



# The Hydrogeologist

Winter 2026 Issue 118

Newsletter of the GSA Hydrogeology Division

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## GSA Connects 2025 Review

GSA Connects 2025 was held in October in San Antonio, Texas. A big thanks goes out to all those on the Division Management Board and Division members who helped to make the meeting a success. This edition of the newsletter has a lot of photos from Division events at the meeting including, the student poster session (p. 4), the awards ceremony (pp. 5-6), the Birdsall-Dreiss-LaMoreaux and Darcy lectures (p. 5 and 7, respectively), the Career and Networking event (p. 8), and the student reception (p. 8). GSA has not released attendance statistics for Connects 2025 yet, so be sure to look for those in the next edition of the newsletter.

Planning is underway for GSA's 2025 meetings including [Section meetings](#) and [GSA Connects](#). We encourage Division members to help make the Section meetings a success by submitting abstracts for technical talks. Details about the Section meetings can be found in GSA Section News on page 10. We also encourage Division members to submit proposals for [technical sessions](#) for GSA Connects 2026. The deadline to submit a proposal for a technical session is February 19th. Questions about proposals for technical sessions can be directed to Courtney Killian ([ckillian@usgs.gov](mailto:ckillian@usgs.gov)) or Yipeng Zhang ([yipeng.zhang@okstate.edu](mailto:yipeng.zhang@okstate.edu)), the Division's Joint Technical Program Committee junior and senior representatives. You can get to know a little bit about Courtney by reading her bio on page 9.

## Important Deadlines

- **January 13<sup>th</sup> deadline:**
  - Abstract deadline for [2026 Section Meetings](#)
- **February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline:**
  - Awards nominations deadline
    - Please submit nominations for the [O.E. Meinzer Award](#), [Kohout Early Career Award](#), [George Burke Maxey Distinguished Service Award](#), [Schwartz Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Education](#), and the [Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished Lecturer](#) and [LaMoreaux International Lecturer](#) to [gsa.hydro.nominations@gmail.com](mailto:gsa.hydro.nominations@gmail.com)
- **February 18<sup>th</sup> deadline:**
  - Deadline for [GSA Graduate Student Research Grant applications](#)



The Geological Society of America

**CONNECTS**  
11-14 October 2026 Denver, Colorado, USA

## Chair's Corner



Richelle Allen-King  
Chair,  
GSA Hydrogeology Division

I'm excited to find myself as the Chair of the best Division in GSA this year! For those of you that don't yet know me, I'm a Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, University at Buffalo, SUNY and a hydrogeochemist by discipline. I have decades of experience studying organic contaminant fate and transport – chlorinated solvents, hydrocarbons, and a few others. In recent years, I've been following a long-time interest in the geochemistry (and the impact of groundwater, of course), on alpine lakes in the Canadian Rockies.

I'm already learning a lot about our terrific organization and getting to know more of the smart, thoughtful and generous Hydrogeology Division Management Board members that keep our division humming along. Thanks so much to our past Chair, Don Rosenberry, for an exemplary year of leadership. I appreciate his help getting this year off to a strong start. Welcome to new members of the Board, including Barret Kurylyk (2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair), Ayobami Oladapo (Jr. Student Representative) Courtney Killian (Jr. JTPC Chair), and Ifeanyi Anyanwu (Webmaster Assistant).

On behalf of the Division, I appreciate the work done by all our volunteers! I want to thank several members who've recently rotated off the Hydro Division Management Board or changed positions. At the top of my thank you list are Cara Peterman-Phipps for six years of service as Secretary and Tara Root for many years serving as both Newsletter editor and Prize donations organizer (for student reception). Their long-term contributions are particularly appreciated. Thanks for the service of Sr. student representative Megan Jones and Webmaster assistant Natajah Fuller. We wish them bright futures and hope to meet up with them at future GSA meetings! Thanks to Andrea Brookfield, Nominating Committee Chair, and the many volunteers who serve on our awards committees. I also want to thank our dedicated duo of Joint Technical Program Committee (JTPC) Chairs for their teamwork putting together the Division Connects program in the face of challenges (government shut down). Special thanks to Kathy Knierim for her service as she rotates off the Board.

Connects 2025 in San Antonio was fantastic. At the Division's booth, merchandise with hydro-logos created by our enthusiastic "Swag Sleuths" committee sold like hot cakes. Look for these at Connects 2026 if you missed them this year. Profits raised go to support the Division's activities. Thanks so much to the Swag Sleuths led by Chair Carrie Wisdom! We had a robust collection of technical sessions at Connects 2025. Thanks to all the division members who proposed sessions and recruited an excellent range of speakers.

Together we can make Connects 2026 in Denver, Oct 11-14, a great meeting! **I ask you to organize a technical session, Pardee symposium, field trip, or short course.** The call for [session proposals is here](#). The **submission deadline is February 19, 2026** – but don't wait until the deadline. Use my request as a reason to email a friend, team with a talented student, or introduce yourself to a colleague and go for it! We need your participation to have a diversity of interesting topics that make a strong program that draws us together.

While the national Connects meetings are great, don't forget that the Section Meetings are a good place for students to give their first presentation and for professionals to connect with other professionals in their area and gain CEU. Because they are close, short and sweet, section meetings are also a good option when travel support is limited. Abstracts are due in the new year. The **abstract deadline is January 13** for the **Northeastern, Cordilleran, and Triple Joint Southeastern, North-Central and South-Central sections** with meetings in March and April. The **Rocky Mountain section abstract deadline is February 24** with the meeting in May. Find more about the [section meetings here](#). Don't miss this opportunity to participate!

I'm lucky to live in the "city of good neighbors." Buffalonians are friendly and helpful to one another. I've always thought of GSA as the geoscientists "community of good neighbors." The meetings are uniformly positive and welcoming and are known for great field trips, short courses, and student mentoring sessions, as well as technical content. As the world has gone virtual, we've lost division membership. It's strange that this is occurring while geoscientists are in great demand and society is recognizing the importance of maintaining social connections. Some good news is that student membership increased last year. Let's build on this positive trend.

## DEI and Mental Health

As those of us in the northern hemisphere approach the winter solstice, we enter the darkest, coldest part of the year – which got me thinking about DEI and mental health. For those who work in higher education, this can be a stressful time of the year with final exams and end-of-semester responsibilities. For those without the stresses of the academic calendar, the approaching holidays, combined with the cold and dark, can be challenging.

A post by NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) on Supporting Mental Health in the Workplace (<https://www.nami.org/anxiety-disorders/supporting-mental-health-in-the-workplace/>) was written with managers as the intended audience, but the suggestions can be adopted by anyone wanting to help develop an inclusive and supportive environment whether at school or in the work environment.

- Familiarize yourself with the options for mental health support within your organization so that you can share critical contact information and information on university or workplace policies with someone who needs them.
- Minimize mental health stigma by changing the culture of the workplace to allow for open and honest discussion about emotional well-being. They suggest that managers and senior leaders can start to normalize discussions about mental health by talking about how they are feeling. This can also apply to educators.
- Recognize that underrepresented groups face additional mental health challenges. The following information comes from NAPSA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education): “Each year, 1 in 5 women in the United States experiences a mental health-related illness such as depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or an eating disorder. The Black community is disproportionately affected by mental health concerns, including reported increased rates of anxiety and depression. LGBTQIA+ individuals are more than twice as likely as non-queer identifying individuals to experience a mental health disorder in their lifetime”. (<https://www.naspa.org/blog/dei-and-mental-health>)

As we all strive to stay healthy this winter, both physically and mentally, let's remember that an inclusive environment means helping to create a culture that promotes mental health.

-Moe  
DEI Officer, GSA Hydrogeology Division

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

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



GSA Hydrogeology Division

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

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

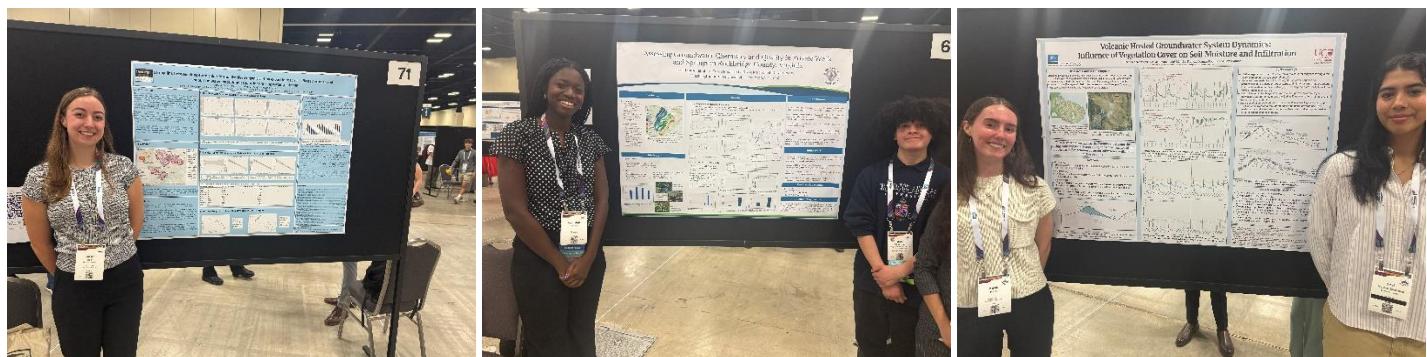
Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/gsa\\_hydrogeology/](https://www.instagram.com/gsa_hydrogeology/)

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

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

## GSA Connects 2025 in Photos – Student Poster Session

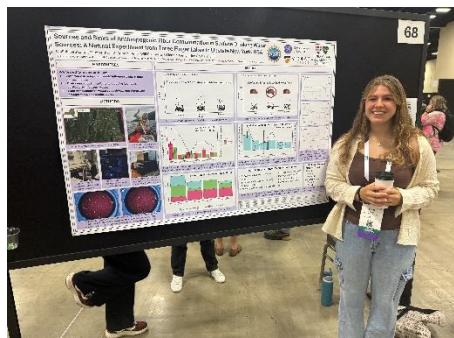
(Photos provided by Dami Abioye, Mike Sukop, Tara Root, and others)



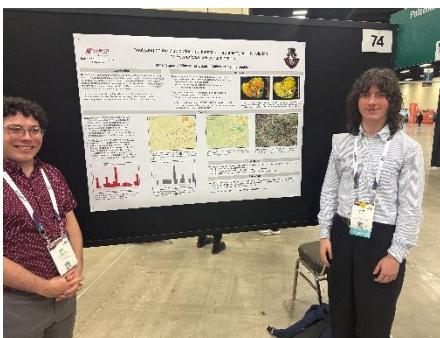
### Congratulations to the 2025 Undergraduate Student Poster Competition Winners!!!

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Brianna Bean (Villanova University): Strong link between long-term chloride and dissolved organic carbon export in road salt-affected exurban and suburban watersheds: Implications for drinking water treatment (Left)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Toni-Marie Alibah and Daniel De La Rosa (Washington and Lee University): Assessing Groundwater Chemistry and Quality in Private Wells and Springs in Rockbridge County, Virginia (Center)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Sarah Janel Delgado-Zombrano (Skidmore College): Volcanic Hosted Groundwater System Dynamics: Influence of Vegetation Cover on Soil Moisture and Infiltration (Right)

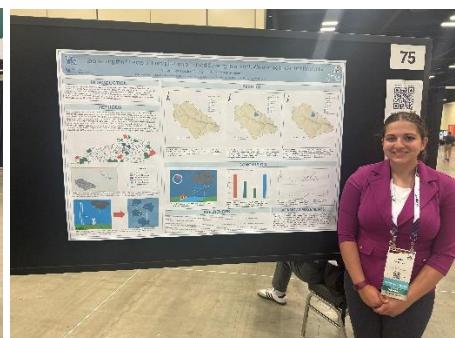
Thanks to all the students that shared their research during the Showcase of Undergraduate Research in Hydrogeology poster session. It was a great session!



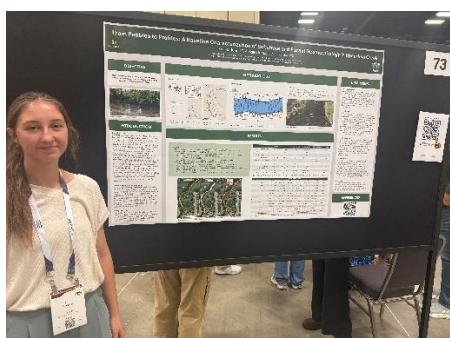
Delilah Heutsche (Hobart & William Smith Colleges)



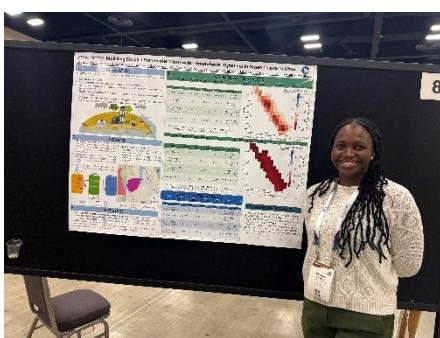
Tanner Sigears and Jadon Addley (Austin Peay State University)



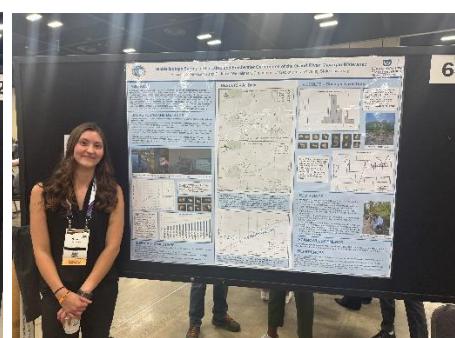
Vicky Apostolides (Kentucky Geological Survey and Appalachian State University)



Kali Roduner (Black Hills State University)



Omowumi Erukubami (University of Delaware)



Michaela Brossman (Grand Valley State University)

## GSA Connects 2025 in Photos - Award Ceremony

(Photos provided by Dami Abioye, Mike Sukop, Tara Root, and others)



Jean Bahr (right) receiving the Schwartz Award with Madeline Schreiber (left).



Michelle Walvoord, the recipient of the Meinzer Award.



Mike Sukop announced as the 2026 Birdsall-Dreiss-LaMoreaux lecturer.



Lamine Boumaiza (left) with the 2025 Birdsall-Dreiss-LaMoreaux Lecturer Bayani Cardenas (right).

## GSA Connects 2025 in Photos – Award Ceremony, cont.

(Photos provided by Dami Abioye, Mike Sukop, Tara Root, and others)



Lamine Boumaiza (left) receiving the Kohout Early Career Award with Don Rosenberry (right).



Madeline Schreiber (center) receiving the Burke Maxey Distinguished Service Award with Alan Fryar (left) and Alicia Wilson (right).

### The Hydrogeology Division congratulates the 2025 Graduate Student Research Award winners!

- **Luke Adler**, Utah State University: Residence Times and Recharge Characteristics of Shallow Groundwater in Cache Valley, Utah (Also won the T.C. Winter Student Research Award!)
- **Raymond Hess**, Rutgers University: Seasonal quantification of basin-scale methane ebullition in subtropical and boreal peatlands
- **Morgan Johannessen**, The University of Kansas: Geochemical behavior of Mn in circumneutral mine-impacted stream water near Cripple Creek, Colorado
- **Thisura Chanuka Indralal Ilukgoda Gedera**, Kansas State University: Comprehensive Assessment of Groundwater Quality of Private Wells in South Central Kansas
- **Nicholas Januario**, California State University: Understanding How Heatwaves Affect Natural Stream Systems Throughout the Western United States
- **Anna Sniadach**, Idaho State University: Using Spring water quality and quantity to assess spring resilience in the northern Rockies, Gibson

**Congratulations to the Hydrogeology Division member who was elected to GSA fellowship in 2025 – Dr. Gary Gianniny (Fort Lewis College and Four Corners Helium)**

2026 fellowship nominations are due by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Details about the nomination process can be found [here](#).

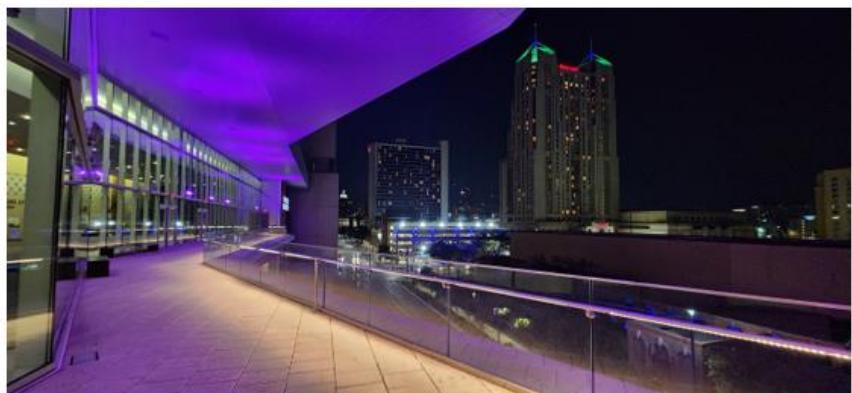


## GSA Connects 2025 in Photos

(Photos provided by Dami Abioye, Mike Sukop, Tara Root, and others)



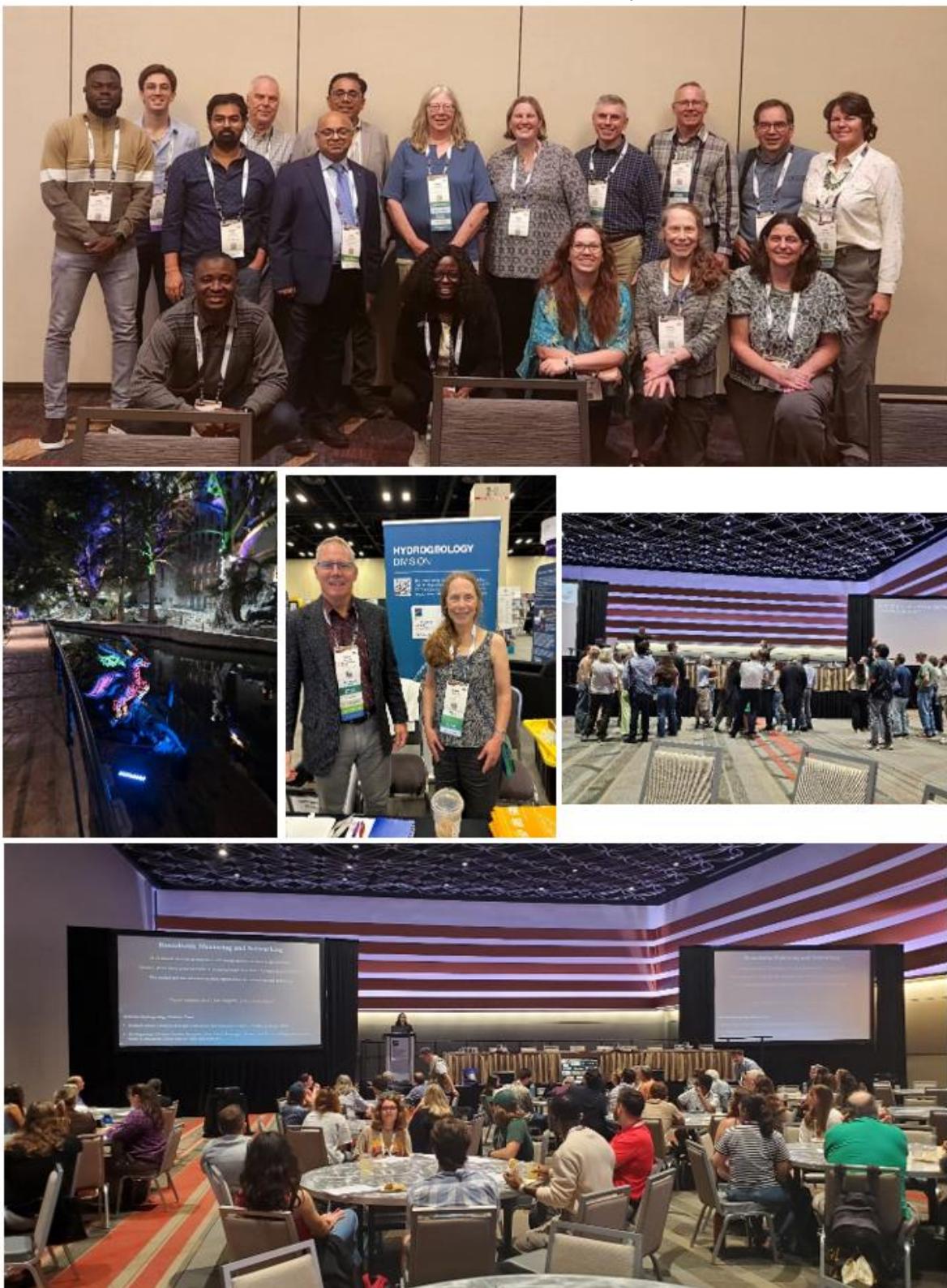
Upper left: Todd Halihan and Dick Parizek; Bottom Left: Select members of the Student Research Grant Award winners; Center: M. Bayani Cardenas; Right: Don Rosenberry



Upper left: The W Dallas – Victory Hotel, Upper Right: The Emily Morgan Hotel, Lower Right: Select Hydrogeology Division board members, Lower Left: Dr. Grant Ferguson giving the Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecture

## GSA Connects 2025 in Photos

(Photos provided by Dami Abioye, Mike Sukop, Tara Root, and others)



GSA Hydrogeology Division Leadership (top), an Alebrije along the San Antonio River Walk (center left), Don Rosenberry and Richelle Allen-King at the Hydrogeology Division booth (center), students competing for the trivia game (center right), and the start of the mentoring and networking event (bottom)

## Donors for the 2025 Hydrogeology Division Student Reception

A big thank you goes out to all the donors who helped make the Hydrogeology Division's 2025 Student Reception a success. Dozens of students participated in the "What the Well Do You Know?" trivia contest, and, thanks to our generous donors, many of them went home with a prize of either a book, a software license, a voucher for sample analyses, a professional society membership, or swag.

Donations of prizes for next year's student reception can be made at any time during the year. If you would like to donate or suggest a potential donor for us to reach out to, please contact Jason Drews at [jasondrews99@gmail.com](mailto:jasondrews99@gmail.com)

The GSA Hydrogeology Division thanks the following donors for their generous contributions to the 2025 Student Reception

Bill Alley

CUAHSI

AQUAVEO™

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GOLDEN SOFTWARE

Environmental Isotope Laboratory (EIL)

midwest GEOSCIENCES group

International Association of Hydrogeologists

Geological Society of London

Bob Sterrett

Cara Phipps

Patricia Bobeck

Waterloo HYDROGEOLOGIC

RockWare

geotech

eSI Environmental Simulations Incorporated

## Meet Courtney Killian, the Hydrogeology Division's 2025-2026 Joint Technical Program Committee Junior Representative



Courtney Killian is a hydrogeologist with the U.S. Geological Survey Pennsylvania Water Science Center just outside of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She received her Ph.D. in 2018 from Mississippi State University. Courtney conducts research on the quality, quantity, and availability of water resources at regional and continental United States scales. Her research focuses on the development of machine learning models and software to quantify spatial and temporal variability in groundwater levels and to fill critical data gaps in groundwater quality datasets. The majority of her work has been in the Mississippi Alluvial Plain, studying the surficial Mississippi River Valley Alluvial aquifer. For this region, she and her colleagues have developed a machine learning model to predict groundwater salinity at multiple depths, increasing knowledge of the location and occurrence of elevated salinity, which can limit the use of groundwater for irrigation, industrial applications, and drinking water.

Courtney and her colleagues have also built a software to predict monthly groundwater levels from 1980 to 2022. This statistical approach allows for the use of all available groundwater data for the region, providing valuable insights into historical changes in groundwater levels.

Courtney is a member of the Joint Technical Program Committee (JTPC) for the Hydrogeology Division of GSA, where she is involved in organizing technical programs for the GSA Connects 2026 conference. She encourages division members to share their ideas for programs to be included in GSA Connects 2026. You can reach her by email at [ckillian@usgs.gov](mailto:ckillian@usgs.gov).

## GSA Section News

By Marcia Schulmeister, GSA Hydrogeology Division, Section Representative Coordinator

Happy Holidays from your Section leadership. The Division's influence at the regional level is impressive with 21 hydro-related sessions at this year's Section Meetings. This year's meetings will take place next spring in some great locations, like Lorato, Mexico (!), Hartford, CT, and Albuquerque, NM, and include a Triple-Section Meeting in Memphis, TN. Meeting dates, locations, and sessions are listed below. **Beware!**

**The abstract deadline for Section Meetings is much earlier than usual this year. Abstracts for all Section Meetings are due on Jan 13<sup>th</sup>.** Detailed descriptions of each session and registration and abstract submission portals can be found at: <https://www.geosociety.org/GSA/GSA/Sections/Home.aspx>

| Section   | Session  |
|-----------|--|
| Date      |  |
| Ap 21-24  | <u><a href="#">Cordilleran</a></u><br><u><a href="#">Loreto, Baja</a></u><br><u><a href="#">Sur, Mexico</a></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="425 688 1535 741">• T8. Geomorphological, Hydrologic, and Geothermal investigations of basin aquifers in Baja California Sur (BCS), Mexico</li> <li data-bbox="425 741 1535 794">• T12. Submarine Groundwater Discharge (SGD): a Geohydrochemical Continent–Ocean Continuum</li> <li data-bbox="425 794 1535 825">• T7. US–Mexico Exchange on Cave and Karst Science and Conservation</li> <li data-bbox="425 825 1535 857">• T9. Borderless Geoscience: Linking Baja and Southern California</li> <li data-bbox="425 857 1535 889">• T6. Cave and Karst Sciences and Communities in México (Poster session)</li> <li data-bbox="425 889 1535 920">• T13. Applied Coastal Management: Geoscience Solutions for a Changing Shoreline</li> <li data-bbox="425 920 1535 952">• T9. Borderless Geoscience: Linking Baja and Southern California</li> <li data-bbox="425 952 1535 984">• T6. Cave and Karst Sciences and Communities in México (Poster session)</li> <li data-bbox="425 984 1535 1015">• T7. US–Mexico Exchange on Cave and Karst Science and Conservation</li> </ul> |
| Mar 8-11  | <u><a href="#">South-Central/North-Central/Southeastern</a></u><br><u><a href="#">Memphis, TN</a></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="425 1089 1535 1142">• Advances and integration of water management techniques to enhance water security under increasing demand</li> <li data-bbox="425 1142 1535 1174">• Advances in Understanding Processes at or Near the Groundwater–Surface Water Interface</li> <li data-bbox="425 1174 1535 1205">• AI-Driven and Machine Learning Approaches in Geospatial Modeling for Hydrologic and Geologic Mapping</li> <li data-bbox="425 1205 1535 1237">• Machine Learning and Deep Learning Applications in Hydrogeology</li> <li data-bbox="425 1237 1535 1269">• Water Quality and Management in Agricultural Regions</li> </ul>  |
| May 17-20 | <u><a href="#">Rocky Mountain</a></u><br><u><a href="#">Albuquerque, NM</a></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="425 1379 1535 1410">• Environmental Geochemistry and Health Impacts</li> <li data-bbox="425 1410 1535 1442">• Everyday Geoscience</li> <li data-bbox="425 1442 1535 1474">• Mining Legacies and Environmental Remediation in the Southwest</li> <li data-bbox="425 1474 1535 1505">• New Developments in Characterization and Development of Brackish Water Resources in the Arid Southwestern USA</li> <li data-bbox="425 1505 1535 1537">• Integrated hydrogeologic characterization and modeling for aquifer management in data-sparse regions</li> </ul>   |
| Mar 21-24 | <u><a href="#">Northeastern</a></u><br><u><a href="#">Hartford, CT</a></u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="425 1645 1535 1676">• Advances in characterizing groundwater, surface water, and their interactions</li> <li data-bbox="425 1676 1535 1708">• Functions of River Corridors, Floodplains and Wetlands</li> <li data-bbox="425 1708 1535 1740">• Geologic frameworks and conceptual site models for investigating hydrogeologic conditions in overburden and bedrock aquifers at remediation sites</li> <li data-bbox="425 1740 1535 1771">• Hydrogeologic Gems in New England (or not)</li> <li data-bbox="425 1771 1535 1803">• Ice sheets, glaciers, and landscapes, oh my!</li> <li data-bbox="425 1803 1535 1835">• Machine Learning in the Geosciences: Data-Driven Approaches for Earth, Water, and Environmental Challenges</li> </ul>  |

## From the Editor

Welcome to the Winter 2026 edition of *The Hydrogeologist*. This edition focuses on both the past Connects 2025 meeting and providing information about future Section meetings. I hope to be able to make Connects 2026 to truly put some names to faces! In the meantime, please take a look at the new faces involved with the Hydrogeology Division of GSA, including the new JTPC senior representative (page 9), the new section reps below (pages 11 and 12), and the Division's new junior student representative (page 13).

In addition to the news, make sure you check out words from the Division's new secretary on page 13, and pay special attention to the upcoming important dates (page 15) to avoid missing anything!

Please don't hesitate to reach to me if you have suggestions or contributions for the newsletter.

-Jason Drews  
[jasondrews99@gmail.com](mailto:jasondrews99@gmail.com)

## Getting to know your Section Representatives

### Dr. Reza Soltanian: North-Central Section representative for the GSA Hydrogeology Division



Reza Soltanian is a Professor of Hydrogeology and Subsurface Energy at the University of Cincinnati. He earned his PhD in 2015 from Wright State University under Professor Robert Ritzi and completed a postdoctoral appointment at The Ohio State University with Professors David Cole and Joachim Moortgat. He has worked in environmental consulting and in the energy industry, including with ExxonMobil. Reza leads the Groundwater Module for the United Nations University's Sustainability Nexus AID (Analytics, Informatics, and Data) Program and directs the Theis–Nash Environmental Monitoring and Modeling Site (TEMMS), a river-corridor research facility where his team integrates hydrology, geochemistry, geophysics, and machine learning to study groundwater–surface water exchange, redox processes, and contaminant and nutrient fate and transport.

His research spans subsurface flow and reactive transport, CO<sub>2</sub> and hydrogen geological storage, and extensive applications of deep learning for surrogate modeling and aquifer structure identification. He has published more than 150 peer-reviewed papers and teaches Fundamentals of Groundwater, Groundwater Modeling, and Geochemical and Reactive Transport Modeling, where he enjoys incorporating TEMMS data into hands-on learning experiences.

Reza is excited to serve as the North-Central Section Representative and to help promote the 2026 GSA Triple Joint Southeastern–North-Central–South-Central Section Meeting in Memphis. He is co-convening sessions on groundwater–surface water interactions and AI/ML applications in hydrogeology, and he encourages students and colleagues to submit abstracts. The meeting will feature a rich set of technical sessions and provide an excellent opportunity for networking and collaboration within the hydrogeology community.

**Dr. Thomas Gunter Kretzschmar: Cordilleran Section representative for the GSA**

Thomas is a researcher in the Department of Geology at Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada, Baja California (CICESE) and a member of the National System of Researchers (SNII). His work has focused on hydrogeology and hydrogeochemistry, with an emphasis on aquifer development, water balance studies, and the physicochemical processes that control groundwater quality. Thomas earned his PhD in Geology from the Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, Germany and participated in CONACYT-funded projects on sustainable water management in the Guadalupe Basin, as well as in European collaborations involving hydrogeological modeling of geothermal systems in Los Humeros and Acoculco.

Throughout his career, he has strengthened analytical capacities as the head of the specialized laboratory system of CEMIE-Geo and have actively contributed to the training of future scientists, supervising more than 40 undergraduate, master's, and doctoral students.

Thomas' research interests include hydrogeology, hydrogeochemistry, water quality, hydrogeological modeling, geothermal systems, the sustainable use of water resources, and contributing to the understanding and integrated management of groundwater in Mexico. Thomas has published more than 50 scientific papers in the above-mentioned areas.

As the Cordilleran Section representative, he promotes the participation of colleague and students to present their research at our meeting next year in Loreto, Baja California Sur.

**Dr. Rachel Rotz: Southeastern Section representative for the GSA Hydrogeology Division**

Dr. Rachel Rotz is a hydrogeologist specializing in water resources, remote sensing, environmental modeling, and data analytics. She is an Associate Professor in The Water School at Florida Gulf Coast University, where she leads the Hydrogeology Laboratory. Her research focuses on watershed processes, groundwater-surface water interactions, and large-scale nutrient assessments, including statewide water-quality and watershed modeling efforts supported through state legislative funding and collaborations with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. She also leads NOAA-funded projects that advance coastal groundwater water-quality analysis and environmental modeling to support resource management across Florida.

In addition to her regional work, Dr. Rotz collaborates with the Smithsonian Institution on planetary analog studies in the Simpson Desert of Australia and on the Big Island of Hawai'i, examining geomorphic and hydrologic environments relevant to understanding water on Mars. She teaches courses in geology, hydrology, and water science and mentors undergraduate and graduate researchers in field methods, modeling, geochemistry, and geospatial analysis.

## Secretary's Corner

By Tara Root

This is my first Secretary's Corner since starting as Secretary in October. I want to give a huge shout out to Cara Peterman-Phipps whose tenure as secretary has ended after serving two consecutive three-year terms. Cara did a tremendous amount of work to support the Division and created a well-organized system that will help keep things running smoothly well into the future. THANK YOU, CARA!

It was great to see everyone at GSA Connects. Now that the meeting is behind us, it is time to start planning for nominations for next year's Division award winners including the Birdsall-Dreiss and LaMoreaux International Distinguished Lecturer, O.E. Meizner Award, Schwartz Award for Excellence in Mentoring and Education, Kohout Early Career Award, and the George Burke Maxey Distinguished Service Award. Information about these awards can be found on the Division [website](#) under the awards tab. The nomination deadline is February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Nominations can be mailed to [GSA.hydro.nominations@gmail.com](mailto:GSA.hydro.nominations@gmail.com). I encourage everyone to start thinking about deserving nominees, keep an eye out for additional information and reminders about nominations that will be posted on the Division's social media sites, and feel free to reach out to me with any questions ([troot1@gmail.com](mailto:troot1@gmail.com)).

## Meet the Division's New Junior Student Representative



Ayobami Oluwadunsin Oladapo is a Ph.D. student in Hydrogeology at Purdue University, specializing in groundwater-surface water interactions. Her research focuses on improving water resource management and promoting the long-term sustainability of this vital natural system. She holds an M.S. in Hydrogeology from Purdue and a B.Tech. in Geology from the Federal University of Technology, Minna, Nigeria. Ayobami's work has earned recognition through several prestigious national and institutional awards, including the Let's Talk About Water Grant from the Consortium of Universities for the Advancement of Hydrologic Science, Inc. (CUAHSI), the Hydrologists Helping Others Grant, and Purdue's Darrell Leap Hydrogeology Graduate Research Award and Terry R. West Scholarship, among others.

Beyond her research, Ayobami is passionate about innovative science communication and outreach. She co-created an award-winning educational documentary on water usage in semiconductor manufacturing, promoting water-efficient innovation, and independently produced a second film highlighting her research findings in Glacier National Park.

Her commitment to community engagement has led to international outreach collaborations with INAIGEM (Peru's National Institute for Research on Glaciers and Mountain Ecosystems) and Glacier National Park's Crown of the Continent Research Learning Center (CCLRC), bridging hydrogeology research with public understanding and local impact. Ayobami's legacy centers on advancing groundwater sustainability while inspiring the next generation of geoscientists through outreach, education, and leadership.

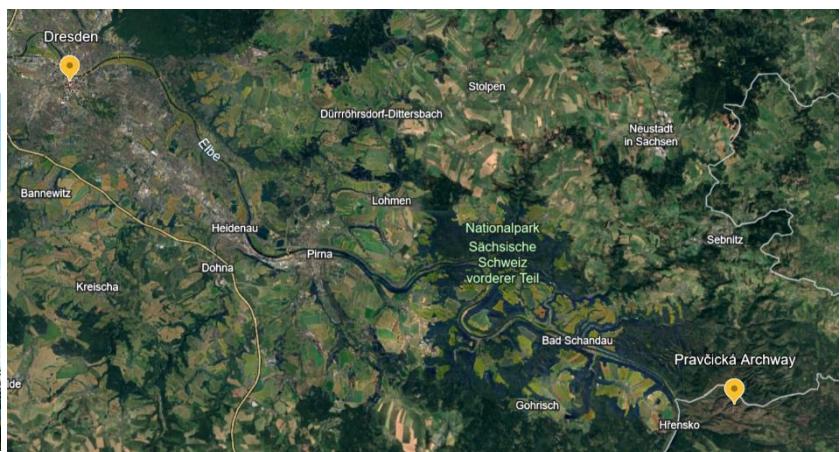
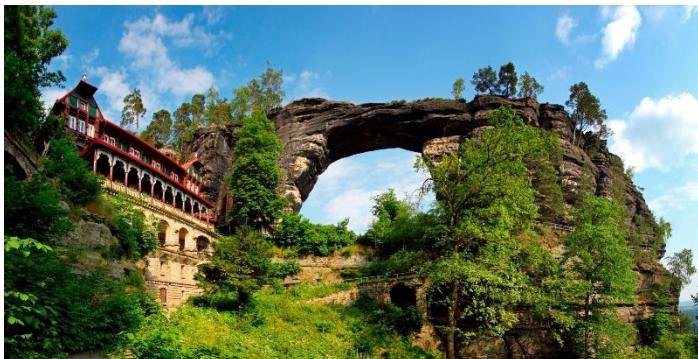
## Where in the World is This?



Think you know where this is?

Email your guess to  
[jasondrews99@gmail.com](mailto:jasondrews99@gmail.com)

## Where in the World was That?



The Where in the World in the Fall 2025 edition of *The Hydrogeologist* was the Pravcice Gate, a natural sandstone bridge located in Bohemian Switzerland National Park, which is itself located in the northwestern portion of the Czech Republic. The formation responsible for the largest natural sandstone arch in Europe is a part of the Elbe Sandstone Mountains, which extends throughout southeastern Germany and the North Bohemian area of the Czech Republic.

## Important Dates

Application opens for [Graduate Student Research Grant](#)  
 Registration opens for [2026 Section Meetings](#)  
 Application opens for Farouk El-Baz [Student Research Grant](#)  
 Proposal submission opens for [GSA Connects 2026](#)  
 Nomination Deadline for [Student Advisory Council](#)  
 Abstract Deadline for [2026 Section Meetings](#)  
 Application opens for [Section Research Grant](#)  
 Application Deadline for [2026 Thompson Field Forum](#)  
 Application Deadline for [2026 Penrose Conferences](#)  
 Nomination Deadline for [GSA Fellowship](#)  
 Application deadline for [Graduate Research Grants](#)  
 Application deadline for Farouk El-Baz  
[Student Research Grant](#)  
 Session proposal deadline for [GSA Connects 2026](#)  
[GSA Triple Joint](#) Southeastern North-Central  
 South-Central Section Meeting  
[GSA Northeastern Section Meeting](#)  
[GSA Cordilleran Section Meeting](#)  
[GSA Rocky Mountain Section Meeting](#)  
[GSA Penrose Conference](#)

**Dec. 1, 2025**

**Dec. 1, 2025**

**Dec. 1, 2025**

**Dec. 8, 2025**

**Dec. 31, 2025**

**Jan. 13, 2026**

**Jan. 15, 2026**

**Jan. 30, 2026**

**Jan. 30, 2026**

**Feb. 1, 2026**

**Feb. 18, 2026**

**Feb. 18, 2026**

**Feb. 19, 2026**

**Mar 8-11, 2026**

**Mar 21-24, 2026**

**Mar 21-24, 2026**

**May 17-20, 2026**

**May 18-22, 2026**

| DECEMBER 2025 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S             | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|               | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  |
| 7             | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14            | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21            | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28            | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |
|               |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| JANUARY 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| 4            | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11           | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18           | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25           | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
|              |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| FEBRUARY 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 1             | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8             | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15            | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22            | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29            | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |
|               |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| MARCH 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
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| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
| 1          | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8          | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15         | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22         | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29         | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |
|            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| APRIL 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S          | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|            |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
| 5          | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12         | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19         | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26         | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |
|            |    |    |    |    |    |    |

| MAY 2026 |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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|          |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3        | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
| 10       | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17       | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24       | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31       |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|          |    |    |    |    |    |    |

### Important Announcement!!!

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

# Hydrogeology Division Contacts

## 2025-2026 Management Board

- **Chair:** Richelle Allen-King ([richelle@buffalo.edu](mailto:richelle@buffalo.edu))
- **First Vice-Chair:** Kallina Dunkle ([dunklek@apsu.edu](mailto:dunklek@apsu.edu))
- **Second Vice-Chair:** Barret Kurylyk ([barret.kurylyk@apsu.edu](mailto:barret.kurylyk@apsu.edu))
- **Secretary:** Tara Root ([troot1@gmail.com](mailto:troot1@gmail.com))
- **Past-Chair:** Don Rosenberry ([rosenber@usgs.gov](mailto:rosenber@usgs.gov))
- **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Officer:** Maureen Muldoon ([muldoon@wisc.edu](mailto:muldoon@wisc.edu))
- **Section Representatives Coordinator:** Marcia Schulmeister ([mschulme@ku.edu](mailto:mschulme@ku.edu))
- **Councilor/Division Liaison Representative:** Brian Katz ([ba\\_katz@hotmail.com](mailto:ba_katz@hotmail.com))
- **Senior Student Representative:** Riliwan Damilola ("Dami") Abioye ([rabiyo@seoe.sc.edu](mailto:rabiyo@seoe.sc.edu))
- **Junior Student Representative:** Ayobami Oluwadunsin Oladapo ([aoladap@purdue.edu](mailto:aoladap@purdue.edu))

HYDROGEOL

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- **Nominating Committee:** Chair: Yu-Feng Lin ([yflin@illinois.edu](mailto:yflin@illinois.edu)), Chris Gellasch ([chris.gellasch@emich.edu](mailto:chris.gellasch@emich.edu)), Christopher Carlson ([christopher.carlson@usda.gov](mailto:christopher.carlson@usda.gov))
- **Meinzer Award Committee:** Douglas Kip Solomon (2024 – 2027, [kip.solomon@utah.edu](mailto:kip.solomon@utah.edu)), Jimmy Jiao (2023 – 2026, [jjiao@hku.hk](mailto:jjiao@hku.hk)), Beth Parker (2023 – 2025, [bparker@uqueleph.ca](mailto:bparker@uqueleph.ca)), Carl Mendoza (2023 – 2026, [carl.mendoza@ualberta.ca](mailto:carl.mendoza@ualberta.ca)), Holly Michael (2022 – 2025, [hmichael@udel.edu](mailto:hmichael@udel.edu))
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- **Early Career Liaison:** Rakesh Kumar ([rakesh.hydrology@gmail.com](mailto:rakesh.hydrology@gmail.com))

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