

GSA INTERNATIONAL SECTION NEWSLETTER

November 2011

GREETINGS

The purpose of the Geological Society of America's (GSA) International Section (IS) is to reach out to various overseas geological/earth science societies and strengthen the relationships among the geoscientists through regular communications, meetings, and participation. In the past, these activities were accomplished by interacting with overseas geosciences societies, hosting international meetings, and providing logistical support to overseas geoscientists and students to attend annual GSA meetings.

As you will see from the current newsletter, IS was heavily involved with many professional activities during 2010-2011 and success to these events was due to the active participation of many IS attendees, IS management board members, and GSA representative Wesley Hill. Thumbs-up to all of you for making IS highly visible and extremely attention-getting at the annual 2011 GSA convention!!!

Changing of the Guard

IS extends a big thank you to **Joann M. Stock** for spearheading the IS management board during her tenure as a Chair of the IS and accomplishing several important tasks and assignments connected with the IS 2010-2011 business activities. IS sincerely acknowledges outstanding committee service rendered by Dr. Stock and her hard work enabled IS establishing GSA missions and goals among the international members.

OFFICERS AND MANAGEMENT BOARD — 2010-2011

Chair	Joann M. Stock California Institute Technology Seismological Lab 1200 E. California Blvd, MC 252-21 Pasadena, CA 91125-0001	+1-626-395-6938 (office) +1-626-564-0715 (fax) jstock@gps.caltech.edu
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Second Vice Chair	J. G. Liou (Louie) Stanford University Dept of Geological & Environ Sciences 450 Serra Mall BLDG 320 Stanford, CA 94305-2017	+1-650-723-2716 jliou@stanford.edu
Secretary	Nazrul I. Khandaker Dept. of Earth and Physical Sciences York College AC-2F09, 94-20 Guy R. Brewer Blvd. Jamaica, NY 11451	+1-718-262-2079 (x 2654) Fax: +1-718-262-3751 nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu
Treasurer	Maurice J. (Ric) Terman 3440 S. Jefferson St., Apt. 370 Falls Church, VA 22041	(703) 842-3108 terman.ric@gmail.com

Past Chair	John Wakabayashi California State University Dept Earth & Environmental Sciences 2576 E. San Ramon Ave., MS ST-24 Fresno, CA 93740-8039	+1-559-278-6459 (office) +1-559-278-5980 (fax) jwakabayashi@csufresno.edu
International Secretary	Mark Cloos University of Texas - Austin Dept Geological Sciences 1 University Station Stop C1100 Austin, TX 78712-0254	+1-512-471-4170 (office) +1-512-471-9425 (fax) cloos@mail.utexas.edu

Note: GSA's International Secretary position has now been replaced by a GSA Council Appointment. We welcome Dr. Victor Ramos of Argentina as the new GSA Council Liaison to the International Section Management Board.

Please cast your vote for the following candidates: 2011-2012 (brief resume is attached for each candidate):

Chair: Dr. Alan G Smith

Alan G Smith. Educ: B.A. Physics, Cambridge Univ. Ph.D. Princeton: "The structure and stratigraphy of the Whitefish Range, Montana" (1963). 1970-2005: University Lecturer then University Reader in Geology; Teaching Fellow, St. John's College (20 years); 2005-present: Emeritus Reader; supervisor of Ph.D. students. Prof Affil: GSA since about 1962; Fellow Geol Soc London; Life member AGU. Honors/Awards 2004: Medal Aristotle University, Thessalonika for field work in Greece; 2006: (With Felix Gradstein & Jim Ogg) Mary B. Ansari Best Reference Work Award 2006, Geoscience Information Society; 2007: Distinguished Career Award, International Division, Geological Society of America; 2008: Lyell Medal, Geological Society of London. 1st Vice-Chair International Section (IS), Geological Society of America. Rsrch Int: Relationship of Tethyan ophiolite creation and emplacement to global tectonics. Effects of oceanic gateways on past glaciations and on other major stratigraphic changes in the geological record. GSSPs. Continued development of commercial software for making global reconstructions in ARC-GIS.

Statement of Interest: To increase the impact of the International Division of GSA by e.g. sponsoring more joint meetings with overseas societies, institutions and individuals in overseas locations. The meetings could be large (as in the recent GSA/Turkish meeting); or small, e.g. jointly with specialist groups in one or more overseas societies. The present seems to be a time when other societies are looking for the same thing, i.e. some contact with and input from other than just their own members.

First Vice Chair: Dr. An Yin

An Yin, BS in Geomechanics, Beijing Univ (1982); PhD Geology USC (1988). Acting (1987-1988), Assistant (1988-1993), Associate (1993-1996), and Full Professor (1996- present) at UCLA. Affiliations: GSA fellow (since 1994), AGU member (since 1986). Awards: GSA Donath Medal (1994). Professional Services: ODP Panel Member (93-96); Associate Editor, GEOLOGY (96-99); Associate Editor, J ASIAN EARTH SCI. (02-08); Associate Editor, GSA BULL (07-present). Board member: TECTONOPHYSICS (05-present), EPSL (08-present). Chief editor: TECTONOPHYSICS (2011-). Research: structural geology, continental tectonics; planetary tectonics; surface processes.

Statement of Interest: To bring global experience to the members of GSA via field trips oversea conferences to classic and frontier geologic research locations. To strengthen ties between North

American geologists and their counterparts in other parts of the world by joint scientific conferences in and outside North America.

Second Vice Chair: Dr. Anke Maria Friedrich

Anke Maria Friedrich, BS and MS in Geology, U of Utah (1990 and 1993), PhD in Geology, MIT (1998), Teaching Fellow, Harvard (1996); Postdoctoral Scholar at Caltech (1998-2002), Teaching and Research Scientist, U of Potsdam, Germany (2002-2004); Professor of Geology, U of Hannover, Germany (2004-2007); Visiting Professor of Geology, IGP Paris, France (2003 and 2005); Professor and Chair of Geology, Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich, Germany; Adjunct Professor of Geology, U of Utah (since 2007); Affiliations: GSA member (since 1992), AGU member (since 1998), Awards: Hermann-Credner Medal of the German Society of Geosciences (2004). Professional Services: Board member of the "Geokommission" of the German Science Foundation (2005-2011), Scientific Council of the two German Geological Societies (Geologische Vereinigung 2006-2010), German Society of Geosciences, since 2007); Organizing Chair of the joint GSA - German Geological Societies international conference, "FRAGILE EARTH — geological processes from global to local scales and associated hazards and resources" in Munich, September 2011 (600 participants, including GSA international section reception); Research: active tectonic processes along plate margins and intraplate regions, structural geology and tectonics, paleogeodesy.

Statement of Interest: Geology does not stop at international borders. To bring international colleagues to appreciate what the GSA and its members have to offer and vice versa. To foster geoscience at a high level.

Details regarding responsibilities can be obtained from the "officers" and "bylaws" sections of our Section web site:

<http://www.geosociety.org/sections/International/officers.htm>

<http://www.geosociety.org/sections/International/bylaws.pdf>

One of GSA's goals for the International Section is that more international members, from outside North America, will become involved in leadership of the section. We look forward to your participation.

IS Activities (2010-2011)

IS management board met several times via teleconference and had a very productive year. Through these teleconferences and numerous email exchanges, IS management board members were able to accomplish various tasks and responsibilities connected with travel grants, sponsoring GSA Pardee session on honoring Arthur Holmes, co-sponsoring several topical sessions for 2011 GSA annual meeting, 2011 Fragile Earth meeting in Germany, proposed IS 2013 meeting in China, IS Distinguished International Inaugural Lecturer Position and many others. **Wesley Hill** from the GSA provided invaluable service towards setting up conference calls, technical support, and constructive suggestions for smooth functioning of the IS business activities throughout the year and IS greatly appreciates her time and efforts. **The following list highlights the various activities:**

IS sponsored Pardee Symposium to honor the British geologist Arthur Holmes

Title: Honoring British Geologist Arthur Holmes (1890–1965) for Contributions to Geochronology, Plate Tectonics, and the Origin of Granite

Current Pardee session was sponsored by Geological Society of London; GSA International Section; International Association of Geochemistry; GSA History and Philosophy of Geology Division; GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division.

Conveners: Russell S. Harmon, +1-919-622-8415; Jon Davidson

This session honored British geologist Arthur Holmes (1890–1965) who 100 years ago, while still an undergraduate student, established the technique to date rocks by the radioactive decay of U to Pb. Holmes also made highly significant contributions to the study of the origin of granite and to plate tectonics.

IS sponsored Topical Sessions at the 2011 GSA Annual Meeting

Several topical sessions were sponsored by the IS and current and past management board members were conveners/co-conveners of these sessions.

T1. Oceanic and Juvenile Continental Crust Formation in the Precambrian

GSA Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology, and Volcanology Division; GSA Structural Geology and Tectonics Division; GSA International Section; Precambrian [At Large]; Geochemical Society; Mineralogical Society of America

Yildirim Dilek, Harald Furnes, A. Polat

This session is aimed at examining the Precambrian rock record to better constrain the timing, mode and nature of geological, geochemical and geodynamic processes involved in oceanic and juvenile continental crust evolution during the Precambrian.

Precambrian Geology; Geochemistry; Tectonics

[View abstracts in this session](#)

T32. Ophiolites, Ultrahigh Pressure Minerals, and the Origin of Podiform Chromitites: Implications for Mantle Heterogeneity

Mineralogical Society of America; GSA International Section

Jingsui Yang, Paul T. Robinson

This session will explore the occurrence of UHP and crustal minerals in ophiolitic rocks and their significance for mantle conditions and processes.

Petrology, Igneous; Mineralogy/Crystallography; Geochemistry

[View abstracts in this session](#)

T84. Recent Advances in Studies of Dissolved Arsenic and Other Metals in Global Hydrologic Systems

GSA Hydrogeology Division; GSA Geology and Health Division; GSA International Section; International Society of Groundwater for Sustainable Development

Prosun Bhattacharya, Abhijit Mukherjee, D. Kirk Nordstrom, Holly A. Michael, Jochen Bundschuh

The session will focus on studies of hydrological, chemical, and biogeochemical processes controlling the fate of dissolved arsenic and other toxic metals. Effects on public health and water management are also of interest.

[View abstracts in this session](#)

International Section plans Participation in the 34 IGC Conference (Brisbane, Australia)

Joann Stock (Caltech, Pasadena, CA, USA), 2010-2011 IS chair and Anke Friedrich (LMU Munich, Germany), candidate for 2011-2012 2nd vice chair of IS, will be co-convening a special symposium at the **34th International Geological Congress in 2012 in Brisbane, Australia** This symposium, entitled “International Perspectives on Teaching Geological Mapping” seeks participants to give talks about how field geology is taught, or should be taught, in the university curriculum in different countries or regions. Below is the symposium description: What type of field mapping training is essential for the modern, international field geologist? Training in field mapping has varied with time, as new technology is adopted; and regionally, regarding types of field activities, group vs. independent work, and specialty mapping skills.

This session seeks presentations from participants teaching field mapping in different countries, concerning the design, goals, and implementation of their field curriculum. Through presentations and discussion we hope to compare the global perspectives on such issues as: best practices in providing field training, at what stage in the students’ education, on what types of problems, and the type of mapping being taught. If you would like to be invited to present a talk in this symposium, please email Joann and Anke so that we can issue you an invitation letter.

Update on IS Meeting in China 2013

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed in connection with the proposed 2013 International Section meeting in China at the annual GSA meeting on October 11, 2011 (Photo 10). Paul Robinson (one of the past IS Chair) suggested “**Roof of the World**” as the title for this meeting and his suggestion was agreed upon by all attending IS management board members and guests. The main excerpt of the signed memorandum reads as follows:

“Professor Yang Jingsu, the council member of the Chinese Geological Society (CGS) and the International Section (IS) of The Geological Society of America (GSA) wish to hold a joint scientific meeting in Kunming, China in May or June of 2013 on the subject of “The Roof of the World” that targets the members of both organizations with the objective of encouraging scientific exchange between the memberships of the two organizations. The major themes of this meeting will be: 1) tectonics of the Tibetan region, including neotectonics, plateau uplift and climate change and 2) low temperature and environmental geochemistry, including carbon sequestration. Reciprocal Agreement: The GSA agrees to host another joint CGS/GSA meeting in 2015 in the United States.”

Signed by:

Jack W. Hess, **GSA Executive Director**

John Geissman, **GSA President**

Professor Yang Jingsui, **CGS**

Dr. John Liou, **Second Vice Chair, IS**

Professor Yang Jingsui (Council member of the Chinese Geological Society (<http://english.cast.org.cn/n1181872/n1257426/n1263421/n1263499/n1263572/47543.html>),

and Chairman of the Petrology Committee; <http://www.ccsd.org.cn/english/organization.htm>) and Dr. Zhang Li-Fe (CGS) attended the IS board meeting on Oct.8, 2011 and discussed all the pertinent issues

related to hosting this meeting in China. Wesley Hill and Melissa Cummiskey (GSA representatives) also provided valuable logistical input for this proposed meeting. The outcomes of this meeting are as follows:

On the GSA side, Dr J. G. Liou of Stanford University, IS 2nd Vice Chair from 2010-2011, will be Chair of the organizing committee. Additional members of the GSA organizing committee will be Alan Smith (2011-2012 IS Chair), Paul Robinson (past IS President, 2008-2009), I-Ming Chou (USGS, more details on Dr. Chou, please visit <https://profile.usgs.gov/imchou/>), An Yin (current candidate for the IS 1st Vice Chair position), and Kirk Nordstrom (USGS, more details on Dr. Nordstrom, please visit http://www.brr.cr.usgs.gov/projects/GWC_chemtherm/staff.htm). On the CGS side, tentatively Yang Jingsui will be the chair of the organizing committee, with 5 additional members to be decided by the CGS.

IS Management Board Meeting

Saturday, October 8, 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Monday, October 10, 2 to 4 pm Hilton Minneapolis, Board Room 3

Participants (Photo 5, 6, & 7)):

Prof. Alan Smith, Cambridge University, 2011-2012 Chair of GSA International Section

Prof. Joann Stock, California Institute of Technology, 2010-2011 Chair of GSA International Section

Prof. J. G. Liou, Stanford University, 2nd vice chair, 2010-2011, GSA International Section

Prof. Nazrul Khandaker, York College, The City University of New York, secretary of GSA IS

Dr. Ric Terman, U.S. Geological Survey (ret.), treasurer of GSA IS

Prof. Yang Jingsui, CGS

Prof. Zhang Li-Fe, CGS

Dr. I-Ming Chou, U.S. Geological Survey

Melissa Cummiskey, Geological Society of America

Wesley Hill, Geological Society of America

Guest: Dr. Paul Robinson

With the understandable wishes of Prof. Liou to resign from the International Section Management Board (**ISMB**) in order to serve on the program committee of the 2013 GSA/GSC Conference, it is proposed that the ISMB, as a body, unanimously nominate, with their full concurrence, An Yin for the First VP and Anke Friedrich for the Second VP, and that the Secretary and the Liaison prepare ASAP a ballot for the electronic voting by the entire IS membership. Similar to other GSA bodies, it is to be assumed that the Chairs will annually progress up the ladder, if they do not resign, and will be nominated from the international membership, whereas for the near term future, the Secretary and the Treasurer will be elected from North American nominees that can more effectively interact with GSA headquarters.

Section secretaries luncheon at the GSA

Nazrul Khandaker, IS secretary attended Section Secretaries lunch on Monday, October 10, 2011 in MN and informed other secretaries on IS-sponsored China Meeting and communicated with Dan Larsen (GSA Councilor overseeing section activities) on various issues including funding situation, current format of the travel grants application, fees associated with abstracts, etc.).

Ric Terman

Bylaws

During the transition period from International Division to International Section (IS), one of our most important functions was the drafting of proposed Section Bylaws that were approved by the Council in May 2009 and presently are included on our website. These approved Bylaws were modeled on those of other Sections, but subsequently the Section has realized the great difficulty that a Chair would have to identify and select the appropriate candidates for the requisite standard committees from the 1,900 or so GSA members that reside outside of North America—a real problem that needs fixing!

The new proposed Bylaws for IS uniquely state: “An International Liaison Committee (ILC) of eight voting affiliates, chaired by the First Vice Chair, shall be appointed for two-year terms by the Section Chair with the advice of the Management Board. Each appointee shall be a GSA Honorary Fellow, or a colleague recommended by him/her, who has a long-term experiential expertise in one of the eight regions of future potential collaboration: Europe, East Asia, South Pacific, Latin America, Middle East/North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and North Asia.”

Thus this ILC would be extremely well qualified to “conduct liaison with overseas geoscientific societies, universities, other institutions, and especially the Members and Fellows residing outside of North America, and shall assist in arranging for appropriate international meetings, workshops, symposia, and excursions within their respective regions.” Also this ILC shall be a substitute for the traditional Nominating and Awards Committees of North American Sections, and thus relieve the Section Chair of difficult responsibilities, and fully utilize the capabilities of the regional experts that have previously been recognized by the GSA as Honorary Fellows.

The awards to be considered by the ILC include meeting travel grants insofar as the funding permits, nomination of Honorary International Fellows (previously done by the GSA Council), and initial identification of candidates for the Distinguished International Career Award. It has been suggested that this last awardee might be considered a prime candidate to become a subsequent Section Second Vice Chair as overseas scientists replace the current North American residents as chairs on the MB. The Section shall also continue its advisory role in the current grants for the East Asia Geoscience and Environmental Research (EAGER) Project and research in desert regions (El Baz program).

Committees

When approved by the Council, the proposed Bylaws would establish the following:

Program Committee – 5 affiliates (1 year terms); chaired by the First Vice Chair.

Finance Committee – 4 affiliates (2 for 2 years; 2 for 1 year); chaired by Treasurer

International Liaison Committee - 8 affiliates (2 year terms); chaired by Second Vice Chair

During the last year, Chair Joann Stock sent emails to all GSA Honorary Fellows inquiring about their willingness to serve on the ILC as outlined above. We thank those of you who responded; we will be very grateful for your participation.

The effective functioning of these committees is essential to the future of the IS.

Mineralogical Society of America Honoring J.G. Liou (Second Vice Chair, IS)

Dr. J.G. Liou was honored by the MSA at the annual GSA meeting. IS would like to congratulate Dr. Liou for receiving the 2011 MSA Roebling Medal for his outstanding contributions and advancing fundamental research on “Ultrahigh-Pressure Metamorphism.” A Pardee session had been dedicated in honor of Liou.

Farouk El-Baz Student Research Award

This award is given to students to encourage and support desert studies and IS has been charged with selecting two student members of GSA to receive the Farouk El-Baz Student Research Award for 2011.

An award of \$2500.00 was given to one male and one female applicant who are conducting desert research studies as part of an undergraduate, master's or PhD program. The students chosen this year were: Ahmed Gaber (citizen of Egypt but doing his PhD at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan; project entitled "*Assessing the Natural Resources at*

Some Localities in Egypt by Using the Optical/Microwave Remote Sensing and 3D GPR") and Jessica Norman (University of South Florida; project entitled "*The role of biogenic versus lithogenic carbon in pedogenic carbonate formation*"). The award checks and plaques were presented at the Student Awards Ceremony at the GSA 2011 Annual Meeting. **For details, please click on the following:**

<http://www.gsafweb.org/CurrentEvents/gstudentawardn.html>

GSA, GSA Foundation, and Subaru of America sponsored this year's student awards reception and El-Baz student award recipients were recognized. Dr. Ric Terman spoke on behalf of the IS (Photo 1 & 2). GSA Foundation provided refreshments to the attendees.

Maurice "Ric" Terman Fund Recipient for 2011

The GSA Foundation Terman Fund annually supports a \$5,000 grant to the winner of the East Asian Geoscience and Environmental Research (EAGER) Award which is selected from 3 to 5 PhD candidates nominated by the host country of the annual meeting of the Coordinating Committee for Geoscience Programmes in East and Southeast Asia (known by its former acronym as CCOP); member countries include Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam. This year Thailand is the site of the flood-delayed CCOP meeting, and the awardee is Ms. Mallika Nillrom, a PhD student at the University of Portsmouth in Hampshire, UK, for her research proposal entitled "*Risk and vulnerability from landslide hazards: impacts of Geotourism in a World Heritage Site.*" For details, please visit:

<http://www.gsafweb.org/StudentResearchGrants/TermanFund.html>

IS Participation in recent Germany Meeting

FRAGILE EARTH: Geological Processes from Global to Local Scales and Associated Hazards

<http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2011munich/>

4-7 September 2011 - Munich, Germany

Ric Terman, IS Treasurer, attended this meeting and IS hosted a lunch reception for students and others, which was well attended. **In addition, Ric Terman presented a paper titled "U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY TEAM PREPARED TERRAIN MAPS OF GERMANY AFTER WORLD WAR II" at the conference.**

GSA was a sponsor of this meeting. IS did not offer travel awards for this meeting because of our limited amount of funds this year, and because GSA had a separate program to assist with travel expenses to the meeting.

GSA International Reception & Awards Happy Hour Event for International Meeting Participants (Cosponsored by GSA International Section)

Well over 100 international and local participants attended a jam-packed happy hour and reception hosted by the IS, enabling us to know each other and keep us abreast of new happenings and trends in geosciences that are currently taking place in our respective countries (Photo 8 & 9). IS believes in globalization and through your involvement in section activities such as this reception, IS can achieve

this mission. Furthermore, two representatives from China attended this IS-hosted reception to sign the initial MOU for the 2013 IS meeting in China. Light refreshments were provided.

Travel grant applications from 33 applicants were considered. The following persons (8 students and 4 professionals) were selected for receiving grants to attend GSA 2011 Annual Meeting. The maximum travel grant we were able to award was \$1000. The following IS travel grant recipients attended the IS Happy Hour (Photo 3 & 4):

Ari Matmon (Israel), Gregory De Pascale (New Zealand), Sandor Gulyas (Hungary), Elizabeth Wuyep (Nigeria), Tiffany Rivera (Denmark), and Emiliana Jarochovska (Poland). IS management board members were able to capture the moment with the attending overseas geoscientists (Photo 11 & 12). Other grant recipients who attended the GSA meeting but were unable to attend the Happy Hour were Mohamed Abdelkareem (Egypt), Ahmed Gaber (Egypt), Anuradha Maharaj (Jamaica) and Carina Colombi (Argentina). **To see additional pictures, please visit:**

<ftp://rock.geosociety.org/public/International/>

IS Attended GSA Leadership Meeting (April 28-May 01, 2011)

Nazrul I. Khandaker, secretary, attended the GSA Leadership Meeting in Boulder, Colorado. He was briefed on day-to-day GSA activities, by-laws, responsibilities associated with newly elected councilors, and other section management procedures. Dr. Jack Hess (GSA Executive Director) invited attendees for a dinner in his house. It was quite pleasant. Because Dr. Khandaker was not able to stay for the entire meeting, our Chair (Joann Stock) participated in part of the meeting on the 2nd day by conference call from Los Angeles.

IS Newsletter and Overseas Fellows

Two newsletters were emailed out to individual members (well-over 1800) and international fellows were invited to become member of the IS management board and participate in decision making process. Ric Terman, IS Treasurer, prepared a list of GSA Fellows residing overseas.

<http://www.geosociety.org/sections/International/newsletters/>

http://www.geosociety.org/Sections/International/newsletters/ISnews_11jan.pdf

We received a few (not a lot) of responses to this solicitation and there are still several gaps in geographic coverage out of the desired geographic regions on the liaison committee.

GSA Position Statements

Time to time, GSA updates or creates position statements regarding the status of geosciences in the states. These statements are carefully formulated and reviewed by experts and panelists before final acceptance. Following link provides important information on various geoscience/environmental issues and topics relevant to the dissemination of earth-system science knowledge to the students, educators, elected government officials, and policy makers. We hope that you will find these very useful.

<http://www.geosociety.org/positions/>

Important Reminders:

34th International Geological Congress

5-10 August 2012 – Brisbane, Australia

<http://www.34igc.org/>

PENROSE CONFERENCE

Deformation, Fluid Flow, and Mass Transfer in the Forearc of Convergent Margins
25–31 March 2012, Il Ciocco, Castelvechio Pascoli, Lucca, Italy

GSA ANNUAL MEETING 2012

2012 - CALL FOR PROPOSALS

GEOSCIENCES: Investing in the Future

4-7 Nov., Charlotte, North Carolina

GSA's 125th Anniversary

CELEBRATING ADVANCES IN GEOSCIENCE —

Our science, our societal impact, and our unique thought processes.

GSA members, sections, divisions, and associated societies —

Please help GSA celebrate our 125th anniversary throughout the year 2013!

<http://www.geosociety.org/125/>

GSA Annual Meeting 2013 - Denver, CO: 27–30 October

www.geosociety.org

VISA STEPS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVELERS

We remind international participants that if they plan to attend the 2012 Annual GSA meeting, and they need a letter from GSA in order to apply for a US visa, they can request a letter of invitation at any time. Please forward your request to Nazrul Khandaker and he will pass it along to the GSA Headquarters, who will provide to you a letter of invitation that you can use to request a visa. The letter of invitation does not imply any financial commitment on the part of GSA, nor does it imply that your abstract has been accepted for presentation. It is best to request the letter of invitation and get started on your visa application early (even before you have been notified if your abstract has been accepted for presentation). This year, some applicants who waited until the abstract acceptance deadline did not have enough time to arrange the necessary interviews and get their US visa.

Advance planning by foreign travelers is critical, including these planning steps for your visa (as provided by the U.S. Department of State). For details, please visit the following:

http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2011/Visa_steps.htm

Budget concerns for International Section

For IS to be successful at having the 2013 meeting in China, we need considerable additional funds to support travel by North American as well as international participants to this meeting. The Management Board will pursue submission of an NSF proposal to try to secure some funding but all other ideas of possible funding sources are welcome.

We suggest that it would be useful to examine the issue of how the international participants are paying for abstracts and meeting registration for the GSA Annual Meeting. In particular we will look at statistics on how many overseas participants pay their registration fees in advance by credit card versus how many of them register and pay the registration fee on site with cash. It is our impression that a substantial number of international participants pay on site because of these difficulties with credit cards. If so, we would like to work with GSA to find a solution that would be easier for everyone.

STUDENT MEMBERSHIP DUES

Note that students from developing countries are eligible for reduced membership dues with GSA. Please see the GSA web site, and encourage your students to join as members.

Donations Needed: International Travel

The GSA Foundation is currently seeking funding to defray travel costs for foreign applicants who wish to attend GSA meetings. Funding is also needed for Honorary Fellows to attend GSA Annual meetings. These funds help GSA to provide more travel grants to our members and student members from lower income countries. If you are a member of the International Section and plan to make a donation to GSA, please consider directing your donation to supporting this worthy cause, which will strengthen the International Section's program, and help your fellow geologists.

GSA Foundation Update – February 2011

By, Donna L. Russell, Director of Operations

Funding Student Research as Global as our Science GSA Research Grants—International Program

GSA has initiated a non-North American-based Graduate Student Research Grants Program to include GSA's international student members. We are asking for your help with the funding of this exciting new Program.

The current North American Program is one of the largest and most prestigious funding programs for geoscience graduate students in this arena. The Program helps fund field and laboratory costs of geoscience projects conducted by masters and doctoral students at universities in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Since its inception in 1933, GSA has awarded over \$11.6 million to almost 10,000 students. This Program is an essential element in supporting the education and training of future geoscientists, while instilling in our student members a sense of loyalty to the Society. In order to initiate this Program in the near future we need to build the fund for this Program. You can contribute in two ways:

(1) Send your check payable to the **GSA Foundation** to: PO Box 9140, Boulder, CO 80301. Please note on the memo line that your donation is for "GSA Research Grants—International Program."

- (2) Go to the **GSA Foundation's** Web site (<http://gsafweb.org/>) and click on the “Make a Donation” tab at the top-center of the page. Enter the amount of your donation and select “**GSA Research Grants—International Program**” from the pull-down menu.

We thank you in advance for your interest in growing GSA's support in student research.

Please Keep Us Posted

IS loves to hear from you. Please share any newsworthy or hot geoscience/environmental science-related topics, new and innovative way of imparting geoscience/environmental science knowledge to the students, unique field pictures, exploration activities, international conferences, or concerns with us and we will be glad to disseminate your news items among the IS members.

If you have international news items to submit to GSA, please send them to:

Nazrul I. Khandaker

nkhandaker@york.cuny.edu

York College (The City University of New York)



Photo 1: On behalf of the IS, Maurice ‘Ric’ Terman talking to the 2011 GSA research grants awardees



Photo 2: Proud winner of 2011 **Farouk El-Baz Research Award:** Jessica Norman and Ahmed Gaber



Photo 3: IS travel ward winner Elizabeth Wuyep (center) along with Maurice ‘Ric’ Terman (far left) and John Geissman (GSA President, far right)



Photo 4: Travel award recipients Sandor Gulyas and Emilia Jarochovska enjoying IS Happy Hour



Photo 5: Chinese delegates attending IS board meeting. From left to right: I-Ming Chou (US Geological Survey), Zhang, Li-Fe (CGS: Chinese Geological Society), and Yang Jingsui (CGS: Chinese Geological Society)



Photo 6: Wesley Hill (GSA Representative) in the center talking about logistical matters related to 2013 China Meeting. Next to the window: Melissa Cummiskey (GSA Representative) and Alan Smith (1st Vice Chair, IS)



Photo 7: Joann Stock presiding 2011 IS board meeting (**far left**)



Photo 8: Jam-packed IS Reception and international participants



Photo 9: IS Reception and Happy Hour bringing international and local participants together

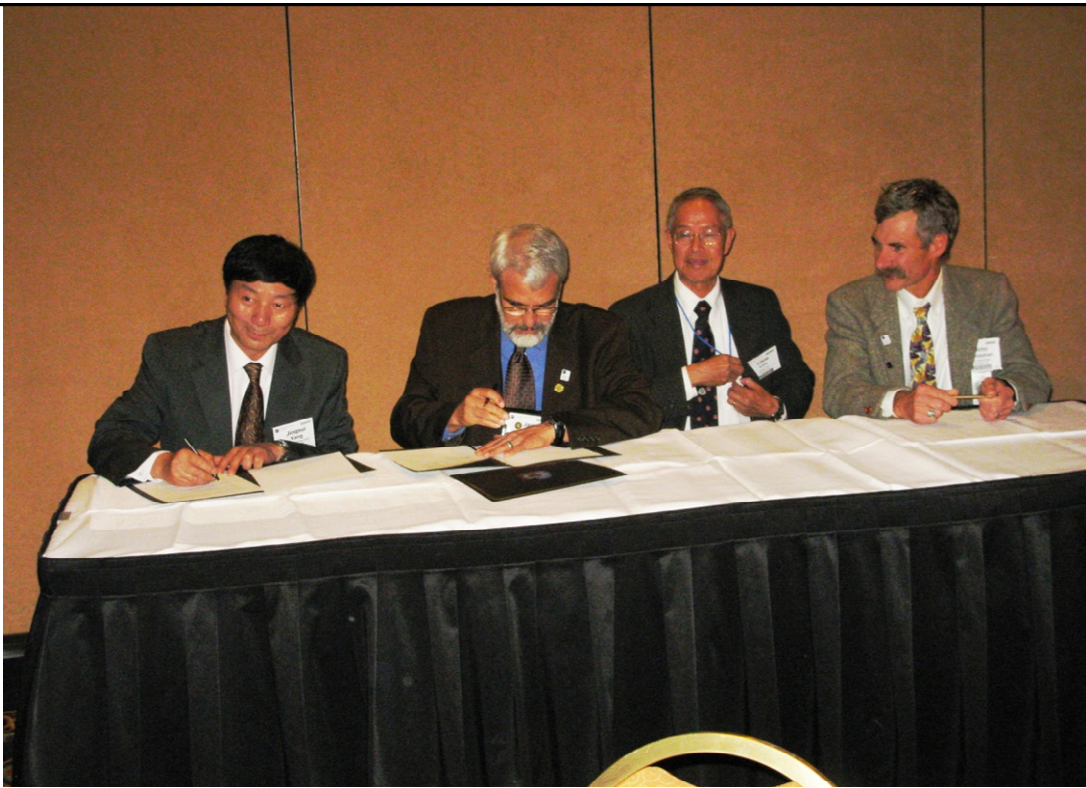


Photo 10: 2013 China Meeting and signing of MOU. **From left to right:** Yang Jingsui (CGS), Jack Hess (GSA Executive Director), John Liou (IS 2nd Vice Chair), and John Geissman (GSA President)



Photo 11: IS Reception and Happy Hour. **From left to right:** Maurice “Ric” Terman (IS Treasurer), Wesley Hill (GSA Representative), Joann Stock (IS Chair), Anke Maria Friedrich (running for 2nd Vice Chair), Nazrul Khandaker (IS Secretary), and Alan Smith (1st Vice Chair, IS)



Photo 12: IS Management Board Members with IS 2011 Travel Grant Awardees. **From left to right:** John Liou (IS 2nd Vice Chair), Tiffany Rivera, Greg De Pascale, Sandor Gulyas, Emilia Jarochowska, Elizabeth Wuyep, Joann Stock (IS Chair), Nazrul Khandaker (IS Secretary), Alan Smith (1st Vice Chair, IS), and Maurice “Ric” Terman (IS Treasurer)