

# GSA INTERNATIONAL DIVISION 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The International Division is service oriented rather than discipline oriented, and its mission is to coordinate and sponsor activities related to geology beyond North America; to serve as a focal point of exchange of North American geoscientists working overseas; to raise funds for partial travel support of foreign colleagues to participate in geoscience activities, and to strengthen cooperation with other geological organizations around the world. The total range of chronologic activities listed below fully represent the various elements of the ID mission.

## PROFILE OF INTERNATIONAL DIVISION

- Founded in 1989
- Membership (12/31/05) 221: 110 Professionals, 64 Seniors, 36 Students, 4 Hon. Fellows
- Financial Assets (06/30/06): \$983.40
- Bylaws: last revised 2002; 2007 Proposed Amendments pending
- Website: on GSA server
- Newsletters: None in 2006
- Council Liaison: Bruce Molnia

## INTERNATIONAL DIVISION (ID) ACTIVITIES DURING 2006

1. ID provided \$2,000 financial support for the April 3-7 International Conference in Mendoza, Argentina entitled *The Backbone of America from Patagonia to Alaska*; a sister session had been part of the GSA Annual Session in 2005 at Salt Lake City with conveners S. Kay and M. Cloos.
2. ID worked with the GSA Foundation Office to conduct a donation drive, the purpose of which was to secure additional funds to be used to support the travel and meeting attendance of various international students and researchers. The drive netted more than \$5,000.
3. ID was provided by GSA, partly as a result of the success of the above drive, with \$11,810 to be used to provide support for international participation at the 2006 GSA meeting. The following eleven geoscientists were partially supported by ID to present their papers:

Martin Brasier	England	Martin Blumenburg	Germany
Debashis Chatterjee	India	Khalid Edem	Ethiopia
Valentin Fedkin	Russia	Irena G. Malenkova	Russia
Gerald C. Nanson	Australia	A. L. Ramanathan	India
Frank Sobiech	Germany	Elsebeth Thomsen	Norway
Toshihiro Yamada	Japan		

4. ID has an agreement with the 9-country Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (CCOP). The GSA Foundation provides up to \$5,000 annually from the East Asian Geoscience and Environmental Research (EAGER) Fund (established in 2003 by

Ric Terman of ID) as a grant to a PhD candidate selected by the host country of the CCOP Annual Session. This year the 2005 EAGER Project awardee, Dr Zhen Li received additional partial travel support monies from ID to give her paper at the GSA session which was a summary of her doctoral dissertation on the *Palynology of the Red River Delta of Vietnam*.

5. ID nominated Prof. Eldridge M. Moores for the 2006 Distinguished Career Award of the GSA International Division. Council approved and announced it at the October 21Award ceremony.

6. ID hosted a successful business meeting with about 35 attendees at noon on October 23 2006.

- Yildirim Dilek reviewed the past activities and introduced the travel awardees (see 3); each made a brief statement.
- Ric Terman reviewed the EAGER Award and introduced last year's winner (see 4).
- Yildirim Dilek gave a citation for Eldridge Moores (see 5) as the winner of the ID Distinguished Career Award; the Professor responded eloquently.
- The business meeting elected the following Management Board Officers for 2007:

President:	Maurice J. (Ric) Terman
First Vice President:	Paul T. Robinson
Second Vice-President:	John Wakabayashi
Secretary-Treasurer	Sally P. Moore
Past President:	Yildirim Dilek

7. ID co-sponsored the following sessions at the 2006 GSA meeting in Philadelphia:

- Pardee keynote Symposium: *Links between geological processes, microbial activities, and evolution of life*; conveners - Yildirim Dilek (US), H. Furnes (Norway), and K. Muehenbachs (Canada).
- Topical Session: *Modern to Precambrian subduction systems: convergent margin behavior and evolution over geological time*; conveners – Yildirim Dilek (Miami Univ.) and Mark Cloos (Univ of Texas, Austin).

## INTERNATIONAL DIVISION GOALS

- Increase membership
- Continue to sponsor timely topical sessions and Pardee Symposia at GSA Annual Meeting
- Approve proposed amendments to the Bylaws
- Expand award program
- Improve internal communication
- Upgrade website
- Establish quarterly Newsletters
- Expand external collaboration, particularly working with GSA Council on globalization

Report prepared March 2007 by ID President Ric Terman  
(Based on material provided by Past President Dilek and former Secretary-Treasurer M. Foose)