THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA®

Fiscal Year 2012
ANNUAL REPORT

GSA'S VISION: To be the premier geological society supporting the global community in scientific discovery, communication, and application of geoscience knowledge.

GSA'S MISSION: To advance geoscience research and discovery, service to society, stewardship of Earth, and the geosciences profession.

1 July 2011 – 30 June 2012

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

July 2011 – June 2012

Natural and human-caused disasters, record-breaking summer temperatures, massive drought and attendant crop failures, dramatic outbreaks of West Nile virus, growing scarcity of natural resources, and expanding environmental concerns all have been front and center in the news. It is likely that similar events and issues will increasingly impact society and thus our well-being, globally and locally, in the future. The greater the public awareness and general understanding of natural phenomena, the Earth system response to a rapid rate of increase in carbon dioxide and methane in our atmosphere, and the fact that carbon-based energy sources are finite, the better our ability to effect the changes, through rational policy decisions, that are necessary for human sustainability.

The geosciences play a major role in raising this public awareness and the lifelong process of learning about our only home. This past year, GSA adopted a position statement "Expanding and Improving Geoscience in Higher Education" and revised its statement "The Importance of Teaching Earth Science." In early 2012, these statements were sent to hundreds of administrators, and their respective department chairs, at universities and colleges across North America, to remind them of the critical role their geoscience departments play and of the importance of a strong and well-educated geoscience workforce.

It has been a tremendous honor to serve as president of the Geological Society of America. Executive Director Jack Hess celebrated his 10th anniversary with GSA this year, and we owe him, and his dedicated and hardworking staff, much gratitude for not only bolstering your Society by developing and enacting GSA's current Strategic Plan, but shaping its future through a new, forward-looking Strategic Plan. The process of drafting a new Strategic Plan began in August 2011, and it is remarkable how so many individuals worked so effectively that this new Strategic Plan will most likely be in place by 2013, our 125th Anniversary year.

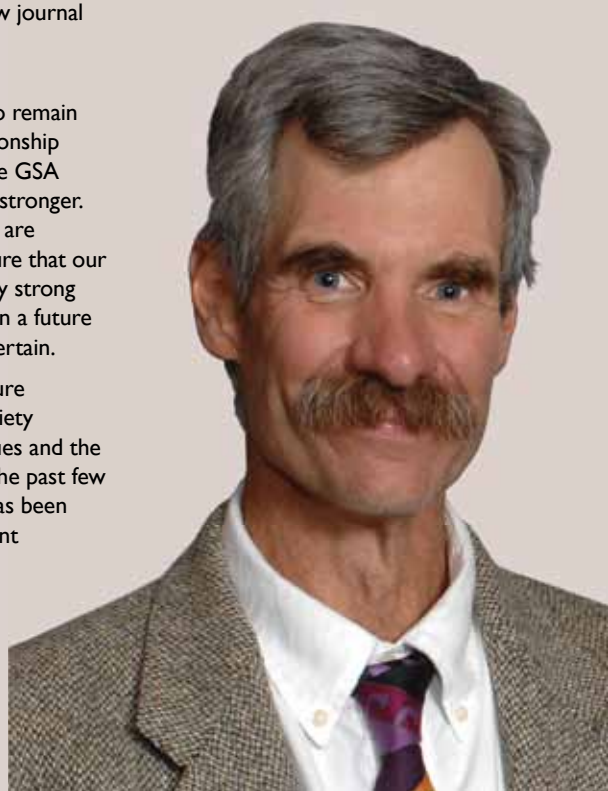
The success and relevance of any professional scientific society depend on the staff's professionalism and the many members who unselfishly give their time and energy. The Geological Society of America is part of an internationally vibrant group of geoscience societies that are improving their collaborations. It has been a pleasure working with colleagues from AGU, the Geological Society of London, and the Society of Sedimentary Geology to organize a historic event for 2013—the first combined GSA Penrose–AGU Chapman conference, which will address coastline processes and sea-level change.

All indicators of our Society's health continue to be strong. The annual meeting in Minneapolis was well attended, with a large number of diverse topical sessions and well-attended and crafted Pardee Sessions. The number of students participating in our annual meeting continues to grow. In fact, the October 2011 *Geoscience Currents* published by the American Geosciences Institute shows that GSA has been the top professional society for student membership for the past three years, and that the trend these past three years has been upward. The six section meetings held this year were great successes with total attendance at 3500. Last but far from least, GSA publications, at all levels, remain of excellent international stature, with high impact ratings. Our new journal *Lithosphere* is rapidly gaining international interest.

Your Society continues to remain financially healthy. The relationship between the Society and the GSA Foundation has never been stronger. Many collaborative projects are currently under way to ensure that our Society remains as financially strong and sustainable as possible in a future that seems increasingly uncertain.

Both the current and future Strategic Plans for your Society emphasize sustainability issues and the role of your Society. Over the past few years, GSA Headquarters has been transformed into an excellent showcase of our mission and vision. With all of its energy from sustainable resources, water conservation and recycling (zero waste) efforts, and its spectacular community garden, GSA Headquarters and the efforts of its staff make us proud to be members of the Geological Society of America. When I present Bill McKibben, author of *Eaarth, Deep Economy*, and many others, as well as founder of 350.ORG, with the 2012 President's Medal, I promise to encourage him, as I do all of you, to visit GSA Headquarters!

John Geissman, *GSA President*



John W. Geissman
President

GSA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANNUAL LETTER

July 2011 – June 2012

The Geological Society of America continues to keep an eye on its overarching Vision as it executes its critical Mission. The Washington Office, as part of GSA's National Leadership Initiative, continues to gain visibility for the Society in the public policy arena, and we have been speaking out for the solid earth community. GSA has been active globally this fiscal year, giving members a voice at meetings around the world, including the meetings of the European Geosciences Union (EGU), the Geological Association of Canada/ Mineralogical Association of Canada (GAC/MAC) meeting, and *Fragile Earth* in Munich, Germany.

The Annual Meeting in Minneapolis attracted 6322 attendees from across the globe. Spring 2012 Section Meetings had a combined attendance of around 3500. Our participation in GeoScienceWorld continues to be of immense scientific value, as well as a good source of revenue, and our book publishing continues to grow. In Education and Outreach, EarthCaching is expanding rapidly around the world and the GeoCorps® America program is bringing more geoscience positions to federal lands than ever before. Mentoring programs are in demand at both annual and section meetings. Membership continues to grow, ending calendar year 2011 at nearly 25,000 members.

FY2012 was financially good for the Society. We close the year with a surplus thanks to the hard work of all concerned. GSA has now ended in the black for ten years in a row.

The Society is working on a new Strategic Plan including revised Mission, Vision, and Goals. Council is poised to approve the new plan in November 2012, so it will be ready to be rolled out as part of the Society's 125th Anniversary in 2013. I challenge all of our members to help the Society achieve the grand goals set forth in the new plan.

My major role as executive director is to create an environment in which both the Society leadership and staff can, with appropriate resources, advance science through high-quality meetings and publications, develop strong and meaningful relationships with other societies and organizations around the world, facilitate GSA's role in the education of students, the lay public and policy makers, and develop more sponsorship and donations for GSA programs.

The Society has much to be proud of as we look forward to celebrating our 125th Anniversary in 2013. We publish highly respected journals, present high-quality and exciting meetings, constantly work to improve service to our members and customers, and continue to build significant partnerships with societies around the world. The Society has strengthened its public policy efforts and is developing its strategic vision for its international role in the future.

Thank you for your continuing support. I look forward to a long-term, open, and positive relationship with the members, Council, and staff.

John W. Hess, *Executive Director*

John (Jack) W. Hess
Executive Director

MEMBERSHIP

Where Geology & People Come Together

GSA members comprise a diverse community: 24,700 members
Professional geologists–Students–Recent graduates–K–12 teachers–Affiliates

in 103 countries—7 regional Sections

with 40+ scientific specialties and interests

who belong to one or more of 17 special interest Divisions

from education, professional practice, and government.

Supporting Students

GSA supports students in their pursuit of careers in the geosciences, offers programs to aid in their success, and provides benefits designed specifically around their needs.

GSA student members, who represent 30% of GSA's membership, receive free online access to GSA journals (over US$190 annual value), access to mentor programs, employment services, internships, travel and research grants, in addition to all other membership offerings.

In support of geoscience students and helping them engage in the Society, nearly 600 professional members in 37 countries serve as Campus Representatives to encourage their students to pursue careers in the geosciences, and to take advantage of programs and services offered through GSA membership.

One of the most successful student programs is the GSA Graduate Student Research Grants Program—one of the largest and most prestigious funding programs for graduate students in the geosciences. The program helps fund field and laboratory costs of geoscience projects proposed and conducted by masters' and doctoral students at universities in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Throughout its 79-year history, the GSA Research Grants Program has awarded close to 9800 geoscientists a total of almost US$13,000,000 to conduct research. For FY12, 636 students applied for funding and 303 were awarded a grant (48%). The range of grants awarded was between US$500 and US$2500, with the average being US$1829.

International Initiatives

GSA is very active in the international science community because science knows no boundaries. In FY12, GSA served approximately 2850 members residing outside of the United States. We continually seek input from our members and Associated Societies outside of the United States in order to serve a global membership and to equip GSA to be an active leader in the international geoscience community.

The International Section was active in supporting 1800 Section members who reside outside of North America. This Section helped organize the GSA *Fragile Earth* specialty meeting (more under "Meetings") in Munich, Germany, and also organized and launched the first GSA International Distinguished Lecture Tour. GSA's first Distinguished International Lecturer, Dr. Victor R. Baker, will deliver two lecture tours in Europe, Nordic countries, and the Middle East in October/November 2012 on the themes *Megafloods on Earth, Mars, and Beyond* and *Geological History of Water on an Earth-like Planet*.

GSA, in partnership with the International Section, worked throughout FY12 to plan and coordinate an international meeting to be held in Chengdu, China, in June 2013 in partnership with the Geological Society of China (GSC). The meeting titled "Roof of the World" will investigate the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, intra-continental deformation and mineral resources, and unique sites for the end-of-Permian mass extinctions.

GSA continues to hold a prestigious seat as a member of the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO and continues to work with UNESCO to lead U.S. efforts in participating in the Global Network of National Geoparks, which is composed of 90 significant geological areas across 28 countries. GSA also holds a seat on the Executive Board of the International Union of Geological Sciences.

GSA Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' Foundation in May 2012, becoming the first professional society to support Geoscientists' Without Borders® (GWB). GWB provides humanitarian application of geoscience solutions to global problems by connecting universities and industries with communities in need.

To help promote GSA's mission and collaborate with other societies on global initiatives, GSA has 17 international Associated Societies, including:

Asociación Geológica Argentina (AGA)
Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID)
Geological Association of Canada (GAC)
Geological Society of Africa (GSAf)
Geological Society of Australia (GSAus)
Geological Society of London (GSL)
Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA)
Geologische Vereinigung (GV)
Geoscience Society of New Zealand (GSNZ)
International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)
International Association of Geochemistry (IAGC)
International Medical Geology Association (IMGA)
Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC)
Mineralogical Society of Great Britain (MS)
Nepal Geological Society (NGS)
Sociedad Geológica Mexicana, A.C. (SGM)
Società Geologica Italiana (SGI)

Together we are shaping the future of the geosciences.

PUBLICATIONS

Communicating Geoscience Discovery

Books and Maps

GSA published 16 peer-reviewed scholarly books in fiscal year 2012. *Special Papers* (nine volumes in FY12) are state-of-the-art treatments of rapidly evolving subjects. *Memoirs* (one volume) remain an authoritative reference for a number of years. *Field Guides* (six in FY12) feature guides from field trips held at GSA meetings and those of associated organizations. *Reviews in Engineering Geology (REG)* is produced in cooperation with GSA's Environmental and Engineering Geology Division. Two printed maps, two digital maps, and four individual *Memorials* (to deceased GSA members) were published in FY12. GSA also published its now-annual calendar, featuring images from annual meeting photo exhibits, and a children's book about plate tectonics, *From the Outside Looking In*.

A growth area for GSA's book publishing enterprise is its expanding collection of e-books, online in PDF at www.gsapubs.org and in various formats at Google Books. The online collection of Special Papers, Field Guides, Memoirs, and REG volumes numbers more than 300 at this writing, with more than 200 pre-1995 volumes in the process of being scanned and posted.

Journals

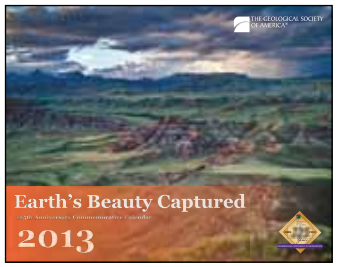
GSA Bulletin, published since 1890, is distributed in print bimonthly with articles posted online as they are accepted. Archives from 1945 to the present are online, including papers from 1979 to 1981 that were previously only available on microfiche. 2011 impact factor*: 3.787; five-year: 4.045.

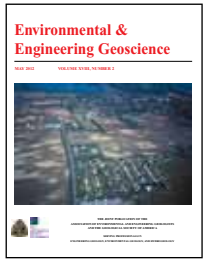
Geology features short papers on new investigations and provocative topics from all earth science disciplines. Articles are published monthly in print and online as they are accepted, and online archives go back to its first issue in 1973. 2011 impact factor: 3.612; five-year: 4.306.

Geosphere, published bimonthly online since 2005, covers all geoscience disciplines and features papers with animations, sound, and movie files. Its collection of themed issues continues to grow and now numbers eleven. 2011 impact factor: 2.120; five-year: 2.651.

Lithosphere, launched in 2009 to provide an outlet for the high interest in tectonics and structural geology, is distributed in print bimonthly with articles posted online as they are accepted. 2011 impact factor: 1.738; five-year: 1.738.

GSA Today, GSA's science and news magazine for members and the earth-science community worldwide, features science articles as well as member news and announcements. It is open access online.





Published quarterly in a joint effort between the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and GSA is *Environmental & Engineering Geoscience*. Online at GeoScienceWorld, it contains new theory, applications, and case histories illustrating the dynamics of environmental and applied disciplines.

GSA journals are available online at www.gsapubs.org (a mobile-optimized site), on an annual DVD (*GSA Bulletin, Geology, Geosphere, Lithosphere*, with links to *GSA Today*'s science-related articles and to search and indexing tools), and through GeoScienceWorld (*GSA Bulletin, Geology, Geosphere, Lithosphere,* and *Environmental & Engineering Geoscience*).

*2011 Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports. The JCR uses a systematic, objective means to evaluate a journal's impact based on how many citations its papers receive each year. Thomson Reuters also selected GSA's Special Papers, Memoirs, and Reviews in Engineering Geology volumes to include in its new Book Citation Index.

MEETINGS

Connecting the Geoscience Community

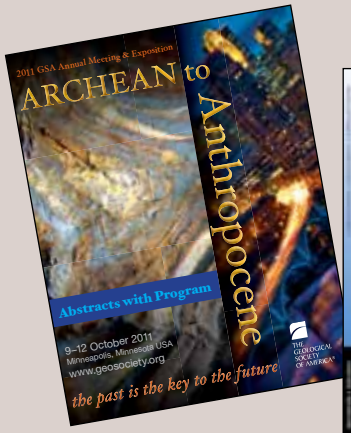
GSA meets the need for face-to-face scientific exchange and networking with meetings and programs of the highest quality throughout the year. These include the Annual Meeting & Exposition, regional Section Meetings, prestigious Penrose Conferences, Field Forums, and Specialty Meetings. In fiscal year 2012, GSA hosted eleven meetings, bringing together thousands of geoscience professionals and students.

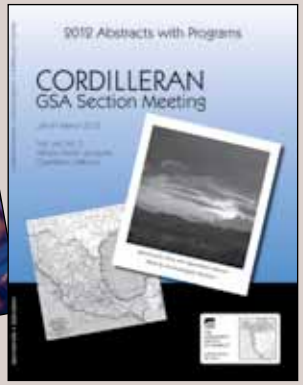
The 2011 Annual Meeting and Exposition, *Archean to Anthropocene: The past is the key to the future*, was hosted in Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, 9–12 October, by an exceptionally active and committed local geoscience community. The meeting stressed the broad research and education agenda of the GSA community as a whole, as well as the application of our work to society. The meeting brought together over 6300 attendees from 48 countries. More than 3600 presentations were given on a wide array of scientific topics. 23 short courses and 23 technical field trips were run, giving hundreds of geoscientists the opportunity for professional development in both the classroom and the field. Hundreds of volunteers participate yearly in the Annual Meeting—from local organizing committee members and the Joint Technical Program Committee, to the hundreds of session conveners from every geoscience discipline and the hundreds of student volunteers from campuses across the Americas and abroad. There is literally "something for everyone" to be involved with every year at this unique scientific gathering.

In addition to the annual conference, regional meetings were held in each of GSA's six domestic Sections, with 3500 people in attendance across North America. Locations included Alpine, Texas (South-Central); Hartford, Connecticut (Northeastern); Querétaro, Mexico (Cordilleran); Asheville, North Carolina (Southeastern); Dayton, Ohio (North-Central); and Albuquerque, New Mexico (Rocky Mountain). Section meetings represent opportunities for scientists to focus on regional, as well as national, issues and geologic landscapes, and for students to participate in meetings closer to home.

Penrose Conferences, named in honor of GSA benefactor R.A.F. Penrose, Jr., were established in 1969 to enhance the Society's service to the science of geology. Theses conferences stimulate individual and collaborative thinking about new ideas and accelerate scientific advancement through focused interactions. Three Penrose Conferences were held in FY12, beginning with *Deformation Localization in Rocks: New Advances* (which bridged the last fiscal year) in Cadaqués & Cap de Creus Peninsula, Catalonia, Spain. *Comparative Evolution of Past and Present Accretionary Orogens: Central Asia and the Circum-Pacific* was held in September 2011 in Urumqi, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, China; and *Deformation, Fluid Flow, and Mass Transfer in the Forearc of Convergent Margins* took place in Il Ciocco, Castelvecchio Pascoli, Lucca, Italy, in March 2012.

This year, GSA also partnered with the Geologische Vereinigung e.V. and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geowissenschaften to sponsor a Specialty Meeting, *Fragile Earth: Geological Processes from Global to Local Scales, Associated Hazards & Resources*, in Munich, Germany, in September 2011. More than 550 people from 37 countries attended this scientific and cultural exchange.





Penrose Conference:

Deformation, Fluid Flow, and Mass Transfer in the Forearc of Convergent Margins

25–31 March 2012

Il Ciocco, Castelvecchio Pascoli, Lucca, Italy

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Nurturing Current & Future Generations

Earth science education and outreach activities at all levels are at the core of GSA's mission to increase appreciation of Earth's history, processes, and resources.

GeoCorps™ America continued to grow, with the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and California Department of Conservation Abandoned Mine Land Unit hosting 140 interns this year. The GeoCorps diversity internships grew to support a higher level of diversity than in past years.

GSA Mentor Programs were once again a highlight for students at the 2012 section meetings and the 2011 Annual Meeting, providing mentoring opportunities for more than 1400 students with more than 355 mentors.

The Short Course Program is thriving: The 2011 Annual Meeting saw 462 people attending 23 courses. This was our largest short course participation to date. Student attendance represented 37% of the total. The average course fee was only $31 (with a previous low of $63 in 2008 and 2010). The lower costs associated with these courses have served to make them more accessible to everyone.

The GSA/ExxonMobil Bighorn Basin Field Award, an extension of the Short Course Program, ran in 2011 with five faculty, five graduate students and 15 undergraduate awardees. This program seeks to energize and enhance the education of geology students and faculty by introducing them to the breadth and challenges of integrated basin and petroleum systems analysis.

In summer 2012, the GSA/ExxonMobil Field Camp Excellence Award provided $10,000 to the Indiana University Field Camp, based on safety awareness, diversity, and technical excellence. ExxonMobil increased their funding to the Field Camp Scholar Award; 17 students (10 with diverse backgrounds) were awarded $2000 each to attend the field camp of their choice based on diversity, economic/financial need, and merit.

The Employment Service Center, which maintains GSA's online résumé database system, gave GSA members an opportunity to post their résumés for free, access job-hunting tools, and review job postings from registered employers. GSA offered on-site interview services at the GSA Annual Meeting.

The EarthCache™ Program, an educational geocaching project that takes the general public to interesting Earth science sites, has grown this year to more than 22,000 sites worldwide. More than 3 million people have logged visits to EarthCache sites since its inception.

The Teacher Advocate Program (TAP) hired a new program officer in 2011, which is allowing teacher resources to be updated to include current research and new activities that will engage students in geoscience classes. TAP attended two National Science Teachers' Association Conferences and presented at the GeoTech Conference this year. Two GeoVenture trips for K–12 teachers ran this summer; both were filled well in advance of registration deadlines.

Katherine Jepson, Bureau of Land Management, Craters of the Moon National Monument.

Teacher Advocate Program (TAP)

"I walked away with knowing the relevance to implementing it into my curriculum."

SPONSORS

Thank you!

While corporate involvement with GSA is often primarily thought of in relation to the Annual Meeting & Exposition, we are eager to expand the spotlight to include other areas receiving valuable support from major companies. In fact, some of our programs might not exist without this vital funding. While the corporations you see listed provide important sponsorships to the Annual Meeting for many of its components, we are proud that our partners also support field camps, teacher excellence recognition, geoscience students' field camp attendance, undergraduate diversity scholarships, and a number of in-kind services for GSA.

GSA and the Foundation are pleased to be increasing efforts in corporate partnerships. The combined influences of business and science can make a greater difference than any organization alone. Together, we can maximize the collective ability to foster the growth of current and future leaders in the geosciences community. We strive to engage business and industry as a positive force to advance science, stewardship, and service, joining with corporations in the meaningful impacts of partnership.

Double-Diamond

ExxonMobil

Subaru of America Inc.

Platinum

Newmont Mining Corporation

Shell Oil

U.S. Geological Survey

Gold

Chevron

UNC–Charlotte Center City*

Silver

Alpha Natural Resources

American Elements

BRONZE
CH2m Hill
International Centre for Diffraction Data

PATRON
Annual Reviews
AEG Carolinas Section
North Carolina State University
Potash Corporation Aurora
University of Tennessee–Knoxville
Zapata Incorporated

Additional support from:
Columbia Sportswear*
Environmental Risk Innovations LLC
IMA Corp.*
University of Georgia Geology

GSA would like to acknowledge and give a special thank you to the GSA Foundation for their continued support.

* In-kind donation.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS & PUBLIC POLICY

Bridging the Geosciences and Public Policy

GSA's Washington, D.C., office helps advance the Society's mission to "…promote the geosciences in the service of humankind and stewardship of the Earth." Policy activity updates are available by subscription to GSA's new RSS feed for the Geology and Public Policy website at www.geosociety.org/rss/gppNews.xml, or you can find government affairs updates on GSA's Twitter feed, @geosociety.

Congressional Testimony. GSA played an active role advocating for geoscience research by testifying three times in 24 hours. GSA President John Geissman testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources on 22 March. The subcommittee heard from USGS Director Marcia McNutt and a panel that consisted of Geissman, GSA Treasurer Jonathan Price, who was testifying on behalf of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration, and GSA Fellow and Association of American State Geologists President-Elect Harvey Thorleifson. Each witness supported USGS's critical role in understanding and documenting mineral and energy resources, researching and monitoring potential natural hazards, and determining and assessing water availability and quality. Also on 22 March, GSA Director for Geoscience Policy Kasey White testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies. White urged Congress to appropriate at least the Administration's request of $7.373 billion for the National Science Foundation (NSF). The previous day, White testified before the House Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies. At the hearing, GSA encouraged Congress to support increases across programs for the USGS.

Novem Auyeung and Tanya Del Valle at the Capitol

Congressional Briefings. GSA co-sponsors congressional briefings on geoscience issues of special interest to Congress. To highlight the important role of federal funding for R&D, GSA joined with 10 scientific societies to host a 16 March briefing on Capitol Hill on the contributions from federal R&D. GSA joined with AGI and other societies within the Hazards Caucus to support a congressional briefing on 29 March on East Coast earthquakes and a 23 July briefing celebrating the contributions of 40 years of Landsat. Videos of all of the briefings are available on the GSA website (www.geosociety.org).

Congressional Visits Days. GSA provides opportunities for its members to discuss geosciences policy issues with decision makers in Washington, D.C., by participating in Congressional Visits Days, including Climate Science Day (31 Jan.–1 Feb. 2012), Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Day (24–25 April 2012), and Geosciences Congressional Visits Day (21–22 Sept. 2011). GSA works with other scientific societies to organize these events, which involve meetings with more than 100 congressional offices and provide training and briefings for participants.

Congressional Exhibitions and Receptions. GSA helps organize geosciences exhibits at special events on Capitol Hill, including the Science-Engineering-Technology Exhibition and Reception (25 April 2012), the Coalition for National Science Funding Exhibition and Reception (15 May 2012), and the USGS Coalition Exhibition and Reception (21 Sept. 2011).

Congressional Science Fellow. Kelly Kryc served as the 2011–2012 GSA-USGS Congressional Science Fellow. She worked for the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on issues ranging from hydropower to helium.

Novem Auyeung and Tanya Del Valle meet with Kathy Benedetto, a fellow geoscientist who serves as legislative staff for the House Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources

GSA Expresses Concern about Potential Travel Restrictions. GSA joined more than 50 scientific organizations to express concern about the impact of provisions that would place severe restrictions on government employees' abilities to attend meetings and conferences, noting, "The free exchange of scientific ideas and information is crucial to advancing science and innovation, and conferences are a standard mechanism for the transfer of information among scientists and engineers." GSA has also met with key government administration officials as they work to implement cuts to travel.

Coalitions. GSA leverages its resources by participating in coalitions, including the Coalition for National Science Funding, USGS Coalition, Task Force on American Innovation, Congressional Hazards Caucus Alliance, Science-Engineering-Technology Congressional Visits Day Working Group, and American Geology Consortium. GSA joined the Energy Sciences Working Group, an alliance of leading research universities and scientific societies that advocates for sustained funding for research at the Department of Energy. GSA's Director for Geoscience Policy serves as co-chair of the Climate Science Working Group.

GSA Position Statements. GSA Council approved several new and revised Position Statements in April 2012. These include new Position Statements on "Geoheritage" and "Supporting Planetary Exploration," and revised versions of "Water Resources," "The Value of Geologic Mapping," and "Geoscience and Natural Hazards Policy." In addition, GSA endorsed the Association of American Universities document on "Visa Problems Harming America's Scientific, Economic, and Security Interests."

GSA FOUNDATION REPORT

P. Geoffrey Feiss, GSAF President

The Geological Society of America Foundation's mission is to provide funds to support the goals and programs of the Geological Society of America. The Foundation welcomes contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and institutions.

2011–2012 Highlights

In FY12, the GSA Foundation raised about $775,000 in contributions, mostly from individual GSA members and corporations. Since our fund-raising supports GSA programs, we annually transfer funds to GSA either as designated by donors or in accordance with GSA's Greatest Needs identified by Council. Last year the Foundation budgeted transfers to GSA were about $730,000, the majority of which supported research grants, awards and recognitions, and the Education & Outreach programs of GSA. The Foundation also manages permanently restricted funds in the amount of approximately $14 million. Management of these funds is the responsibility of the joint GSA/GSAF Investment Committee.

The Foundation is overseen by a Board of Trustees, currently sixteen GSA members who give generously of their time and talent to further the mission of GSA. New board members in FY12 were Chris Hepburn, Boston College; Jinny Sisson, University of Houston; and Wes Ward, USGS-retired. Joining the board this year are Darrel Cowan, University of Washington, and Lisa Pratt, Indiana University.

At the Minneapolis meeting, we premiered a thirteen-minute video that highlights several important GSA programs that are supported by the Foundation—GeoCorps America and our >50-year-old program of student research grants. The video can be seen at www.gsafweb.org/educating-video.html.

At the Annual Meeting, the Foundation continues to host the popular Silent Auction in the exhibition area, the Senior Fellows Reception, the Pardee Coterie breakfast for those who have included the Foundation in their estate plans, and a donor lounge for those who give at the Penrose Circle level ($500/a) or greater.

There have been some changes at the Foundation as well. Donna Russell left the Foundation in January after more than thirty years of service. Geni Klagstad, longtime financial assistant, became the new office manager, and Debbie Marcinkowski joined the Foundation in the new position of Director of Corporate Partnerships.

We continue to communicate regularly with members and friends through *GSA Today*. Please read the Foundation page each month and stay in touch with us about your thoughts and interests in the many GSA programs we support.

The Future

As GSA prepares to celebrate its 125th anniversary in 2013, including rolling out its new strategic plan, the Foundation is ready and eager to be a full partner with GSA's 24,000+ members in furthering the advancement of the geosciences in America and worldwide. There is much we earth scientists can do to further our science, to be effective stewards of the Earth, and to serve the broader public. Join us.

Erin Lynch and Paul Wilcox, USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest.

Paul Wilcox, USDA Forest Service, Tongass National Forest.

We express our gratitude to GSA donors who make much of our important work possible. Link to the Foundation's Annual Report and Donor Recognition for calendar year 2011 at www.gsafweb.org/Resources/GSAF-Annual-Report-2011.pdf.

GSA OPERATIONS REPORT

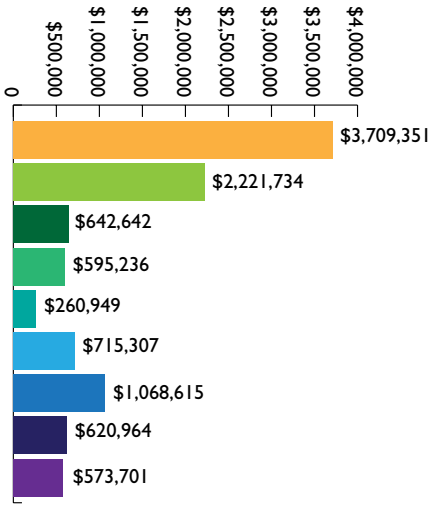
(In thousands)

Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12) was another year of financial challenge and reward with GSA ending the year significantly ahead of the cash budget. This result reflects the continuing dedicated commitment of all staff and volunteers. Brock and Company completed their combined audit report of GSA for FY12 and issued an unqualified opinion.

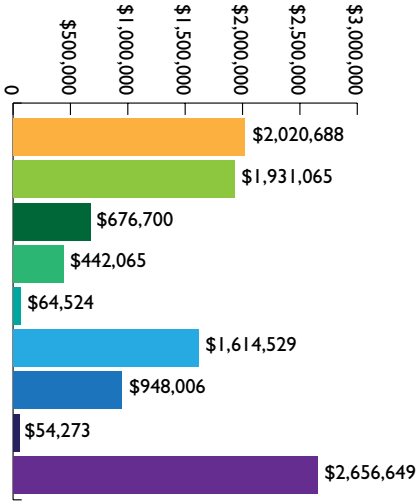
Compared to Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11), the change in net assets before investment earnings decreased $721.3 (340.9%). The principal component of this difference is a one-time FY11 receipt of easement sale proceeds ($636.6). Excluding the easement sale from FY11 results, the change in net assets before investment earnings decreased $94.4 (22.2%). Compared to FY11, significant revenue decreases occurred in Specialty meetings ($138.5) and Penrose conferences ($74.8). These combined with expense increases in E&O Teacher K-12 programs ($79.7) and E&O Administration ($72.8) more than offset favorable Mann Mentor contributions ($147.7) and net GeoCorps revenue ($118.3) to account for the change year to year.

During FY12, GSA drew $325.0 from investments for strategic spending and, in addition, Council authorized expenditures from investments for spending from the Pardee fund for research grants.

For FY12, the Society had a net investment loss of $54.3 compared to an investment gain in FY11 of $4,206.4. This principally is a result of general worldwide economic and market conditions. During FY12 the net unrealized loss on investments is $958.4 compared to a $4,152.2 FY11 net unrealized gain.



Revenues



Expenses & Other

A full copy of the combined audit report can be accessed at http://www.geosociety.org/aboutus/fiscal/ann_Audit.pdf

The Treasurer's report can be accessed at http://geosociety.org/aboutus/fiscal/treasurerRpt.pdf

GSA INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORT

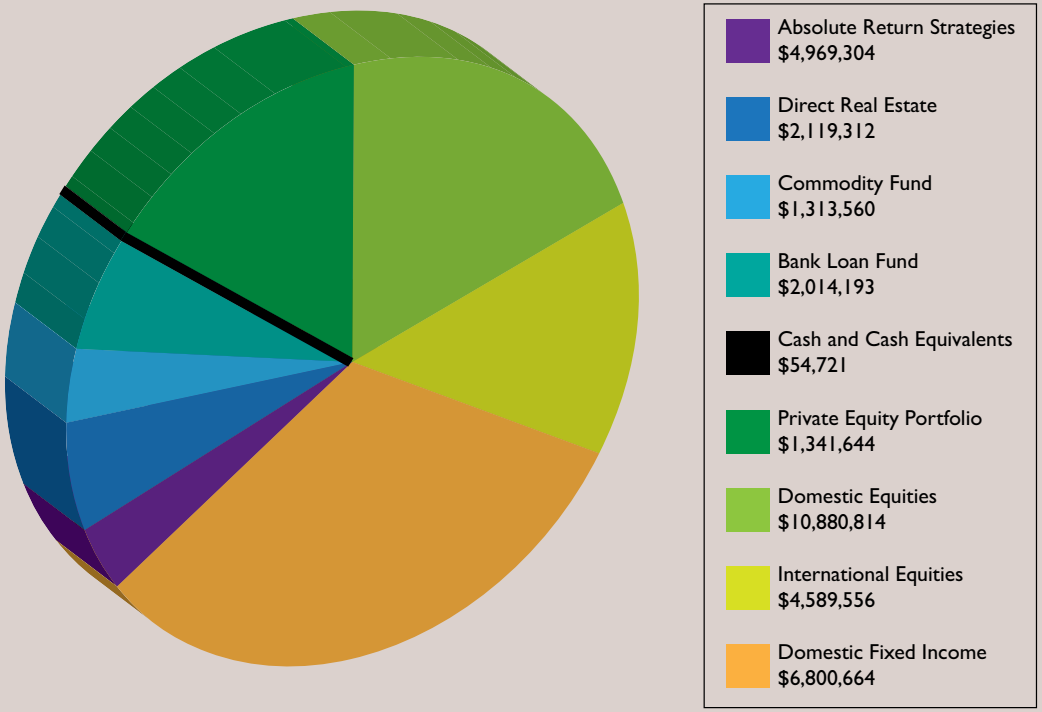
During the year, the GSA portfolio in total decreased $665.2 (2.9%) due primarily to market conditions through year-end coupled with net withdrawals for approved purposes.

GSA and the GSA Foundation have a well diversified investment portfolio and a dedicated team of volunteer members to manage these assets. Through FY12, the joint Invesment Committee was composed of eight dedicated and knowledgeable voting members. The Committee relies on expertise provided by an outside consulting firm, Innovest Portfolio Solutions. A formal evaluation of these services was performed in Fiscal Year 2007, resulting in high marks and a recommendation to continue the long standing relationship with Innovest. The organization continues to follow an investment strategy of diversification among investment classes within strategic allocation targets.

The Committee continues to search for members with the interest and aptitude to serve on the Investment Committee in the future. This service is a key component to the long term health of the portfolio, and consequently, the mission of GSA.

GSA's restricted investment balance is primarily comprised of funds from R.A.F. Penrose (donated in the 1930's) and from Joseph T. Pardee (donated in the 1990's).

Unrestricted funds are vital to the future of GSA because they can be used where Council deems there is greatest need. In recent years, these funds have supported strategic projects such as new publications, staff compensation, Government Affairs, Teacher K-12 staffing, and Social Media communications.



The Investment Committee Chair's report and summary of the portfolio can be accessed at http://www.geosociety.org/aboutus/fiscal/investmentsRpt.pdf

GSA Investment Portfolio Report continued

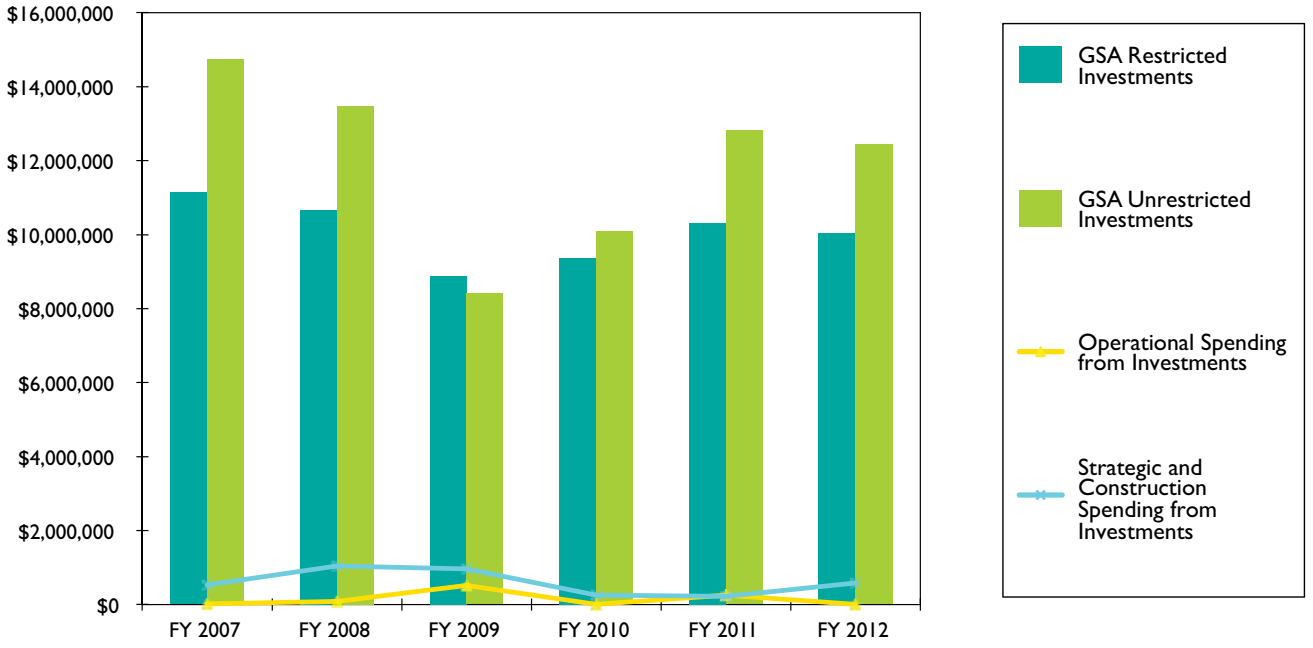
GSA gratefully acknowledges that invaluable contributions of Dr. Jonathan G. Price, Treasurer, and Carl P. Fricke, GSA Investment Committee Chair, for service to the Society and preparation of the financial data included in this report.

As indicated in the chart below, GSA investments have primarily increased or decreased due to overall market conditions. The investment balances also fluctuate from investment earnings, less amounts paid from the Pardee fund for Research Grants and amounts designated for strategic spending.

Council approved using Pardee funds for the student research grant program beginning in Fiscal Year 2004 and then approved spending unrestricted funds for strategic programs beginning in Fiscal Year 2006. This spending is governed by policy to ensure viablility of the portfolio over the long term to ensure the continuing mission of GSA.

TREASURER
Jonathan G. Price

GSA INVESTMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR
Carl P. Fricke



The yellow line indicates amounts paid to cover the gap between revenues and operating expenses which has generally decreased over time. The blue line shows the increase in strategic spending.

STEWARDSHIP AT GSA HEADQUARTERS

Responsible planning and management of the beautiful GSA headquarters property in Boulder, Colorado, represents a tangible commitment by staff and management to the Society's mission and values.

Aerial photo of the GSA headquarters solar array.

A story of progress.

EPA Energy Performance Ratings give a collective snapshot of progress to date in reducing the carbon footprint of the GSA headquarters building.

Rooftop solar panels (installed in the last fiscal year) have produced 95,000 kWh of electricity over the past 12 months, surpassing expectations in their first complete year of operation.

GSA has received two grants to date from the City of Boulder, totaling $50,000 in support of the solar energy initiatives, and acknowledging GSA's local corporate citizenship.

A second ground-mounted solar PV system (68 kW) is planned for November 2012, and is expected to produce an additional 105,000 kWh of electricity per year.

The second phase of GSA's solar project is made possible by the Eaton Energy Fund, created in 2010 to support the use of alternative energy sources and society-wide conservation measures. In 2011, the fund was named in honor of Gordon and Virginia Eaton, longtime GSA supporters in recognition of a generous gift to support this effort. The Gordon and Virginia Eaton Energy Fund continues to receive generous contributions from GSA members and staff each year to support GSA's green efforts. GSA's aim is to be a net zero energy building by 2015.

An Employee EcoPass Program was initiated this fiscal year. From January through June 2012, the program tracked a decrease in single-vehicle occupancy miles by transferring

24,245 miles to the regional bus system;

9912 miles to carpool-to-work participants;

4172 miles to bicycle commuting; and

338 miles to pedestrian travel.

EPA Energy Performance Ratings

	2008	2012	+/-
Current rating (1–100) [1]	36	95	+59
Current total source energy use [2] (kBtu)	7,088,524.7	2,750,933.2	–4,337,591.5
Current source energy intensity [3] (kBtu/sq. ft.)	244.4	94.9	–149.5

[1] The benchmark rating for a facility on a scale of 1–100 relative to similar buildings nationwide using EPA's national energy performance rating system. The benchmark rating is based on your facility's source energy use, level of business activity, and geographical location.

[2] The total source energy (kBtu) for a facility over a 12-month period. To compare diverse commercial buildings equitably, ratings must express the consumption of each type of energy in a single common unit. EPA has determined that source energy is the most equitable unit of evaluation. Source energy represents the total amount of raw fuel that is required to operate the building. It incorporates all transmission, delivery, and production losses, thereby enabling a complete assessment of energy efficiency in a building (www.energystar.gov).

[3] The source energy intensity (kBtu/sq. ft.) for the current 12-month period.

GSA'S PARTNERS allied in service to members and the larger geoscience community

(As of 30 June 2012)

AASP - The Palynological Society

American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)

American Geophysical Union (AGU)

American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG)

American Quaternary Association (AMQUA)

American Rock Mechanics Association (ARMA)

American Society of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO)

American Water Resources Association (AWRA)

Asociación Geológica Argentina (AGA)

Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)

Association of American State Geologists (AASG)

Association of Earth Science Editors (AESE)

Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (AEG)

Association of Geoscientists for International Development (AGID)

The Clay Minerals Society (CMS)

Colorado Scientific Society (CSS)

Council on Undergraduate Research Geosciences Division (CUR)

Cushman Foundation (CF)

Environmental & Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS)

Geochemical Society (GS)

Geological Association of Canada (GAC)

Geological Society of Africa (GSAf)

Geological Society of Australia (GSAus)

Geological Society of London (GSL)

Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA)

Geologische Vereinigung (GV)

Geoscience Information Society (GSIS)

Geoscience Society of New Zealand (GSNZ)

Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRA)

History of Earth Sciences Society (HESS)

International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)

International Association of GeoChemistry (IAGC)

International Association of Hydrogeologists (IAH)

International Medical Geology Association (IMGA)

Karst Waters Institute (KWI)

Microanalysis Society (MAS)

Mineralogical Association of Canada (MAC)

The Mineralogical Society (MS)

Mineralogical Society of America (MSA)

Minnesota Ground Water Association (MGWA)

National Association of Black Geologists and Geophysicists (NABGG)

National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)

National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®)

National Cave and Karst Research Institute (NCKRI)

National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA)

National Ground Water Association (NGWA)

Nepal Geological Society

Paleontological Research Institution (PRI)

Paleontological Society (PS)

Seismological Society of America (SSA)

Sigma Gamma Epsilon (SGE)

Società Geologica Italiana (SGI)

Sociedad Geológica Mexicana, A. C. (SGM)

Society of Economic Geologists (SEG)

Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG)

Society for Environmental Geochemistry & Health (SEGH)

Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM)

Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections (SPNHC)

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP)

Soil Science Society of America (SSSA)

Western Interior Paleontological Association (WIPS)

FY2012 Annual Report

THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA®

SCIENCE ▪ STEWARDSHIP ▪ SERVICE

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