



The Hydrogeologist

Newsletter of the GSA Hydrogeology Division

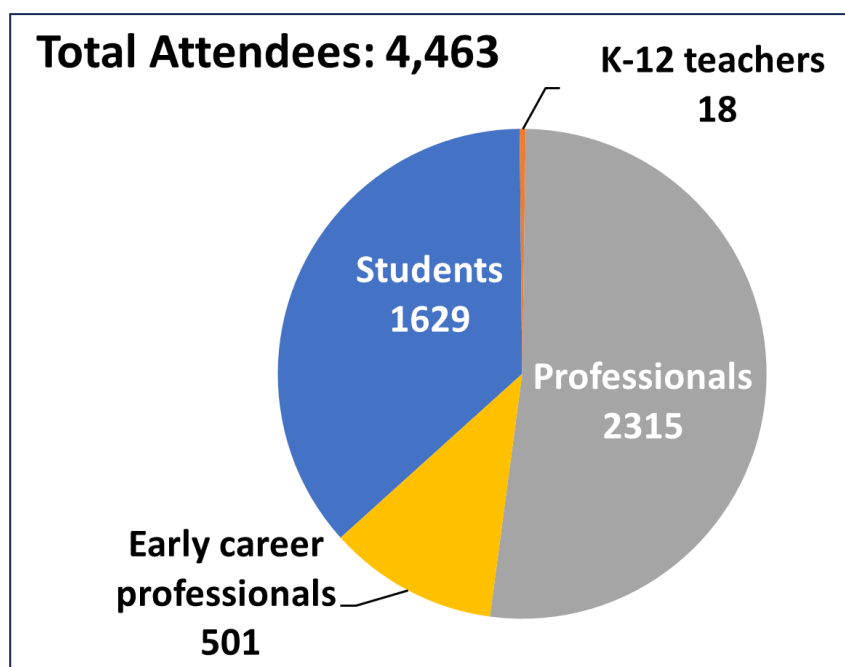
Spring 2024 Issue 111

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GSA Connects 2023 – By the Numbers

We again want to thank the Hydrogeology Division Management Board and all the Division members who helped make GSA Connects 2023 a success. A full summary of the Division events at the meeting is available in the [previous edition of The Hydrogeologist](#). Below are GSA's attendance statistics for the meeting, which was held last October in Pittsburgh, PA.



45
countries represented



3,149
abstracts submitted

Source: [GSA Today, 34\(1\)](#), p. 16.

Chair's Corner

Chris Carlson,
Chair,
GSA
Hydrogeology
Division



Dear Hydrogeology Community,

It is hard to believe that spring is upon us here in the northern hemisphere! The meteorological winter ended at the end of February and the astronomical winter is ending with the vernal equinox. We are also approaching the halfway point of the 2024 water year. On the Division calendar, our Division committees are closing in on recommendations for Division awards (committee members: thank you for your service!), finalizing sponsorship and co-sponsorship of technical sessions at the Section and Annual meetings, planning Division events for GSA Connects, and preparing for the annual Division elections.

We have a great Division, doing great work and making a real difference across the Society, nation, and world. I appreciate the trust put in me to help advance the work of the Division that has been my primary scientific home for my career. When I was provided the opportunity to serve and to give back to the Hydro Division and the Society, I agreed, and I hope you will consider doing so as well. The Division Management Board and committee members volunteer their time to advance water-related geoscience, represent Division members with other divisions and the broader Society, and develop and support activities throughout the year and at Section and Annual meetings, including technical sessions. None of this is possible without the willingness of members to donate their time and talent to the Division. If you are interested in helping to support the Division and the Society, there are a number of Division volunteer opportunities available, including committees, section representatives, and elected Board positions. Please reach out to me directly or fill out our volunteer interest form on the Division website: [GSA Hydrogeology Division Volunteer Form \(google.com\)](https://www.gsa.org/hydrogeology/division/volunteer-form).

The Division is making a concerted effort to have a presence at all GSA section meetings. The Division's Section Representative Coordinator, Marcia Schulmeister, has worked with the Division's Section Representatives to help make sure the Division is sponsoring sessions at the section meetings. If you are interested in becoming a Section Representative for next year, please reach out to Marcia for more information (see Section Representative News on page 4).

The Division's representatives to the 2024 GSA Connects Joint Technical Program Committee, Marty Frisbee and Kathy Knierim, have done a great job coordinating sponsorship of the technical program for the upcoming meeting in Anaheim in September. The Division will be supporting two field trips, two Pardee Keynote sessions, and 42 planned technical sessions. Of course, the final list of technical sessions is dependent on the abstracts submitted. The call for abstracts for GSA Connects is coming soon and closes on June 18. I encourage you to submit and showcase your work in Anaheim.

As the Board works toward the annual Division election, we are interested in your suggestions. The Division will have three positions up for election: 2nd Vice Chair, Diversity Equity and Inclusion Officer, and 1st Year Student Representative. Please reach out to nominate someone or yourself by April 30. Also, please reach out anytime if you have suggestions for changes to the Division Bylaws (<https://community.geosociety.org/hydrodivision/aboutus/bylaws>) or Rules and Regulations (<https://community.geosociety.org/hydrodivision/aboutus/rules-regulations>): bylaws changes are required to be put to a vote, so to be included on this year's ballot, they need to be provided by April 30.

Chris Carlson

Stay current on developments in the Hydrogeology Division by joining our Facebook group, following us on Instagram, LinkedIn, and tweeting us @GSAHydrogeology!

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/93897080123/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/gsa_hydrogeology/

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GSAHydrogeology>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sa-hydrogeology-division-4981b2263/>

Meet the New Junior Student Representative on the Hydrogeology Division Management Board



Megan Jones

Megan Jones is a senior undergraduate at Missouri State University in Springfield, MO, intending to graduate this May with a B.S. in Geology and a minor in English. She is in the process of applying to master's degree programs and is currently waiting to receive graduate offers. Megan is broadly interested in studying contaminant hydrogeology for a master's thesis, with an emphasis on research surrounding groundwater quality and geochemistry. Megan has previously conducted undergraduate research studying the water quality of urban springs in Springfield, MO, which is how she became interested in hydrogeology. She's looking forward to attending field camp this summer with MSU and the Yellowstone Bighorn Research Association in Montana. In her free time, Megan enjoys traveling, hiking, writing, and watching college basketball and football.

Meet the New Hydrogeology Division Website Administrator Assistant



Natajah Fuller

Natajah Fuller obtained her bachelor's in environmental science and a certificate in GIS from Broward College, Florida, USA. She is an aspiring environmental geologist who is passionate about conservation and hopes to further explore the many fields of geology through achieving a graduate degree. Natajah has shown an early commitment to conservation through her membership with Audubon's mentorship program as well as acquiring research experience with the USDA ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory. She is working to further commit herself to understanding the field through networking and education. She is currently interning for Dr. Michael Sukop on a coastal subsurface monitoring project with FIU's Institute of Environment to create a monitoring system for Southeast Florida's near-shore, barrier island, and coastal bay areas. The project aims to provide early warnings to coastal managers and officials to better understand and plan for risks to South Florida's coastal infrastructure.

It's now easier to donate to the GSA Hydrogeology Division than ever!

Check out the **Donate!** button at the top of the division's [webpage](#).



GSA Hydrogeology Division

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Section Representative News

Getting to know your Section Rep

By Marcia Schulmeister, GSA Hydrogeology Division Section Representative Coordinator

Do you know who your Section Representative is? Meet two of them in this edition of the Hydrogeologist (below and on page 5) and others in future issues. The Division is currently seeking Section Representatives for 2024-2026. Responsibilities include supporting hydrogeology and environmental geology-related activities that take place at GSA Section meetings and contributing to the Division by helping solicit nominations for our professional and academic awards. Section Reps are recognized at the Division's business meeting at the annual GSA meeting, too. Please contact Marcia Schulmeister at mschulme@ku.edu if you are interested in representing your section.

Peter Riemersma: North-central Section representative for the GSA Hydrogeology Division



Peter Riemersma

Peter Riemersma has taught for over two decades in the Geology Department at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) in western Michigan. After 4 years as an environmental consultant, he earned a PhD in hydrogeology at the University of Wisconsin - Madison under the tutelage of Jean Bahr and Mary Anderson. Dr. Riemersma says "I am very proud to be part of the Wisconsin hydro "family", many of which are role models professionally and in active service to GSA."

You might have seen Dr. Riemersma at the annual GSA Hydro student reception acting as "Vanna" to Todd Halihan's role as trivia game show host (although he missed the last two years). Dr. Riemersma and Chris Gellasch co-chaired a hydrogeology session at the north-central GSA meeting last May in Grand Rapids, Michigan, that was hosted by GVSU. His second biggest accomplishment as Co-Chair of sponsorship at the meeting was to arrange for a local microbrewery to donate quality beer for the meeting (Brewery Vivant).

Although Dr. Riemersma only teaches a class in hydrogeology every other year, he currently teaches sedimentology-stratigraphy, his first love, every year. He has shared some of his hydrogeology teaching activities on the SERC website. He continues to incorporate field trips to

Kentucky, Missouri, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan into his courses. He designed an entirely new course titled "Geology, Natural History and Water Resources of Florida", essentially as an excuse to take students to Florida for a field trip over spring break. Exploring the limits of his mental and physical abilities, in the summer of 2023, he and a colleague took 21 students on a four-week field trip to Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico as part of the "Water in the West" program. The program involved collecting and analyzing water samples from a variety of rivers, lakes, and hot springs, in addition to exploring how water influences the landscape at such places as Arches, Bryce, and Zion National Parks.

Although Dr. Riemersma is focused on teaching (~ 8 courses a year), he has mentored student research on road salt contamination, recent microbialites, dense shelly deposits, and Florida beach sand characteristics. He was recently honored by the student Senate at GVSU with the SAFE award (Student Award for Faculty Excellence) for student engagement in his large lecture class teaching.

2024 Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished and LaMoreaux International Lecture Tour

Dr. Ben Rostron will be offering three talks during his lecture tour:

- 1) Lithium in brines (Duperow aquifer) in southeast Saskatchewan: a modern-day gold rush
- 2) Geology and hydrogeology at AQUISTORE: Canada's first CO₂ storage project associated with a commercial-scale coal-fired power plant
- 3) Groundwater and native orchids: Is there a link (and why might anyone care)?

For abstracts of these talks and additional details about the lecture tour visit, [About 2024 Lecture - Hydrogeology Division \(geosociety.org\)](https://www.geosociety.org/about-2024-lecture-hydrogeology-division)

Getting to know your Section Rep, continued from page 4.

Jeff Wilcox: Southeast Section representative for the GSA Hydrogeology Division



Jeff Wilcox

Jeff Wilcox graduated from Hope College (MI) with a B.S. in geology and chemistry, followed by a M.S. and Ph.D. in geology at the University of Wisconsin. He joined the faculty at UNC Asheville in 2007, where he teaches upper-level undergraduate courses in hydrogeology and water chemistry and introductory courses in physical geology and Earth history. He also teaches Regional Field Geology each summer. His research incorporates field studies and laboratory experiments and analyses to better understand local hydrologic issues. Recent projects have included wetland hydrology in the recently established Mountain Bogs National Wildlife Refuge and groundwater contamination at the CTS of Asheville Superfund site with funding from the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, and Department of Energy. He is also a licensed Professional Geologist (NC License #2500).

Dr. Wilcox has been a member of GSA since 1998, presenting a poster at the annual meeting in Toronto following his freshman year. He has enjoyed meeting so many people in the Hydrogeology Division over the years since then and has great memories of two pre-meeting field trips. The section meetings, in particular, provide great opportunities for students at undergraduate institutions like UNC Asheville.

Where in the World is This?



Photo credit: Prof. Nicolas Waldmann (University of Haifa)

Think you know where this is?
Email your guess to troot@usgs.gov.

Where in the World was That?



The “Where in the World” in the winter 2024 edition of the Hydrogeologist was the Dead Sea area in Israel. The Dead Sea is popular for its hyper salinity, making it a destination for tourism due to its uniqueness. The southern part of the Dead Sea has hills on which the Dead Sea work area, Hemar formation, and Karbolet fall. The Dead Sea work area has an evaporation platform utilized in the production of various types of salt. Karbolet derived its name from its resemblance to the rooster’s comb. It is one of the erosional landforms in the southern Dead Sea area and one of the hiking trails popularly explored in the Negev desert. Hemar is one of the sites in Israel that is rich in archaeological findings.

Riliwan Damilola Abioye



From the Editor

Welcome to the Spring 2024 edition of the Hydrogeologist. This edition of the newsletter was truly a team effort. My thanks go out to Megan Jones (p. 3), Natajah Fuller (p. 3), Peter Riemersma (p. 4), and Jeff Wilcox (p.5) who all contributed their bios. Thanks also to Marty Frisbee and Kathy Knierim who provided the update on planning for GSA Connects 2024 (p. 8). Marcia Schulmeister, the Division's Section Representative Coordinator, provided the second installment of news about the Division's efforts to coordinate with GSA's sections (p. 4). As a part of this recurring piece, we will introduce more of the Division's representatives to GSA sections in future editions of the newsletter. I also want to thank Sue Swanson, the Division's DEI Officer, who provided the inaugural installment of DEI Information and News (p. 7), which we are planning to make a regular feature in the newsletter. Finally, I greatly appreciate the continued help from the Division's newsletter assistants, Riliwan Damilola Abioye and Rakesh Kumar.

The next edition of the Hydrogeologist will come out in June. If you have suggestions for content or would like to contribute content, feel free to reach out to me at tfoot@usgs.gov.

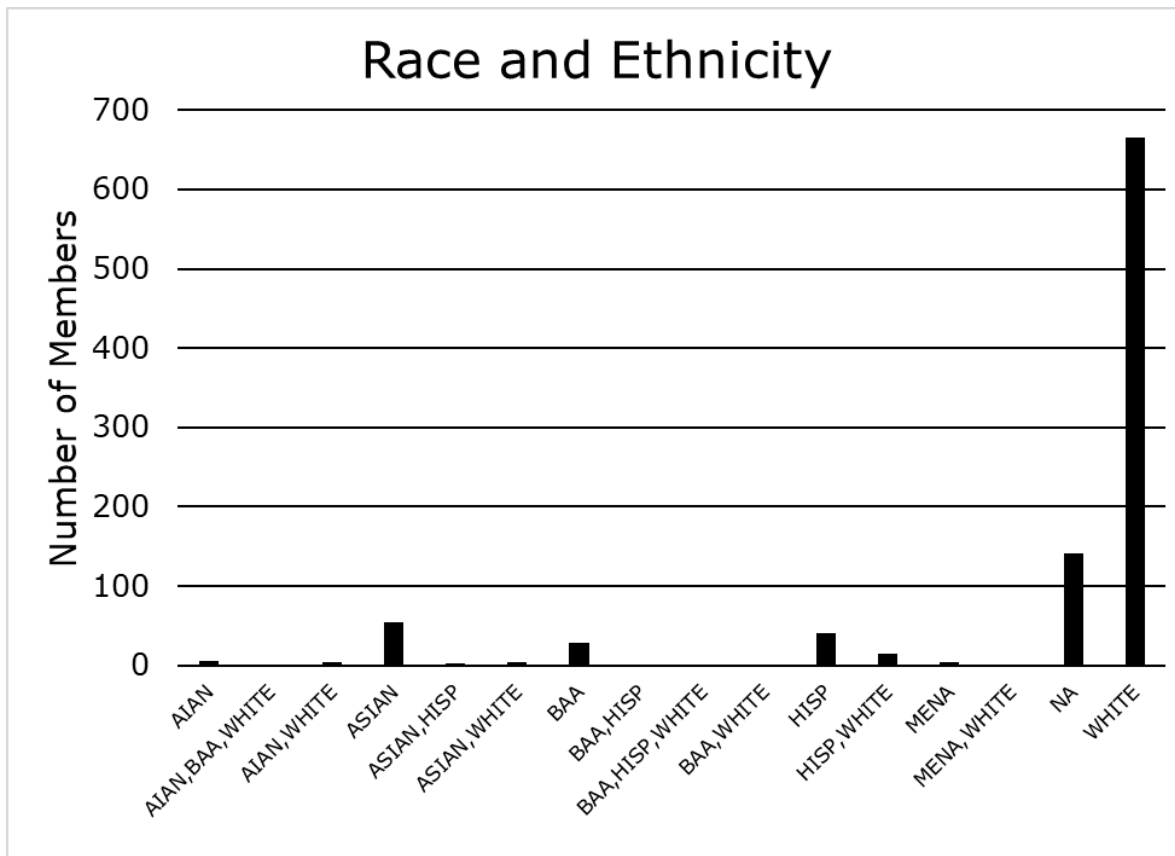
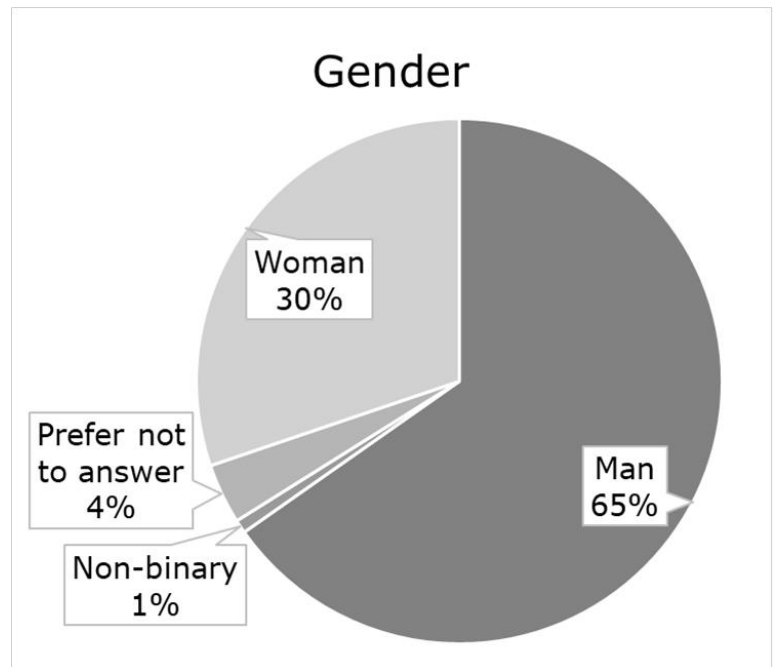
Tara Root

DEI Information and News

By Sue Swanson, GSA Hydrogeology Division DEI Officer

The Hydrogeology Division of GSA is committed to promoting a diverse scientific body and a diversity of scientific ideas, as well as the connections among them. By reporting on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) information, this column aims to assist members in their self-education and create accountability and transparency into how the Division is advancing DEI efforts.

In this first installment, we begin with the question, What's the current status of diversity within the Hydrogeology Division? Diversity comes in many forms, but to help consider this question we present some of our own 2023 membership data provided by GSA and ask members to consider, Are all demographic groups fairing equitably? Are there opportunities for improvement?



Abbreviations:

AIAN = American Indians and Alaska Natives

BAA = Black or African American

HISP = Hispanic

MENA = Middle Eastern and North African descent

NA = Not available

Source: Geological Society of America 2023 Demographic Summary for the Hydrogeology Division.

Update on Division Planning for GSA Connects 2024

GSA Connects 2024 is September 22-25 in Anaheim, CA. The Hydrogeology Division's Representatives on the Joint Program Technical Committee, Marty Frisbee and Kathy Knierim, have reviewed proposals for Hydrogeology Division-sponsored or co-sponsored field trips and technical sessions. A preliminary summary of events the Division has agreed to sponsor or co-sponsor is below. This list will be finalized in the coming months, and the full details about Division events at GSA Connects 2024 will be published in future editions of the newsletter.

Field Trips:

The GSA Hydrogeology Division is sponsoring two field trips: 1) Geology of Disneyland and 2) Tar Pits Road Trip.

Technical Sessions:

The GSA Hydrogeology Division has agreed to be sponsor or co-sponsor for 42 technical sessions. Some of these sessions might end up being combined as plans for the meeting evolve. The following is a broad list of topics covered by these proposed technical sessions:

- Coastal hydrology
- Geoarchaeology
- Geochemistry
- Geoheritage/indigenous people/DEI/recruiting at the undergrad and grad levels
- Geomorphology
- Geophysics
- Groundwater recharge/managed aquifer recharge
- Karst
- Lakes
- Machine learning/AI
- Modeling (traditional) and monitoring
- Mountain hydrology
- Oil & gas waters/fault-zone processes
- Springs/GW-SW interactions
- Sustainability/policy/adaptation/public lands

Important Announcement!!!

If you paid for a lifetime membership, you still need to pay division dues to stay active in division spaces.

THE HYDROGEOLOGIST

The Hydrogeologist is a publication of the Hydrogeology Division of the Geological Society of America. It is published electronically three times a year to communicate news of interest to members of the Hydrogeology Division and can be accessed at: <https://community.geosociety.org/hydrodivision/home>. Members of the Hydrogeology Division who have electronic mail will receive notification of all new issues. Other members will receive paper copies.

Contributions and material are most welcome and should be directed to the Editor. The deadline for the summer issue is June 1st, 2024.

Tara Root, Editor
The Hydrogeologist
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email: troot@usgs.gov
Davie, FL 33314
phone: 561-400-7719

Important Dates

10th International Geosciences Conference
of Young Researchers, Kyiv, Ukraine.

[Attend online—registration is free.](#)

May 23-24, 2024

[GSA Science Communication Fellowship](#) application
deadline **May 31, 2024**

Deadline for [NPS Scientists in Parks \(SIP\)](#)
applications for fall/winter positions **June 9, 2024**

Deadline for [GSA committee](#)
nominations **June 15, 2024**

[Juneteenth](#) **June 19, 2024**

Birthday of [GeoCorps America](#) **June 21, 2024**

MAY 2024						
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JUNE 2024						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Hydrogeology Division Contacts

2023-2024 Management Board

- **Chair:** Chris Carlson (christopher.carlson@usda.gov)
- **First Vice-Chair:** Don Rosenberry (rosenber@usgs.gov)
- **Second Vice-Chair:** Richelle Allen-King (richelle@buffalo.edu)
- **Secretary:** Cara Peterman (Phipps.Cara@gmail.com)
- **Past-Chair:** Chris Gellasch (chris.gellasch@emich.edu)
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Officer:** Sue Swanson (sue.swanson@wisc.edu)
- **Section Representatives Coordinator:** Marcia Schulmeister (mschulme@ku.edu)
- **Senior Student Representative:** Desire Piphus (piphusdm@gmail.com)
- **Junior Student Representative:** Megan Jones (megan_jones2003@yahoo.com)

Standing Committees

- **Technical Program Committee:** Marty D. Frisbee (2023-2024 JTPC Representative: mdfrisbee@purdue.edu), Kathy Knierim (2024-2025) JTPC Representative: kknierim@usgs.gov)
- **Nominating Committee:** Chair: Andrea Brookfield (andrea.brookfield@uwaterloo.ca), Chris Gellasch (chris.gellasch@emich.edu), Yu-Feng Lin (yflin@illinois.edu)
- **Meinzer Award Committee:** Mark Person (mark.peterson@nmt.edu), Holly Michael (hmichael@udel.edu), Beth Parker (bparker@uoguelph.ca), Carl Mendoza (carl.mendoza@ualberta.ca), Jimmy Jiao (jjiao@hku.hk)
- **Kohout Early Career Committee:** Sam Zipper (samzipper@ku.edu), Margaret Zimmer (mzimmer1@ucsc.edu), Chen Zhu (chenzhu@indiana.edu), Christa Kelleher (ckellehe@syr.edu), Ben Rostron (ben.rostron@ualberta.ca)
- **Maxey Distinguished Service Award Committee:** Prosun Bhattacharya (prosun@kth.se), Eric Peterson (ewpeter@ilstu.edu), Clifford Voss (cvooss@usgs.gov)
- **Birdsall-Dreiss and LaMoreaux Lectureship Committee:** Ken Belitz (kbelitz@usgs.gov), Randy Stotler (randy.stotler@uwaterloo.edu), Yu-Feng Lin (yflin@illinois.edu), Abe Springer (Abe.Springer@nau.edu)
- **Schwartz Award Committee:** Alan Fryar (alan.fryar@uky.edu), Rachel Rotz (rrotz@fgcu.edu), Ken Bradbury (ken.bradbury@wisc.edu)
- **Archives:** Jim Thomas (Jim.Thomas@dri.edu)

HYDROGEOLOGY

Hydrogeology Division Contacts, continued

GSA Councilor/Division Liaison Representative

Brian Katz (bg_katz@hotmail.com)

Ad Hoc Committees

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Cordilleran, Paul Stackleberg (pestack@usgs.gov)
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 Northeastern, David West (dwest@middlbury.edu)
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 Rocky Mountain, Jerry Farley (William.Sanford@colostate.edu)
 Southeastern, Jeffrey Wilcox (jwilcox@unca.edu)
 International, Prosun Bhattacharya (prosun@kth.se)

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 American Geosciences Institute, David Wunsch (dwunsch@udel.edu)
 CUAHSI, Anne Jefferson (dr.anne.jefferson@gmail.com)
 National Groundwater Association, Bill Alley (walley@ngwa.org)
 International Association of Hydrogeologists, Jack Sharp (jmsharp@mail.utexas.edu)
 SEPM, Gary Weissman (weissman@unm.edu)
 American Institute of Professional Geologists, Chris Gellasch (chris.gellasch@emich.edu)
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GSA's Hydrogeology Division Serves the Profession by

- bringing together scientists interested in hydrogeology to facilitate presentation and discussion of hydrogeologic problems,
- fostering, aiding, furthering, and promoting research in hydrogeology,
- supporting and mentoring students with interests in hydrogeology.

We hope you will consider contributing to the success of the Division by [volunteering](#) to help with the division's operations and encouraging your colleagues to join the Division.

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