts and Controversies in Geosciences Since Steno’s Introduction of the Principles of Stratigraphy in 1669.**

**Professor Gillian R. Foulger, Durham University, U.K. ($1,000)**

**Professor Andrea Festa, Torino University, Italy ($1,500)**
2020 GSA Montreal - History and Philosophy of Geology co-sponsored sessions

The GSA History and Philosophy of Geology Division proudly co-sponsors several topical sessions at GSA 2020 in Montreal. Please consider submitting an abstract to the following:

**T123**: Walden Pond: From Glaciation to Thoreau and Beyond  
**T143**: Cushman Symposium: Perspectives- Cushman Foundation 70 years, Foraminifera 600 million  
**T150**: Women in American Paleontology: The Past As Prologue  
**T164**: Improving the Accessibility of Natural History Collections  
**T191**: From the Guajira Jungle to Apennines Tectonics and from the Sardinia/Corsica Yoyo to the Dino-Killer Asteroid: Honoring the Career of Walter Alvarez on the Occasion of His 80th Birthday

Abstracts will not open on April 1st, but will be delayed until June, 2020 so that GSA can better access the COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation.

More information available at GSA URL: https://community.geosociety.org/gsa2020/home

Since this is a evolving situation, the Division will attempt to keep our members updated.
History and Philosophy of Geology Officers Election

Dallas Evans has had to unfortunately step away from the GSA History and Philosophy of Geology Division because of some personal issues. Kathy Lohff graciously agreed to assume the duties of Chair much earlier than she expected.

The new election cycle will address identification and nomination for the Second Vice President and Secretary / Treasurer positions for our Division. Biographic sketches for the two candidates are:

**Eric J. Pyle** is a professor of geology at James Madison University, specializing in geoscience education and teacher preparation. He received a BS cum Laude in Earth science from UNC-Charlotte (1983), an MS in Geology from Emory University (1986), and a PhD in Science Education from the University of Georgia (1995). At JMU, he has served as the coordinator of science teacher preparation in the College of Science & Mathematics as well as a Co-Director of the Center for STEM Education and Outreach. He teaches coursework in Earth materials, contemporary Earth issues, and planetary geology, as well as joint courses in secondary teaching methods. He also co-teaches coursework in the history & philosophy of the geosciences, and studies 18th Century field mapping and geodesic techniques and products. He serves as Director for JMU’s Field Geology Camp in Ireland. Recently elected as President-Elect of the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA), he also has served as President of the NAGT Teacher Education Division, as well as the Chair of the GSA Geoscience Education Division. He was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of London in 2016, and of the Geological Society of America in 2019.

**Michael S. Smith** is a recently retired professor of geology at University of North Carolina Wilmington, whose fields of study are mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry. He has BS degrees in Geology and Chemistry from Millersville State University (1984) and a Ph.D in Geology from Washington University in St. Louis (1990). His research ranges from the study of mid-Proterozoic crustal rocks in west Greenland to the 2.2 Ma old volcanic rocks of the upper Yellowstone Valley to the petrography and provenance of historic and prehistoric ceramic sherd. Other research interests include the technological and geological history of the gold mining rush(es) in the southeastern United States from 1799 to 1864 with Dr. M. Elizabeth Hines and the sometimes erratic development of the North Carolina Geological surveys. For entertainment, he is continuing the tracing of the William Alonzo Allen family history (author of the "Sheep Eaters" and "Adventures with Indians and Game, or Twenty Years in the Rocky Mountains") as well as working with the Rothschild Archives on the sources (e.g., Spain, Bulgaria, Romania, Mexico, or Peru) and the elusive movement of quicksilver (mercury) to the gold mining operations in the American South. He has been former chair of the Division (2017-2018) and is an associate editor for the Journal of Earth Science History.
FACEBOOK for History and Philosophy of Geology Division

If you are a Facebook user, please consider joining the newly established group "GSA History & Philosophy of Geology Division". Eric Pyle is the Administrator for this Facebook page and Kathy Lohff is acting as a moderator. If there are any Facebook users who would like to assist with this social media link, please contact Eric Pyle.

History of Earth Sciences Society

Many GSA members are also members of the History of Earth Sciences Society (HESS) and read and publish in its journal EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY. HESS would like to remind people to renew for 2020. The subscription rate is $50 online, $55 for print only or $70 for both print and online. Student memberships (online only) are $25. Renewals can be done through the journal website hosted by Allen Press at: http://earthscienceshistory.org.

More information about the society can be found at the HESS website:
www.historyearthscience.org

For those who prefer to renew directly with the Treasurer of HESS, please contact David Spanagel at the email address: davidspanagel@comcast.net. David can send an invoice payable by credit card. Alternatively if you wish to pay by check, checks may be made out to David Spanagel, HESS Treasurer, and posted to him at PO Box 70, Lancaster, MA 01523-0070

Geological Society of London's History of Geology Group (HOGG)

The latest HOGG newsletter (No. 68; February 2020) is now available: https://historyofgeologygroup.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Newsletter68.pdf

NOTE: The May 2020 - George Bellas Greenough Map Bicentenary Meeting - POSTPONED until 2021. The Geological Map of England and Wales by George Bellas Greenough (1778-1855), also known as ‘the Geological Society’s map’, was published on 1 May 1820. An event to celebrate the bicentenary of this important map will take place on 2021. Anybody who has already registered for the meeting that was due to take place this year will be refunded, and HOGG invites you to register again for the re-scheduled meeting in 2021.
The International Commission on the History of Geological Sciences (INHIGEO)

45th INHIGEO SYMPOSIUM - NEW DELHI (INDIA), (in association with the 36th International Geological Congress), 2-8 MARCH 2020: (POSTPONED)

36th INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS RESCHEDULED FOR 9-14 NOVEMBER 2020

The COVID-19 epidemic is causing considerable disruption worldwide. In view of the health risk and mindful that about 5,000 delegates from 120 countries were then registered, on 21 February the Government of India announced the postponement of the 36th International Geological Congress (IGC), originally scheduled for 2-8 March, to 9-14 November 2020.

2021 - 46th INHIGEO Symposium, Krakow, Poland, 18-24 July 2021
and DHSR Conference in Prague, Czech Republic, 25-31 July 2021
URL: http://www.inhigeo.com/symposia.html

ROCK STARS
Please submit a profile for your favorite Rock Star. For the Guidelines to the preparation of ROCK STAR profiles, use the URL: https://is.gd/cmjmHI

STUDENT AWARD NOMINATIONS
Deadline for nominations is JUNE 15 2020.
Please email nominations to Michael Smith at smithms@uncw.edu
For nomination applications and more information use the URL: https://is.gd/6zPNX

Nominate a colleague for GSA Fellow
Moving forward, now is a good time to start thinking about nominating a colleague for GSA Fellow for 2021. A member can be nominated for Fellowship only by a GSA Fellow who initiates the process by completing the nomination form. Additional information can be found at:
https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/About/awards/GSA_Fellows/GSA/Awards/Fellowship.aspx

GSA Memorials
All the Memorials published as separates, and then collected into Memorial volumes, are now online (URL: https://is.gd/jQfQSW). This includes memorials 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.

Note From Mark Aldrich
Michele Aldrich retained in her records extensive documentation of the History and Philosophy of Geology Division from its founding up through the 1990s. I am assembling these materials to be placed in an archive for future scholars. There are several gaps in the newsletter however. These are: 16-2 (probably March 1993), 17-1, 17-2, and 18-1.
If anyone has any of these issues, I would very much appreciate receiving a scanned copy in order to fill out the record. Use Michele's email MAldrich@smith.edu