

July 2007

## GREETINGS

The purpose of the International Division (ID) is to help enable scientific collaboration around the globe – a very ambitious goal. This is done by building relationships with overseas geoscientific societies, coordinating geologic discussions on regions outside of North America, and assisting foreign colleagues and students to participate in GSA Annual Sessions. ID membership dues help fund these efforts, so enlist all your friends to join us in our efforts.

## MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Each newsletter shall introduce you to one or more of the people serving as ID Officers. You can find their names on the website but below is a short synopsis of their past and current activities in the hope of finding common interests and stimulating possible interactions. We will start by focusing on President Terman and Past-President Dilek.

Maurice J. (Ric) Terman, USGS Scientist Emeritus, has previously served as Chief, Asian and Pacific Geology of the USGS Office of International Geology, where he was responsible for monitoring geoscience activities in the 44 geographic entities of his region, and developing and managing appropriate overseas bilateral projects funded by USAID. Currently, as Director of the Circum-Pacific Geospatial Data Project, he is overseeing an analysis of "Geological Correlation in East and Southeast Asia" including the completion by international scientists of a digital regional Geologic Lexicon, a Geochronologic Databank, and a Biozonation Chart.



Yildirim Dilek is a Professor of Tectonics in the Department of Geology and a Harrison Scholars Professor at Miami University (USA), and an adjunct foreign professor at the China University of Geosciences in Beijing. He has served GSA as the Editor of the GSA Bulletin (2003-2006), Publications Committee member, Convener of the Pardee Keynote Symposia and Penrose Conferences, and 2nd Vice President of the History of Geology Division (2006-07). He has worked in the Mediterranean region for 25 years and has also worked extensively in the western U.S. Cordillera, Northern Appalachians, Norwegian Caledonides, Caucasus Mountains, Arabian-Nubian Shield, and Central Asian orogenic belts. The focus of his research is mostly on the structure, petrology, and tectonics of modern oceanic crust and ophiolites, post-collisional igneous complexes in orogenic belts, and metamorphic core complexes. He is currently investigating the structure and tectonics of the Nankai accretionary prism off southern Japan. He is an expert scientist for the NATO Science for Peace Programme and a member of the United States Science Advisory Committee.

## CHANGING OF THE GUARD

Our thanks go to Suzanne Mahlburg Kay, Cornell University, for completing a three-year term as the International Secretary (IS) for GSA. She was instrumental in organizing last year's International Conference in Mendoza on "The Backbone of America from Patagonia to Alaska". This key position was created by the Council

to initiate international agreements and activities. Congratulations to Mark Cloos, University of Texas, who took over as IS on July 1. ID will be working closely with Mark and the Council to achieve our common globalization goals.

## ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

Our International Division Newsletters are catching up with the past. Along with this newsletter are two other documents. The first (the Winter Newsletter) is the International Division's 2006 Annual Report and the second (the Spring Newsletter) is the nomination of Professor Alan G. Smith of Cambridge University for the 2007 International Division Distinguished Career Award.

The Program Committee has organized several technical sessions that ID sponsors or cosponsors at the Annual Session in Denver; more detail is presented in *GSA Today*, v.17, no. 6, see T10, T12, T109 and T114.

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Mark Cloos, Dean Kleinkopf, and Bruce Molnia, has been busy ensuring that the ID Management Board (MB) is staffed with enthusiastic officers.

## HOT TOPICS

Changes are in the air! The ID Bylaws were written in 1989 and amended by adding the ID Distinguished Career Award in 2002. As GSA becomes more and more interested in globalization, it is appropriate that we take a long look at the purposes and processes within ID to see how we can most usefully contribute to the Council goals. Currently, the ID Membership Board is considering Ric Terman's proposed amendments to our Bylaws and they will be discussing the benefit of each suggested change, including:

- Broadening the scope of purpose for the ID.
- Separating the job of Secretary-Treasurer into two positions, and making the GSA IS an *ex officio* member of the ID MB.
- Giving the President authority to appoint all 20 members to the five Committees, and reassigning officer chair responsibilities.
- Reviewing the award program and naming the Division's Distinguished Career Award.

For more details please contact Ric (until 9/4: 603-279-4372; direct email is [sigric05@aol.com](mailto:sigric05@aol.com)); he will welcome suggestions.

## WHY PARTICIPATE?

Every day our world becomes smaller due to increased communication capabilities and closer international interactions. As geoscientists we have always known that geology continues across man-made borders. And thus increased globalization forces and focuses us on being more international in everything we do. Share what you know with your international colleagues and seek their knowledge. We hope that all of you will become more actively interested in our Division responsibilities, especially by attending Annual Business Meetings and recruiting new members.